

Silviculture in Australia: The past 25 years, the next 25 years



AFWI Centre for Climate-Smart Forestry

**Indigenous
Australians**

**Economics, policy,
& society**

Integrated landscape management

Carbon for a green economy

Silviculture for climate-change adaptation

National forest monitoring innovations



What is silviculture?

Silviculture is:

- the art and science of producing and tending a forest for the various social and economic values demanded by individuals and society.
- the theory and practice of controlling forest establishment, composition, structure, and growth.
- the various treatments applied to forests to maintain and enhance their utility or service for any purpose.



What is silviculture?

Silviculture is:

Forest architecture aimed at the design of stands with outward shape and internal construction that will serve their intended purposes, be in harmony with the environment, and withstand the loads imposed by environmental influences. Since the stands grow and change with time, the designing is more sophisticated and difficult to envision than that of static buildings. In this sense it is akin to the kinds of engineering in which dynamic processes and not just structures are designed.





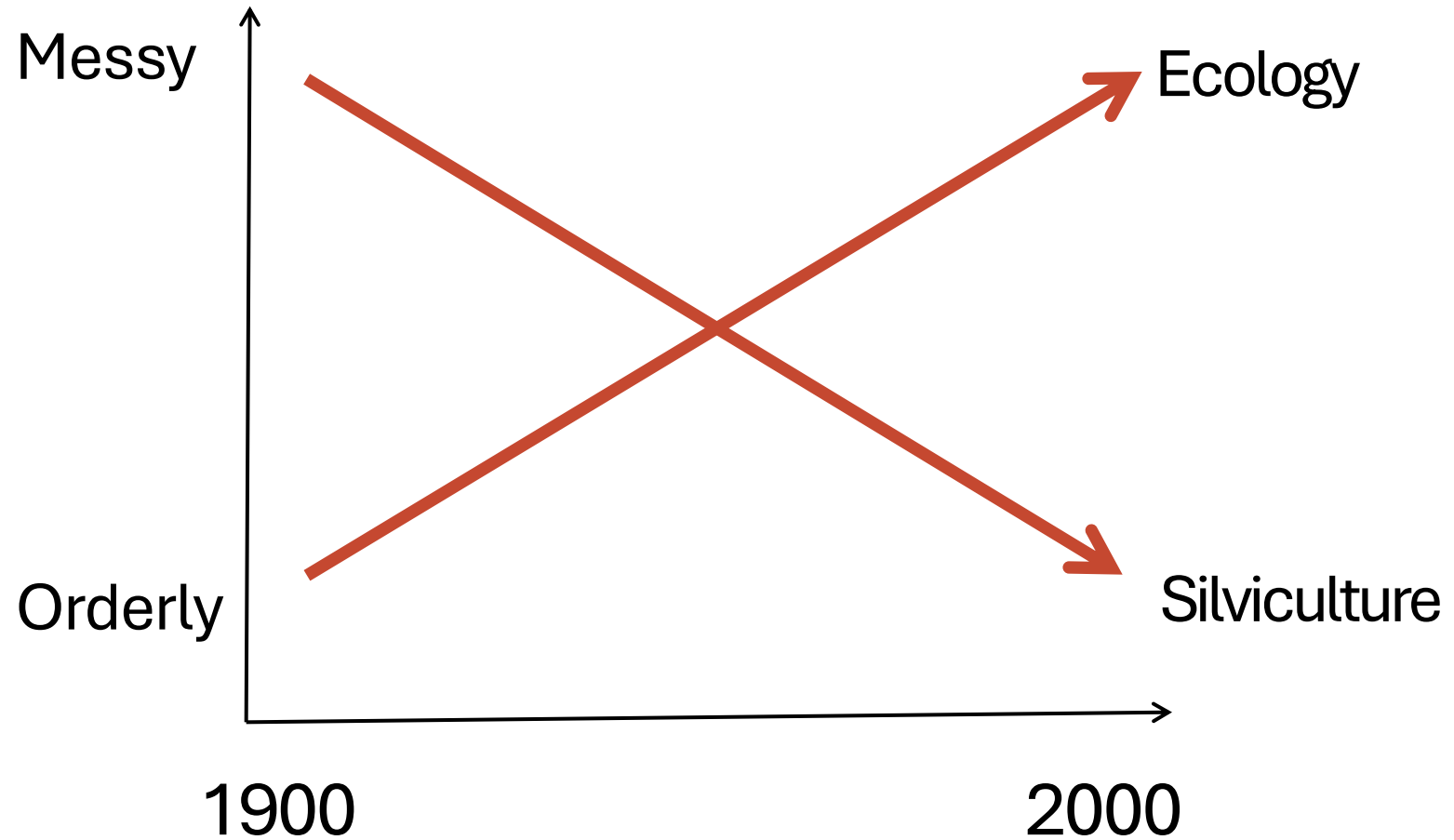
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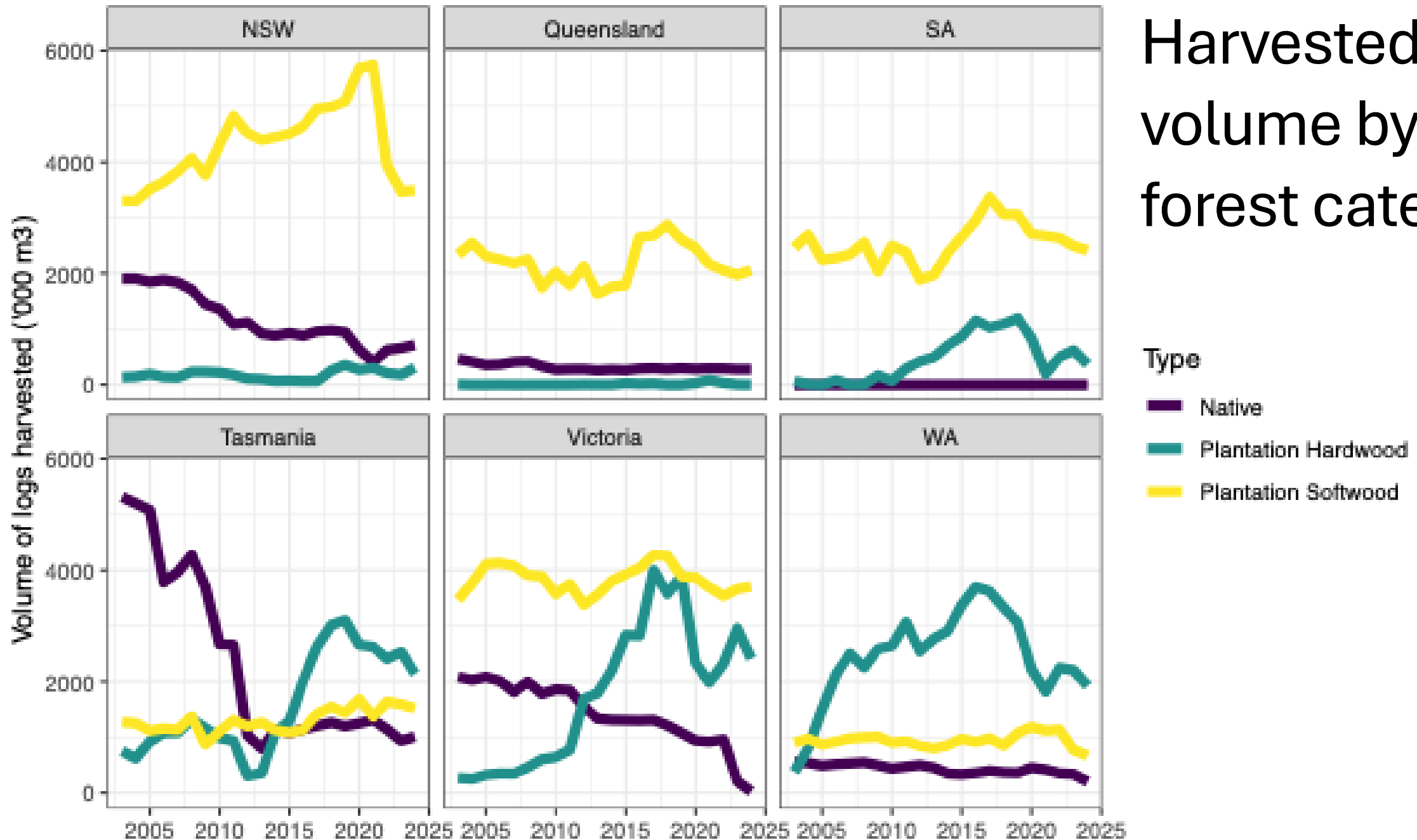
20th Century trends



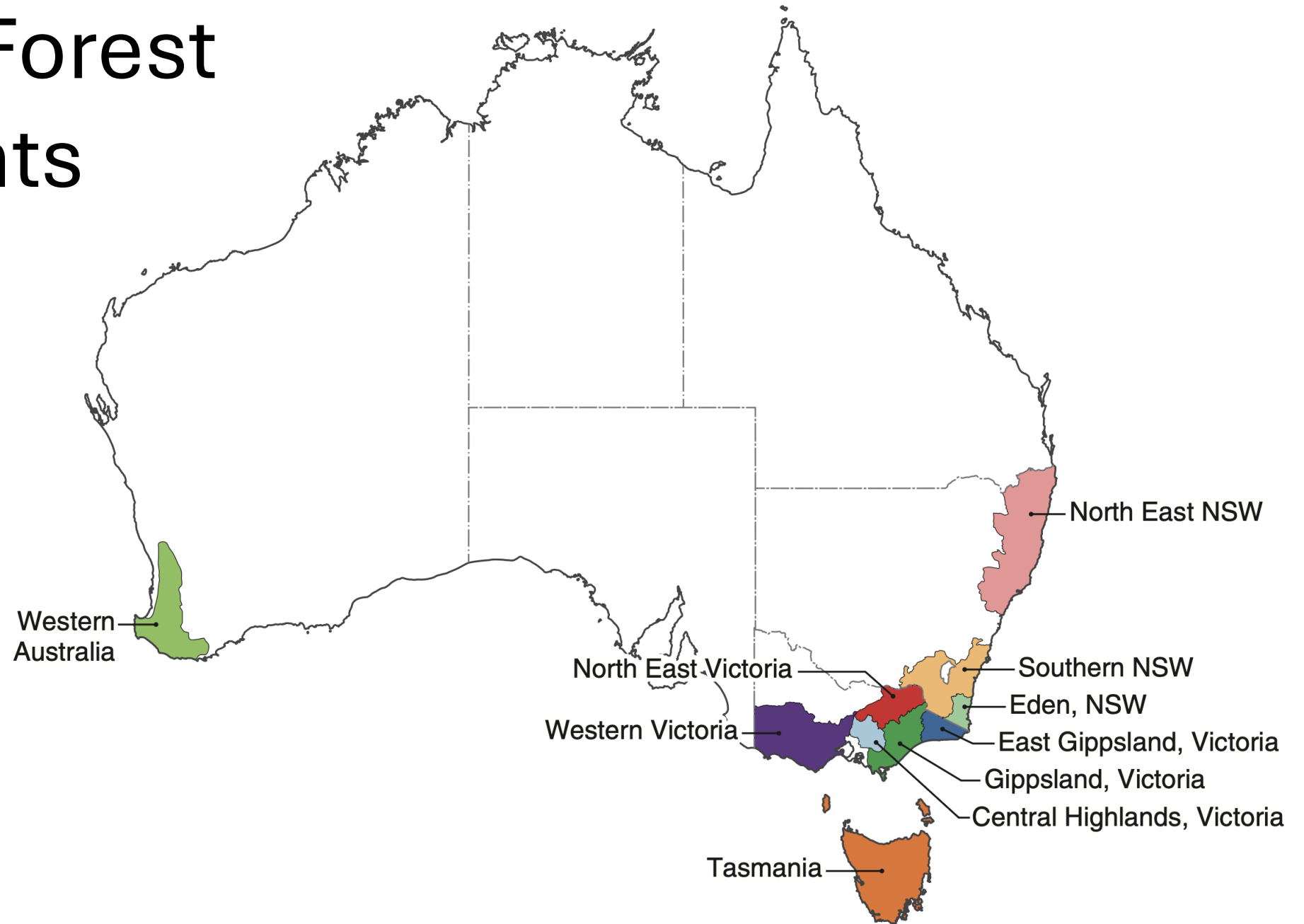
In native forests a shift from multiple-use forest management to ecologically sustainable forest management to (post-wood forest management?)

In plantations increasing optimisation of fibre production through genetics and silviculture

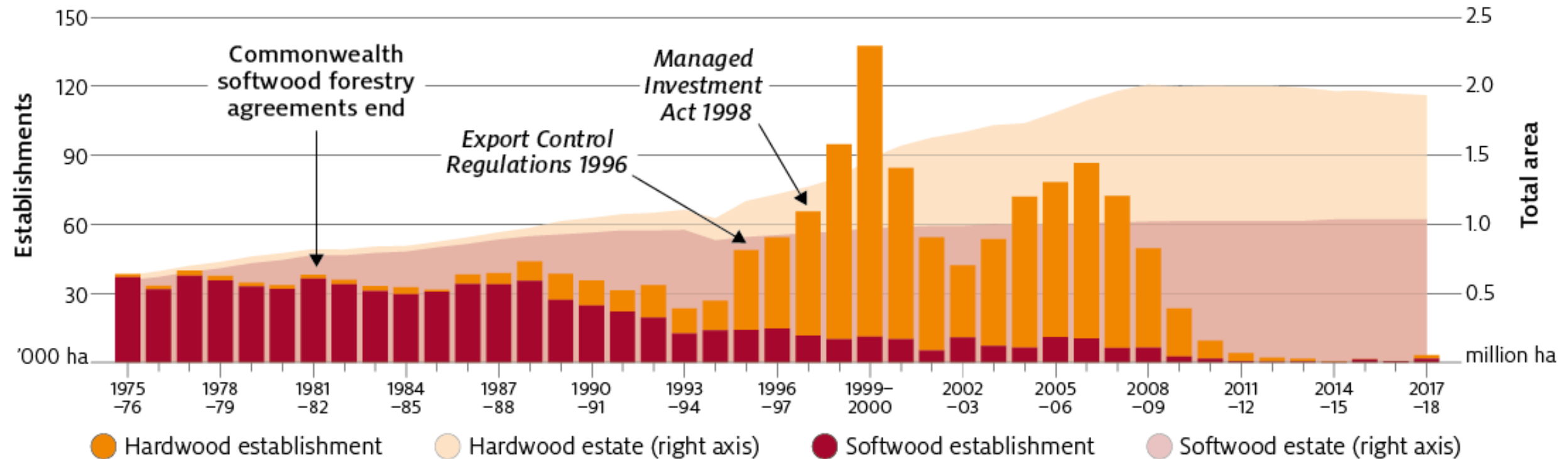
Harvested volume by forest category



Regional Forest Agreements



Plantation expansion and the Managed Investment Scheme



Long-term decline in investment in silvicultural research

- Most State Forestry Commissions ended in 1980/90s
- CRC for Forestry ended in 2010
- Silviculture Forest Research Working Group ended in 2014-ish

And silviculture over the next 25 years?

- What are we managing for?
- Is current silviculture fit for future purpose?
- How do we adapt our silviculture to an uncertain future?

Symposium Panelists

- Owen Bassett, Victoria
- Tony Brown, New South Wales
- Dianne Patzel, South Australia
- Libby Pinkard, Tasmania
- Sean Ryan, Queensland
- Lachie McCaw, Western Australia

Summing Up

- Nora Devoe