



## RECENT EVENTS



# Environmental administration and NZ Forest Service reorganization — Part 3

This report updates those in earlier Numbers of Volume 31.

### (a) Forestry Corporation

Legislation providing for the formation and operation of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) was introduced into Parliament by the Deputy Prime Minister on October 1. Apart from the proposed Forestry Corporation the SOE Bill provides for a Land Development and Management Corporation, Coal Mines Corporation, various Postal and Telecommunications Corporations and an Airways Corporation. Although emphasis is on making SOEs competitively neutral relative to similar private sector companies, the draft legislation also recognizes certain special reporting needs relating to the quite limited shareholding (2-3 Cabinet Ministers) and wider public ownership.

The Corporation has not yet publicly identified its proposed organizational structures but is committed to meeting Government's implementation date of April 1, 1987.

In August Mr A. Kirkland, formerly Director-General of Forests and permanent head of the New Zealand Forest Service, was appointed Interim Chief Executive of the proposed corporation. Mr Kirkland is now located with the Forestry Corporation Establishment Unit in NZIG House, 133 The Terrace, Wellington. As a lead up to the establishment of an executive board for the Corporation Government recently reviewed the membership of the Forestry Corporation Establishment Board. Messrs Brian Gaynor and Peter Travers have discontinued their membership because of other commitments and three new members have been appointed.

The present Forestry Corporation establishment members who will carry on to the new board are: Mr Alan Gibbs of Auckland as Chairman, Mr John Fernyhough of Auckland (Deputy Chairman), and Mr Ian Livingston of Napier.

New members are Mrs Beverley Adlam of Kawerau, Mr Keith Chandler

of Rotorua, and Mr Ian Farrant of Dunedin.

### (b) Crown Estates Commission

The Crown Estates Commission (CEC) is a new body being set up by Government to provide advice on the allocation or reallocation between Government agencies of lands and waters of the Crown for their formal protection, conservation management or commercial use.

Initially the Crown lands and waters of concern to the CEC are those held by the Forest Service and the Department of Lands and Survey, together with any others that may be later identified by the Government.

While the Government has already approved the initial division of land between the Land Development and Management Corporation, the Forestry Corporation, and the Department of Conservation, the latter department is now reviewing the allocations from a conservation viewpoint.

Government's intention is that where there are competing claims over

## NATIONAL FOREST SURVEY REUNION



The National Forest Survey, a country-wide volumetric and ecological inventory of the indigenous forests, commenced in 1946 and was completed on time in 1955. The end of the project was celebrated in 1956 when 62 of the many people who had been involved — Forest Service field and draughting staff, student labourers — gathered at Rotorua for a reunion dinner. In April 1986, 30 years later, another reunion dinner was held at Rotorua, this time attended by 58, shown in the photograph above. The weekend programme included a field day at Whirinaki, the venue of some of the first survey work. A further reunion is planned for 1991.

land among the new organizations, then the Crown Estate Commission is to be called on to review the claims, assess them in the light of the wisest resource use and the best public interest, and give its advice to the Government on an appropriate allocation.

The Commission will be serviced by the proposed Department of Survey and Land Information and will report to the Government through the appropriate Minister.

Members of the CEC, announced by the Hon Koro Wetere on October 2, are:

- Chairman: Mr Bing Lucas of Wellington, the newly retired Director-General of the Department of Lands and Survey.
- Mrs Joan Allin of Wellington, a senior lecturer in law at the Victoria University of Wellington with teaching responsibilities in environmental law, planning law, administrative law, the legal system and torts.
- Mr Brian Jones of Taupo, a member of the National Parks and Reserves Authority, the National Authority for Soil and Water Conservation, and the Wairakei Maori Land Advisory Committee.
- Mr Owen Jennings of Nelson, a dairy farmer and a foundation director and present director of the Queen Elizabeth the Second Trust. He is the Junior Vice President of

Federated Farmers, and is also the Deputy Chairman of the Karamea Dairy Company, and of Buller Co-operative Fertiliser Limited.

- Dr Basil Sharp of Christchurch, a senior lecturer at the Centre for Resource Management of Canterbury University and of Lincoln College. He is an adviser to catchment boards, and the National Parks and Reserves Authority.

#### (c) Ministry of Forestry

On July 15, 1986, Cabinet approved the mission, functions and an outline organization for the Ministry of Forestry. These were reported in the August 1986 issue of NZ Forestry. Efforts since that time have concentrated in fleshing out the organizational structure, developing administrative procedures and identifying resource needs.

Consultations have been held with forestry sector groups on the draft legislation for the Ministry. Discussions have focused on the regulatory functions and powers for recovering costs of services. The Forestry Bill is expected to enter the House in October/November.

Staffing levels and gradings for the individual positions have been recently approved by the State Services Commission. The position of Secretary of Forestry has been advertised and an appointment is expected shortly. The remaining positions within the Minis-

try will be filled by either transferring personnel from the NZ Forest Service or advertising. Advertising of positions is expected to be done concurrently with those in the Department of Conservation and the Forestry Corporation, probably in November.

#### (d) Department of Conservation

Cabinet have recently approved an eight region structure with regional offices in Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua, Wanganui, Nelson, Christchurch, Hokitika and Dunedin. At this stage it seems that there will be four or five districts per region; a decision will be made in the course of final determination of the departmental structure and staffing levels by the end of October.

The Head Office is organized functionally, with Directorates of Protected Ecosystems and Species; Tourism; Recreation and Historic Resources; Marine and Coastal Management; Land and Fauna; Research; and Advocacy and Extension, together with Corporate Services.

Most traditional functions of members of the Institute will lie in the areas of natural ecosystem management (ecological areas), recreation and tourism management, and within the "Land and Fauna" grouping of functions which includes wild animal control, soil and water conservation, mineral management, and limited harvesting of natural resources on a sustainable basis (e.g. wood, moss, grazing).

The Conservation Bill exists in draft and is currently being prepared for introduction to the House; members will no doubt be vitally concerned with the way in which it is written and the general emphasis that it conveys. A number of major issues are still being discussed which will have a significant effect on the role of the department; these include pastoral lands, freshwater fisheries, and of course the long-term future of indigenous forest production.

At this stage the staffing level of the department is uncertain, but it seems that it will be between 1500 and 2000, including both permanent staff and wage worker/contract staff.

The nature of the department should be considerably clearer by the time the next issue of NZ Forestry is produced, and a full report will be included.

Peter Berg

## TAITOKERAU FORESTS LIMITED Senior Forest Manager

Taitokerau Forests Limited, a private Maori forest company, is starting operations in Northland this season and requires a Senior Forest Manager to take charge of all forest operations. A substantial work programme is assured for 10 years. There is potential for very considerable expansion.

The successful candidate will have forestry qualifications and a wide range of experience in forestry operations. An up-to-date knowledge of establishment techniques, with particular emphasis on Northland conditions, is important. The appointee will be expected to ensure a technically proficient and cost effective approach to the afforestation of Maori land while maintaining a sympathetic awareness of the needs and aspirations of the owners.

A vehicle will be provided and salary and conditions will be negotiated in line with current industry norms.

Further details and job description etc can be obtained from Ian Page, Forest Consultant, Tahere Farm, R.D.5, Whangarei. Tel. 485-108.

Interested applicants should send all relevant personal details, qualifications, experience and work history to the address below by 15th Dec, 1986. These will be received in strictest confidence.

Taitokerau Forests Limited,  
P.O. Box 309, Whangarei

