Australasian forestry - a strategic vision for the future

April 27 - 31, 2003
Queenstown, New Zealand

The BIG events in Australasian forestry owe much to the foresight of their instigators. Politicians, botanists, and foresters all had their part to play. Strategic vision did not end in the early 1900s, but continues to manifest itself in spite of the shortsightedness of the modern era.

What have been the BIG breakthroughs in the last ten years, and where are the new frontiers? Come to the joint four-day conference at Queenstown NZ and find out. ANZIF Conferences happen only every five or six years. They are always memorable events.

The conference speakers will examine:

• The role of strategic planning in Australasian forestry management;
• International trade issues facing Australasian forestry;
• Management strategies and opportunities for our forests, and for forest products and services downstream the supply chain;
• Environmental issues in Australasian forestry;
• Social issues in Australasian forestry;
• The role of government;
• The forestry profession’s response to changing industry and social values, and;
• Changing information, research and training requirements.

The Max Jacobs Oration, which will be a keynote address at this conference, will be given by Roger Sands, Professor of Forestry, University of Canterbury, N.Z. There will be three other major keynote addresses, plus many papers which are already flowing in. The quality of these papers looks very promising, and is likely to make this a particularly challenging conference.

The mid-conference field day offers three wonderful options, from which to choose, as follows:

1. One option is looking at Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification and how it has worked for Craigpine Timber Company, a medium sized integrated forest owning/wood processing company, located in central Southland. Added to this is a visit to South Wood Export Ltd’s eucalypt plantings at Dipton in northern Southland, where the difficulties of growing short rotation eucalypt crops in the southern South Island will be discussed.

2. A further option is a trip into very edge of the Southern Alps, at the head of Lake Wakatipu, visiting New Zealand beech forest which has been harvested for timber in the past and is now part of the conservation estate with high recreational use. Some exciting tourist operations will assist you getting there!!

3. Perhaps most interesting of all is the option of visiting the heart of New Zealand’s desert, where in a rainfall of less than 300 mm per annum, an oasis of introduced tree species has been created at Jolendale Park, at Alexandra. From perhaps some of the most difficult tree growing conditions at Jolendale Park, to some of the best this trip also includes visits to intensively tended farm forestry plantings of Douglas fir at Luggate near Wanaka, and reputedly some of the fastest plantation grown Douglas fir in the world near Arrowtown in the Wakatipu basin. Also included is a bus ride over New Zealand’s highest State Highway, the Crown Range, with all its spectacular views including the world famous bra fence.

Further details are available on the 2003 ANZIF Conference website through the NZIF site: www.forestry.org.nz.

There are limited sponsorship opportunities remaining, and requests for sponsorship opportunity packs should be made directly to EventMergers, Conference Management Specialists, PO Box 101, Silverdale, Auckland, New Zealand.

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