



Media Release

New IFA President – Ian Barnes (100103)

The Institute of Foresters of Australia today announced Ian Barnes of Bateman's Bay, New South Wales, as its new President.

Mr Barnes is a forester of twenty-five years experience and welcomes the opportunity to lead the Institute. "I see my appointment as a valuable opportunity to enhance the professional status of foresters," Mr Barnes said.

"In a changing world of vigorous forest policy debate, where increasing numbers of trees are being planted and where there is increased private ownership of forests, the professional judgement of foresters will be called upon more than ever before."

"There has been a great deal of change in the profession over the last ten years. The Institute recognises this and will adjust to it."

"One issue very much on the agenda is the accreditation of forestry professionals."

"The Institute has recently developed its Registered Professional Forester scheme to provide quality assurance to employers and ensure members continue to develop their professional skills and knowledge", Mr Barnes said.

Mr Barnes is a Planning Manager with State Forests of NSW. As a professional forester he works with scientists and policy makers to promote sustainable natural resource management in forests for the benefit of developing countries and Australia.

Ian Barnes has been an Institute member all his working life. He was appointed a Director of the Institute in 1999. He takes over from Mrs Heather Crompton who in December 2002 completed three year's service as Institute President.

The Institute is a member funded professional organisation with over twelve hundred (1200) members Australia-wide and with some overseas members. The Institute is entering its 65th year of publication of the *Australian Forestry Journal*.

Members of the Institute of Foresters of Australia offer information and assistance to government, industry and the community on issues affecting forests.

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