

# working in forests today



Developing a career – there are many diverse roles and opportunities working in forest management today

## Developing a Career in Forest Management

### Dave Power

**Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Science)**

**Associate Degree (Forestry Management)**

A career in forest management can take many paths.

'I started working with Forests NSW in 1999 when I was 28. Since then I have had experience in a wide range of positions – everything from fieldwork to planning forest operations'.

'My first role was as an Operations Fieldworker, involved in the construction and maintenance of roads, fire trails and recreation facilities. I also assisted with prescribed burning and wildfire management across NSW as well as local pest plant and animal control programs which I found very rewarding. At the same time, I was studying a Bachelor of Environmental Science'.

'I then became a Plantation Foreman responsible for on ground management of eucalypt plantations on the NSW Mid North Coast. I supervised forestry contractors in all aspects of plantation establishment, silviculture and management. Being involved in a program of establishing thousands of hectares of new planted forests was really satisfying.'

'As a Supervising Forest Officer in the Wauchope area, I prepared and supervised forest areas for harvesting operations as well as assessing timber quality.'

'Forests NSW has been very supportive of my professional development.'

Providing assistance through my environment science degree, Forests NSW then gave me with a full scholarship to complete an Associate Degree (Forestry Management)'.

'With these qualifications, I am now employed as an Ecology Forest Assistant in Wauchope. I conduct surveys for threatened plants, frogs, bats, reptiles and other mammals along with habitat assessments so they can be protected during harvesting operations.'

'I have developed a diverse range of skills while experiencing just a few of the different roles available within Forests NSW'.

'My practical experience combined with tertiary education has placed me in a good position to pursue a rewarding career in forest management into the future'.

Left: This green-thighed frog is an example of a surveyed species



Forests NSW is a public trading enterprise within NSW Department of Primary Industries

