



# OVERVIEW OF TASMANIAN FOREST AGREEMENT

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The formal protection in three stages of 504 000 hectares of high-conservation-value native forest.
- All 504, 000 hectares will immediately have forestry rights revoked with the passage of the enabling legislation through two mechanisms – a ‘protection order’ generated by the Minister of Forests and a EPBC conservation agreement between the state and federal governments.
- The first instalment of 395 000 hectares of forest will be gazetted as national park and other conservation reserves, including the world heritage protection of 129 000 hectares of the southern forests (Styx, Florentine etc) and another 125 000 hectares will be made available for gazettal within two years if agreement has continued to hold.
- The extension to the South West Tasmania World Heritage Area, which contains some of the tallest forests and includes the Styx, Weld and Florentine Valleys, will be nominated by February 2013 with a declaration due by June 2013. The June 2013 timeline has been embedded in the agreement.
- The available wood supply from native forests will be reduced by 2/3 from 2010 levels - from 320 000 cubic metres per annum of high quality sawlog to 137 000 cubic metres of high quality sawlog.
- There will be reformed and changed logging practices in remaining native forests to be consistent with the achievement of Forest Stewardship Council Certification within 2 years.
- There will be funding and policy support for improved plantation management to accelerate a transition away from native forest logging.

- There will be a substantive restructure of Forestry Tasmania including separation of commercial and non commercial functions and reform of Board and senior staff.
- There will be the delivery of multi million dollar funding package for improved management of new parks and reserves.
- There is explicit support for good faith negotiations about future management of Tasmania's forests between Tasmania's Indigenous communities and the Tasmanian Government.

## **OTHER DETAILS**

- There will be ongoing native forest logging until at least 2027.
- There is an agreement to work with industry and government to identify any economically viable and environmentally sustainable uses of logging residues in response to the collapse of export woodchip markets.
- There is support for the short term opening of export woodchip facilities to clear backlog of residues.
- There will be some low level ongoing logging of 'special timbers' (Celery Top, Myrtle) to support the existing Tasmanian craft and boat building industry. A process will be undertaken to determine an appropriate level of supply and the area required to sustain this.

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