



FOREST PRACTICES AUTHORITY

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FPA BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

15 November 2019

Forest Practices Code Review

It is anticipated that a final draft of the amended Code will be available for the December meeting of the Board. If the draft is approved, the next stage is the required statutory consultation with FPAC, PFT and STT.

Strategic Planning

The Board reviewed progress against the objectives of the current strategic plan with a view to further development of the new strategic plan.

Finance

The monthly financial report was noted as was preliminary information on a functional analysis of FPA expenditure.

Compliance

The Board reviewed the schedule of fines, prosecution and forest practice officer standards. The Board thanked the retiring Compliance Manager Stephen Walker, noting the considerable achievements of the team under his leadership. A new Compliance Manager has been appointed and will commence in January 2020.

Private Timber Reserves (PTRs)

The Board agreed to recommend to Her Excellency the Governor the revocation of two full PTRs and one partial PTR, covering 173 ha.

Forest Practices Advisory Council

The Board noted outcomes from the meeting of Council on 7 November 2019.

Code of Conduct – Forest Practices Officers

The Board noted that the draft Forest Practices Officer Code of Conduct was being reviewed by the Forest Practices Officer Reference Group.

Forests in Papua New Guinea

The Board received a presentation from Mr Nalish Sam from PNG's Forest Research Institute, on work being undertaken collecting forest data in PNG and the impact of the FAO funded study on forest soil carbon which is being facilitated by FPA's Earth Sciences and Cultural Heritage Manager, Dr Peter McIntosh.

Next Meeting

The next FPA Board meeting is scheduled for Friday 13th December 2019.