

combined image-building campaign in various key Pacific basin markets. They were mindful of the fact that, by the year 2000, log production from New Zealand's plantation resource will double, and increase a further 75% by the year 2015. Exportable fibre volumes will increase five-fold in the next 20 years. New Zealand is one of the few countries in the world with a sustainable and increasing supply availability.

Forestry Corporation Annual Report

The 1989 annual report released in the middle of July showed that the New Zealand Forestry Corporation had increased their operating surplus by 19% over the previous year to \$94.6 million. Sales were up 24% to \$293 million. About \$17 million was invested in silviculture and planting. However, the area of new forest planted dropped by 66% to only 3500 ha. The areas pruned and thinned to waste dropped by 18 and 47% respectively. The number of salaried employees has dropped from 649 to 519 in the past year, with 105 of these being shed from New Zealand Timberlands.

The Chairman, Mr A.T. Gibbs, noted that their studies indicated that within 20 years new processed products from the Corporation forests could provide exports of \$5 billion annually. This is about 40% of the total value of all New Zealand's current exports. However, he argued that an investment of \$6-7 billion in new industry requires the sale of the forests with secure property rights, etc. and that there should be no restraints on buyers.

Tasman Forestry Ltd protects native forests

In June Tasman Forestry Ltd signed an accord about their native forests with the Department of Conservation, Forest and Bird Protection Society, Maruia Society and the Federated Mountain Clubs.

In signing the agreement for his Department, Conservation Minister Philip Woollaston said the accord was the single most important conservation offer made by a New Zealand company. He commented: "If there ever is . . . a step-by-step guide to protection of the world's rainforests, this accord should be included as an example of co-operation in the cause of conservation."

The accord had its beginnings in a conservation campaign in March 1988 when Tasman Forestry Ltd were clearing a native forest block near Rotorua. It has since then liaised with the conservation groups.

Main Clauses

The main clauses in the agreement provide for:

- formal protection of 30,348 ha of freehold native forest;
- an end to all native forest clearance apart from commitments to supply tawa until 1990;
- the sale, for \$1.5 million, of 3500 ha in the Mamaku Range to the Department of Conservation;
- a \$150,000 grant for a three-year kokako research and management project;

- a commitment to further consultation on resource use and environmental issues.

Tasman will continue to own the 30,348 ha but it will be permanently covenanted under the Reserves Act or Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Act or by addition to adjoining conservation land.

The 3500 ha sold to the Department of Conservation is to be used to protect the biggest surviving population of kokako – about 300 birds. (A photograph of the forest is on the front cover of NZ Forestry, courtesy of Tasman Forestry Ltd.)

Some 52 blocks in both the North and South Island are included in the accord and range from 20 ha to 8820 ha. The largest is the Ngatapa beech forest block north of the Mohaka river and adjoining Whirinaki Conservation Park. It is an important habitat for the blue duck, North Island kaka, robin and falcon. Also included are 1896 ha of heavy bush in the Northern Taranaki ranges (Tokomaru block); 100 ha of young kauri forest on Coromandel Peninsula; and the 500 ha Waitahanui reserve near Taupo which was set aside in 1973 for trout spawning.

Tasman's Managing Director, Bryce Heard, noted that Fletcher Challenge Forestry operations in British Columbia and Tasmania were trying to reach the same sort of arrangements with conservationists.

SATELLITE CHIPPER AVAILABLE

A satellite chip mill, previously not available in New Zealand, is now being offered through the Auckland-based IST Engineering Limited. The mill is manufactured by Fulghum Industries Limited who are acknowledged as America's market leader in the supply of forest products equipment.

The system accepts tree-length logs and has applications as a cost-effective addition beside an existing chipping plant, or as a separate satellite unit erected close to a wood source. The complete system, or components of it, is now available through IST Engineering and according to sales manager Peter Copper interest is extremely high.

The chip mill comprises a log crane, a debarker, a chipper and drum screen. The Fulghum radial log-handling crane,

in addition to stacking wood in a circular pattern for efficient storage and processing, loads tree-length logs into the infeed chute of the debarker. After about 15 minutes the debarked stems are conveyed to the chipper, and onto the drum screen unit.

From an economic and process design standpoint, the satellite chip mill offers several manufacturing advantages. Operating costs are lower, installation is less capital intensive than traditional woodyards, maintenance is less of a problem, and the system is a highly viable back-up to major plants in the event of a breakdown. Additionally, the mill is operated by only two or three operators and the turnaround time for trucks is substantially reduced.

Mr Cooper said there are five

Fulghum log-handling cranes available, ranging in size from 22 metres to 47 metres and with capacities from 9.5 tonnes to 45 tonnes. He said that complete specifications of all units were available for inspection at IST's Penrose Office.

New Zealand Forestry a teaching aid

In a letter to the NZ Institute of Forestry President, Ian Hutchinson from Turalba in Costa Rica writes:

"...you would be surprised at the number of Latin American graduate students who, during my classes, see overhead transparencies of photographs and other information taken from the Journal."