

Annual and Final Report to Growers for
TASMANIAN FORESTS PROJECT 2000
("2000 Scheme")
ARSN 092 500 984

FEA Plantations Limited As
Responsible Entity
(Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement)

16 March 2018

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Joint and Several Deed Administrators

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Annual and Final Report is to provide Growers in Tasmanian Forests Project 2000 (‘the Scheme’) with a summary of the Scheme’s operations since the date of the appointment of Voluntary Administrators to FEA Plantations Limited (FEAP) on 14 April 2010. FEAP is a wholly owned subsidiary of Forest Enterprises Australia Limited (subject to Deed of Company Arrangement) (Receivers and Managers Appointed) (FEA).

Peter Krejci and I together with Matthew Muldoon were appointed Voluntary Administrators of each of FEA and FEAP on 14 April 2010. Mr Muldoon subsequently resigned and Peter Krejci and I became Joint and Several Deed Administrators of FEA and FEAP on 14 December 2010.

At the time of our appointment as Voluntary Administrators, ANZ Fiduciary Services Pty Ltd as agent for Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ) and Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) appointed Tim Norman and Salvatore Algeri of Deloitte as Receivers and Managers of FEA and then subsequently as Receivers of FEAP. They remain in office as Receivers and Managers of FEA but have resigned as Receivers of FEAP.

Since FEAP was placed in Administration and then subsequently a Deed of Company Arrangement adopted, members of the Scheme have been regularly provided with information as to the progress of dealings with the Receivers of FEA and the ultimate sale of the FEA Internal estate (the land and the plantations) which occurred in January 2015. A Report on the outcome of the sale was issued to Scheme Growers on 20 March 2015. This Report was mailed to all Growers and can still be accessed from the website www.briferrier.com.au – ***Current Matters – Forest Enterprises Australia Limited***

Further there has been an active Committee of Inspection for FEAP which contains representatives of the members of the Scheme. That Committee has met regularly (at the present time there have been 76 separate meetings of the Committee of Inspection).

At the Scheme meeting of Growers held on 11 November 2013, the Growers voted in favour of the restructure proposal of the Scheme which would ultimately allow for a winding up of the Scheme and which was extensively detailed in the Explanatory Memorandum (EM) dated 23 September 2013. Peter Krejci and I were appointed to take responsibility for ensuring that the Scheme is wound up in accordance with its Amended Constitution.

As previously reported to Growers, the disappointing result achieved by the Receivers in the sale of the FEA internal land and trees resulted in a reduced share of the net funds available to be returned to Growers in the Scheme. All the available assets attaching to the Scheme have now been realised which allowed for a return to the Growers, including a full refund of the ‘S’ Tax Invoice Contributions and Voluntary Contributions (plus applicable premium), and a partial refund of Compulsory Contributions.

The final refund of Grower Contributions was issued on 23 June 2016, immediately before the Scheme winding up commenced. Growers were initially notified of the position of their individual account contributions by letters dated 26 May 2015. The final Contribution refunds were detailed in the cover letter which accompanied the refund cheques issued on 23 June 2016.

Pursuant to Section 601NC of the Corporations Act 2001, the Responsible Entity may wind up the Scheme if it considers the Scheme’s purpose has been achieved.

As the purpose of the Scheme has now been accomplished, the Scheme will be wound up. The sale of the FEA owned land and trees and the harvest of the plantations that were grown on externally leased land during the currency of the project has been completed and all known liabilities of the Scheme have been discharged.

2 POST APPOINTMENT DISTRIBUTIONS TO GROWERS

Please find attached a summary of Receipts and Payments for the Scheme for the period 14 April 2010 to 16 March 2018.

An analysis of the costs and the expenses of the Scheme follows in the subsequent sections below.

2.1 Administration Expenses – Voluntary Administration Period

Growers will no doubt be aware that following our appointment as Administrators of FEAP on 14 April 2010, the Banks (both ANZ and CBA being the secured creditors) appointed representatives of the firm Deloitte as Receivers to FEAP on 3 June 2010.

Our role as FEAP's Administrators was to look after the interest of the unsecured creditors of FEAP, where the majority of these creditors are Growers/Investors. The appointment of Deloitte as Receivers, by the secured creditors, the Banks was to look after both lenders' interests.

Significant legal fees and investigative costs arose during the initial course of the Administration of the Scheme, where such costs have either been incurred seeking advice predominately in respect of issues relevant to protecting Growers' interests but also in respect of matters to refute security claims and legal challenges by the Receivers on behalf of the Banks. Had the Administrators not challenged the claims by the Receivers that FEAP had no entitlement to deal with the Scheme's assets, then FEAP through the Administrators would not have been in a position to protect the Growers' rights to the timber comprised within the Scheme. All the Voluntary Administrators remuneration incurred and referred to in this Report has been considered and approved by either the FEAP Committee of Creditors or the Committee of Inspection during the course of the entire Administration.

The escalation of costs of the Administration has for the most part, been driven by the frustrating posture adopted by the Receivers and their unwillingness to interact with the Administrators.

As an example, immediately following our appointment, the Receivers terminated the Forestry Right Deed and Head Management Agreement which existed between FEA and its 100% owned subsidiary FEAP in relation to the Managed Investment Scheme (MIS) plantations.

During the period from 14 April 2010 to 30 June 2010, considerable resources were directed towards investigating the Scheme's structure, its profitability and viability in order to prepare for the first meeting and the Report to Growers and Creditors. The work performed was with the support of the Creditors' Committees and an informal Growers' Committee (FEAGG). At that early point in the Administration, the level of Grower enquiries was significant including those from individual Grower's financial and investment advisors as well as their legal representatives.

The Receivers after their appointment took control of all FEA properties, (other than the external plantations on the land with leases from third party landlords) including FEA's books and records. This action resulted in an inability to access FEA's management records, both as to the maintenance of the forests and the plantation trees and to the in-house systems and procedures that had been established

from inception of the Scheme. FEAP, through the Administrators was concerned with the need to satisfactorily address the systems of management in particular those relating to Occupational Health and Safety, insurance and statutory licences so as to be in a position to ultimately undertake a harvest. The denial of both FEAP and the Administrators' access to the plantation records, systems and workings was to prove to increase both the costs and the time it took to deal with the Scheme's assets.

During the Voluntary Administration period, considerable time and effort was directed, specifically towards:

- Dealing with the Banks' attempt to claim security interest over the Scheme's assets.
- Seeking to protect the Scheme from the Banks' claim that their registered charges had been crystallised upon appointment of the Voluntary Administrators and had become fixed on the floating assets of FEAP.
- Taking steps to defend actions taken by the Banks through the Receivers, where they sought to impose legal obligations and sanctions in respect of the dealing with the Scheme plantations. Those issues had they not been challenged, had the potential to disenfranchise the interests of Growers in the Scheme.
- The need to establish a new relationship with a suitably qualified forestry organisation, with the capability and capacity to evaluate the timber resource and orchestrate the clear fall harvest and ultimate sale of the timber from the plantations. On 2 July 2010, FEAP entered into a Log Purchase and Marketing Agreement with Pentarch, an independent harvest and sales company headquartered in Victoria which was prepared to establish a presence in Tasmania to manage the harvest project. The Agreement provided for Pentarch to enter into contracts and incur debt with third party harvesters and haulage contractors on its own account. Pentarch's proposal was to then sell the harvested trees to third parties and account to FEAP monthly.
- Prior to our appointment, FEA acted as Custodian for FEAP, holding the assets of the Scheme. As a result of FEA's insolvency, the Custodial Agreement with FEA was terminated. It was critical to appoint a replacement Custodian. The Administrators appointed Sandhurst Trustees Limited to act as the new Custodian including accepting the harvest proceeds of sale when harvesting was to be performed.
- Investigating the steps and procedures to "wind up" or restructure the Scheme. This, was in part, motivated by a desire to protect Growers' rights where variously there had been assertions on behalf of the Banks relating to the extent to which their securities applied to the assets of the Responsible Entity, FEAP. The rationale behind this wind up strategy for the Scheme was to put "distance" between any claims on the Scheme's funds by the Banks.

The costs associated with addressing these complex matters was seen as necessary in order to preserve the value of the plantations and deal with the Bank's attempts to claim security interest over Scheme assets thereby potentially disaffecting the Growers. This and other work that was required to be undertaken by the Administrators was largely outside the normal role of Administrators, but given the circumstances it was necessary due to the stance adopted by the Receivers in not making information readily available and opposing each and every step taken by the Administrators to protect Growers' interests in the Scheme.

3 PLANTATION ESTATE – MIS SCHEME

The Scheme was comprised of thirty three individual properties located in north-east Tasmania. Thirty of these properties (land) on which plantations were established were owned by land holding companies within the FEA Group Limited. The remaining three properties were leased from external landlords. The Scheme covered an area of 2,024 hectares and had 132 members or Growers holding 6,086 woodlots.

It was not until mid-June 2010 that the Administrators first obtained plantation data from the Receivers which had been previously developed by FEA Forestry personnel under a sophisticated plantation management system known as “Woodstock”. Under this program, it was possible to derive, by making various assumptions, a forecast inventory growth rate and an estimate of the likely value of the plantation based upon forward price indicators at the optimum harvest date.

The assumptions made in that data were tested and we arrived at our own estimates of the prospective value of the plantation. We identified deficiencies in the original estimates prepared by the Receivers and sought a revision of our estimates by an independent Forestry Expert which lead us to the view that the plantation was considerably more valuable than initially identified by the Receivers.

Following our evaluation of the prospects of the Scheme, it was determined that rent should continue to be paid to FEA to ensure no default occurred which would have allowed the Receivers of FEA to take absolute control of the trees growing on the company’s land. In respect of the third party landlords it was determined that the rent on the externally leased property would continue due to the suitable locations of these properties to the mill and the quality of the plantations at the time.

Our efforts to preserve the value of the timber for ultimate sale, were frustrated in an environment where the Receivers were taking steps to offer Smart Fibre Pty Ltd (Smart Fibre) for sale. Smart Fibre had provided the sales outlet to Japan for pulp where there was a limited availability of such “valuable” contracts in the marketplace. Smart Fibre was a 50/50 joint venture with Elders Group and it failed to interact with FEAP despite a number of attempts to engage given their position as the proven and preferred sales outlet.

Another major concern for FEAP was that it not be obligated to reforest the land after a harvest as there had been no disclosure of such a requirement in the Scheme Prospectus. The cost of remediating the land post a harvest, would have fallen to the Scheme and ultimately the Growers/Investors.

With access to the Smart Fibre outlet denied to the Administrators of FEAP by the Receivers, an extensive search was undertaken to secure an agreement with a major forestry company to both undertake the harvest operations and source sales for the Scheme’s timber. Protocols were required to be established to address the procedures and methods required to perform the harvest operation. This included a detailed evaluation of the statutory obligations of OH&S legislation and compliance with specific processes for forestry management.

From early July 2010 the Administrators working constructively with the Committee of Creditors and the FEAGG, introduced and negotiated with various independent proponents of restructure proposals, which with the benefit of hindsight would have offered a potentially superior result to the outcome that was achieved under the direction and control of the Receivers that cumulated in the sale of the FEA internal estate in January 2015. Unfortunately, these restructure proposals were either rejected by the Banks outright or frustrated by legal challenges by the Receivers.

Significant costs were incurred in evaluating and testing the Woodstock data forecasts; working with potential parties willing to commit to a Scheme restructure; preparing the way for a future harvest;

attending to the maintenance of the trees including engaging contractors to perform weed control and fire break clearing to ensure compliance with insurances; establishing the requisite protocols and mandatory legislative requirements to carry out forestry activity and the time involved in sourcing a capable forestry operator for the Scheme.

4 DEED OF COMPANY ARRANGEMENT – DEED ADMINISTRATION PERIOD

FEAP became subject to a Deed of Company Arrangement on 14 December 2010.

After a number of restructure proposals focussing on the 1995 to 2001 Schemes during the latter part of 2010 and into early 2011, were developed and explored with credible and capable parties, the focus shifted towards Macquarie Bank (Macquarie). As a party experienced in forestry management, Macquarie played a pivotal role in delivering proposals designed to maximise the value of the FEA land and trees, whilst respecting the overall interests of the Banks, the Unsecured Creditors and Growers.

Unfortunately, the Receivers failed to grasp the concepts being promoted by Macquarie and moreover, continued with legal actions through the Courts to disenfranchise the Scheme Growers. The requirement for a very broad and restrictive indemnity sought by the Receivers and the Banks meant that the Macquarie proposal was not capable of being further developed.

The stance adopted by the Receivers left the Deed Administrators with little option other than to institute legal action to defend Growers' rights of entitlement to the plantation assets against challenges from the Banks' representatives, being the Receivers from Deloitte. The litigation came to represent an attempt by the Receivers to terminate the leases through forfeiture on the one hand and the challenge for relief against forfeiture, by the Deed Administrators on behalf of the Scheme Growers on the other.

Despite the Bank's rejection and the litigation on foot, Macquarie continued to work with the Deed Administrators attempting to find a solution to the possible adverse ruling on the forfeiture of lease proceedings in the Supreme Court and establish a funding mechanism, enabling continuation of the Scheme. In essence, Macquarie agreed to provide funding support to the Deed Administrators, to pay back rent if adjudicated by the Court and to underwrite all rent going forward, not funded by the Growers.

This support and commitment was against a backdrop where Growers had become weary in their pledge to continue to fund the legal challenges. A significant number of Growers who had prepaid their rent were not prepared, voluntarily, to contribute to the ongoing costs of litigation.

Faced with uncertainty on the ultimate outcome of the legal dispute with the Receivers and the reluctance by Growers to continue funding the legal defence, the Deed Administrators and Receivers as directed by the Court entered a Mediation process in early 2013 to formulate a resolution of the dispute between the competing Creditors.

On 11 November 2013, the Growers in the Scheme voted on and passed resolutions, ratifying the restructure and settlement agreement reached by the Receivers representing the Banks and the Deed Administrators acting for the benefit of the Growers and Unsecured Creditors.

That restructure proposal, with the approval of the Scheme Growers, enabled the Receivers to engage the independent firm Gresham to act as the Sales Advisor and offer the FEA internal land and plantations for sale. An option embodied in the restructure proposal was for a continuation of the Scheme under a MIS transition proposal whereby Macquarie would replace the incumbent RE (FEAP) and manage the

Scheme's plantation through to harvest. Unfortunately, no parties expressed any interest in the MIS transition proposal. As a result the FEA internal land and trees were marketed by the Sales Advisor and the Receivers as a one-line-sale.

As reported to all Scheme Growers on 20 March 2015, the Deed Administrators had no direct involvement or capacity to influence the sale process nor were we consulted throughout the sale negotiation period. The process was run and controlled entirely by the Receivers and their appointed sale advisor.

The headline sale price of \$125.5 million achieved for the entire FEA internal estate was a very disappointing outcome for all creditors, including the 2000 Scheme Growers. The net funds available to the Scheme (being the Scheme's share from the sale of the FEA internal land and trees as specified in the Amended Constitution which was included in the 23 September 2013 EM) amounted to \$3,070,196.80

5 HARVEST ON EXTERNALLY LEASED LAND

FEAP engaged a harvest contractor to undertake the harvesting of the plantations belonging to the 2000 Scheme located on the externally leased land.

This process commenced in October 2013 on a property located in the North West of Tasmania with the last property in the North East of Tasmania having clear fall harvest completed in March 2016.

The total net stumpage harvest proceeds received by the Scheme from the externally leased properties totalled \$351,297.05

6 DISTRIBUTIONS TO SCHEME GROWERS

On 26 May 2015 all Growers in the Scheme were provided with individual statements of account setting out the contributions that they had paid during the course of the Administration since 14 April 2010. The letter accompanying the statements detailed how the Deed Administrators intended to treat the contributions to the Scheme for distribution purposes.

The Scheme's Amended Constitution provided for a "premium" to be paid on account of Administrative Contributions calculated on a sliding scale in favour of those Growers who made Voluntary and/or Compulsory Contributions between 14 April 2010 and 31 December 2012.

An order of priority as to repayment was stipulated by the Amended Constitution accepted by Growers at your Scheme Meeting held on 11 November 2013. Contributions identified "S" Tax Invoices Contributions were afforded "a super priority as to repayment" before repayment of past Voluntary and Compulsory Contributions.

All available funds have now been realised in the Scheme thereby allowing distributions to the Scheme Growers.

Those Growers who made payment of the "S" Tax Invoice dated 16 October 2014 have had the payments refunded (net of GST) after deducting the insurance expense as detailed on the individual Grower Tax Invoice. The amount returned to those Scheme Growers who paid the "S" Tax Invoice on was \$276,735.28 inclusive of GST.

On 23 June 2016 a final distribution was made to Scheme Growers. This payment was comprised of both Voluntary and Compulsory contributions received by the Scheme. The table below sets out the total distribution payment for the Scheme:

Contribution Category and Distribution Payment		
2000 Scheme		
Category	% of Refund	Total Distribution by Scheme
"S" Invoice Contributions	100%	\$ 276,735.28
Voluntary Contributions	100%	153,276.83
Voluntary Premium	100%	7,570.85
Compulsory Contributions	Partial Refund	450,978.27
Compulsory Premium	Partial Refund	29,356.25
		\$ 917,917.48
	Add: GST	91,791.75
Total Grower's Contribution Refund		\$ 1,009,709.23

7 AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT COMMISSION (ASIC)

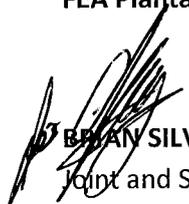
FEAP is permitted to wind up the Scheme as the purpose of the Scheme has been accomplished.

ASIC has been notified of the commencement of the wind up following the payment of the final distribution to Scheme Growers on 23 June 2016.

The only matter now remaining is for the Responsible Entity to formally advise ASIC that the wind up process is complete. Upon the giving of that notice, ASIC will de-register the Scheme.

Yours faithfully

FEA Plantations Limited (Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement)



BRIAN SILVIA

Joint and Several Deed Administrator

**FEA Plantations Limited (Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement)
Tasmanian Forests Project 2000 (2000 Scheme)
Summary Receipts and Payments (inclusive of GST)
for the period 14 April 2010 to 16 March 2018**

R&P
for the period
14/4/2010 to
16/03/2018

Receipts to 16 March 2018

VA - 14 April 2010 to 14 December 2010

Bank interest	852.06
Cash at Bank	469,307.41
Grower Receipts	120,961.65
Unallocated Grower Receipts	1,750.18

Total Receipts During Administration Period \$ 592,871.30

DOCA - 14 December 2010 to 16 March 2018

Bank interest	22,947.69
Default Interest	4,533.49
Debt Collection Agency Fees Collected	1,267.01
Growers Collection - Settlement Proceeds	14,090.39
Grower Receipts	2,066,426.93
GST Refund	202,397.38
Harvest proceeds	351,297.05
Pre-appointment Debtors	7,054.89
Share of Internal Estate Sales Proceeds	3,070,196.80

Total Receipts During Deed Administration Period \$ 5,740,211.63

Total Receipts As At 16 March 2018 \$ 6,333,082.93

Payments to 16 March 2018

VA - 14 April 2010 to 14 December 2010

Administrators Remuneration	278,366.65
Bank charges	249.39
Custodian Fees	1,100.00
Disbursements	39,328.95
External Rent	17,491.07
Forestry Insurance and Maintenance	35,754.68
Legal fees	20,800.66
Meeting room	152.87
Pre-appointment debtors to FEAP General Fund	47,204.50
Printing and Postage	865.78
Professional costs	4,955.99
Reimbursement of Pre-appointment Management Fees	44,785.65
Statutory Advertisement	85.59
Subcontractor	18,811.06

Total Payments During Administration Period \$ 509,952.84

DOCA - 14 December 2010 to 16 March 2018

Administrators Remuneration	110,141.98
Bank charges	14,417.29
Custodian Fees	17,737.50
Debt Collection Fees	1,815.09
Deed Administrators Remuneration	2,137,243.05
Deed Administrators Disbursements	135,162.44
External Rent	93,506.09
Forestry Insurance and Maintenance	195,047.91
Legal fees	514,475.69
Macquarie Break Fees	972,212.50
Meeting Room Costs	18,133.93
Other Government Charges	789.13
Printing and Postage	14,855.17
Professional Costs	33,489.80
Relief Against Forfeiture Litigation Expenses	303,008.18
Remediation & Fencing Costs	6,562.72
Restructure Consultancy and Facility Establishment Fees	231,041.87
Statutory Advertising	75.95
Subcontractor	49.69
Unclaimed Monies	2,624.81
Contingency allowance for finalisation of Scheme	11,030.07

Total Payments During Deed Administration Period \$ 4,813,420.86

<u>Growers Contribution Refund</u>	
- S Invoice	304,408.81
- Voluntary Contributions	176,932.45
- Mandatory Contributions	528,367.97

Total Grower Contributions Refunded \$ 1,009,709.23

Total Payments As At 16 March 2018 \$ 6,333,082.93

Current Cash Balance Nil