

Employment in forestry up 14%

"The number of jobs in the forestry industry surged 14.4% to 23,404 in the year to February 1994," the Minister of Forestry, John Falloon, announced recently.

"Just over 2900 jobs were created last year alone," said Mr Falloon.

"This represents a significant turnaround from 1990 when employment in the industry had fallen to just over 18,200 people.

"Particularly strong increases were recorded in the forestry and logging, sawmilling and timber treatment sectors in the year to February 1994. Employment in these areas rose 24.7%, 11.6% and 38.7% respectively.

"These figures further demonstrate the strength of the improvement in the competitiveness and profitability of the industry," said Mr Falloon.

"Rather than deterring greater investment and employment growth, the events of last year surrounding the log price situation only appear to have strengthened the performance of the industry.

"Clearly we can look forward to ongoing

increases in employment in the industry over the next few years with much of this employment growth coming from further domestic processing.

"Far from indicating the need for a

change in policy direction, these figures clearly demonstrate that the current stable policy environment is the most appropriate for improving employment opportunities in industries such as forestry."

Will the bear look after the tiger?

Russian log and lumber output/exports are a significant component of overall global trade in forest products, but uncertainty surrounds the future supply situation. One element of uncertainty in the equation relates to wildlife existing in the forest estate, especially the Siberian tiger, and moves to ensure its preservation in the face of continued logging. On August 18, in Niigata (Japanese west coast), Japanese and Russian scientists held the first meeting of a research group set up with the backing of Japan's Education Ministry to examine resource and environmental issues related to the natural forests stretching from Siberia to the far eastern regions

of Russia. The event attracted 350 participants and lay observers, evidence of strong interest on the part of the Japanese in environmental issues. Outcomes of the meeting included a call for a scientific survey of the linkages between environment and resource, and to determine where to draw the line between demand for raw materials and the need to preserve environment features, specially wildlife such as the Siberian tiger. Further forums are expected to be held.

Reprinted from JapanLink, Ministry of Forestry, PO Box 1340, Rotorua.

Cut one, plant three, cut one, plant three, cut one, plant three, cut one, plant three...



When Forestry Corporation of New Zealand Limited harvests its trees it makes sure there'll be another one growing in its place for the next thirty years. It's called sustainable yield and that's how we manage our 180,000 hectares of plantation forests in the Bay of Plenty.

Each year we harvest around one and a half million trees and each year we plant around 4.5 million genetically superior seedlings to replace them. We're ensuring the forests will provide a livelihood for people in our communities for a very long time to come.

When we harvest our trees the cutover area is oversown with grass and legumes, stabilising the soil, providing more nutrients for the next generation of trees and reducing the amount of chemicals required to control weeds.

Seventy five percent of Forestry Corporation's harvested radiata pine is sold and processed right here in New Zealand. The remainder is exported earning valuable foreign exchange.

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