Possibilities for developing the Forest Practices System Robin Dickson

Chair Forest Practices Officer Reference Group





Is there are need to look at new developments within the Forest Practices System?

The Forest Practices System is an excellent example of how a coregulatory model can work, for the model to continue to work as effectively has it has done over the past thirty years the Forest Industry as a group needs to work together to look at ways to continually improve it.



Do Forest Practices Officers feel that they are adequately supported by the FPA?

- Independent FPOs getting adequate support from the FPA. Peer review, training
- Forest Practices Authority Reference Group (FPORG)
 providing a suitable means of representing the FPOs,
 Meet quarterly, Industry and Independent FPO in group
- FPA Board and FPAC listening to the FPOs concerns.
 FPO Refresher Courses, FPORG
- FPA Specialists. Need to ensure research links to operational outcomes



Is there a conflict of interest in the FPO role?

- Perception from the public. Looking from outside the Forest Industry this
 perception is evident. Need to ensure that the general public is more aware
 of FPP audits, Certificate of Compliances.
- Between FPOs employers and landowners. Pressure to maximise area, need to balance production against potential reserves.



Is there adequate training available?

- Level of Personal Development and training required to keep FPO ticket valid. Need to record training and Personal Development on a central data base managed by FPA.
- FPO training in administrative decision making and legal responsibilities. This has become evident with the increased scrutiny on public sector authorities.



Is there adequate training available contd.?

- Need to provide training on the Forest Practices Code and the Forest
 Practices Act at the supervisor/ contractor level. With increase in employment
 over the past two years there is a need to provide training on FPC.
- Consult with FPOs and the Forest Industry regarding their need for training.
 Engage with FPOs requesting them to identify areas that require further training.



Will the upcoming review of the FPC reflect the changes within the Forest Industry?

- Plantation sector activity has increased within the sector.
 Need to ensure that there is an increased emphasis on plantations within reviewed FPC.
- Recent changes have simplified the approach to small scale plantation < 10 ha FPPs. This has been a positive development.
- FPA currently calculated from operational area. When thinning Native forest and plantations the volume can be very low and the levy has a negative impact on returns, option to levy on volume.

