



AFPA
NSW

2023 NSW ELECTION

BACKING OUR SUSTAINABLE
FOREST INDUSTRIES



INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT



Forest Industries employ 21,000 people across NSW



They include forest growers, managers and harvesters, softwood sawmills that make structural timber for housing, hardwood sawmills which create appearance grade timber products, engineered timber manufacturers, pulp and paper processors making cardboard, paper and packaging products, and wood fibre exports



Timber products are grown in either softwood or hardwood plantations or come from sustainably managed regrowth native forests



All NSW forests are replanted (plantations) or regenerated (regrowth native forests) after harvest to ensure no net loss of forest coverage. No old growth forests are harvested in NSW



Renewable paper and cardboard products are made in NSW from either locally grown timber and recycled paper or from sustainably-sourced imported wood fibre



Our forest industries are carbon positive – storing carbon in the growing forests and continuing to store it for the life of the timber and paper products



All AFPA NSW members are certified under global accreditation standards for their sustainable forest and supply chain management



Forest industries are finding innovative new applications for wood residues to support our transition to a circular bioeconomy

BACKING OUR SUSTAINABLE FOREST INDUSTRIES

NSW forest industries are everywhere in our lives: the timber in the homes we live in, the paper and cardboard products in our pantries, offices and bathrooms, the power poles that carry our electricity, the pallets that transport our food, and the firewood we use to heat our homes. We literally cannot live without our forest industries.

More importantly, ours is a sustainable, renewable sector. When we back our timber and paper industries, we are not only supporting tens of thousands of jobs and injecting billions of dollars into the NSW economy, we are also reducing our carbon footprint and ensuring that we source our wood fibre needs sustainably, instead of relying on timber imported from countries that are at high risk of illegal logging and deforestation.

The 2023 NSW election is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the next State Government to stand up for regional jobs, to grow domestic manufacturing jobs and secure our future housing timber supply by backing our sustainable, renewable forest industries.

NSW forest industries urge political parties and candidates contesting the NSW election to commit to these key policies that will support our industries to thrive, innovate and play a greater role in NSW's circular economy.

A VISION FOR GROWTH AND INNOVATION



Commit to growing the softwood timber plantation estate to secure our future housing timber supply and help NSW meet Net Zero By 2050



Provide certainty for our sustainable hardwood timber workers by committing to no reduction in timber production forests and no job losses



Adopt a NSW Wood Encouragement Policy to prioritise the use of local timber in government infrastructure projects



Support initiatives that will unlock the potential of renewable forest products including paper and cardboard in the circular economy



Invest in infrastructure projects that optimise timber supply chains and support timber processing innovation



Invest in bushfire preparedness, active forest management and forest restoration for healthier, more bushfire-resilient forests

MAKING THE PRODUCTS YOU LOVE...

PLANTATION FOREST TIMBER MAKES

The timber frames for our homes, engineered wood products used to build new multi-storey residential and commercial buildings, wood-based panels for our kitchens, and wood fibre used to manufacture paper, packaging and bioproducts to replace single use plastics. In addition, residues go into making potting mix, mulches, composts and landscaped products for our gardens.

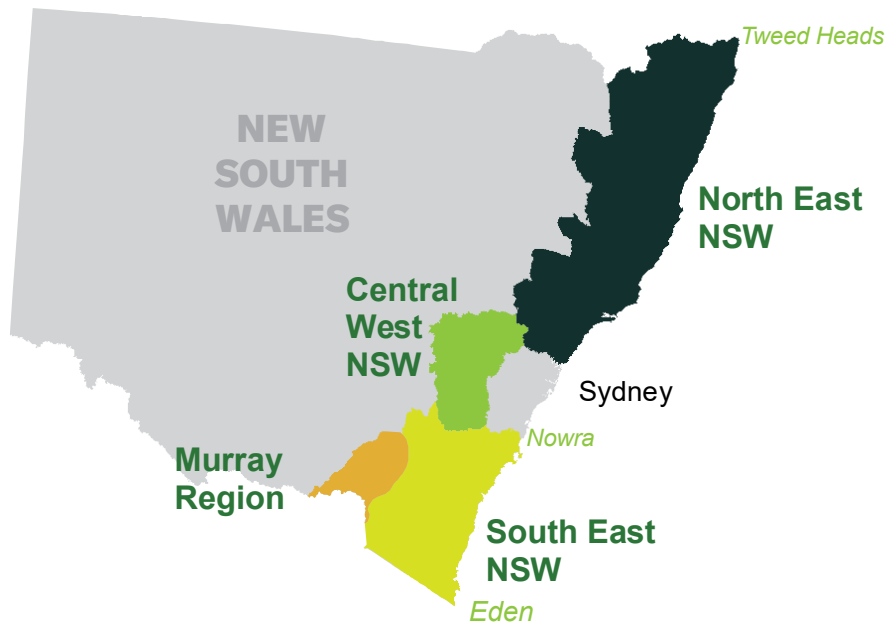


NATIVE FOREST TIMBER MAKES

Floorboards, staircases and furniture, while the residues and secondary timbers are used to make pallets, paper and packaging, replacing single use plastics. In NSW, timber production for appearance grade hardwood timber products occurs in designated areas that have been previously harvested. After harvest, these areas are regenerated, with no net loss of forest over time.



REGIONAL FORESTRY HUBS IN NSW



The Commonwealth Government is funding four Regional Forestry Hubs across NSW which represent existing concentrations of wood supply resources, wood processing and manufacturing operations, established domestic and export transport links, and strong potential for growth. They are:

- North East NSW
- Central West NSW
- Murray region
- South East NSW

SOFTWOOD (RADIATA PINE) INDUSTRIES

NSW has around 306,000 hectares of softwood plantations, which accounts for about a third of Australia's softwood plantation estate. Most of NSW's softwood plantations are owned and managed by the NSW Government through the Forestry Corporation of NSW, which is responsible for around 200,000 hectares.

NATIVE HARDWOOD INDUSTRIES

The regrowth native hardwood industry in NSW employs around 9000 people and contributes almost \$3 billion annually to the state economy. NSW has 22 million hectares of native forest, with only a tiny percentage – the equivalent of 14 trees in every 10,000 – of regrowth native forests sustainably harvested annually and then regenerated by law