



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Forests Owners Association / Farm Forestry Association

Fire Committee

Purpose

To provide plantation forest owners and managers with strategic guidance and coordination with respect to the 4Rs of fire (Reduction, Readiness, Response and Recovery) and to foster collaboration and cohesion with and across regulatory agencies, service providers, land management entities and the science community to improve outcomes.

Objectives

1. To reduce the risk and consequence of unwanted fire to New Zealand plantation forests.
2. To represent and provide focused and collaborative advocacy on behalf of the New Zealand Forest Owners Association (FOA) and Farm Forestry Association (FFA) with regulatory agencies who hold legislated or regulatory roles and responsibilities for fire in plantation forests and to build effective relationships with agencies to ensure they are best able to deliver their responsibilities and accountabilities.
3. To keep the executive management committees of the FGLT, FOA and FFA advised on matters relating to fire in plantation forests and to seek their advice and/or assistance on any issues arising.
4. Support and advocate for the forestry sector training requirements in fire management.
5. Support the forestry sector's readiness and availability to respond to requests for resources for national and/or international wildfire deployments.
6. Support a programme of fire research projects to reduce the incidence and consequence of unwanted fire
7. Engage and consult with other rural sector organisations, farmers, land managers and suppliers of services to contribute to the reduction in the incidence and consequence of unwanted forest fire.

Approach

1. Establish a Fire Committee of representatives of forestry owners and managers.
2. By resolution, the Fire Committee can co-opt other associated persons or specialists to support and assist the committee as required.

3. The Fire Committee to undertake formal meetings on a quarterly basis or more frequently as required.
4. The Fire Committee to record minutes of meetings and to provide other reports of proceedings to their organisations.
5. The Fire Committee will develop annual priorities and set out a strategy and plan including:
 - Annual work programme
 - Advocacy and consultation;
 - Publications for the period (e.g., risk reduction, safety, standards, etc);
 - Advocacy for priority research as identified by the committee;
 - Advocacy for industry training priorities;
 - National and international firefighting deployment capabilities.
6. Work proactively with govt agencies to ensure the interests of plantation forest owners and managers are accounted for in the delivery of their respective responsibilities and accountabilities.
7. The Fire Committee will work proactively to deliver against the objectives of the Plantation Forestry Rural Fire Control Charter – June 2021.

Scope

The Scope of the Fire Committee IS:	The Scope of the Fire Committee Is NOT:
Advocating and representing the fire related interests of all NZ plantation forest owners and managers whether members of FOA or FFA or not.	To represent other rural interests.
All matters of unwanted fire and other fire related emergencies occurring in plantation forests.	Matters or emergencies not relating to fire events.
Matters that are common to owners of plantation forests of all sizes.	Matters that are specific to a single forest owner.
The 4 (+1) R s of fire and other fire related emergencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction - Readiness - Response - Recovery - <i>Research</i> 	Emergencies that are not fire related events.
Engagement with other agencies, organisations and Land Managers who have an interest in plantation forest fire.	
Representing a national perspective of forest fire at a strategic level.	Representing or replacing regional fire committees or other local forums which are likely to be more operationally focused.
Focused on risk reduction through education, research and training.	Only about firefighting.

Deliverables

The deliverables from the Fire Committee include:

- Records of formal meetings.
- As required by the Executive Committees of FGLT, FOA and/or NZFFA, provide reports on any risks and issues that they should note or provide advice.
- Publications or revisions of bulletins, guidelines, position papers and other notices that will assist forest owners and others to reduce the risk and consequence of fire.
- Strategic engagement on training that meets the needs of forestry sector firefighting personnel.
- Identify research needs for fire risk management, actively engage with researchers, and advocate for forest sector research priorities.
- Recommendations or other advice on the annual plan for the summer fire prevention publicity program.
- Responses to invitations for submissions from regulatory agencies or other organisations on plantation fire related matters.
- Fulfilling the role as a party to the Plantation Forestry Rural Fire Control Charter – June 2021, and ensuring that this delivers value for plantation forest owners and managers

Membership

Members of the committee are made up of representatives from the following groups and organisations. Other people can be invited as Active Observers or to attend specific meetings where relevant.

- Industry Representatives (FOA) (up to 12)
- NZFFA (up to 2)
- Scion (Crown Research Institute) (up to 2)
- Te Uru Rākau - New Zealand Forest Service (1)
- Fire and Emergency New Zealand (1)

Membership and chair nominations can be made by the management committees of the Forest Growers Levy Trust, the Forest Owners Association, and the NZ Farm Forestry Association. Appointments to the Committee must be approved by the Committee and endorsed by the Forest Growers Levy Trust Board.

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