



## **New Forests Hires Margaret Cole as General Counsel**

***New role established to lead legal, governance, risk, and compliance for global timberland investment management business***

**SYDNEY, 19 April 2018** – Timberland investment manager New Forests welcomes Margaret Cole to its growing asset management business in the new position of General Counsel. Ms Cole brings over 30 years of legal experience in international transactions and investment. Ms Cole's responsibilities include oversight for all legal, governance, risk, and compliance functions for New Forests. She also joins the company's executive committee, responsible for business strategy and management.

"It's a pleasure to join a rising and ambitious company such as New Forests that prioritises strong and experienced legal, governance, risk, and compliance programs," said Ms Cole. "As a steadily growing investment management business, New Forests must navigate increasing regulatory complexities and diverse financial, legal, and operating environments. I look forward to leading our team in the provision of high-quality services that not only support New Forests but also generate efficiencies and value for our investment clients."

The New Forests group of companies is headquartered in Sydney with regional investment teams based in Singapore and San Francisco. New Forests specialises in sustainable forestry investment and conservation finance and manages commingled funds and separate accounts for institutional investors with AUD 4.5 billion (USD 3.5 billion) in assets and funds under management. The company's investments cover more than 900,000 hectares of forests and land in six countries and also include strategic investments in forest sector infrastructure and processing facilities.

Ms Cole has represented lenders and investors in emerging and developed markets worldwide and has also worked as counsel at the International Finance Corporation in Washington from 1991 until July 1995. She was a partner with international law firm White & Case from 1995-2005 and again from 2010-2015, working in London, Bangkok, Singapore, and Abu Dhabi. From 2005 until 2010, she was General Counsel of an internationally active principal investment and asset management company in the infrastructure, operating leasing, real estate, and corporate finance sectors. Most recently she was a partner with international law firm Pinsent Masons, based in Sydney.

New Forests' CEO David Brand remarked, "Margaret's extensive experience in global financial markets, and particularly in alternative investments, will be a tremendous resource to New Forests and the investment funds we manage. Not only is she a veteran general counsel, but Margaret has shepherded businesses through significant growth phases, with a view toward deploying effective and pragmatic approaches to legal and compliance services. She will no doubt be an asset to New Forests."

### **About New Forests**

As global demand for resources grows, there is a need to increase productivity while ensuring the conservation of the world's remaining natural forests. New Forests seeks to create

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investment strategies that provide lasting solutions to this challenge. Through responsible management of forests and other real assets, we create shared benefit for investors and local communities alike. We believe that meeting the needs of a broad range of stakeholders will provide better returns over the long term.

New Forests has international reach, with offices and assets in Australia, New Zealand, Southeast Asia, and the US. This gives us a global perspective combined with local expertise that allows us to understand and manage our assets more effectively. Wherever we operate in the world, our strength lies in our people and their drive to make investments that create the best possible outcomes. By investing with integrity and transparency we aim to generate strong returns while helping tackle some of the world's great sustainability challenges. To learn more, visit [www.newforests.com.au](http://www.newforests.com.au).

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