

Plantation Forestry Rural Fire Control Charter – August 2021

Fire and Emergency New Zealand was established on 1 July 2017 with the principle objective to reduce unwanted fires; and in relation to this principle objective additional functions to protect and preserve life, prevent or limit injury, and prevent or limit damage to property, and the natural environment.

This is the second Charter and reflects a move forward since Fire and Emergency New Zealand was established, and is inclusive of some changes within the Plantation Forestry associations and organisations who are signatories. Fire and Emergency New Zealand is committed to working cooperatively and collaboratively with other organisations as well as working with the communities we serve to better understand their risks and needs.

Plantation Forestry covers over 1.7 million hectares of land in New Zealand. The New Zealand Forest Owners Association (NZFOA) and the New Zealand Farm Forestry Association (NZFFA) are voluntary membership organisations, they each provide leadership, support and services to their members. Te Uru Rākau - New Zealand Forest Service is the Government's principle forestry advisor, has a

leadership role in the forestry sector, regulates and develops forestry related policy. This Charter provides some common objectives to demonstrate the signatory organisations' intentions and their commitment to working together to enhance arrangements used to deliver effective fire control measures in Plantation Forestry.

This Charter is established for a period of 3 years; at which time it will be reviewed.

The signatories of this Charter will work together to:

- develop and promote objectives and actions to improve wildfire management for New Zealand, and.
- communicate these objectives to our respective members and personnel and to the wider public and specifically the communities we impact.

The Plantation Forestry associations; the NZFOA and NZFFA, also recommend to their members that they adopt those elements that can only be acted on by individual forest owners, rather than by the signatories alone.

Principle Objectives

We will be guided by the following principle objectives:

- Collaborative leadership managing our shared duties under health and safety legislation; consulting, cooperating and coordinating with each other where we have a duty in relation to the same matter, to promote a safety-first culture within our organisations.
- The signatories will make representations to, and seek support at national, regional and local land management forums.
- Collectively we acknowledge the role of fire as a land management tool.
- The signatories are committed to investing at appropriate levels, in people, equipment and specialist knowledge, to support fire control functions.
- Collectively we are committed to reducing the incidence and economic consequence of wildfires, through efficient and effective fire control measures and national, regional and local risk planning.
- Supporting the philosophy of managing wildfires by risk reduction, and early and controlled response.
- Collectively we will support fire research programmes and the utilisation or adoption of this research.
- We support and will work together to promote the NZFOA Forest Fire Risk Management Guidelines which provide operational guidance and information to promote and ensure efficient and effective fire management, including risk reduction and protection, on plantation forests.
- There will be engagement and collaboration with the development of fire control related national standards, promotional publications, information sharing and forestry related fire management practices and policies.
- When establishing formal contractual arrangements, we are committed to sustainable and inclusive procurement in line with the Supplier Code of Conduct for suppliers providing goods and services to the government.



Rhys Jones

Rhys Jones (Sep 8, 2021 15:22 GMT+12)

Rhys Jones
Chief Executive
Fire and Emergency New Zealand



David Rhodes
Chief Executive
New Zealand Forest Owners Association



Graham West

Graham West (Sep 8, 2021 15:25 GMT+12)

Graham West
President
New Zealand Farm Forestry Association



Jason Wilson
Deputy Director General
Te Uru Rākau New Zealand Forest Service