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# woodnet

NEWSLETTER: 18/9/2014

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## Election 2014 - Who will you choose?



A recent poll of polls has put support for National at 49%, Labour at 26%, and the Green party at 13%.

Baker & Associates have kindly allowed us to share their [Summary of the Agricultural Policies](#) for these three top polling parties.

Take time to look at this if you are interested in the various parties' initiatives for the ETS and Forestry as well as Agriculture.

## Unexpected ETS law change - We haven't given up!



We recently met with a prominent legal firm to discuss the likelihood of Government reversing the ETS law change passed on 15th May (budget night).

Their advice to us was that they felt a complete reversal of the law change was unlikely given the tenor of the wording in public and cabinet statements. They did however feel that an Amendment to the law to provide dispensation for

those ETS forestry participants that held Kyoto units or could prove they had started the deregistration process and were now commercially disadvantaged may have a chance of success if lobbied efficiently (as more of a technical vs substantive fix).

Woodnet has formally engaged this firm to 'draft instructions' (i.e. what outcome we are looking for) which could pave the way for a suitable Amendment and advise how best it can be promoted to Ministers so that it makes the 100 day post-election Government agenda. We have been encouraged by their enthusiasm for this issue – so all is not lost. However, we will continue to be in a holding pattern until after the election.

Our decision to engage a law firm comes after continually hitting a brick wall with Minister Tim Groser's office. A successful outcome will allow those affected parties to complete their ETS deregistration process using the ERUs purchased for that purpose.

If you feel you can support us in this endeavour either financially or by lobbying when the time is right we would love to hear from you.

Equally if you are aware of others that might be affected please let them know they can contact us directly to discuss their situation.

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## Current log prices



August/September has seen export log prices stabilise and improve, with A-grade prices having moved from mid-\$70 in July to above \$90 in September with an expectation of another rise (as the dollar falls) next month.

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## MPI Sustainable Forestry Bulletin



Here is a link to the latest [MPI Sustainable Forestry Bulletin](#). This edition has information on:

- Changes to the East Coast erosion grant scheme.
- What to do when registered post-1989 forest ownership changes.
- The 2015 change to units used to pay ETS obligations.
- The new online "Participant Unit Balance" feature.

## Selling your forest



There continues to be interest from various companies in purchasing standing mid-rotation timber.

If you are interested in either going to market with a crop to harvest, or selling standing, feel free to contact Woodnet to see how we can help – satisfied client references available.

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## Woodnet's Services

### Woodnet can help you with:

- **Options for marginal land use.**
  - Forest feasibility assessment and planning.
  - **Assessment of harvest proposals.**
  - Support with marketing your forest block.
  - **Forest inventory and valuations.**
  - Forest purchase - Due diligence and advice.
  - **Transfer of forest ownership - Implications/solutions.**
  - Silviculture - Planting, spraying, thinning, pruning.
  - **Carbon advice and related services (ETS).**
  - Insurance options for trees and carbon.
  - **Structuring forest ownership for succession.**
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