in these submissions, however, were covered in substantive submissions. The remaining 7104 submissions are short statements of views without supporting arguments. This group of submissions includes petitions, responses to newspaper campaigns and short pro-forma responses. Of those submissions received from the West Coast, 1766 were in support and 77 opposed the Plans. Of the submissions received from the three major urban centres - Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch - 152 supported and 5923 opposed the Plans. Overall 12,354 submissions were received; 2,038 were in support, 10,298 were opposed and 18 were neutral.

Many submitters reject the Plans in principle rather than providing detailed comments on forest management issues. The desirability of improvement felling is questioned by many submitters who are concerned about the number of trees to be taken and the ecological impacts of the activity.

Changes at CHH Forests

Devon Mclean, currently Chief Executive Carter Holt Harvey Forests, has assumed responsibility for a newly created CHH Wood Products group, consisting of the Timber and Engineered Wood Products divisions, with about $700 million in annual revenues.

Jay P. Goodenbour, currently General Manager CHH Panels, has been named Chief Executive CHH Forests. He came to CHH from International Paper in 1996 and has previously spent 16 years in the forestry and wood products industries in North America.

Chief Forestry Officer Appointment

Dr Ruth Frampton has been appointed to the position of Chief Forestry Officer with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, effective from 1 January 1999.

Dr Frampton has had considerable experience in biosecurity having worked in MAF Regulatory Authority's Plants Group for a number of years and managed the surveillance and exotic pest preparedness portfolios. She has experience acting in the Chief Plants Officer position and led the emergency response to the 1995 fruit fly incursion. In addition, she has recently worked in the Ministry of Biosecurity's office and been involved with biosecurity in an even wider sense.

"Ruth has skills and experience both at a domestic and international level that will add a new dimension to MAF Regulatory Authority's relationship with the industry, where all components are working together as a partnership to mitigate risks and enhance opportunities," MAF regulatory chief Andrew McKenzie said.

Gordon Hosking, who moved from the Forest Research on a short-term appointment to lead the MAF Regulatory Authority Forestry team during the merger of MAF and the Ministry of Forestry will be returning to his role with the Forest Research.

"Gordon has done an excellent job aligning forestry biosecurity with the MAF biosecurity systems," Dr McKenzie said. "Although new to forestry, it was the opinion of the interview that Ruth would develop with the forestry industry and MAF Regulatory Authority to build on this work and be extremely valuable for MAF, forestry and New Zealand. "I am looking forward to working with her in the role of Chief Forestry Officer and having her as part of my senior management team."

Half a nod for Beech Plan

The Associate Minister for Food and Fibre, David Carter and the Minister for State Owned Enterprises, Tony Ryall have announced that proposals from State Owned Enterprise, Timberlands West Coast, for sustainable beech timber production on the West Coast have been given the "conditional" green light.

The Government has chosen to support the proposals because of New Zealand's need for high quality timber; the potential for employment and the environmental sustainability of the proposals.

"Advice to Government has been that the beech proposals are environmentally sound, and they will offer new growth opportunities for the West Coast communities. "The Government has agreed in principle to sustainable beech management, as long as Timberlands West Coast can prove to the Government that its plans are commercially viable," said the Ministers.

To assist surfing the Net, the NZ Journal of Forestry provides readers with an up-to-date listing of all forestry-related sites on the Web. Forestry companies wishing to be listed should send their details to southern@wave.co.nz. All sites are listed by http.

Argentina  www.mecon.ar/default.htm
Australia  www.aflar.au/home.html
Austria  www.bmfl.gv.at
Brazil  www.brazil.gov.br/inicio.htm
Canada  www.mcan.gc.ca/cfs/cfs_e.html
Chile  www.conaf.cl
China  www.asi.net.com/china/csi-mof
Far North Afforestation Ltd  www.fna.co.nz
Fiji  www.fijl.gov.fj/m/ agric/index.html
Forest fires  www.unl-freiburg.de/fireglobe
For kids  www.foresters.org/kidsz
France  www.afocel.fr
Germany  www.bmi.de
Greenplan  www.greenplan.co.nz
India  www.nic.in/envfor
Ireland  www.wrigov.ie
Malaysia  www.forestry.gov.my
NZ Journal of Forestry  www.forestry.auburn.edu/people.faculty/ biology/south/nz/nzone.html
www.canterbury.ac.nz/fore/nz/zf/home.html
New Zealand MAF  www.maf.govt.nz
PF Olsen & Co  www.pfolse.nz/forestry.co.nz
Roger Dickie (NZ) Ltd  www.rogerdickie.co.nz
South Africa  www-dwaf.pw.gw.za/dwaf
Sri Lanka  www.lk/government.html
United Kingdom  www.forestry.gov.uk
United Nations (FAO)  www.fao.org
United States of America  www.h.fore.