

what is the  
future of forests?

## Environmental Conservation & Habitat Protection in Forests

Tasmania's world-class reserve system, which includes national parks, forest reserves and other protected areas, covers more than 40% of the island's land area. The reserve system meets three nationally-agreed criteria for the effective conservation of the forest environment.

### Comprehensive

The reserves contain the full range of Tasmanian vegetation communities and fauna habitats.

### Adequate

The reserves are large enough to provide adequate protection for the wide variety of natural values within them.

### Representative

The reserve system conserves the genetic diversity of each vegetation community.

The CAR reserve system was one of the outcomes of Australia's Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs), which were negotiated between the Commonwealth and the States. In Tasmania, extensive community consultation occurred before the RFA was signed in November 1997. In 2005, the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement (TCFA) extended the area of oldgrowth forest reserved within the CAR reserve system.

Conserving the environment is an essential part of the sustainable management of our forests. Tasmania's extensive system of reserves is designed to protect all Tasmania's forest types and ages, particularly oldgrowth forest. 79% of all oldgrowth forest on public land is fully protected.

In our production forests, all forestry operations are required by law to meet the environmental standards of the Forest Practices Code.

