

## All Forestry Owners

Over recent times there have been numerous articles in the media regarding forestry ownership and the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). If you have any trees at all, whatever their age, please continue reading this email.

When speaking with clients we are finding a number are sitting back and using the 'wait and see' approach. This may prove to be a costly mistake.

Before you can use this approach it is important to first ascertain if the ground the current trees are planted on had trees planted there at 31 December 1989, (Pre 1990 forests).

If there were trees there at 31 December 1989 then the **land owner** is automatically captured by the ETS, unless the area is less than 2 hectares in total.

For pre-1990 forests, an exemption is available for ownership of less than 50 hectares of forest.

The deadline for applying for this exemption is 30 September 2011. We must stress the importance of applying well before this date; this will ensure you have sufficient time to have all relevant documentation to the required standard.

### How it affects you?

If you are the owner of pre-1990 forest land, there are some important dates to bear in mind:

- **30 September 2011** - for obtaining the 50 hectare exemption.
- **30 November 2011** - for application to receive the compensatory allocation of NZU's which when sold are tax free.

### What to do?

If you would like more information on this topic contact 0800 CLIMATE (254 628) or go online at [www.maf.govt.nz/forestry-allocations](http://www.maf.govt.nz/forestry-allocations).

Applying for a less than 50 hectare exemption or for an allocation of compensatory units can be done online through the MAF website. All you need is moderate computer skills. We have available on our website [www.mmca.co.nz](http://www.mmca.co.nz) detailed instructions which take you through each step required.

The local forestry consultants are listed in the Yellow Pages under Forestry Services if you require their professional support.