

TASMANIA FORESTRY HUB UPDATE



ADAPTABLE + INCLUSIVE a regional forestry workforce

Just as we grow our trees, we need to grow our people, our workforce, and our skills. Phase 1 of the Workforce Project brought together employers and service providers across Tasmania to explore how we can strengthen the workforce that supports our industry’s future.


The project report outlines the key challenges, opportunities, and recommendations identified through this collaborative work. To make the findings more accessible, we’ve created a visual dashboard that summarises the insights and highlights areas for action.

The dashboard highlights opportunities to:

- Make career paths more visible and accessible
- Strengthen onboarding, mentoring, and upskilling
- Build clearer entry points into the sector
- Improve coordination and collaboration across regions

Phase 2 is now underway—co-designing pilot projects with industry and regional partners to put these ideas into action and test what works on the ground.

Want to be involved? Contact Tracey@tasforestryhub.com.au



ADAPTABLE + INCLUSIVE

a regional forestry workforce

17 March 2025

ENGAGE

This summary presents key findings from **Engage**, the first stage of a two year project focused on Tasmania’s forestry workforce. Through industry employer workshops and discussions, it explored workforce challenges, recruitment barriers, and opportunities.

COLLABORATE

Employers highlighted skills shortages, recruitment inefficiencies, and low awareness of forestry careers. A lack of clear training pathways and weak employer-service provider connections further hinder workforce development.

REPORT

Despite these challenges, Phase 1 identified opportunities for better workforce planning, collaboration, and industry-led solutions. These findings will guide Phase 2 – **Collaborate**, where stakeholders will trial employer-led initiatives, strengthen partnerships, and implement practical workforce solutions for a sustainable, connected forestry industry.

[Read the full report at www.tasforestryhub.com.au/workforce](http://www.tasforestryhub.com.au/workforce)

PROJECT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY	EMPLOYER - LED APPROACH
STRUCTURED COORDINATION	PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT
INDUSTRY + PROVIDER LINKS	DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS
SUSTAINABLE TALENT PIPELINE	PROJECT AGILITY

STAKEHOLDER WORKFORCE INSIGHTS

OPPORTUNITIES	CHALLENGES
▶ supporting workforce diversity	candidate shortage ◀
▶ increased career awareness	limited career visibility ◀
▶ professional recruitment strategies	Informal recruitment strategies ◀
▶ alignment with service providers	employment service disconnect ◀
▶ industry-led training initiatives	competition from other sectors ◀
▶ improved employer collaboration	fragmented collaboration ◀
▶ using workforce data for planning	aging workforce demographic ◀

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- enhance employer capability
- standardise recruitment strategies
- strengthen service provider connections
- use workforce data to improve planning
- foster + support industry collaboration

View the Dashboard

Read the full report

BRINGING THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO LIFE: OUR FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE



Over the past year, the Hub has engaged with our stakeholders through formal presentations, informal conversations, and three regional workshops. These conversations directly informed the development of the **Strategic Plan**, that now guides the Hub's work and direction for the next three years.

To help share this journey and what it means for the future, the Hub has released a short animation. This animation brings the Strategic Plan to life—capturing how it was developed, what it focuses on, and how the Hub is working in partnership to deliver practical outcomes.

The Strategic Plan outlines the Hub's role in facilitating collaboration, providing information, and supporting projects that align with industry priorities. This plan has been shaped by industry insight and designed to guide the Hub's work in areas where it can make the most impact.

The Hub Strategic Plan focuses on four key priorities:

- Improving resource security – building confidence in future supply
- Enabling efficient infrastructure and supply chains – supporting investment and productivity
- Growing community understanding and support – engaging Tasmanians in what we do and why it matters
- Strengthening the workforce pipeline – growing our people alongside our trees

These focus areas are already guiding the Hub's efforts, with projects underway across Tasmania. The animation helps tell that story—clearly and concisely.

Watch the animation and read the Hub Strategic Plan [here](#).

Join us in the collaboration!!



The Hub Steering Committee is comprised of the following industry representatives:

Steve Whiteley (Chair); Shawn Britton (Deputy Chair); Darren Davis (Treasurer); Scott Freeman; Owen Hoffmann; Dr Elizabeth Pietrzykowski; Andrew Morgan + Dwayne Kerrison.