



**Sustainable
Timber
Tasmania**



**Australian Honey Bee
INDUSTRY COUNCIL**

Memorandum of Understanding

16 October 2019

Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

This MOU is made between the following parties:

- **Forestry Tasmania** (ABN 91 628 769 359)
a corporation established pursuant to section 6 of the Forestry Act 1920 (Tas) (repealed) and continued pursuant to section 6 of Forest Management Act 2013 (Tas) trading as “Sustainable Timber Tasmania” of Level 1, 99 Bathurst Street, Hobart in Tasmania.
(here referred to as ‘STT’)
- **Tasmanian Beekeepers Association Incorporated (ABN 63 174 038 506)**
The peak industry body representing both commercial and recreational beekeepers.
- **Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Incorporated (ABN 63 939 614 424)**
The peak national industry body representing the Australian Honey Bee industry.

1. Background

STT manages Tasmania’s public production forests responsibly and professionally for the long term, and recognises that there are multiple uses of the forest.

The Tasmanian Beekeepers Association represents the many beekeepers in Tasmania that access hive sites on land managed by STT.

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council aims to maximise the efficient use of industry resources and funds to ensure the long term economic viability, security and prosperity of the Australian Honey Bee Industry in Australia.

The parties recognise that both our industries are crucial for the Tasmanian economy, employment and investment, and that both industries can and do benefit from the resources and opportunities created by Tasmania’s forests.

The parties recognise that sustainable forestry management and apiary production can co-exist and be successfully managed for the benefit of the community and commercial production.

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to provide a framework, guiding principles and process for the parties to continue to work together to develop and implement mutually beneficial outcomes that supports ongoing sustainable forest management, wood production and honey production.

2. Key guiding principles

The Parties to this MoU recognise and acknowledge each of the following:

- a. That both the apiary and forestry industries are important for the sustainable growth of the Tasmanian economy, employment and investment – and that both industries can and will continue to successfully coexist into the future.
- b. That the apiary and forestry operations are part of the Tasmanian landscape, and that both industries benefit from the opportunities created by Tasmania's forests.
- c. That Tasmania's forests are well protected by a very extensive reserve system and that remaining forests are managed for multiple uses on a sustainable basis
- d. That this MoU is a key tool for building on Tasmania's apiary and forest industry advantages – and that all Parties have a shared responsibility for making it work and recognise that compromise will be required from time to time.

3. It is Agreed as follows:

General

- 3.1 The parties commit to close and ongoing communication and cooperation.
- 3.2 Through respect and consideration of each other's business needs, fair and open communication the Parties seek to avoid the creation of areas of potential conflict.
- 3.3 The Parties will continue to work together to develop and implement mutually beneficial outcomes that support both ongoing wood production and honey production, including where potential or actual issues arise.
- 3.4 The parties agree to meet at least once per year to identify emerging or potential strategic issues of concern to either or both industries; to identify additional opportunities to work cooperatively together; and to develop and implement mutually beneficial outcomes that support ongoing wood production and honey production.
- 3.5 The parties will meet with or brief each other whenever the need arises if there are significant emerging developments that are likely to be of interest to or affect the other party.
- 3.6 The parties will work cooperatively and constructively together to try to find mutually agreeable solutions whenever specific issues arise. The parties support both the intent and implementation of the *Planning Guidelines for Apiary Values (May 2019)* and the *Tasmanian Apiary Management Guidelines (September 2016)*.
- 3.7 Each party will:
 - Provide prior notice of any media release or media statement relevant to any other party's interest
 - Wherever possible, checking factual issues with the relevant party prior to making any media comment
 - Providing notification of any media comments made that may be relevant to any other party's interests.

Issue resolution

3.8 The Parties agree that they will use their best endeavors to avoid disputes, however where they do arise the Parties will seek to resolve them at the local level between those most directly affected wherever possible. Where necessary, issues may be escalated for resolution at a higher level if local level consultations have not resolved the matter, or where any party to this MoU believes this is more appropriate or more likely to result in an optimal outcome.

Where issues are related to individual forest operations and/or individual apiary locations, these should be addressed through implementation of the *Planning Guidelines for Apiary Values*. If the issues are broader, of strategic importance or resolution is not easily achieved at the local level, the issues may be elevated to senior management within the relevant parties for consideration and consultation.

Where there are unresolved issues that any party to this MoU has major concerns about, a meeting will be convened of senior representatives of the parties. These representatives will work cooperatively together to develop an agreed and acceptable solution for all parties, or an agreed process for arriving at an acceptable solution.

In all cases, consideration of any issues raised will be assessed for their consistency with, and resolution will be guided by, the key principles set out in this MoU.

Signatories:



Lindsay Bourke
President
Tasmanian Beekeepers Association



Sarah Paradice
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council



Steve Whiteley
Chief Executive Officer
Sustainable Timber Tasmania