



TIMBER TOWNS VICTORIA

A Local Government Association

21 December 2021

Plantations and Innovation Section
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
18 Marcus Clarke St
CANBERRA ACT 2601

via: [Have your Say – Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment](#)

Dear Plantation and Innovation Section,

RE: SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL FARM FORESTRY STRATEGY

Timber Towns Victoria welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the National Farm Forestry Strategy.

Timber Towns Victoria (TTV) is an incorporated Local Government Association representing the interests of twelve municipal councils representing a total population of 480,000 people in relation to forestry on both public and private land.

National Farm Forestry Strategy	Timber Towns Victoria - response
Who are you?	Timber Towns Victoria (TTV) is an incorporated Local Government Association representing the interests of municipal councils in relation to forestry on both public and private land.
Looking out to 2030, what do you think are the major opportunities for expanding farm forestry in Australia?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Giving farmers across Australia the opportunity to offset emissions and lower their carbon footprint.
What would you like a National Farm Forestry Strategy to achieve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good environmental outcomes.• Creating the conditions for a sustainable local timber industry to meet future demand.• Policy certainty around harvesting.

What are your top four priorities for a National Farm Forestry Strategy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating certainty that future policy/legislation will guarantee farm forests can be harvested. • Putting in place proper incentive structures (carbon offsets or other). • Promoting education programs for the farming sector to understand the benefits of farm forestry.
How important do you think the following focus areas are for inclusion in a National Farm Forestry Strategy?	Very important Important Moderately important Slightly important Not important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood and fibre production 	Very important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income diversification for farmers and landholders 	Important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased farm productivity 	Important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New regional employment or business opportunities 	Important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil and water protection 	Very important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved biodiversity 	Very important
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon sequestration 	Very important
What are the barriers to increased farm forestry in Australia?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited landholder knowledge about forestry • Uncertainty over future harvesting rights • Farm forestry returns against traditional agricultural activities • Contradictory policies at three levels of government • Establishment costs
What could governments do to support the expansion of farm forestry?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and incentives
How can a National Farm Forestry Strategy support the agricultural sector?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offsetting carbon emissions
How can a National Farm Forestry Strategy support the forestry industry?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term, it will create a local supply of timber and provide further opportunities for Australian manufacturing.
How can existing federal, state, and local government programs and policies be leveraged to support the expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring all three levels of government have policies/legislations that align to support establishing a viable farm forestry sector.

of farm forestry to improve landscape biodiversity and resilience?	
Would you like to be contacted about your survey response or written submission?	Yes
Is your response confidential?*	No
Do you agree to your response being published on our website?*	Yes

Timber Towns Victoria supports the development of a National Farm Forestry Strategy as one method to help build a sustainable future timber resource for Australian industry use through increased farm forestry.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the National Farm Forestry Strategy. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this submission.

Yours sincerely,



Cr Karen Stephens
President

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