

Contractor Environmental Challenge

Over the past few years PF Olsen has been running an annual environmental challenge for staff, where they are assessed against a range of criteria for a selected environmental activity or process. This year, it was decided to hold a similar challenge for our contractors, entirely voluntary, so that we could see and celebrate some of the amazing work and initiatives that we know are being done, but seldom see or hear about.

As for the staff challenge, the contractor environmental challenge was based around activities and behaviours that we want to promote. After much consideration, the following challenge was devised, consisting of five sections:

Section	Criteria	Scoring
1. Bio-oil use	<p>Points were awarded for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of chainsaws and processing heads that are now permanently using bio chain bar oil; and Bonus points were awarded if other bio-oil products (e.g. hydraulic oils) are being permanently used by the contractor 	30%
2. Crew container or van	<p>Requested up to four photos of the crew's container or van showcasing its:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layout: How easily and safely could workers enter, exit and move about the space Storage: Amount of space that is available to workers for storing gear Ventilation: Is safe clean air available for workers? Facilities: Available facilities (e.g. toilets, drinking water, cooking area, rest area, showers, changing rooms, hand washing facilities) Lighting: Are there lights available for workers? X-factor: personalisation of the space/innovations to make the space more usable and inviting 	30%
3. HSNO	<p>Asked for evidence demonstrating how the crew was meeting their HSNO obligations, specifically around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of appropriate substances Use of the Hazardous Substances Toolbox Clean, tidy and appropriate storage of substances HSNO storage checks Clear signage of hazardous substances 	20%
4. Biosecurity and hygiene measures	<p>Again, asked for up to four photos showcasing the steps that the crew has taken to improve the biosecurity and hygiene practices on site. Bonus points were awarded for innovation.</p>	20%
5. Use of iNaturalist	<p>Contractors were asked to use the iNaturalist app to record native species sightings over a two-month period. Points were awarded for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of species recorded Total number of sightings recorded Sighting records that were filled out correctly Sightings were linked to the 'Biodiversity in Plantations' project 	20%

Contractors could choose to submit evidence on as many or as little of the sections as they wanted, with prizes being awarded to the contractors who scored the most points.

Based on the above criteria, the following contractors were selected for prizes:

- 1st place went to Reed Contracting in Nelson
- 2nd place went to Wise on Wood in Northland
- 3rd place went to Waima Logging in Gisborne



Below is a collection of pictures submitted by the crews, showcasing their efforts. Congratulations to all three crews for their excellent work.



Figure 1. Reed Contracting (clockwise from top left): a) the storage at the end of the hut houses wet weather gear, other PPE, clean drinking water, a BBQ and a heater (when not in use); b & c) water tank, blaster and pump are used for washing down all machinery before it's transported between sites, or in some cases between waterways to prevent the spread of Didymo; and d) soap and water by the entrance to the container so that the crew can clean their hands.





Figure 2. Wise on Wood: showcasing their toilet facilities, and the container used as accommodation (set up with a bed, toilet, shower, gas oven and cooktop) for when the crew are further away from home.



Figure 3. Waima Logging's Site Office and Storage Shed: Both buildings are made of Douglas-fir, that was harvested and milled by the crew, and built by them too. Complete with tables, shelves, a 6-burnner BBQ and recycling bins, this set-up is something a little different to the standard containers.