

AUSTimber 2020

The largest timber industry show in the Southern Hemisphere, celebrating our sustainable and renewable industry...



The Australian Forest Contractors Association (AFCA), owns and delivers AUSTimber. AFCA is a membership based association representing Australian forestry contracting businesses. AFCA is operated by a volunteer board of directors from its members.



A F C A

sustainable

AFCA's key objectives are to support members and promote best practice in safety, operations and innovation. We work with key stakeholders across the supply chain and government to develop policy and projects that align with these objectives.

Forestry in Australia

Australia's forest plantations and managed native forests are a renewable and sustainable resource, consisting of 2 million hectares of hardwood and softwood plantations plus around 5.5 million hectares of sustainably managed native forests, of which about half a percent is harvested each year and regenerated. Native forests harvested will regrow to provide a wide range of other benefits such as further carbon storage, oxygen generation and forest habitat.

They not only support amazing the biodiversity of Australia flora and fauna but also underpin important regional employment, economic activity and social benefits.

0.5%

Of Australia's forest plantations and managed native forests are harvested and regenerated



70m+

Trees replanted annually, capture more than 320,000 cars worth of annual emissions



Our People

Forest industries underpin many regional jobs and communities. About 300,000 people are employed directly and indirectly in the forest industry.

Forest industries jobs are diverse and include the planting and regeneration of forests, the haulage of timber and wood chips, processing into sawn, laminated and engineered timber products, the creation of paper renewable biopellets for energy through to innovative biomaterials and biochemicals.

\$24b

Contributed to the economy each year by the forestry industry



50%

Of the dry weight of wood is carbon... captured and stored, helping tackle climate change.

Carbon positive and climate change

Australia's renewable forest resources can store huge amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in standing timber and wood, paper and bioproducts, and for years afterwards by the recovery and recycling of these renewable products.

As well as the important carbon storage and abatement benefits of forests, they play a major role in moderating atmospheric warming dissipating the heat of incoming solar radiation through natural photosynthetic and evapotranspiration processes.

Renewable material

Responsibly sourced wood can play a big part in helping tackle climate change. This is because wood is a low carbon option for building – when used in long-lived applications it stores carbon for the long-term, it is renewable, and it has a lower embodied energy than many other building materials such as concrete, steel or plastics.



The forestry industries commitment to carbon

Our certified sustainable forest industries already contribute significantly to Australia's carbon abatement efforts, through the carbon stored over time in growing forests and products manufactured from wood.

As the world ramps up efforts to reduce emissions, our renewable forest industries can play an even greater role in Australia's transition to a greener, low-carbon emission economy.

The Australian forest industry is pledging to remove over 18 megatonnes of CO₂-e per year by 2030 – around 23% of the Australian Government's current emissions reduction target.

This equates to a huge 115 megatonnes of CO₂-e removed or stored over the period 2019 to 2030.

18mt



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Sustainable forests certification

Australia has one of the highest standards and requirements for forestry operations in the world.

Two certification schemes measure sustainability and the practices of forestry in Australia:

1. Responsible Wood

Standards to create an environmentally, socially, culturally and commercially sustainable industry.

They provide standards for sourced wood/wood products to ensure provenance from sustainably managed forests in Australia.

2. Forestry Certification

Scheme (FSC). The FSC Australian National Standard delivers a clear, stable, and reasonable framework for responsible forest management in Australia. It covers advice on how to identify, assess, and manage high conservation values, and how to carry out social impact assessments and stakeholder consultation.



Illegal logging



Since 2012, the Australian Government have had in place laws to combat illegal logging and promote the trade of legal timber products. These laws and the legal responsibilities within are supported by the forest industries and apply to industry in Australian and importantly importers of wood.

Under Australian law, illegal logging means 'the harvesting of timber in contravention of the laws of the country where the timber is harvested'.

This includes a wide range of illegal activities, such as:

- logging of protected species
- logging in protected areas
- logging with fake or illegal permits
- using illegal harvest methods

These laws, assist to combat the destructive trade of illegally logged timber and support local investment, profitability and job.

David Attenborough supports the forestry industry – see video link: ourplanet.com/en/explore/forests

Wood makes us feel good

Our need to spend time in nature has been termed 'biophilia' and explains our innate need to connect with the natural world. This relationship can be extended into the built environment where we live, work, rest and play.

Research has identified that the increased use of wood has measurable physiological and psychological health benefits. We now know that workers are less stressed and more productive, students learn better, patients heal faster, and people are generally happier and calmer in spaces that contain natural elements like wood.

In addition, Multiple physiological and psychological benefits have been identified for wooden interiors, including:

- Reduced blood pressure, heart rate and stress levels
- Improvements to a person's emotional state and level of self-expression
- Improved air quality through humidity moderation



Sources

<https://au.fsc.org/en-au>

<https://www.fwpa.com.au/>

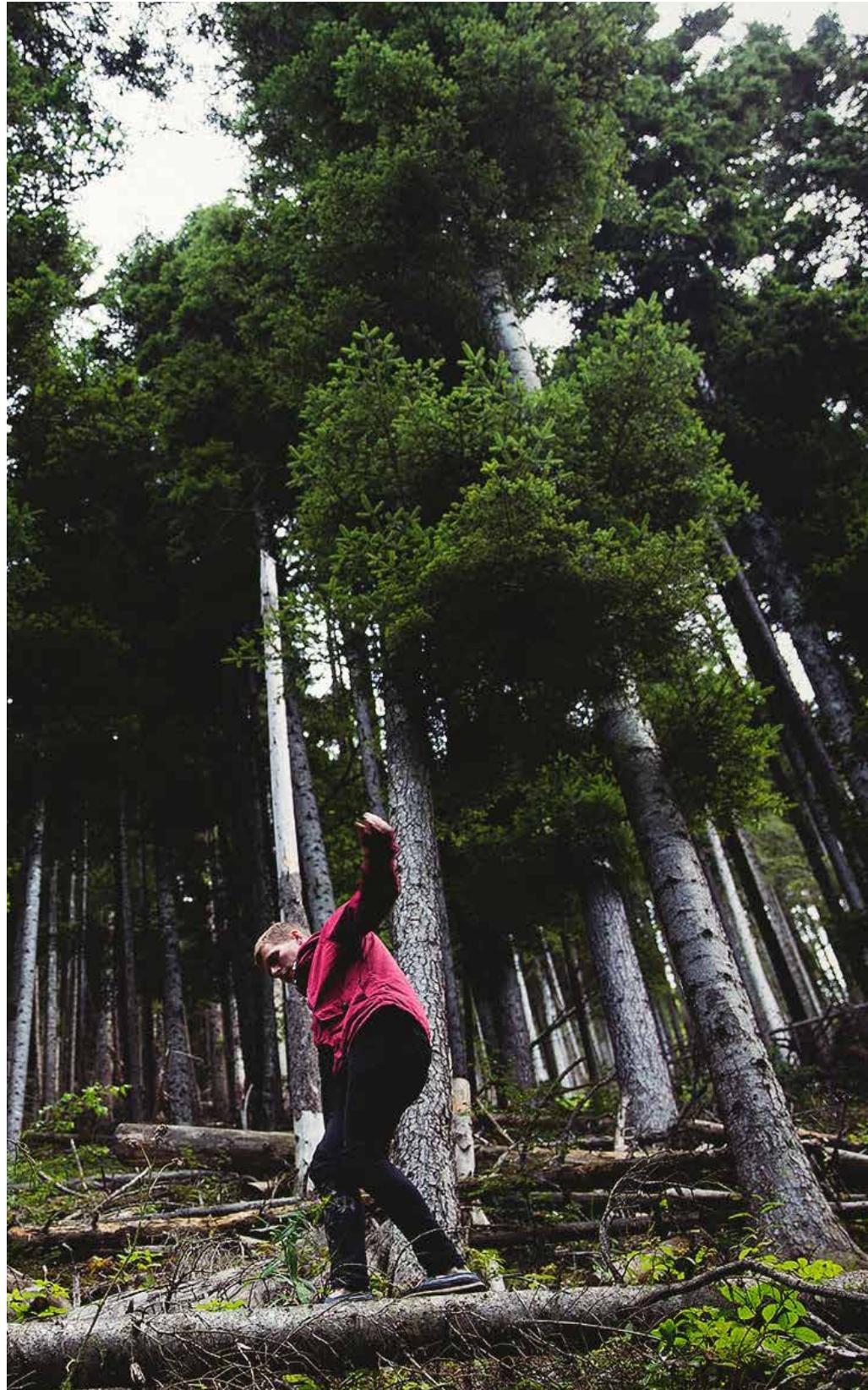
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AFPA & <https://www.18by2030.com.au/>

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/policies/illegal-logging>

<https://planetark.org/campaigns/make-it-wood.cfm>

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like more information? austimber2020@afca.asn.au www.austimber.org.au

