

FPAC Communique

FPAC met on June 12, 2020.

The Chair welcomed newly appointed members Jo Oliver, Deidre Wilson, Alastair Morton and Ann La Sala, following on from recent amendments to the Act expanding membership of Council.

Council considered the draft Forest Practices Code which had been referred to Council as the final stage of the consultative process required under the Act before the Forest Practices Board makes its final determination. Council noted the considerable work and consultation undertaken in preparing the revised Code. It endorsed the revised Code but advised the Board that a final review should be made to ensure legal clarity following on from recent judicial rulings.

Council considered and endorsed the Earth Sciences Technical Note 1, and the Threatened Plant Advisor. Council complemented staff involved in the preparation of these planning tools and noted in particular the significant advance in planning capability presented in the Threatened Plant Advisor.

Terry Edwards advised that with the imminent launch of a new Tasmanian forest industry organisation and associated changes in industry representation, he would be resigning from FPAC. Council thanked Mr Edwards for his significant, focused and very useful contribution to FPAC and the forest practices system over many years.