

Media release | **05/10/2021**

Adele Farina joins FIFWA

ADELE Farina has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (Acting) for the Forest Industries Federation WA (FIFWA), commencing October 11, 2021.

The appointment comes as current FIFWA Executive Director Melissa Haslam begins maternity leave from October 8, 2021.

A qualified solicitor, Ms Farina joins FIFWA after an extensive career in politics as the Labor Party member for the South West region from 2001-2021.

During that time, she served as parliamentary secretary to three different ministers and chaired several significant committees, including the statutory review of the Forest Products Act.

Ms Farina also worked closely with regional communities and industry through the 2001 decision to end old growth logging in WA.

FIFWA Chair Ian Telfer welcomed Ms Farina and said her appointment marked the beginning of a significant chapter in the industry.

“Adele’s knowledge and skillset will be a great asset for industry, and we are pleased to have her join us,” Mr Telfer said.

Ms Farina said she looked forward to the new role and being part of WA’s sustainable and renewable forestry industry.

“I truly believe in the sustainability of this industry, one which employs more than 6000 people, predominantly in regional communities,” Ms Farina said.

“There is no doubt that I begin this role at a challenging time, but I am keen to focus on the future, and intend on drawing on my experience and knowledge to work with industry and government to ensure that the future is a strong one.”

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Media enquiries

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About FIFWA

Forest Industries Federation WA (FIFWA) has been representing the interests of the Western Australian timber industry since 1895. The industry is a key driver of economic activity and jobs in Western Australia, contributing \$1.4 billion to the WA economy and creating about 6000 jobs in WA, with more than 90% of those in regional areas. The industry employs careful and comprehensive management policies to ensure WA's forests are sustainably managed. Less than 1% of the total forest area is harvested annually, with the area harvested then replanted. In 2001 WA became the first state to abolish harvesting old-growth forests.