Dr Hugh Stewart

Thesis topic
Socio-economic dimensions of planted forests in changing landscapes: Exploring the future for forestry in south east Australia

Summary
Ideas on where to grow plantation forests in south-east Australia are contentious and changing, as community preferences, business viability and government policies change. Hugh’s research explored the nature and extent of this change. He found that commercial forestry needs to be more strongly integrated into social and physical landscapes to achieve its potential contribution to regional economies. He argued that a partnership approach between landholders, forestry industries, policy-makers and local communities needs to be forged, so that a range of planted forests can be developed as a positive part of Australia’s future landscapes.