

Southern African Institute of Forestry

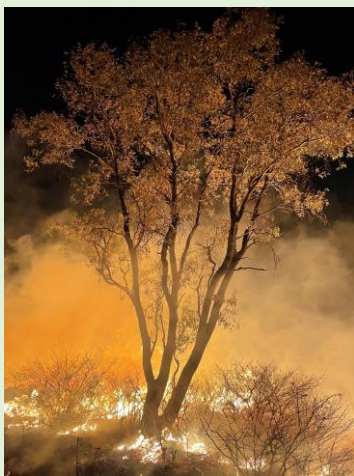


Delivering a professional service to forestry

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NIGHTGLOW
Photographer ,
Ronald Heath
from the
Gauteng
Branch

From the President's Desk

Forestry Master Plan: Quo Vadis ? : Part 1

Weekly we see more and more people expressing their frustration and dissatisfaction with the Status Quo on several topics which range from the rising fuel prices, poor service delivery at local authority level all the way through to lack of Policing and numerous other topics.

From several corners, we hear that the patience of commerce and industry with issues like unbundling power generation to allow private suppliers who already generate electricity and would like to or have plans ready for such projects, to add to the power network, is running low.

For many years Commercial forestry has been targeted as a potential source of taxes and levies and ever-increasing controls. We who are involved in the forest and forest products industry in some way or another, have been waiting patiently for many years for much needed afforestation and other projects / plans to be implemented, but sadly to no avail. Despite the relentless efforts of Forestry South Africa (FSA) and numerous other organisations and individuals to get some definitive action, very little has happened in the past 5 to 10 years.

The Forestry Master Plan (FMP) which was first published in September 2020 in support of the Re-Imagined Industrial Strategy (RIS) for SA which was approved by government in June 2019, was welcomed with enthusiasm and excitement. One of the Focus areas & deliverables identified in the FMP is the recommissioning of the former Exit areas in the Western Cape earmarked for forestry.



Case study: Western Cape Exit Strategy

Here follows a concise history of the Western Cape Forestry Exit Strategy, subsequent VECON report as well as the IDC (Heyl & Associates) report. In the year 2000 it was decided by government to phase out ± 45,000 ha of plantation on State owned plantations in the Western & Southern Cape over a 20 year period. A request to do a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to determine what would be the best or optimal land-use for the so-called Exit Area, was turned down by government at the time. Only in 2006, government agreed to a study by an independent group of experts to determine what would be the best land-use for each land-unit affected by the Exit program. By late 2006, the so-called VECON report, a very comprehensive investigation into the Exit program, was submitted to government. By August 2008 the S.A. Cabinet led by the then President Thabo Mbeki, approved the recommendations of the VECON study which would entail the retention of approximately half of the original 45,000 ha (21,500ha) for commercial forestry with the majority of the balance of the land to be de-commissioned, to be transferred to Conservation bodies for management by them.

The Exit program was completed under management of MTO Forestry (Exit Lease Agreement) by October 2020 as planned.

Meanwhile in 2014, government through the IDC and thanks to pressure from various organisations and stakeholders, initiated another study spearheaded by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) who used Louis Heyl & Associates to complete the study and come up with their recommendations. They confirmed the basic decisions of the VECON report (i.e. the “what”) but also came up with practical guidelines on the “how” and the “when” it should be executed. Definite target dates were set for the steps to award tenders to successful bidders to manage the various parcels recommended in the IDC study. Sadly, almost none of these target dates have been achieved.

We are now in 2022 and it has been 16 years since the VECON report, 14 years since Cabinet approval of VECON, 8 years since the IDC/ Heyl report, and two years since the Forestry Masterplan was issued, and still we do not have new lease agreements in place and trees planted & growing on these sites.

This unfortunately comes at the expense of a forestry industry in the Southern Cape which is in desperate

Need of raw material to continue with their processing operations. As indicated by Louis Heyl in the IDC report, up to 5,000 jobs will be at stake if VECON Forestry is not implemented.

Why is it then that there has been so little movement on the Deliverables & targets despite the expression of good intentions by government and other stakeholders and forestry role- players waiting in anticipation?

Does the problem lie with COVID-19 (blamed for so many problems nowadays), ignorance, incompetence, lack of political will, lack of commitment, lack of leadership, ideological reasons or just not being a high priority for the decision makers or is it a combination of some or all of these factors which lead to the perceived ‘paralysis’ on the part of government? This in a time where we desperately need employment and economic growth to address the serious issues at hand! It is an accepted fact that the forest and forest products industry make a meaningful contribution to employment and the economy in the rural areas.

As recorded on the FSA website, the Forestry and Forest Products sector jointly employs more than 149 000 people. The majority of forestry’s workforce live in rural communities, where unemployment levels are high and a single wage supports multiple dependants.

“The Forestry sector invests millions of Rand every year in education, health, community and enterprise development programmes. South Africa’s Forest Industry is a multi-billion Rand Industry, responsible for 9.8% of the country’s agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 4.9% of South Africa’s manufacturing GDP. With an export value of over R38.4 billion, it is a key contributor to South Africa’s economy.” It is also a major employer and is estimated to indirectly support well over half a million South Africans. (FSA : Forestry Explained website).

As Michael further explains, there were many plans and initiatives over the past 20 years, but very few of these ever came to fruition. The question remains whether government is really serious about building the forestry industry and the economy of the country.

The forestry industry remains hopeful but also sceptical about the execution of the Forestry Master Plan.

Part Two will follow in the August edition of the SAIF Newsletter.



Sponsor of the July 2022 Page in the SAIF Calendar



FORESTRY SOUTH AFRICA™

Representing the Forestry Industry

Responsible forestry requires attention to sustainable, efficient and effective practices that have the lowest environmental impact and yield the greatest social and economic benefit, while producing an array of renewable and versatile end-products. To this end, Forestry South Africa (FSA) represents 11 corporate forestry companies, approximately 1 100 commercial timber farmers and some 20 000 small-scale growers. Collectively, these growers own or control no less than 93% of the country's total plantation area of 1.2 million hectares. It supports the Industry in common and precompetitive areas such as research and protection and against pests and disease, environmental issues, education and training and legislation.

“Commercial forestry is much like any other farming practice. The crops are considered a renewable resource, used to make sawn timber, pulp, paper, poles, mining timber, matches, charcoal and cellulose-based products. Specific species of trees are planted, harvested and replanted in sustainable rotation. This ensures that there are trees at various stages of growth and maturity, ready to harvest for generations to come. Forestry is more than the science of planting, managing and caring for timber plantations. It's also about looking after the landscape which timber plantations share with other animal and plant species as well as the people and communities that the Forestry and Forest Products Industry touches.

The South African forestry landscape is a tapestry of commercial timber plantations – or tree farms – interwoven by natural spaces of unplanted land to enhance and conserve biodiversity, grasslands, wetlands and indigenous forests. With some 80% of the country's timber plantations certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, South Africa has one of highest degree of forest certification in the world. South Africans can be proud of their Forestry Industry as one that is environmentally, socially and economically responsible.

The Forestry Industry's legacy in South Africa is far reaching. As Forestry South Africa, we are proud to be part of it.”

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- ▲ **Collective Research and Protection Platform**
- ▲ **Leveraging Funding from External Sources**
- ▲ **Deferring/Preventing Potential Costs**
- ▲ **Lobbying Platform**

Business Development
norman@forestrysouthafrica.co.za | nathi@forestrysouthafrica.co.za

The Business Development Unit convenes the Industry's think tank for the growth of the Sector through new afforestation, which is one of the keys to the industry's tangible transformation. Through partnerships, the committee engages on issues of development finance, land reform, capacity building, skills transfer, business support to ensure the success of new entrants and smallholder tree farmers.

Committees and Working Groups (WG)

- ▲ Business Development
- ▲ Land
- ▲ Training & Skills Development

Research & Development (R&D), Forest Protection & Communication
ronald@forestrysouthafrica.co.za

R&D and Forest Protection is critical to increase yield, reduce loss, remain competitive locally and internationally, while addressing current and future challenges and uncertainty. FSA drives the collective effort to identify, fund and commission the R&D and protection interventions the Sector needs, steering a coordinated approach between research partners, their associated networks and where possible, government. The unit also coordinates FSA's communication efforts to accurately promote the Sector

Committees and Working Groups (WG)

- ▲ Climate Resilience WG
- ▲ Fire
- ▲ TIPWG
- ▲ Baboon Damage WG
- ▲ National Pest & Disease
- ▲ Research Advisory
- ▲ Communication Advisory
- ▲ Research Advisory

Operations
francois@forestrysouthafrica.co.za

The Operations Business Unit deals with all matters related to the day to day Forest Operations, looking for opportunities to introduce new innovations and to make operations safer and more efficient. We provide members, government and other stakeholders with guidance on operations based procedures, produce handbooks and Sector statistics.

Committees and Working Groups (WG)

- ▲ Commercial Crimes
- ▲ Forest Operations
- ▲ Forest Valuation WG
- ▲ FSA Statistics
- ▲ Health & Safety
- ▲ Human Resources
- ▲ Training
- ▲ Transport

Environment
scotcher@forestore.co.za

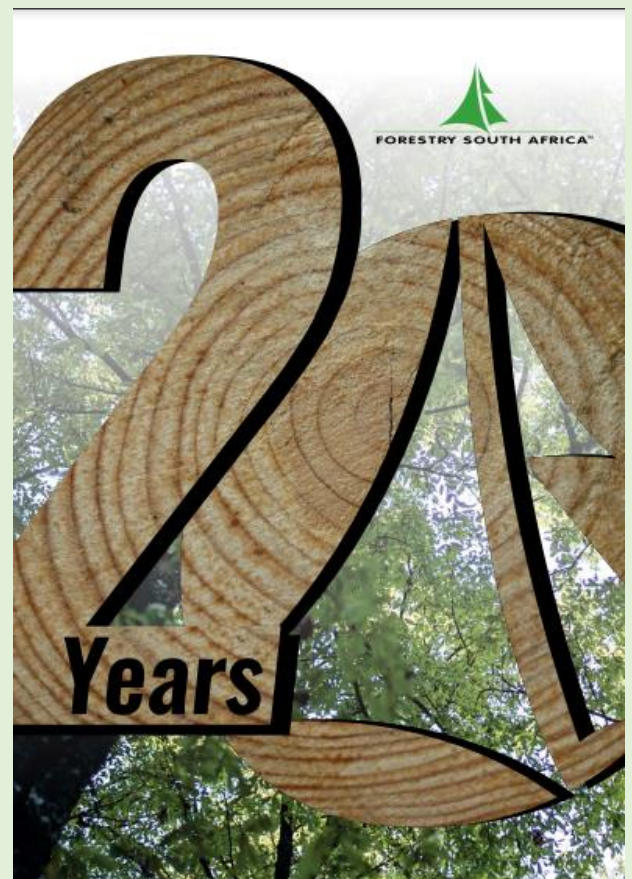
The drive towards sustainable land use and conscious consumption, has seen the remit of the Environmental Business Unit expand. This is not only to ensure environmental sustainability across the Sector, but also to evaluate and mitigate the impact environmental legislation may have on the Sector. This is achieved through a coordinated approach between the Industry and Government to remove impediments to the Sector and to ensure future growth of the Industry. By reviewing and commenting on new/revised laws and regulations, we can assist the relevant competent authorities in drafting laws that are meaningful, unambiguous, implementable and within their mandate.

Committees and Working Groups (WG)

- ▲ Environmental Management (EMC)
- ▲ Soil Conservation WG

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The SAIF would like to express their appreciation to FSA for their continued support and join them in celebrating 20 years of serving the Forest Community in S.A. and wish them many more !



Rob Thompson Column July 2022

The sordid tale of a “rusk” assessment

Every permanently (or temporary) office-based forestry practitioner understands just how difficult it is to get through the day without reliance on an un-“controlled” substance.

With all the curve balls being flung in our direction, by life in general, it is no longer possible to survive a day without at least eight large furtive hits of that magic elixir sourced from Ethiopia, Columbia, Vietnam and others. So great has our habit become, that the organisations we work for have been forced to make available to employees the machinery and paraphernalia required to extract the stimulant from legally obtained raw material, in as safe and as controlled a manner possible.

Interestingly, this all stems back a good number of centuries when a goat herder, working in the Ethiopian Highlands, noticed just how animated his animals became when they ate the red ripe berries of a small wild growing bush. Now an animated goat is just as disturbing a sight as an animated forester, but nevertheless the goat herd fortunately had the insight and gumption to further explore his discovery and see just where it would all lead.

Intuitively, the goat herd knew (as would we all in similar circumstances), that the right thing to do would be to remove the red flesh from only ripe berries, allow the inner kernel to dry for a few weeks and then to roast the dried kernels on a hot plate until dark brown. Next would be to grind the roasted kernels (that resemble beans) and steep them in boiling water to produce an aromatic, addictive and delicious drink that quite simply makes life worth living. But what to call this new brew? “Goat berry juice” after all, just did not have the right ring to it. Fast forward to the modern day and Wikipedia provides an opinion as to how the brew got its name:-

It is likely derived from the name of the region where coffee beans were first used by an early goat herder in the 6th or 9th century. “Kaffa,” its early name, comes from the Keffa Zone in southwestern Ethiopia, derived from Kaffa Province, which was the name of the region in ancient Abyssinia.

Anyway, enough of the history and on to the real sordid topic of this article.

I was diligently at work last week, as always, when an e-mail arrived from a long-standing forestry colleague employed sadly by an opposition organisation. In the interests of anonymity, I shall refrain from revealing who this person is. Fortunately, however, he has a common first name so I can use this with impunity knowing that his identity is forever safe. I took immediate interest in the content of the mail sent to me by person-“Axel”, given that it is common knowledge amongst us – the addicted - that the copious imbibing of coffee, care of our ancient goat herder whose contribution to civilisation ought to be consecrated at the highest level, brings on the “munchies”. We all know too, that the most appropriate way of dealing with such affliction is via a rusk or two.

Extracts from the mail I received from person-“Axel” read thus:-

Those of us who diligently uphold the banner of forest certification and serve as guardians of noble standards, know well enough the importance of assessing risk. However, in an effort to curb certification fatigue syndrome (CFS) and to introduce some sense of humour in the often dark and murky world of responsible forest management, a new approach is suggested: rusk assessments! If you purchase rusks from a supermarket, you are definitely not a rusk aficionado. Why should you degrade yourself by eating rusks produced in a factory? So what is considered the source of the best rusks? Homemade, of course, just the way you like it! Plain or with seeds, raisins, nuts, etc. Wholewheat is a healthy option. Sourcing homemade rusks is the optimum way to mitigate any associated risks to rusks.

I know that you all support my stance that any sane coffee/rusk addicted forester worth his or her salt, would be immediately offended by such ill-considered written allegations.

We all know that the new limited edition, supermarket sourced, factory produced, “Ouma Peanut Butter rusk” offering, surpasses by far, any homemade or home industry attempts at rusk production.

Fortunately, and quite coincidentally, I had, the minute prior to receiving this offensive mail, formally established an independent audit firm comprising myself, which determined that the allegations contained in the received mail, ought to be formally challenged. My firm accordingly raised a major corrective action against person-“Axel”. We received an immediate appeal in response. Person-“Axel” stated in such appeal that his wife (and here we use a pseudonym “Annine” again for anonymity sake) makes a superb rusk hence his (outrageous) stance.

The major CAR was accordingly finalised as follows:-
Thompson’s Independent Rusk Assessment Agency (TIRAA) hereby informs you of a major corrective action having been raised against one person-“Axel” who appears complicit in undermining, on official stationery, and in official time, the attributes of shop bought rusks. Whilst the general sentiment expressed is accepted for the vast array of shop bought produce, this agency finds person-“Axel” derelict in assuming that the store sourced Ouma’s Peanut Butter rusk offering falls into the same insipid quality offering. As a result, we raise a Major finding associated to a commensurate Major Corrective Action. Under such CAR we insist that at own expense, person-“Axel” purchase such product and produce such together with a sample of his wife’s offering at an official taste-off. This agency shall enter into no further discussion until this CAR is adequately closed out.

A team of invited rusk assessment auditors was assembled and present on the day of the close out proceedings. These auditors hail from professional risk and CoC assessment pedigree and clearly, judging from the look in their eye, were itching for the opportunity to raise a major to a catastrophic total non-compliance. A clearly agitated person-“Axel” arrived at my offices clutching a Tupperware full of evidence. So great was his angst that he required assistance with the extraction of the limited dose of coffee that he was allowed.

With a trembling hand he presented the evidence line up to the audit team. First the pristine square and neat peanut butter rusk. Then came the rather awkward, misshapen, seed and raisin filled Annine home-bake. The auditors carefully scrutinized the line-up before finally dunking samples of each into their fifth caffeine fix for the day. Silence ensued as the rather nasty and noisy mastication process ensued. A verdict was reached. Another sample, particularly of the home bake version was required, for certainty. Such sample was produced and the process repeated.

Eventually the lead auditor, a take no mercy action man known as person-“Norris” wiped the crumbs from his mouth, jersey, cap and lap, glanced knowingly across at his assistant auditor, person-“Patrick” and declared that they were ready to conclude. His pronouncement was as follows:-

“Whilst dismayed at the rather haphazard shape of and the foreign material emanating from, the home bake, we are unanimous in determining that the taste thereof totally surpasses any aesthetic deviances. We conclude therefor that the home-bake is the more apt accompaniment to one’s daily coffee. Peanut butter just has no place in the partnership of coffee and rusk, particularly in the forestry realm. Person-“Axel”, the major CAR is retracted”.

Relief flooded across the face of person-“Axel” only to be quickly replaced by total anxiety. The concerned audit team enquired as to the cause of this new angst only to be told that his concern lay in to how he was going to claim this trip as an official trip. Again, another good reason for the anonymity approach adopted throughout this article.

So, there you have it. It takes a lot of effort to sift through perceptions in order to reach the truth.

Yes, it does mean that I shall henceforth have to indulge in peanut butter rusks on the quiet, forever banished to skulking about out of sight of the masses, but for the rest of you forestry practitioners out there, you can continue to intake caffeine and home bakes simultaneously, without sanction and without guilt.

Long may your addiction last. Remember, to, every now and again, take a quiet moment to thank that uninhibited and animated goat, without which, life would be truly mundane today.

SAIF 2022 AGM and Awards Ceremony

Although perhaps not the ideal way of having an Annual General Meeting, the On-line/ Virtual AGM of the Southern African Institute of Forestry (SAIF) on the 14th of June 2022 was nevertheless very well attended by members and even a few non-members. At the occasion Dr. Michal Brink was the keynote speaker and shared his and CMO's perspective on the Forestry Industry in South Africa, Africa and the rest of the world. The presentation was titled "Forestry globally and nationally : Quo Vadis".



He highlighted the realities but also the many opportunities which exist not only in S.A but also particularly in Africa which can offer solutions to several issues and challenges experienced by the Developed World and Africa. He reminded us of the reality of climate change and the fragile state of the world but also that forestry does offer a "green value". All of us need to be conscious of the threats and opportunities for renewable products from timber and warned that we should stay at the forefront of technology and efficiency to unlock the potential which exist.

At the AGM proceedings which followed, the financial position of the SAIF, membership and President's report were discussed. There is real excitement also on the recent appointment of Dr. David Everard as the Editor -in-Chief of the Southern Forests Journal which remain to be the flagship of the SAIF.

One of the highlights of the proceedings was the announcement of the various recipient of the Annual SAIF awards. We hope to cover all the handing over of awards during the following editions of the Newsletter.

The winners of the respective awards are as follows:

1. Forester of the Year – Roger J. Poole
2. Dedicated Service Award – Wayne R. Jones
3. Distinguished Forest Award – Michal P. Brink
4. Continuous Excellence Service Award – Tatenda Mapeto
5. Scientific Writing Award – Caitlin Gevers
6. Merit Award - Nkosinathi D. Kaptein

We would like to congratulate each of the recipients with their well -earned awards !



Wayne Jones receives his dedicated service award from Mmoledi Mphahlele -KZN branch chair

Wayne received the dedicated service award for his service over a period of 25 years . He was Branch Chair of the KZN Branch from mid 2015 and was elected as Vice-President of the SAIF Council in 2017 and subsequently the President of the Institute from 2019/20 and 2020/21. He is currently Past-President of the SAIF and continue to serve the Institute with distinction.

Wayne took over as President during challenging times when the SAIF had to adapt to changing times including the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This necessitated "out of the box thinking" and how the SAIF would remain relevant to its members and the industry. He lead the SAIF with distinction during this period.

Wayne is known for his passion for forestry and has proved himself in his professional career at SAPPI Forests as one of the primary researchers and experts on tree breeding in his position as Programme Leader Seed Technology . He currently also serves as the chairperson of the Eucalyptus Pest and Pathogen Working Group.



Sappi's Tree farming guidelines



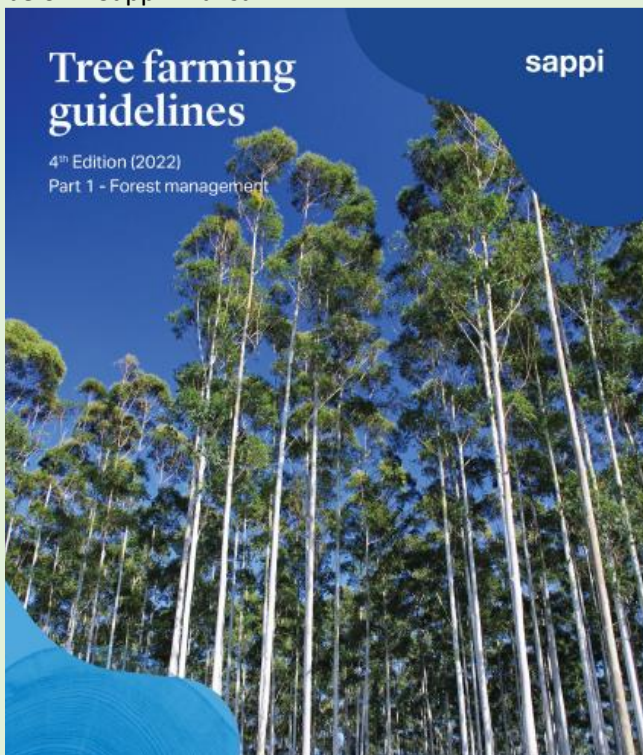
“ The first edition of Tree Farming Guidelines was published in 1997, followed by revisions in 2004 and 2010. This is the fourth edition, incorporating the latest developments in sustainable forest management. The purpose is to provide a practical guide to tree farming for Sappi’s private timber suppliers, but as a resource is available to all. The guidelines cover topics such as species selection and planting through to harvesting and extraction, and provide much-needed information on fundamental issues such as safety and proper planning and scheduling processes.”

Here are the links (both work):

1. <https://www.sappi.com/tree-farming-guidelines>
2. <https://www.sappi.com/treefarmingguidelines>

The documents are also listed in the search results if you search for **tree farming guidelines**.

Once you’re on the Sappi website, scroll down; it’s below “Sappi Khulisa”.



Building thriving communities through developing enterprises

Economic growth in communities stems from more people having access to decent work, able to earn a living through using their talents and skills. This growth leads to stronger, more resilient, and successful communities – which in turn, helps us thrive as a company.

This desire to help our communities flourish, was one of the main reasons that Sappi’s dedicated Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) unit was established in 2018 - tasked with helping to incorporate small and medium enterprises (SMEs) into the mainstream economy.

This community support and supplier development has been further bolstered by the creation of a dedicated multidisciplinary team comprised of ESD, Human Resources and Corporate Communications members, in a forum known as the Community Management Committee (CMC) at its business units. The purpose of the CMC is to identify shared value opportunities that help identify and support local entrepreneurs as well as to promote the sourcing of goods and services from local suppliers where possible.

Our goal? Firstly, to build thriving local economies in the areas where we operate – through the provision of capacity building programmes for SMEs focused on accessing markets, acquiring business and technical skills to ensure business sustainability and growth. With many SMEs lacking the technical and business experience needed to thrive in a competitive business environment, Sappi has stepped in to fill that gap. decided to start his own contracting company - Mhlekezi Forestry - in 2013. Today, he is one of the biggest silviculture contractors in the KZN South district, with a five-year contract with Sappi, responsible for silviculture operations in the Richmond area, having grown from 50 to 80 employees.

“The Sappi team has played a crucial role in our growth and development and have been instrumental in opening doors for our business, providing business support, guidance and encouragement. We truly value the support from Sappi” says Mhlekezi.

Safety is an integral part of Mhlekezi Forestry, and Mhlekezi believes this has played a pivotal role in his business longevity. “ We prioritise and value safety in our business” he says. Mhlekezi has a strong vision for his company . The future indeed looks bright for Mhlekezi Forestry !

<https://www.loggingon.net/>

International Conference of Forest Engineering



COFE-FORMEC-IUFRO 2022

"One Big Family – Shaping Our Future Together"

The Council on Forest Engineering (COFE), the International Symposium on Forest Mechanization (FORMEC), and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Division 3 will meet in Corvallis, Oregon.

This year's international meeting is the in-person forum on cutting-edge scientific research and innovative practices in forest operations and engineering. The 2nd IUFRO Division 3 Doctoral Conference will be held alongside this 2022 Joint Meeting.

One Big Family – Shaping Our Future Together will focus on building a strong community of forest engineering across continents and sectors. Together, we will learn from each other and shape our future.

Organizers



NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY

The Cluster of Natural Resource Management of the Nelson Mandela University (NMU) invites you to the 13th Fire Management Symposium:

Theme **"Preparing for the next Mega Fire"**

Date: 23-25 November 2022

Venue: George, NMU (George Campus), Southern Cape, South Africa

Background and purpose

Globally, effective wildfire management is impeded by a lack of integration between research results, technological development, and efforts by fire managers. In the end all strive to prevent, suppress and protect the environment, human wellbeing, and assets against wildfire.

This event aims to integrate the efforts of natural resource managers, engineers, and scientists. Through an integrated approach, different role-players will be sensitised about each other's realities.

You are therefore invited to join fire managers and authorities from different disciplines and land uses (Nature Conservation, Agriculture, Disaster Management, Forestry, Local Authorities, etc.) for a range of informative presentations, and exciting networking opportunities.

Focus

Following the worst fire experienced in the history of South Africa (Southern Cape) on 7 June 2017, as well as numerous other urban interface fires in SA, it was decided to dedicate our biannual wildfire symposium to the topic: "Preparing for the next Mega fire event".

Programme

The 2022 Fire Management Symposium promises to be a special event. Not only because of the unique setting of the venue in the heart of the Garden Route,



but also because of the conglomeration of top rated fire management specialists whom will share their fire expertise in a very practical and applied manner. Internationally renowned fire scientist Prof. Pete Fule will deliver the first keynote address and will be supported by local fire specialists such as Pieter van der Merwe. We will also proudly host other international fire specialists as well as specialists from leading forestry companies in South Africa.

The 2nd day of the event (Hosted by The Southern Cape Fire Protection Association (SCFPA)), will provide opportunities to visit the Southern Cape region to observe the unique vegetation and take note of fire related issues.

In General

This event present opportunities to people from different entities and parts of South Africa to network. In addition, the world of scientists who are engaged in research, will meet that of the hard-core fire manager who gets the smoke of wildfires in his/her eyes. Due to the capacity of the venue only 200 delegates can be accepted for the event. Final cost of the event has not been finalised but as in the past, will be very reasonable in order to provide the opportunity for everybody to afford attendance. The event dinner will take on the form of a spit braai with live music.

For more information contact tiaan.pool@mandela.ac.za 0723742347, Hannes van Zyl Hannes.vanZyl@mandela.ac.za 0727331692 or sonia.roets@mandela.ac.za 044-8015091.

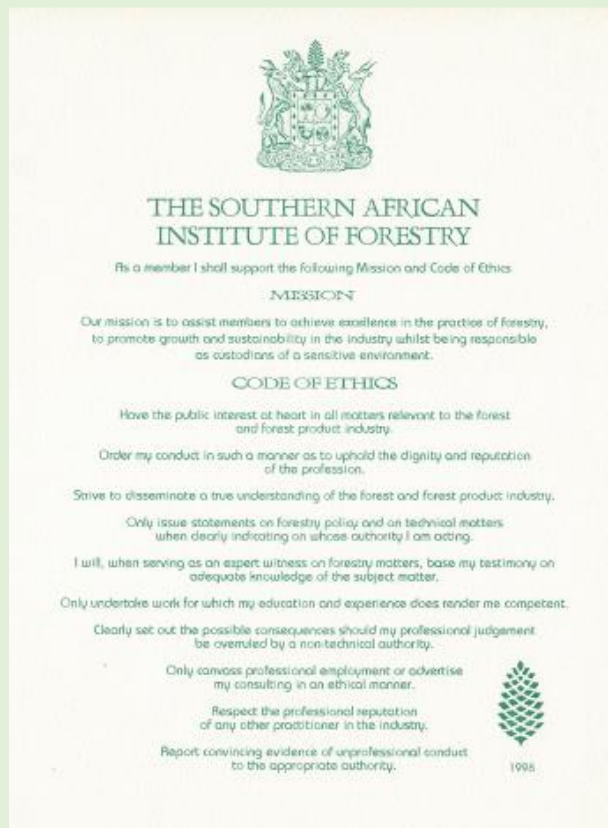
A draft program of the event is available on request from either of the persons mentioned above.



Food for Thought

Southern African Institute of Forestry

Code of Ethics



Constitution



We do not often look at the Code of Ethics of the SAIF and it is perhaps necessary to measure / assess from time to time whether we are still fulfilling the Mission and each of us conduct our business in an ethical and professional manner.

Please let us have your thoughts and views on this very important.

SAIF PHOTO COMPETITION 2022

The popular SAIF photo competition will again be taking place in 2022. The top 14 photos will be used to compile the 2023 SAIF calendar.

Stihl has kindly confirmed sponsorship of the photographic competition prizes as follows :

1st Prize: GTA 26 Handheld Garden Pruner

2nd Prize: RE 100 PLUS Control High Pressure Cleaner

3rd Prize: SE 33 Vacuum Cleaner

We would like to thank Stihl for the continued support for the annual calendar competition.

Please note that the closing date for the competition is **31 August 2022**.



One of the winning photos of 2021



Photographer Michelle Schroder – Frog under Eucalyptus bark

Come on ladies and gents, please send your photos to Corine !!!



SU-FOR First Thursday

Dr. Simon A Ackerman

Chief Technical Officer – Forest Operation
Research: Department of Forest and Wood
Science

Faculty of AgriSciences | Fakulteit

AgriWetenskappe

e: ackerman@sun.ac.za

Reference to the recordings of the latest presentations as well as the previous ones :

<https://youtu.be/hOgGVdHyRnY> - 'An assessment of productivity and volume recovery of mechanised harvesting in a pine fire salvaging operation in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. ' – [Phozisa Dlokweni – Nelson Mandela University] (2/6/2022)

https://youtu.be/XL9CiVvDK_o - 'Mapping the SA Forestry Supply Chain' – [Jennimi Laubscher – Stellenbosch University] (3/2/2022)

<https://youtu.be/g-qzK743hLU> - Interview with Dwayne Marx - CEO of SAFCA [2/12/2021]

<https://youtu.be/d0cc1CEf8jY> - 'Effective small-scale harvesting and forwarding in industrial plantation first thinning operations' – [Simon Ackerman – Stellenbosch University] (05/11/2021)

<https://youtu.be/ojCJ4pCx8Xs> - 'Pine thinning methods: operational productivity and residual stand damage' – [Munyaradzi Makoto - Stellenbosch University] (07/10/2021)

https://youtu.be/LkrMi6_-Gqo - 'Post-thinning control of harvester operator consistency and adaptability using UAV derived imagery' – [Hugo Zandberg – Stellenbosch University] (02/09/2021)

The title of the presentation on 14/7/22 : ***The use of drones to quantify forest residues post-harvesting: real or realistic?*** Link pending

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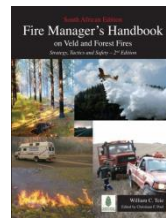
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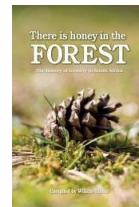
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