

6 April 2023

The Climate Change Office
Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania,
Department of State Growth

climatechange@recfit.tas.gov.au

Consultation – Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25.

Private Forests Tasmania (PFT) is an independent statutory authority established under the Tasmanian *Private Forests Act 1994*. We work to facilitate and expand the sustainable growth and development of the private forest resource in Tasmania. We do this through providing information to private forest growers, through research collaborations, advocacy, innovation and planning tools. Under our [Corporate Plan 2022-25](#) one of our four goals is to work with policy makers and regulators to improve regulatory efficiency and practical policy settings for private forestry.

Our submission provides responses to some of the consultation questions posed in the draft Plan.

Q. Do you agree with the proposed vision and goals for the action plan? Which goals are you most supportive of? Are there any other goals that should be considered?

PFT is broadly supportive of the vision and goals outlined on page 10 of the draft Plan. We are particularly supportive of the goal to increase new timber plantations, expand the adoption of agroforestry in Tasmanian farming systems and reduce the conversion of plantations to other land uses. The 2021 Emissions Pathway Review Report found that meeting this goal would result in a combined reduction in emissions of 420 kt CO₂ e/year by 2050 with an overall achievability rating of medium high to high and, importantly, within a short to medium timeframe. Additionally, the co-benefits of having more commercially viable trees throughout the agricultural landscape cannot be understated – it assists farm productivity by providing shelter for stock and protecting soil and water whilst providing habitat for wildlife and improving aesthetics.

PFT recommends that consideration be given to adding the additional goal of adopting bioenergy (forest residues) for use in the manufacturing sector. This compliments the above listed forestry focussed goals and is in itself a significant and achievable emission reduction measure (370 kt CO₂ e/year by 2050) as outlined by the 2021 Emissions Pathway Review Report.

Q. Will the key actions under Priority area 1 help support decision making for you and your community or organisation? What types of projects should be supported under the final action plan?

Page 15 of the Plan highlights the Enterprise Suitability Mapping (ESM) currently hosted on ListMap as a case study for Priority area 1 - Information and knowledge. The Enterprise Suitability Maps are a very valuable decision support tool for farmers. Through the ESM, potential farm foresters have access to information on the three most common farm forestry species – Radiata pine, Blue gum and Shinning gum. However there is scope to increase the number of species to which mapping is available, for example Blackwood, Cypress pine, Redwood, Douglas fir and a new hybrid pine. A project that would increase the

range of tree species covered by ESM would encourage the planting of a diversity of farm forestry species and complement the above mentioned goal to expand the adoption of agroforestry in Tasmanian farming systems.

Q. Will the key actions under Priority area 2 support Tasmania to achieve its 2030 emissions reduction target and continued emissions reduction across Tasmania? What types of projects should be supported under the final action plan?

Development of the sector based Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plans (ERRPs) is supported. PFT recommends that the 'best-fit' opportunities already identified in the 2021 Emissions Pathway Review Report form the basis of the ERRP's. The involvement of industry in the formulation of the plans will be vital and any additional emission reduction opportunities identified during plan formulation should be given due consideration.

If you have any queries on the points we have raised, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Bishop', written in a cursive style.

Phil Bishop
A/CEO Private Forests Tasmania