

Environmental Working Group update

Green and Growing Seminars

Much of the past few months has been spent preparing for the two "Green and Growing" seminars which are to be run on February 25 and 27 in Christchurch and Rotorua respectively (see notice elsewhere in this journal). The seminars are being run jointly with the New Zealand Farm Forestry Association (NZFFA) and Commonwealth Forestry Association (NZ) (CFA).

The aim of the seminar organising group was to ensure that a wide range of views were presented at the seminar, and that the issues addressed included forest management, processing and marketing. Maximum opportunity has been allowed for audience participation.

The seminars have attracted a high calibre of speakers, many of whom are controversial, and the seminars promise to be lively. For example, Worldwide Fund for Nature, United Kingdom, are sending over a speaker to talk about Forestry Stewardship Council certification, while Ginny Radford, Fletcher Challenge

Forests Environmental Coordinator, will be covering the benefits of ISO 14000 certification.

All NZIF members will be sent a copy of the seminar flyer directly. Members of the NZIF, CFA AND NZFFA will pay reduced registration fees for the seminars.

ISO 14000 Environmental Management Systems

Tim Thorpe has represented the NZIF at meetings of a New Zealand steering group providing comment on the setting up of forestry standards for ISO 14000 certification.

ISO 14000 is a management system which requires that companies need to set their own standards for certification. ISO 14000 does not provide such standards per se. However in the case of forestry ISO has set up a process which will lead to the development of a document containing examples of potential standards for forestry companies to use. These include the "Principles for Commercial Plantation Forest Management" and the Forest Stew-

ardship Council principles. The document will also explain the overall implementation of ISO 14000 from a forestry perspective.

The timetable that ISO have set for the development of the technical document is extremely tight and it has not been possible for NZIF members to be canvassed in its development. A series of drafting meetings both nationally and internationally will culminate in a final draft being presented to the ISO international working group in mid-April. The document will eventually become available through the ISO process which, in New Zealand, means through Standards New Zealand.

Paul McFarlane (NZFRI, Rotorua) is the Standards New Zealand representative on the international working group, which is convened by Ken Shirley (NZFOA). Should NZIF members have any queries about the working group please contact either of the above or myself.

Tim Thorpe

Maori version of Institute's name

Council, at its September 24 meeting in Auckland, in response to a proposal by Tim Thorpe at the July meeting, received the Maori version of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry, "Te Putahi Ngaherehere o Aotearoa". "Putahi", a recently established Maori word for "Institute" and published in "Te Matatiki - Contemporary Maori Words", derives from the concept of coming together as one. "Ngaherehere" means "forestry", as applied for example in Ministry of Forestry.

Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Maori, the Maori Language Commission, has endorsed "Te Putahi Ngaherehere o Aotearoa" as the appropriate Maori rendition of "New Zealand Institute of Forestry".

Increasing Role of Maori

The Council has endorsed the process of adopting a Maori version of the Institute's name in appreciation of the maturing of New Zealand's cultural identity and in recognition of the increasing role of Maori in forestry and the forestry profession.

Council is considering the process by which it will adopt the Maori version of New Zealand Institute of Forestry and welcomes comments from members on this matter.

Peter Allan



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