

FPAC Communique

FPAC met on August 15, 2019

Council noted a discussion paper on the Policy for Maintaining a Permanent Native Forest Estate, outlining its evolution and the complexity of the issues involved in its implementation. It was noted that all applications require the Board to exercise discretion, which can be challenging.

Council reviewed progress with the review of the Forest Practices Code and noted the draft Code had now been advertised for public review. Council suggested that arrangements should now be made for working group meetings to consider amendments that might arise from public submissions. It was noted that the updated Code was expected to be available in January 2020.

Council noted the current position regarding Swift parrot management, including the development of a PAMA (management agreement) between Sustainable Timber Tasmania and DPIPWE, changes to the Threatened Fauna Advisor and stopwork protocols. Council advised the Board of the desirability of further consultation on some elements of the protocols before finalisation, but commended the recognition in the protocols of the costs of compliance and the efforts to minimise such costs through timely action.