



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

With thanks to our Sponsors & Exhibitors

2025 CONFERENCE

MAJOR SPONSORS



SUPPORTING SPONSORS



WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSOR



CONFERENCE DINNER SPONSOR



DESTINATION SPONSOR



SPONSORS



EXHIBITORS





Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Opening & Plenary Session

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Jim Wilson

Conference Convenor & Vice-President

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Welcome to Country

Cliffy Wilson

Kuma Kaaru

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Jim Wilson

Conference Convenor & Vice-President

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Join the conversation

#ForestDialogue

#ForestryConference

#ForestryAustralia

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Conference Committees

Organising & Program Committees

Jim Wilson	Nathan Paine
Ian Blanden	Emily Post
Monique Blason	Rob Robinson
Tegan Brown	Sam Van Holsbeeck
Mark Hunt	Naomi Will
Rod Keenan	
Jacquie Martin	

Field Trip Sub-Committee

Peter Bulman
Andrew Dundon
Amy McMurren
Nathan Paine
Rameez Rameezdeen
Rob Robinson

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

With thanks to our Sponsors & Exhibitors

2025 CONFERENCE

MAJOR SPONSORS



SUPPORTING SPONSORS



WELCOME RECEPTION SPONSOR



CONFERENCE DINNER SPONSOR



DESTINATION SPONSOR



SPONSORS



EXHIBITORS





2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA



Major Sponsor

Mike Radda, Chief Executive Officer

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Native Forest Closures

Supporting Workers
through Forestry
Restructure and Change

Oct 2025



Forestry Restructure and Change

ForestWorks for 42 years has supported skills and training

ForestWorks purpose is to support the future of the Forest and Forest Products Industry by investing in workforce capability through innovative skills development and training.

What is less well known is that ForestWorks also active in Forestry Transition Programs

As forestry re-structures, ForestWorks has been a key partner providing Workforce Development, Training and Employment outcomes. ForestWorks focus on supporting impacted workers.



Forestry Restructure History



For the past 15 years ForestWorks has been achieving successful outcomes in Forestry Transition Programs

Program	Dates
Victorian Native Forest Transition	2023-2026
BLERF - Snowy Valley Skills Development Service - NSW	2021-2023
Training and Skills Development Services - Tasmania	2016-2018
Shoalhaven – NSW	2015-2016
Gunns – Tasmania	2013
Tasmanian Forestry Workers Assistance Service	2010-2014
Tasmanian Pulp and Forestry Workers Assistance	2010-2014

Forestry Transition Program

In conjunction with the **end of native timber harvesting** in Victoria's state forests from 1 January 2024, the Victorian Government's Forestry Transition Program offers support for workers, businesses, and communities.

ForestWorks administers the Worker Support Program (WSP) which will end on 30 June 2026.

The primary goal of the **WSP** program is to support impacted workers to secure alternative employment. The program provides support services and payments.

The impact of hardwood closures

For workers it is termination with limited or no opportunity for future work

Many workers have worked their entire life in the forestry industry

Life's biggest stresses

1. Redundancy is widely considered one of life's major stressors
2. Even more so when it is involuntary and tied to a broader industry collapse. It ranks as one of the most serious in terms of psychological impact.
3. It is against this backdrop that **ForestWorks** developed our **Forestry Transition Framework**. A key element of this Peer-to-Peer Support.





ForestWorks

Forestry Transition Framework

Leveraging lived experience to foster trust and resilience.

Peer-to-peer support

Whole-of-program engagement

Ensuring coordinated involvement across all stakeholders.

Aligning training plans with worker skills and employment opportunities.

Integrated training pathways

Support overlays

Providing tailored assistance to support individual and family needs during transition.

Worker Journey

The **positive outcomes** can be attributed to the Peer-to-Peer service delivery approach.

The **Peer-to-Peer Model** involves **employing individuals** directly from **impacted sectors**, fostering direct **collaboration** and **mutual support** and focuses on outcomes.

Connecting

- Information Sessions
- Registration
- Initial Interviews
- Community Events

Preparing

- Pre-Redundancy Training (PRT)
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Training

- Training plans
- Qualifications

Employment

- Employment Support
- Securing Employment

Networking

- Networking Events
- Dedicated Employment Specialist
- Warm referrals to support services

Supporting

- Government Top-Up Payment
- Health & Wellbeing Referrals
- Relocation Reimbursements

Peer-to-Peer Support

1. Peer-to-Peer Support is achieved by ForestWorks employing redundant forestry workers (from Mills, PPM or Harvest and Haulage) as Worker Assistance Coordinators (WACs).
2. The Worker Assistance Coordinators (WACs) are the key contact point for impacted workers. The WACs directly engage, and support impacted workers.
3. Being able to relate to the impacted workers stresses and challenges is very important in supporting the workers on a journey of re-employment.



It starts with Pre-Redundancy Engagement

- **Build confidence and adaptability** before leaving their current roles.
- **Identify and formalise existing skills** gained through industry experience.
- **Create smoother transitions** into retraining, education, or new careers post-redundancy.

By engaging early, workers can take control of their next steps. Turning experience into opportunity and ensuring they're job-ready when change arrives.



Train for new employment

Training is essential to help impacted workers prepare for life beyond the forestry industry



Supports career
transition into new
sectors



Builds confidence
and adaptability
during change



Creates genuine
opportunities for
future employment
and growth



Training Plans
3728

Employment Support

- **Early engagement** empowers workers to plan their next steps and be job-ready.
- **Participation in Job Expos** linking workers with live vacancies resulting in interviews and employment.
- **Working closely with DEWR** through the Local Jobs Taskforce, attending employment service provider meetings
- **Leading events** across regional areas with employers, Skills & Job Centres.



Employment Results

Victorian Worker Support Program

92%

as at October 2025

The % of employed impacted workers
who are seeking work

SUCCESS PILLARS

PEER TO PEER SUPPORT

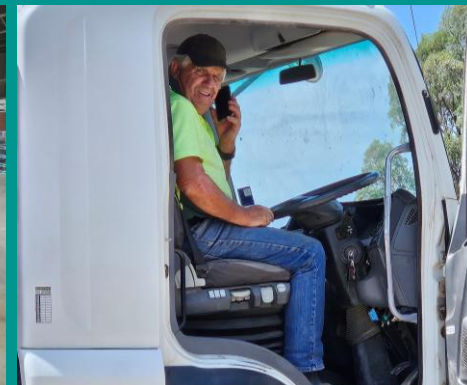
WORKER SUPPORT
PAYMENTS

INTEGRATED TRAINING
PATHWAYS

WHOLE-OF-PROGRAM
ENGAGEMENT

COMPREHENSIVE
SUPPORT OVERLAYS

Thank You





2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Michelle Freeman

President, Forestry Australia

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Fellows Presentation

Mark Brown

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Euan Ferguson

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Blair Freeman

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Rod Keenan

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Jim O'Hehir

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Zoe Ryan

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Christine Stone

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Suzette Weeding

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October

Fellows Presentation

Jim Wilson

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA



Celebrating 90 Years

Honouring our past, leaning into our future

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Celebrating 90 Years



Membership Recognition Pins | 25 Years

Owen Bassett

Philip Baxter

Ian Blanden

Thomas Clapson

Michael Cornish

Belinda Field

Rebecca Ford

Blair Freeman

Ross Garsden

Kevin Harding

Rob Hescock

Claire Howell

Daryl Killin

Cameron MacDonald

Jodie Mason

Damien O'Reilly

Michael Parsons

Steve Read

Michael Ryan

Jo Sasse

Martin Strandgard

Damian Walsh

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Celebrating 90 Years



Membership Recognition Pins | 40 Years

Tony Bartlett	Euan Ferguson	John McGrath	Steve Thomas
Neil Bernard Cowley	Philip Green	Jim O'Hehir	Jerome Vanclay
Cristopher Brack	Braden Jenkin	Tony Price	Peter Volker
Glenn Dale	Rodney Keenan	Ruth Ryan	Mandy Wallace
Rob de Fegely	Elizabeth Mattiske	Tom Schraenkler	Steve Whiteley
	Lachie McCaw	Mike Sutton	Graham Wilkinson

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Celebrating 90 Years



Membership Recognition Pins | 50 Years

Michael Bleby

David Geddes

David Boomsma

Bob Gordon

Peter Bulman

Lewis Parsons

Hans Drielsma

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA

Redefining Forest Success: Multiple Returns, One Landscape

Radha Kuppalli

Board Director, *Greening Australia and Accounting for Nature*

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA



Opening & Plenary Session #1

2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October





2025 CONFERENCE

Restoring forests and landscapes and securing Australia's future

Monday 20 – Thursday 23 October



Forestry
AUSTRALIA