

## FPAC Communique

FPAC met on June 10, 2021.

Council considered Guidelines for the exemptions under s.4 of the Forest Practices Regulations. The guidelines were generally endorsed and noted as a valuable and needed initiative particularly for smaller private landowners.

Council was briefed on a proposal to develop an FPP online mapping tool. Council expressed support noting that it will primarily be of benefit to smaller private landowners and should assist in improving the level of planning and recording available to them. Spatial data collected as a result has potential in tracking areas reserved from harvest in FPPs, with potential for wider use for due diligence when properties are transferred. Council advised that use of such a tool should remain voluntary.

Council discussed future Strategic directions for the FPA. Council considered that the FPA should recognise the dominant contribution to wood production now being made from private forests and plantations and should include in future strategy a focus on facilitating the sustainable development of the private forest resource and ensuring the FP system is fit for purpose in this context. Council drew attention to a recent report 'Access to Land Use Policy for Plantation Investment', prepared for the North-northwest Tasmania Regional Forestry Hub.