SAWMILLING NEWSLETTER

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Welcome

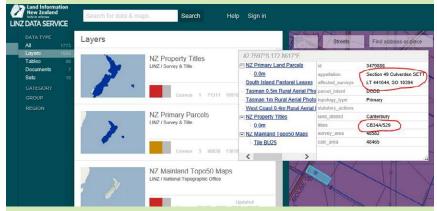
For your information MPI has recently had an upgrade to the website: www.mpi.govt.nz

For any forestry related information and application forms go to: Growing and Producing > Forestry

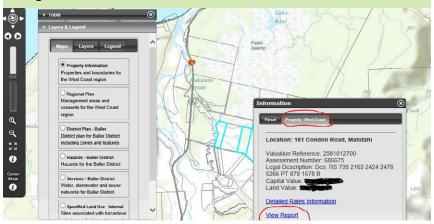
Helpful hints – maps and property details

MPI asks you to provide information such as property details (Certificate of Title) and maps when submitting applications. There are free websites and tools available that you may find helpful in accessing this information.

One useful website is Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) https://data.linz.govt.nz/



Your local regional or district council websites often have sections where you can locate your property details and boundaries, as well as download maps and aerial photos of your property. For example, the West Coast Regional Council website http://gis.wcrc.govt.nz/westmaps/map.html shows property boundaries and land title information, and by clicking on 'View Report' it generates a map with your property boundary and an aerial photo in the background.



What else does MPI do relating to forestry?

In addition to indigenous forestry, MPI is involved in lots of other work relating to the forestry sector. Of particular importance is supporting commercial research to develop new harvesting technology to reduce costs and improve worker safety through the Primary Growth Partnership (PGP).

One key PGP-funded project titled 'Steepland Harvesting' has focused on developing specialised steep-slope harvesting machinery that can reduce production costs as well as improving safety for workers. This six-year project which started in 2010 is a partnership between MPI and Future Forest Research. It has received \$3 million of government funding matched by an equivalent amount by industry.

The centrepiece of this project has been the development of the ClimbMAX, a feller–buncher harvester which has been operating safely and efficiently on slopes up to 40 degrees. This has meant a reduction in the number of bushmen having to operate in steep and potentially dangerous felling situations. It has also demonstrated productivity in trials.

The ClimbMAX, which is now in commercial production, was developed by Kelly Logging and Trinder Engineers from Nelson.

In addition to the ClimbMAX, the project is developing other new systems which include remote controlled machinery, advanced hauler vision, grapple control and innovative yarding technology to improve the productivity and safety of cable harvesting systems.



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Sawmiller Profile - Robert Steadman and Jude Hayton

Just imagine that you have been carefully managing 300 hectares of beech-podocarp forest under a sustainable forest management permit. The permit has recently expired and you are looking at your options for continuing the long-term management of the forest. Along comes Cyclone Ita in April 2014 and half of your forest is blown flat. It's back to the drawing board as you assess the damage and develop plans to recover as much millable timber as possible before it's spoiled by insect attack and decay.

This is the situation faced by Robert Steadman and Jude Hayton at Te Namu, Little Wanganui. Prior to the Cyclone, Robert and Jude had been harvesting small volumes of timber under their permit and milling it using their registered portable sawmill.

Now with the high number of potentially millable trees lying on the ground, time is of the essence if they wish to recover any of the timber. Just getting into the forest has been difficult and Robert estimates that over $1000 \, \text{m}^3$ of millable rimu, along with lesser volumes of hard beech and kahikatea, were blown over during the storm. To date, some milling has taken place under a Milling Statement issued for wind-thrown timber.

Fortunately, Robert and Jude had established an outlet with a Nelson-based timber merchant before the storm event, who has continued to purchase rimu resulting from the windblow. Robert and Jude are looking at working through the forest systematically to recover as much timber as possible. Due to the risks associated with windthrown forest, safety is paramount in the recovery operation.





The Beeches – What's in a name?

Depending on who you are – scientist, forester or bushman – the beeches are known by different names. For the scientist or forester they are known as *Nothofagus menziesii* (silver beech), *Nothofagus fusca* (red beech), *Nothofagus truncata* (hard beech), *Nothofagus solandri* (black beech) and *Nothofagus solandri var. cliffortioides* (mountain beech) while for many bushman they were commonly referred to as the birches.

The *Bushman's poem* gives a colourful insight into that.

In 2013, the official names for New Zealand's beeches were changed. After extensive research into the DNA of the beeches, Heenan & Smissen published a paper announcing the names had been changed to *Lophozonia menziesii* (silver beech) and *Fuscopora fusca, truncata, cliffortioides* and *solandri* (red, hard, mountain and black beech).

The Bushman's poem

"You've got three main types of birches (beeches) – red, brown and black. The bark of the red is silver and the wood of the red is pink when it's green. The brown quite often has black bark but the green timber is red. Sometimes the bark of the black is white, but the timber is yellow and sometimes brown when its green". Anon

