



FOREST PRACTICES AUTHORITY

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FOREST PRACTICES AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

18 September 2018

Work, Health and Safety

No incidents were reported in the previous month.

Forest Practices Code Review

The Board noted the progress of the review of the Forest Practices Code. It provided advice to the Code Steering Committee and Working Groups on referred issues as follows –

- Clarification of the Duty of Care principles to make it clear that the FPA must consider reasonable protection to the environment when considering FPP applications for certification.
- Agreed to a restructure of the Code so that clauses in the 2015 version of the Code under Guiding Policy are moved to where they are most appropriate and the section be renamed as Guiding Principles.
- Reference to the *Tasmania's Forest Management System: An Overview (2017)* should be incorporated where appropriate.
- A preliminary draft of the reviewed Code be provided to FPOs, FPA staff and review working group members for comment prior to formal consultation requirements under the Act. This may require working groups to convene to consider any substantial revision due to matters raised.

Threatened Species Issues

The Board considered the draft of a Public Authority Management Agreement (PAMA) between DPIPW and STT which incorporates a Management Plan for Swift Parrots in the Southern Forests on PTPZ Land.

Finance

The 2017-18 Annual Financial statements were endorsed.

Wise, Lord and Ferguson provided an Internal Audit report on the FPA's practices, procedures and processes. The Board noted the positive report and adopted recommendations for minor improvements.

Amendments to the Forest Practices Act

The Board noted that Amendments to the Forest Practices Act are now scheduled for the November sitting of Parliament. The CFPO is to continue consultation with key stakeholders throughout the drafting process.

The Board noted the problems associated with the inability to transfer FPP applicant responsibilities when land changes hands or the applicant (person or corporation) ceases to exist. It was resolved that an amendment to the Act to address this matter be given high priority.

Private Timber Reserves

The Board recommended to the Governor that 4 applications and 1 revocation be approved.

Prosecutions

The Board noted that Kevin Allan Blair was convicted in the Launceston Magistrates Court of contravening provisions of a forest practices plan at a Jetsonville property on 4 counts and fined \$2,000 on each count. The total of the fines and court costs amounted to \$8,066.36.

FPO Appointments

The Board approved the following persons for appointment as officers and authorisation as Forest Practices officer (Inspecting):

- Nathan G Petterwood
- Justin E Baily
- Dean A Gibson
- Grant W Joseph
- Kristen F Dransfield
- James G Williams

Next Meeting

The next FPA Board meeting is scheduled for Friday 19 October 2018