



MEDIA RELEASE

Jolly Medal presentation to forester

Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) Director, David Wettenhall, will be presenting the N.W. Jolly Medal to eminent forester Roger Underwood of Palmyra Western Australia this Sunday. The presentation will take place at 3.30pm at the Old Observatory, West Perth.

The N.W. Jolly Medal is the Institute of Foresters of Australia's highest and most prestigious honour for outstanding service to the profession of forestry in Australia.

Roger Underwood worked as a forester in the WA Forests Department for 25 years, moving from forest workman (in his student days) through positions as a Divisional Forest Officer and Regional Superintendent and three years as Research Superintendent before becoming General Manager of WA's Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC) for 9 years.

In making the announcement the IFA said "Roger continues to provide leadership in forestry in Australia, setting a shining example of articulate commitment, integrity and professional achievement."

From Roger Underwood's early career in forestry and subsequently in conservation and land management, through to his post-public service role as consultant, general practitioner and lobbyist, Roger continues to have constructive and regular input into the forestry debate. His direct role in promoting responsible fire management in forests, for regeneration and protection of forest ecosystems and communities, and for the development of the plantation industry, especially in dryland Australia, continues, and maintains the drive for the promotion and deployment of adequate resources for forest management.

Roger Underwood is the Chairman of The Bushfire Front, an organisation of professional foresters promoting improved standards of bushfire management in Australian forests.

Roger was awarded the WA Forester of the Year in 2007 and he has been a professional member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia since 1962.

Roger Underwood is also a student and writer on forestry and forest history and has published 5 books on these subjects as editor, co-author and author, and written numerous papers and articles for popular readership. His most recent book, *Old Growth Foresters* was a significant contribution to the social and human history of forestry in WA and has been placed in libraries all over Australia.

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Roger Underwood