

# Media Release

Thursday 28 October 2020



**Sustainable Timber Tasmania's Annual Report for 2020/2021 was presented to Tasmania's Parliament today.**

Sustainable Timber Tasmania's Chief Executive Officer, Steve Whiteley, said the strong contribution from more than 1,000 employees and contractors enabled Sustainable Timber Tasmania to continue operating at a profit and to support businesses, jobs and communities across Tasmania in 2020/2021.

"In 2020/2021, the business has reported a total consolidated comprehensive income of \$3.9 million, our fourth successive profit result.

"This year, Sustainable Timber Tasmania paid \$115 million to 673 Tasmanian businesses, supporting local communities, including \$53 million to harvest and haulage contractors. Importantly, helping to keep regional Tasmanian's employed during the COVID-19 pandemic."

Sustainable Timber Tasmania's value to the Tasmanian community extends beyond operating at a profit.

"We sowed nearly 90 million seeds to regrow forests for future generations and maintained almost 3,000km of roads to provide access to Permanent Timber Production Zone land for multiple uses including tourism businesses, bushwalking, mountain biking, hunting and fishing.

"Sustainable Timber Tasmania remains committed to protecting communities from the impacts of bushfires and in 2020/2021 contributed over 1,200 hours of firefighting activities while attending 24 bushfires.

"There was also significant effort to drive continual improvements such as progressing our forest monitoring utilising digital forest research, revising seed zoning systems to better manage future forest health and resilience, investigating a natural capital accounting framework and undertaking a range of habitat retention trials.

"On behalf of Sustainable Timber Tasmania, I sincerely thank our employees, contractors, the Board of directors, stakeholders, and the wider Tasmanian community for their ongoing support and engagement."

## **Sustainable Timber Tasmania's 2020/2021 highlights included:**

### **Forest Products**

- Produced nearly 1.6 million tonnes of wood, including over 115,000 cubic metres of high-quality eucalypt sawlogs and 8,825 cubic metres of special species timbers.
- Made over \$100 million of forest products sales.
- Paid \$115 million to 673 Tasmanian businesses including \$53 million to Tasmanian harvest and haulage contractors.

### **Regrowing**

- Prepared more than 5,000 hectares for regrowing with nearly 90 million seeds sown on harvested areas to regrow future forests.

### **Fire Management**

- Attended 24 bushfires with over 1,200 hours of firefighting activities and 60,674 standby hours.
- Provided 537 person days of assistance to 28 fuel reduction burns completed by other agencies and completed 8 fuel reduction burns on PTPZ land.

### **Multiple Use**

- Maintained almost 3,000km of its 10,000km road network to provide access to PTPZ land and constructed more than 40km of new roads for multiple uses.



### Safety

- Strong safety performance for employees and significant improvements in contractor safety performance from continued implementation of SafetyCircle, a safety culture program.

### Certification

- Maintained Responsible Wood forest management certification, safety and environmental systems certification and continued work towards FSC certification.

### Research and Innovation

- Actively participated in over 25 research projects to support sustainable forest management in a diverse range of areas including forest genetics, climate change, biodiversity, fire management, natural capital accounting and the Internet of Things.

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Media enquiries - 03 6169 2869

