

Media Release



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Plastic bags should be replaced by sustainable, recyclable paper

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) is calling for a ban of single use light weight plastic bags nationally, CEO of AFPA, Mr Ross Hampton said today.

“It is good to see that many jurisdictions have already taken the step to ban single use light weight plastic bags. It is now important that this effective measure is adopted nationally to realise the full environmental benefits. The UK Government has just announced it will eliminate avoidable plastic waste by 2042 across the nation and Australia should not be left behind,” Mr Hampton said.

“Australians use around 4 billion plastic bags every year, many of these ending up in our waterways and ocean. There is an alternative for plastic bags that is both convenient and good for the environment - renewable and recyclable paper bags that store carbon and are made from sustainably sourced Australian wood fibre.

“Using Australian renewable and recyclable paper products also underpins considerable economic activity and jobs in our sustainable paper businesses, many of which are based in our regions,” Mr Hampton concluded.

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AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

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