1. The Queensland Government, along with the forest and timber industry, have recognised that there is a need to collaborate to develop practical strategies to address industry challenges to enable the sector to realise its full potential. Accordingly, the Queensland Government included the development of the Queensland Forest and Timber Industry Plan (the Plan) in its first Six Month Action Plan (July-December 2012).
2. An industry working group chaired by Timber Queensland and including industry and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry representatives, developed the Plan which was presented to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for consideration by the Queensland Government in December 2012. The Queensland Government committed to releasing the Plan in its Six Month Action Plan (January-June 2013). The Queensland Government response to the Plan will deliver this action.
3. The Plan aligns with the Queensland Government’s commitment outlined in *Queensland’s agriculture strategy – a 2040 vision to double agriculture, fisheries and forestry* to establish individual industry action plans to grow the sector as one of the four pillars of the Queensland economy. Implementation of the actions in the Plan, as endorsed by the Queensland Government, will support regional economic development, employment growth and better forest and land management.
4. The Plan response notes that the Queensland Government will support all 27 immediate actions, as well as provide in-principle support for all of the longer-term actions.
5. The “Queensland’s State forests – a multi-use tenure” has been developed to provide a policy statement on access to State-owned native forests across Queensland (including any reinstated State forests) for commercial timber production and other uses. This statement is consistent with the government’s stated intent to reinstate access to State forests to allow for a broad range of forest uses such as timber harvesting, grazing, bee keeping, recreation and conservation.
6. Cabinet endorsed the Queensland Government Response to the Queensland Forest and Timber Industry Plan and the policy statement “Queensland’s State forests – a multi-use tenure”.
7. *Attachments*
* [Queensland Government Response to the Queensland Forest and Timber Industry Plan](Attachments/Government%20response%20to%20Plan.PDF)
* [Queensland’s State forests – a multi-use tenure](Attachments/Qld%20State%20Forests%20policy%20statement.PDF)