



Forest management in Tasmania -

THE TRUTH

January 2012

meinan

Tasmania



Tasmania is Australia's southernmost and most forested state. It has the one of the highest proportions of conservation areas of any jurisdiction on Earth.

Almost one half of the land area of Tasmania is forested, which is 65 per cent of the original forest cover that existed at the time of European colonisation. Most land clearing in Tasmania has taken place for agriculture and development of towns and cities, not through deforestation of reserves or land managed for wood production. With the development of hardwood and softwood plantations, there has been an increase in forest cover since 1996. In total, 47 per cent of Tasmania's forests are currently protected in conservation reserves, including 79 per cent, or one million hectares, of Tasmania's old growth forests.

Regrowth forest, southern forests, Tasmania.

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All coupes are surveyed extensively for special values so that they may be protected prior to harvesting.



Our vision

Tasmania's state forests will be a globally trusted source of sustainable timber and other forest products and services for this and future generations.

Our mission

Forestry Tasmania manages state forests for optimum community benefit, using environmental best practice to create long term wealth and employment for Tasmanians.

Our values

- We care for people and their environment
- We get things done
- We do what we say we will do
- We are proud of who we are and what we do
- We think before we act.

1. Forestry Tasmania

Forestry Tasmania is a business wholly owned by the State Government of Tasmania. Under Tasmania's *Forestry Act 1920*, the organisation is entrusted by the State Parliament with the responsibility of managing 1.5 million hectares of state forest to sustainably provide wood products, non-wood products, and environmental and community services.

At December 2011, just under half of the area managed by Forestry Tasmania is available for sustainable wood production, and the remainder is set aside for the protection of other values, such as conservation, clean water supplies, cultural heritage, and tourism and recreation. It is expected further areas of state forest will be reserved under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement (see page 6)

Managing for many values

Through our management of state forests for both commercial and non-commercial products, we meet the forest manager's obligation to provide for multiple uses. While not all values can be delivered on any one area of state forest, we ensure through our planning processes that they are provided over the landscape, and over time.

Most importantly, the key corporate value that drives our business is to 'care for people and their environment.' We achieve this by providing many social benefits and environmental services at no cost to the taxpayer, including:

- employment for staff, contractors, and suppliers through the sustainable supply of wood products, and by attracting investment in value-added timber processing;
- investing around AUD 4 million annually in scientific research that monitors and improves our forest management practices;
- stimulating regional economic growth through major forest tourism attractions;
- providing free-of-charge forest roads, walking tracks, camping and picnic facilities, and interpretation for recreational users;
- undertaking consultation and negotiating agreements with stakeholders on forest management issues;
- providing clean water supplies;
- managing forests to ensure carbon stores are maintained and increased over time; and
- ensuring adequate reserves are maintained to protect threatened species, giant trees and old growth forests.

Sustainability Charter

Forestry Tasmania manages state forest in accordance with its Sustainability Charter, which is a 10-year strategic plan, endorsed by the Minister for Energy and Resources, that sets measurable objectives under the following five broad aims:

- Sustaining biodiversity and habitat
- Sustaining jobs for current and future generations
- Sustaining carbon stores, clean air, water and healthy forests
- Sustaining community access and heritage
- Sustaining science-based stewardship

Forestry Tasmania publicly reports progress against the aims of the Sustainability Charter in its annual Stewardship Report, which is tabled in the Tasmanian Parliament and available to all stakeholders online. The business is also directly accountable to Parliament at Government Business Enterprises Scrutiny Committee hearings (usually held annually), at which sitting members of the Parliament question the Minister, Chair, and Managing Director about the organisation's performance over the preceding 12 months.

Certification

Forestry Tasmania is certified against three independently audited standards: namely the Australian Forestry Standard (AS4708), Environmental Management Standard (AS/NZS 14001), and the Occupational Health and Safety Standard (AS4801). The Australian Forestry Standard is internationally endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC), which is the largest forest certification body in the world.





Inspecting eucalypt regrowth billets.

2. Ta Ann Tasmania

Ta Ann Tasmania is a manufacturing business that produces Australian Forestry Standard-certified eucalypt veneer from timber that was previously classed as pulpwood and exported as woodchips. Ta Ann Tasmania pays a premium price to Forestry Tasmania for this resource, compared to its former value as an undifferentiated commodity export.

The veneer is made from regrowth eucalypt and is used to manufacture a range of high value products such as flooring and structural plywood, which store carbon for decades and are in high demand internationally amongst leading architects, designers and town planners.

Ta Ann Tasmania has invested AUD 78.9 million, including an AUD 10.4 million Australian Government grant, in developing internationally competitive mills in regional areas of the State. It has installed state-of-the-art-machinery to turn smaller, thinner pieces of wood (known as 'billets') into high grade veneer. This machinery has been engineered to use regrowth and pruned plantation billets up to 70cm in diameter. It cannot process old growth billets.

Ta Ann Tasmania has created 160 full time equivalent jobs for local people, many of whom were formerly long-term unemployed. In 2012 it will contribute AUD 45 million to the Tasmanian economy.

Ta Ann Tasmania has a long term wood supply agreement with Forestry Tasmania. Wood supply during the independent verification process under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement is consistent with government objectives and Forestry Tasmania's contractual and legal obligations.

3. Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement

On 7 August 2011, the Australian and Tasmanian Governments entered into the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement, which flowed from the Statement of Principles process undertaken by the timber industry, unions, community organisations and environmental non-government organisations to achieve the dual objectives of maintaining timber supply and reserving additional areas of native forest.

The Agreement provides for a sustainable native forest industry, while also adding 430,000 hectares of identified high conservation value forest to the existing reserve system on an interim basis, subject to independent verification and Forestry Tasmania meeting contracted wood supply. An independent verification process led by Professor Jonathon West of the University of Tasmania will provide advice to the Australian and Tasmanian Governments about the areas of forest to be placed in interim reserves, and those to remain available for wood production.

4. Huon Valley Environment Centre

Forestry Tasmania and Ta Ann Tasmania have looked closely at *Behind the veneer*, recently published by the Huon Valley Environment Centre.

Huon Valley Environment Centre is an activist group that opposes harvesting for wood products, and which conducts illegal and dangerous workplace invasions and protests. Therefore, it is not unexpected, but regrettable, that the Huon Valley Environment Centre chose not to consult or check their claims with Forestry Tasmania or Ta Ann Tasmania when preparing the report.

Huon Valley Environment Centre was also involved in promoting the pamphlet in Japan with the Japan Tropical Forest Action Network and with former Tasmanian Greens leader Ms Peg Putt in October 2011. Unfortunately neither the Japan Tropical Forest Action Network nor Ms Putt met with Forestry Tasmania or Ta Ann Tasmania to verify their claims.

If Huon Valley Environment Centre, the Japan Tropical Forest Action Network or Ms Putt had consulted with Australian authorities, a number of very serious errors may have been avoided.

5. Claims made in *Behind the veneer*

A factual analysis of the Huon Valley Environment Centre's report, *Behind the veneer*, reveals over 50 serious errors and omissions in the document.

The report's authors demonstrate a limited understanding of the complexities of forest management, particularly, coupe planning and mapping. The composition of a coupe, including the percentage of old growth and regrowth forest, is determined by strategic forest estate modelling based on on-ground surveys. Months, and in many cases, years, of planning and surveying for special values is undertaken by Forestry Tasmania and the independent regulator, the Forest Practices Authority, before a harvesting contractor may set foot on a coupe.

Forest officers responsible for log segregation are also experts in their field. Through years of experience, they are able to ensure the various categories of logs, from sawlogs through to peeler billets and pulpwood, are merchandised correctly. As a business, it is simply not in Forestry Tasmania's commercial interest to merchandise high quality logs as peeler billets or pulpwood.

The Huon Valley Environment Centre misrepresents many facts in its report. For example, the following claims are not true:

- Ta Ann has violated human rights in Sarawak;
- Ta Ann has rejected timber from plantations, when Ta Ann has publically stated suitable plantation billets are used as they become available;
- Ta Ann has driven destruction of old growth forest;
- Forestry Tasmania has harvested forests claimed to be of high conservation value forests contrary to the Intergovernmental Agreement; and
- Forestry Tasmania has logged World Heritage-value forests.

Of equal concern are Huon Valley Environment Centre's errors of omission. For example, Huon Valley Environment Centre fails to show:

- regrowth that follows logging;
- its definition for high conservation value forest in the document has been redefined for Tasmania and is different from the Forest Stewardship Council's international definition;
- existing Australian and international practice allows for logging of high conservation value forest, provided protection of the high conservation value occurs;
- high conservation value forest is currently being verified under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement process;

- a number of products are distributed by Forestry Tasmania from logging coupes and these areas are not logged specifically for Ta Ann Tasmania - with larger logs going to sawmills and material that would otherwise be used for pulpwood going to Ta Ann Tasmania;
- the 'eco-credentials' of Tasmanian veneer stems from PEFC-certified forests and Chain-of-Custody certification;
- customers have been briefed by Ta Ann Tasmania, in the forest, on the role of regrowth and plantations;
- in 2007, Ta Ann Tasmania indicated supply was from regrowth forests, and would also be sourced from plantation timber when it comes on stream in the future; and
- most plantations are young and only begin to come on stream from about 2012.

Japanese customers inspecting harvesting operations in Tasmanian regrowth forest, from which peeler logs are supplied to Ta Ann.



The table below contains a factual analysis of the Huon Valley Environment Centre's claims.

Error No.	Claim	True	False	Comment
1	Ta Ann Tasmania sources timber from World Heritage value forests		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No logging occurs in Tasmanian World Heritage Areas. A 2008 UNESCO investigation, carried out in response to campaigning by Environmental non-government organisations, found forestry activities on the boundary of the World Heritage Area were well managed and did not recommend any changes to these boundaries.¹ The Tasmania Wilderness World Heritage Area (World Heritage Area) covers 1.38 million hectares, or 20 per cent of Tasmania, and includes extensive areas of tall old growth forests.² Ta Ann Tasmania is not a logging company but a manufacturing company. Supply of billets is made to Ta Ann Tasmania by Forestry Tasmania and is consistent with the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement process.
2,3	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania sources timber from old growth forests.</p> <p>Documents obtained by Huon Valley Environment Centre under Right to Information for two years logging (500 coupes) show supply was made to Ta Ann Tasmania from at least 34 coupes mapped as old growth.</p>		F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann does not use old growth - the logs are too big for Ta Ann's equipment. Ta Ann uses only regrowth or young trees. Large logs photographed by Huon Valley Environment Centre are not delivered to Ta Ann Tasmania or used by Ta Ann Tasmania. Forestry Tasmania recognises Ta Ann Tasmania machinery can only process regrowth billets. Huon Valley Environment Centre has ignored regrowth in coupes. The Greens, not Huon Valley Environment Centre, sourced Right To Information from Forestry Tasmania. The Right to Information documentation shows that, of the more than 500 coupes listed, all include regrowth from which peeler billets are sourced.
4	Ta Ann was offered hardwood by Forestry Tasmania at lower rates than they could access in Malaysia or Indonesia		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Tasmania entered into a business relationship with Ta Ann Tasmania as part of the Forestry Growth Plan, which was a 10-year strategy to attract investment in value-added processing to Tasmania. Under the plan, Forestry Tasmania developed two investment-ready wood processing sites: one in the south of the state, in the Huon Valley, and one in the north, near Smithton. The Ta Ann veneer mills process regrowth timber that was formerly classed as pulpwood and exported as woodchips. This same timber is now classified as veneer log under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement. Ta Ann pays a premium price to Forestry Tasmania for peeler billets compared to their value as pulpwood, which is the alternative use for this product.
5,6	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania sources timber from high conservation value forests.</p> <p>Ta Ann Tasmania received timber from 88 high conservation value forest coupes.</p>		F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania does not source timber from verified high conservation value forests (HCV). 1.465 million hectares, or 47 per cent, of all of Tasmania's forests are reserved. Only about 20 per cent of Tasmania's public forest is available for harvesting.³ Additional forests claimed by Green groups to be of high conservation value have not been verified under the Intergovernmental Agreement process⁴ The international definition for high conservation value forest values allows logging of high conservation value forest, provided the value is protected.⁵

7,8	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania has misrepresented the source of timber by saying supply is from regrowth and plantations.</p> <p>Ta Ann has misled customers saying plantation timber is supplied when it is not.</p>		<p>F</p> <p>F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ta Ann Tasmania has used and will use suitable plantation billets, consistent with the wood supply agreement contract with Forestry Tasmania.⁶ • Huon Valley Environment Centre's own data show plantation billets are used by Ta Ann Tasmania. The Right To Information list of areas harvested over two years by Forestry Tasmania and referred to by Huon Valley Environment Centre includes plantation and regrowth coupes. • Ta Ann Tasmania has indicated plantation timber will be used. Resource is "from sustainable regrowth forests, as well as plantation timber when it comes on-stream in the future." [8 November 2007] ⁷ • Ta Ann Tasmania has not misled customers. Customers have been briefed⁸ in Tasmania and in the forest by Ta Ann Tasmania Director D Ridley. Customers know that veneer from Tasmania is PEFC certified and has Chain-of-Custody certification.
9	Ta Ann Tasmania stands in the way of 572,000 hectares being immediately reserved.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional new reserves may occur under the Intergovernmental Agreement process and will be determined by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments. The Governments have said any reserves will be consistent with wood supply contract requirements.⁹
10,11	<p>Ta Ann is implicated in environmental and human rights abuse in Sarawak.</p> <p>Ta Ann is unable to obtain PEFC certification in Sarawak due to questionable practices.</p>		<p>F</p> <p>F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huon Valley Environment Centre claims about Sarawak have not been substantiated. Ta Ann Tasmania Director David Ridley investigated these claims and consulted with local stakeholders in 2010. An Observation Report of these issues is published on the Ta Ann Tasmania website.¹⁰ • There is a history of misleading claims about Sarawak and Ta Ann: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaysian MP Baru Bian was wrong about the Ta Ann shareholding in Grand Perfect. • Recent photographs advertising the 'Truth about Ta Ann' were wrong as the log truck was not a Ta Ann vehicle; no logging was occurring in Penan areas by Ta Ann; and the Orangu-tan photo was from a reserve. • Ta Ann Plywood is taking a systematic approach to PEFC and FSC certification in Sarawak.
12	The volume of timber supplied to Ta Ann is equivalent to 88 per cent of the legislated minimum sawlog production quota of 300,000 cubic metres per annum.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Tasmania is required under the <i>Forestry Act 1920</i> to make available a minimum of 300,000 cubic metres of high quality sawlogs and veneer logs annually. High quality veneer logs are those used for appearance-grade joinery and cabinetmaking. The billets supplied to Ta Ann are categorically not high quality veneer logs. Rather, they are logs that would otherwise be classified as pulpwood arising from the harvest and sent to the lower-value export woodchip market. Therefore, the rotary veneer mills provide an innovative means of processing this grade of timber into a high value product.
13,14	The Japan Tropical Forest Action Network visited Tasmanian forests and say Forestry Tasmania timber is supplied at below market price and Ta Ann Tasmania has rejected plantations and wants natural forests.		<p>F</p> <p>F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Japan Tropical Forest Action Network did not contact Forestry Tasmania or Ta Ann Tasmania if it visited Tasmania in 2011. • Ta Ann Tasmania pays a premium price for billets compared with pulpwood, which is the alternate sale. • Ta Ann Tasmania uses suitable plantation billets when supplied and supports a transition to plantation if and when suitable plantations billets are available. • Ta Ann Tasmania uses pruned plantation-sourced timber when suitable.¹¹

15	Forestry Tasmania supplies timber to Ta Ann Tasmania at lower rates than they could access such timber in Malaysia or Indonesia.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above.
16	Ta Ann Tasmania is now a major driver of the industrial scale logging of Tasmania's native forests.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania is but one customer of Forestry Tasmania and Forestry Tasmania directs the sale of sawlogs, peelers, special species timber and other products from a logging area to the customers. Forestry Tasmania manages state forest to maximise the long term supply of high quality sawlogs and veneer logs.
17	Photograph claimed to be Upper Florentine Valley harvesting coupe FO44A.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tree in this photograph would be unsuitable for processing by Ta Ann's veneer mill. 90 per cent of the Upper Florentine catchment is either in reserves or otherwise unavailable for harvesting.
18,19	Supply comes from destruction of globally renowned forest and the Australian and Tasmanian governments support the deception/misrepresentation. Timber produced from Ta Ann Tasmania is sourced from the destruction of forests.		F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is categorically no deforestation on Tasmanian state forest.¹² All harvested areas are regrown. Current wood supply by Forestry Tasmania is consistent with its legal and contractual obligations and the Intergovernmental Agreement process.
20	Logging occurring within 430,000 hectares identified for reservation under the Intergovernmental Agreement.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes within the 430,000 hectares in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations.
21	Ta Ann destroys Tasmania's native forests.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system protects viable examples of all forest types. In total, 47 per cent of Tasmania's forests are currently protected in reserves, including one million hectares of old growth forests.
22	Threatened species at risk.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Forest Practices Code¹³, and Forestry Tasmania's internal policies, contain prescriptions for protecting threatened species. These include a network of informal reserves that retain habitat. Specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Tasmania invests over AUD 300,000 annually in searching for wedge tailed eagle nests. Each tree containing a nest is placed in a reserve of at least 10 hectares, and no forestry activity is permitted within 500 metres, or one-kilometre line of sight, during the nesting season. Independent Australian Forestry Standard auditors recently confirmed Forestry Tasmania's swift parrot management meets all legislative and other requirements. Through programs such as Trees on Farms, it is working in partnership with landowners to increase the area of swift parrot habitat on private land. The Tasmanian Devil is under threat from the Devil Facial Tumour Disease, not from loss of habitat. It has a broad range of habitat preferences, and habitat is not a limiting factor for this species.
23	Old growth eucalypt forests may take 1,500 to 2,500 years to recover from clearfelling.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tall wet eucalypt forests have a maximum lifespan of approximately 400 years, although in unmanaged forests, are highly likely to be destroyed by wildfire before they reach this age. These forests are fire-adapted and require regular wildfires in order to regenerate. Modern harvesting methods have many similarities with this natural process.

24,25,26	<p>AFS/PEFC is inferior to FSC.</p> <p>PEFC does not include crucial environmental protections, such as protection for old growth forests, wilderness, and other endangered forests and endangered species.</p> <p>Ta Ann claims about PEFC certification and products is misleading. FSC is increasingly recognised as the global standard.</p>		F F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both FSC and PEFC are recognised globally as certification schemes. AFS requires protection of identified, significant biological diversity values (Requirement 4.3)¹⁴ The United Kingdom's Central Point of Expertise on Timber Procurement (CPET)¹⁵ conducts an annual review of certification schemes and rates both FSC and PEFC as equal. EU timber regulations also specify both schemes.¹⁶ In 2010, PEFC certified area totalled 242 million hectares, compared with an FSC certified area of 135 million hectares.^{17,18} Ta Ann Tasmania veneer comes from forests managed under AFS/PEFC sustainable forest management certification and has AFS Chain-of-Custody certification. The AFS is, to date, the only forest certification scheme developed under accreditation by Standards Australia, which ensures compliance with international standards and protocols.
27,28,29	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania made an AUD 11 million loss in 2010, and plan greater forest clearing to cover loss.</p> <p>Ta Ann Tasmania will apply pressure on wages because of financial position.</p>	T	F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2010 loss resulted from the high Australian dollar, reduced demand following the Global Financial Crisis and inconsistent supply of billets under the Statement of Principles process.¹⁹ Ta Ann Tasmania is a manufacturer and not a land clearer. Wages are protected under the Ta Ann Tasmania-CFMEU (Union) Enterprise Agreement .
30,31,32	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania received a tax payer subsidy of AUD 10.3 million, and administration of the grant by the Government did not meet acceptable standards for transparency and accountability.</p> <p>Ta Ann Tasmania was received into Tasmania with a golden handshake.</p>		F F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement 2005 provided AUD 46 million for industry development as a result of protecting an additional 170,000 hectares of forests. Ta Ann Tasmania received an AUD 10.3 million grant to assist with the development of its mills under this process. The Report of the Australian National Audit Office included advice that the Tasmanian Government completed due diligence for the grant.²⁰
33	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania is receiving timber from forest destruction of forest coupes containing habitat for threatened species: Tasmanian wedge tailed eagle, white bellied sea eagle, masked owl, grey goshawk, spotted tailed quoll, and Tasmanian devil.</p>		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See response to 22.
34	<p>Ta Ann Tasmania has actively lobbied to stall an industry-wide transition to plantation harvesting.</p>		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The transition to supply of suitable plantations billets has been publicly supported by Ta Ann Tasmania in the document selectively referred to by Huon Valley Environment Centre: "For Ta Ann Tasmania, the transition involves a change over time to the mix of regrowth and plantation wood, the speed of which is dependent on the availability of suitable plantation timber as a substitute for regrowth timber"²¹
35	<p>Cover photo – Huon Valley Environment Centre claim CM019A, C & E that is used in their cover photo is a logged area that was old growth and high conservation value forest.</p>		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pictured forest was previously harvested in the 1940s and is adjacent to tramways used in earlier logging.²²
36	<p>Ta Ann has a record of inaccurate statements.</p>		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no evidence that Ta Ann has made inaccurate or misleading public statements.
37	<p>Ta Ann is not an environmentally friendly supplier. Ta Ann products do not represent an ecological alternative.</p>		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania product is PEFC-certified, compared to alternatives that include uncertified product.²³

38	Ta Ann rely on the Tasmanian Brand to 'Tasmania-wash' Ta Ann operations.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania operations are recognised by the Tasmanian (and Australian Brand) as the 2008 Exporter of the Year²⁴ for value adding of regrowth pulpwood under Chain-of –Custody certification.
39	Timber produced from Ta Ann Tasmania does not comply with the guidelines for sustainable forestry.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Tasmania reports annually on sustainable forest management in its Stewardship Report.²⁵ Australian and Tasmanian Governments jointly publish a five-year assessment of forest management against sustainability indicators.²⁶
40	Huon Valley Environment Centre say a growing preference is for wood from plantations.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trend is for supply of sustainably managed resource from certified forests. However, Ta Ann Tasmania can use suitable plantations subject to quality, size, location and price. Only nine per cent of FSC certificates are for plantation only management areas.²⁷
41	Timber Community Australia is an industry lobby group.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Huon Resource Development Group is part of Timber Communities Australia and is a community-based group with a broad representation of members. It seeks to promote the sustainable development of all natural resources including fishing, farming and forestry.
42	Huon Valley Environment Centre Case Studies show timber from old growth forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe PCO17C (Picton Valley).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania cannot process old growth timber. Regrowth timber is present in all coupes listed. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
43	Huon Valley Environment Centre Case Studies show timber from old growth forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe EP031B (Esperance).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania cannot process old growth timber. Regrowth timber is present in all coupes listed. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
44	Huon Valley Environment Centre Case Studies show timber from old growth forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe FO044A (Upper Florentine Valley).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania cannot process old growth timber. Regrowth timber is present in all coupes listed. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
45	Huon Valley Environment Centre Case Studies show timber from old growth forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe TN034B and TN045B (Tyenna Valley).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania cannot process old growth timber. Regrowth timber is present in all coupes listed. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
46	Huon Valley Environment Centre Case Studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe BB018A (Weld Valley).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
47	Huon Valley Environment Centre case studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging Coupe CM019E&C (Catamaran in far south Tasmania).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
48	Huon Valley Environment Centre case studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe CO002B (Counsel area).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.

49	Huon Valley Environment Centre case studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe WE005E (Wedge area).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
50	Huon Valley Environment Centre case studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe SB040A (Bruny Island).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
51	Huon Valley Environment Centre case studies show timber from high conservation value forests went to Ta Ann Tasmania - logging coupe RU043H (West Wellington).		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The independent verification process has confirmed that Forestry Tasmania must continue harvesting in some coupes claimed to be of high conservation value, in order to meet legally enforceable contractual obligations. Conservation values are protected in all coupes, and across the landscape, under the Forest Practices Code, the Australian Forestry Standard, and Tasmania's Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system.
52	Ta Ann Tasmania is replacing Gunns as driver of clearing private forests.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Forests Tasmania estimates wood flow from private land in excess of four million cubic metres each year for next 20 years²⁸. Of this, Ta Ann Tasmania plans to source up to 35,000 cubic metres per year.
53,54,55	Ta Ann has misled customers. Promotions show plantation forests are used to create a false impression.		F F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ta Ann Tasmania has used and will use suitable plantation billets, consistent with the wood supply agreement contract with Forestry Tasmania. Huon Valley Environment Centre's own data shows plantation billets are used by Ta Ann Tasmania. Customers have viewed operations in the forest and are aware eco-ply manufactured from Tasmanian veneer is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from PEFC certified forests; - from long term wood supply agreements under legal and sustainable management by Forestry Tasmania; and - produced consistent with the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement.
56	The Government's planned legislated wood supply contract for Ta Ann Tasmania would lock in ongoing destruction of Tasmania's forests.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tasmanian Government proposes legislation for both resource security and also reserve security . Legislation for timber supply already exists under Forestry Act 1920.
57	Ta Ann Tasmania operations are of questionable value.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Ta Ann Tasmania mills cost AUD 79 million, created 160 full time equivalent jobs, and will inject AUD 45 million into the Tasmanian economy in 2012.
58	Caption to photo of coupe HA045E claims this to be old growth forest.		F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This coupe contained 80 per cent regrowth and a reserve area of 27 hectares.

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6. Conclusion

While Forestry Tasmania welcomes genuine scientific input into its management of Tasmanian forests, and Ta Ann Tasmania welcomes true commentary on its Tasmanian operations, the publication *Behind the Veneer: Forest Destruction and Ta Ann Tasmania's Lies* is seriously flawed.

The Huon Valley Environment Centre document reads more as a political document. In this context, there is a track record of misrepresentation of the facts by Huon Valley Environment Centre or the Greens.

Further information

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7. Message from the Minister for Energy and Resources

Forestry Tasmania is a Government Business Enterprise responsible for managing Tasmania's 1.5 million hectares of state forest. Its responsibilities include the sustainable supply of timber to sawmills and veneer mills in this State. Forestry Tasmania is staffed by very experienced foresters and scientists who are among the best in the world.

Tasmania's rigorous forest practices system is managed by an independent regulator, the Forest Practices Authority, and prescribes strict controls to protect special values such as threatened species, riparian zones, cultural heritage, and high conservation value forest.

Ta Ann Tasmania is a valued member of the Tasmanian forest industry and wider community. It has generated local jobs and produces an environmentally-friendly veneer product of which we can all be proud. Ta Ann is supplied with regrowth eucalypt and some plantation timber. Its rotary peeled veneers carry Australian Forestry Standard certification, which is internationally endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments have entered into the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement, which flows from the combined efforts of the timber industry, unions and environmental non-government organisations. The Agreement provides for a sustainable native forest industry into the future while also adding to the existing reserve system for forest areas independently identified as having high conservation value.

It is apparent that the recent activist campaign against Ta Ann does not reflect the facts of the Intergovernmental Agreement. I trust the information in this booklet has provided a more accurate account of the way in which Tasmania's forests are managed.

Bryan Green MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Energy and Resources

Tasmania Land Tenure 2010

0 12.5 25 50 75 100
Kilometres

Legend

Land managed by Forestry Tasmania

- State Forest/Multiple Use Forest
- Forest Reserve
- Special Timbers Zone

Land Administered Under the National Parks and Wildlife Act

- National Park
- Conservation Area
- Private Sanctuary & Private Nature Reserve
- Private Conservation Covenanted/Protected

Land Administered Under the Crown Lands Act

- Non-allocated Crown land
- Public Reserve
- Private property

