

## **Communiqué 6:**

### **Steering committee meeting**

This is a communiqué from the NSW Forest Monitoring Steering Committee, which oversees the NSW Forest Monitoring and Improvement Program. The Steering Committee includes NSW government agencies and independent scientific experts, as outlined under the Program's Terms of Reference.

### **Coastal IFOA monitoring program**

The Steering Committee endorsed nine monitoring plans for the Coastal IFOA monitoring program.

Under the oversight of the Coastal IFOA Technical Working Group, four cross agency design teams with technical expertise from the Environmental Protection Authority, the Forestry Corporation Authority of NSW, Department of Primary Industries and the Department of Environment, Energy and Science developed detailed monitoring plans to implement the program.

The plans detail how the program will be implemented using scientific robust principles and methods. They include, for example objectives, monitoring and analytical methods, responsibilities and timing.

Steering committee members - Professor Patrick Baker, Professor Phil Gibbons and Dr Peter Hairsine – provided subject matter reviews. In addition, Professor Jerry Vanclay reviewed landscape-scale trends for wood supply.

The Chair commended all parties for their effective and collaborative approach to deliver the monitoring plans.

### **Citizen science strategy**

The Steering Committee endorsed a final strategy for citizen science developed in partnership with the Australian Citizen Science Association.

The program will harness citizen science to advance the knowledge base for improved forest management outcomes. It aims to enhance the ability for the citizen science community and their data to influence evidence-based decision making.

As a first step, the program will seek to work with citizen groups and integrate their data into current program projects.