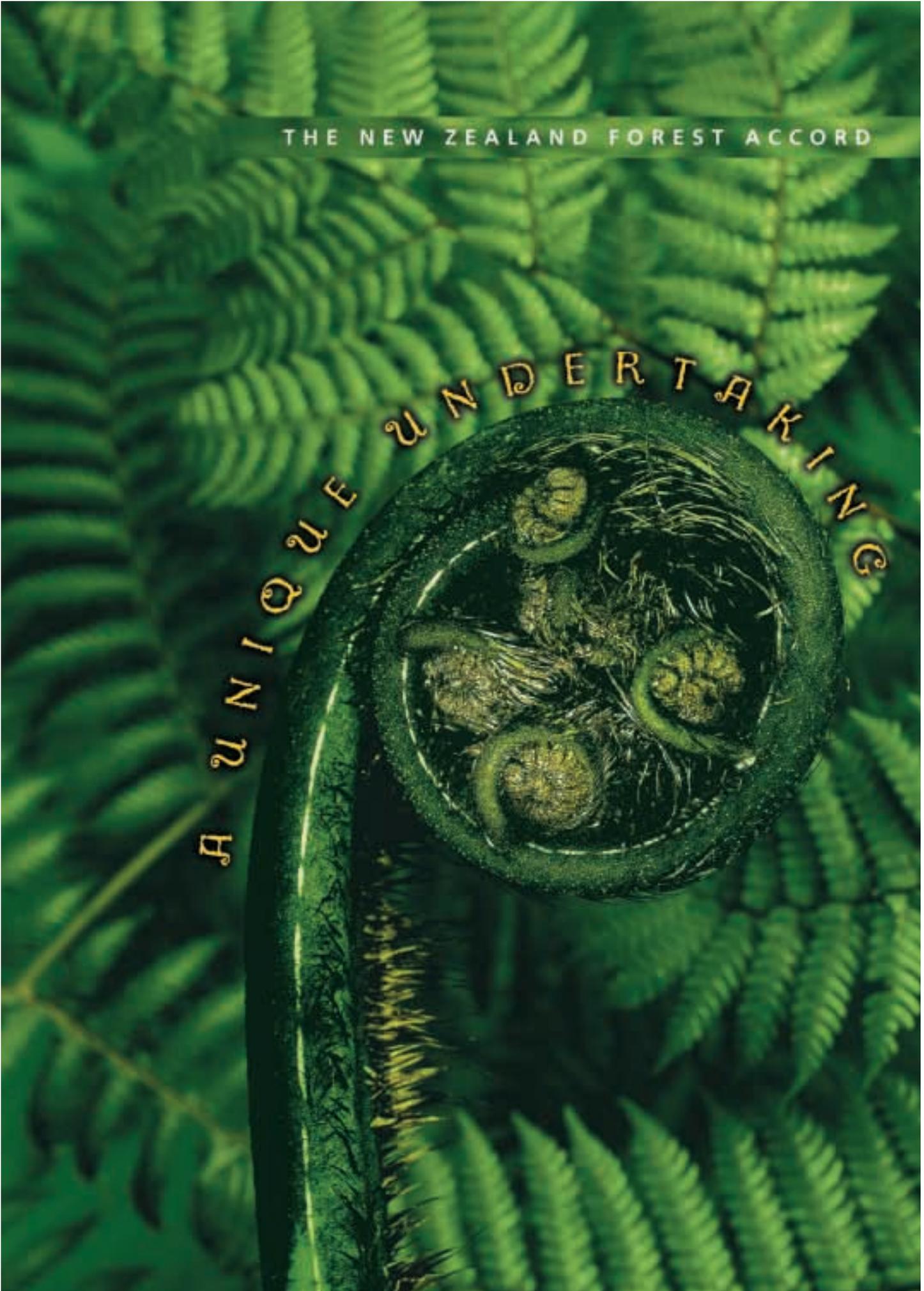


THE NEW ZEALAND FOREST ACCORD

A UNIQUE UNDERTAKING





When forest companies and conservationists came together on August 14, 1991 to sign the New Zealand Forest Accord, they set a unique example to the international community.

After a long period of dialogue, the signatories confirmed their intention to work together on a voluntary basis for the benefit of New Zealand's indigenous and commercial forests.

ACCORD OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the New Zealand Forest Accord:

- Define areas inappropriate for plantation forestry.
- Value, protect and conserve New Zealand's indigenous forests.
- Maintain and enhance the existing area of natural indigenous forests.
- Recognise commercial plantation forest as essential sources of fibre and as offering an alternative to the depletion of natural forest.
- Acknowledge the mutual benefits of the Accord to the signatories.
- Ensure use of wood from natural indigenous forest is only from areas managed on a sustainable basis.
- Ensure new plantation forests would not disturb areas of natural indigenous vegetation.

WHO SIGNED?

The Forest Accord has 14 signatories representing:

- New Zealand Forest Owners Association



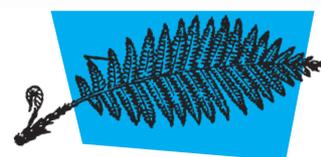
- New Zealand Timber Industry Federation
- New Zealand Farm Forestry Association
- New Zealand Wood Panel Manufacturers' Association
- The Royal Forest and Bird Society of New Zealand (Inc)
- Environmental and Conservation Organisation of New Zealand (Inc)
- Federated Mountain Clubs
- Friends of the Earth
- Beech Action Committee
- Pacific Institute of Resource Management
- World Wide Life Fund for Nature (New Zealand)
- Japan Tropical Forest Action Network
- Tropical Rainforest Action Group
- Maruia Society (now known as Ecologic Foundation).

WHAT DID THEY AGREE?

Commercial enterprises:

For all members of the NZ Forest Owners Association, it is now policy that when plantation forests are being established, indigenous vegetation will remain undisturbed, including:

- Five hectares or more with a predominance of indigenous trees of any height.
- Up to five hectares of indigenous



forest vegetation at least six metres high.

- Any protected vegetation.
- Any vegetation in unsurveyed areas likely to be protected under Department of Conservation criteria.

Conservation groups:

Agreed to acknowledge the importance of commercial plantation forestry while promoting the protection and conservation of natural forests.

Both parties agreed:

- Harvesting naturally occurring indigenous forest can only occur if it sustains the forest ecosystem and it is both conducted on a sustainable basis and principally for the production of value-added solid wood products.
- That the Accord excludes high country Crown Land, Crown pastoral leases and land controlled by DOC.
- That the Accord does not cover arrangements for the supply of indigenous timber authorised by Government before the Accord was signed.
- To meet to monitor implementation and to address issues which may arise.

THE NEW ZEALAND FOREST ACCORD

THE FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT

THE NEW ZEALAND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATIONISTS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST OWNERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST INDUSTRIES

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST MANAGERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST WORKERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST ENGINEERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST ARCHITECTS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST DESIGNERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST PLANNERS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST ECONOMISTS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST POLITICIANS

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST LAWYERS

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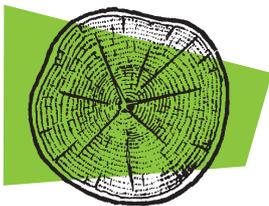
THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF FOREST ACCOUNTANTS

(Signatures of representatives from the Forest Owners Association, the New Zealand Government, and various conservation and industry groups.)

RESOLVING DISPUTES

The agreed procedure for resolving disputes includes:

- Parties suspected of breaching the Accord stopping any related action until they are able to assure those suspecting the breach that they are complying.
- Both parties notifying the disagreement to their national organisations who in turn will help facilitate a resolution.
- Parties disagreeing on whether a particular action breaches the Accord, meeting on site with a qualified facilitator.
- Unresolved disputes being referred to all Accord parties for resolution.



HOW THEY SEE IT

New Zealand Forest Owners Association, Chief Executive, Rob McLagan:

"Signing of the Forest Accord was historic, with forest owners and environmental organisations agreeing on procedures for protecting indige-

nous vegetation in commercial forests. The Accord has clearly met its objectives and has also created a wider constructive relationship among all the signatory parties."

The Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, Conservation Director, Kevin Smith:

"Signing of the Accord was a landmark in New Zealand forest conservation and was all the more significant because the agreement was entered into voluntarily by the forest industry and conservation groups. At the heart of the Accord is an undertaking by members of the FOA to leave intact all areas of naturally occurring indigenous vegetation with one or more of four characteristics when establishing new plantations."

INQUIRIES:

Consideration of applications by other interested parties to become signatories to the Accord will be made by the existing signatory parties.



The *New Zealand* Forest Accord

THIS ACCORD is between the New Zealand Forest Owners' Association (Inc.), the New Zealand Timber Industry Federation, the New Zealand Farm Forestry Association, the New Zealand Wood Panels Manufacturers' Association

and

the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Inc.) together with the following environmental or recreational organisations who collectively comprise the New Zealand Rainforest Coalition:

- Environment & Conservation Organisations of N.Z. Inc.
- Federated Mountain Clubs
- Friends of the Earth
- Beech Action Committee
- Pacific Institute of Resource Management
- World Fund for Nature (N.Z.)
- Japan Tropical Forest Action Network
- Tropical Rainforests Action Group

and

Maruia Society

OBJECTIVES OF ACCORD

To:

- define those areas where it is inappropriate to establish plantation forestry
- recognise the important heritage values of New Zealand's remaining natural indigenous forests and the need for their protection and conservation
- acknowledge that the existing area of natural indigenous forest in New Zealand should be maintained and enhanced
- recognise that commercial plantation forests of either introduced or indigenous

species are an essential source of perpetually renewable fibre and energy offering an alternative to the depletion of natural forests

- acknowledge the mutual benefits emanating from an accord between New Zealand commercial forestry enterprises and conservation groups and the example that this unique accord can provide for the international community.

INSTRUMENTS OF ACCORD

1. The parties agree that for the purposes of this accord a native tree is defined as any indigenous woody plant which ultimately forms part of the canopy of a naturally occurring forest in the locality under consideration and also includes any indigenous tree species which attains a diameter at breast height of 30cm or greater.
2. It is the policy of N.Z.E.O.A. that members, when establishing plantation forests, will exclude from land clearing and disturbance all areas of naturally occurring indigenous vegetation with the following characteristics:
 - i. any area of 5 hectares or greater which has an actual or emerging predominance of naturally occurring indigenous tree species of any height.
 - ii. any natural indigenous forest vegetation of between 1 and 5 hectares in area with an average canopy height of at least 6 metres which is practical to protect. This recognises that in some instances small pockets of native vegetation within a commercial forest cannot practically be protected from disturbance. However, viable stands will be excluded from clearance and every reasonable effort made to ensure such areas are not damaged in subsequent forestry operations.
 - iii. any vegetation recommended for protection in a survey report in the Protected Natural Areas Programme or classified as a Site of Special Wildlife Interest (S.S.W.I.) in a published report by the former Wildlife Service.
 - iv. in ecological districts where such surveys have not taken place, areas that would qualify as a Recommended Area for Protection (R.A.P.) or S.S.W.I. in the professional opinion of the Department of Conservation, using established criteria for such surveys.
3. The parties support the production management and harvest of naturally occurring indigenous forest only where such activity

is conducted on a sustainable basis and principally for the production of added value solid wood products in New Zealand. A "sustainable basis" is considered to be a rate and method of tree extraction that does not exceed the replenishment so that the forest ecosystem in the area under consideration is maintained in perpetuity.

4. The conservation groups undertake to: acknowledge the importance of plantation forestry as a means of producing wood products and energy on a sustainable basis while promoting the protection and conservation of remaining natural forests, and to promote these understandings both within New Zealand and internationally.
5. The parties agree that this accord excludes high country Crown land, Crown pastoral leases and lands controlled by the Department of Conservation.
6. The parties agree that existing arrangements for the supply of native timber authorised by past Government decisions are not covered by this accord and that this accord will not be used by them to have effect on, nor to influence, negotiations with the Crown for forest arrangements referred to by the West Coast accord and the transitional arrangements in Southland.
7. The parties to this accord agree to meet from time to time to monitor the implementation and address issues which may arise.

Signed by the following parties, in Wellington on the 14th day of August 1991:

- New Zealand Forest Owners' Association (Inc.)
- The New Zealand Farm Forestry Association (Inc.)
- The New Zealand Wood Panel Manufacturers' Association
- The New Zealand Timber Industry Federation (Inc.)
- The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Inc.)
- Environmental and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand (Inc.)
- Federated Mountain Clubs
- Friends of the Earth
- Beech Action Committee
- Pacific Institute of Resource Management
- World Wild Life Fund (New Zealand)
- Japan Tropical Forest Action Network
- Tropical Rainforest Action Group
- Maruia Society



“ . . . recognise the important heritage values of New Zealand’s remaining natural indigenous forests and the need for their protection and conservation . . . ”



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

NEW ZEALAND FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Phone: (04) 473 4769
E-mail: nzfoa@nzfoa.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Phone: (04) 472 0432
E-mail: nzffa@clear.net.nz

ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

Phone: (04) 385 7374
E-mail: e.pyle@forest-bird.org.nz

WWF-NZ (WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE NEW ZEALAND)

Phone: (04) 499 2930
E-mail: jo.breese@wwf.org.nz

FEDERATED MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

Phone: (04) 384 2448
E-mail: fmcsec@xtra.co.nz

ECOLOGIC FOUNDATION

Phone: (03) 548 3336
E-mail: guy@ecologic.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND TIMBER INDUSTRY FEDERATION INC

Phone: (04) 473 5200
E-mail: inquiries@nztif.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND WOOD PANELS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

Phone: (09) 367 0900
E-mail: peterr2@ema.co.nz

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION ORGANISATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC

Phone: (04) 385 7545
E-mail: eco@reddfish.co.nz

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Phone: (09) 303 4319
E-mail: foenz@kcbbs.gen.nz