



Australian Government

THE TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FOREST AGREEMENT

FOREST CONSERVATION FUND NEWS



Volume 4 July 2006

FCF STRATEGIC PLAN

[Strategic Plan](#)

The Strategic Plan is now available at www.deh.gov.au/land/forestpolicy/fcf/index.html or by contacting 1800 803 772.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

[Market Research](#)

As part of the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF) communication strategy, the Department of the Environment and Heritage (DEH) has contracted a firm to research landowners' interest in participating in conservation programs such as the FCF and to identify the best ways to engage landowners and encourage their participation.

Two workshops were held on 6 and 7 June 2006 at Campbell Town and Deloraine. At each workshop landowners discussed forest conservation, managing native forest on their properties, property type (grazing, farming, lifestyle or forestry) and their knowledge of the FCF.

The next stage of the research includes a number of forums and telephone interviews with landowners. The firm undertaking this research will contact participants shortly for these interviews and forums.

[Service Provider](#)

A tender was advertised in mid May 2006 to engage a Service Provider to deliver the on-ground components of the FCF, including running of the FCF tender rounds, managing Conservation Advisers and communication activities. Two information sessions were provided in Hobart and Canberra on the 2 and 5 June 2006 to inform potential tenderers of the FCF. The tender closed on 11 July 2006 and we expect to contract the successful provider in August.

[Assessment Methodology - Conservation Value Index](#)

A group of ecological and economic experts, the Assessment Methodology Advisory Panel (AMAP), is assisting the FCF Steering Committee to develop the methodology to assess forest conservation values and rank investment bids from landowners.



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MONITORING & EVALUATION FOR THE FCF

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

DEH is in the process of developing an evaluation framework to monitor the progress of the FCF. This framework has been provided to the Advisory Group members for comment.

The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water has agreed to provide ongoing monitoring and management support to landowners who complete a conservation agreement. These supporting services include establishing and maintaining good working relationships with landowners, inspecting covenanted land and providing advice on and assistance with management.

FCF ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory Group meetings

Advisory Group meetings are held on an as-needs basis. Please speak with your local representative if you have any issues you would like raised at future meetings. The next meeting is on 20 July 2006. Members are listed below:

| Organisation | Member | Phone |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Timber Communities Australia | Barry Chipman | (03) 6260 4442 |
| Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association | Ian Whyte | (03) 6332 1800 |
| Tasmanian Conservation Trust | Alistair Graham | (03) 6234 3552 |
| NRM Regional Committee | Catherine Murdoch | (03) 6336 5303 |
| Private Forests Tasmania | Mark Leech | (03) 6334 0915 |
| Forest Practices Authority | Graham Wilkinson | (03) 6233 7451 |
| Department of the Environment and Heritage | Tony Slatyer | (02) 6274 1919 |

Key Government contacts: The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage via 1800 803 772 and the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water, Penny Wells via (03) 6233 3040.