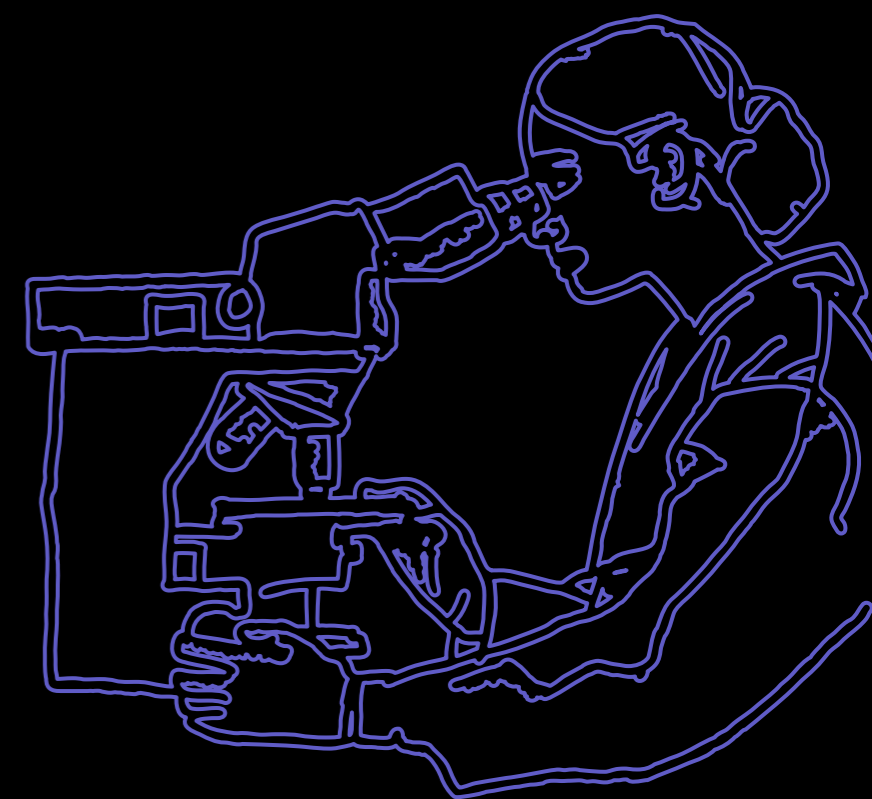


## Theme 3

How do we interact  
with forest landscapes?

Tasmania's forest landscapes have played, and will continue to play, a major role in shaping our society. The concepts within this theme help students understand that Tasmania's forests are sustained through a rich variety of management practices that span private and public sectors, as well as all levels of government.



# Theme 3

## How do we interact with forest landscapes?

### Managing Forests

People manage forests for a variety of environmental, social/cultural and economic outcomes. Understanding the reasons forests are managed helps students' to think critically about forest management processes. Forest landscapes span a range of land-use areas from remote wilderness, parks and reserves through to working production forests, regional and urban communities. Many forest landscapes are made up of a variety of ownership, a mix of management objectives and a blend of forest ecosystems. Managing forests for a variety of purposes is a complex process requiring diverse people with diverse skills.

Forest management includes the use of natural processes and future planning to achieve a variety of desired outcomes, including environmental, social/cultural and economic outcomes. Many of these outcomes are interrelated and can be managed simultaneously.

Forest management ranges from active management including – planting, thinning, pruning, and harvesting to management for special values – streamside reserves, habitat protection,

nesting hollows, vegetation restoration, visual landscapes, cultural heritage, recreational values and more...

As global demand for forest resources increase, advances in research, design and technology can help ensure forest resources are maintained or improved to produce the desired values and products for today and generations to come.



### Acknowledging Different Perspectives

Examining the different perspectives involved in forest management helps students understand the complexity of forest management decisions.

The way we each perceive the environment depends on the values we associate with it. Our values are constructed largely through factors, such as culture and tradition, where we grew up, what sort of education we received, the values of our parents and community, our experiences, employment and career pathway and the media we engage with.

Forest management can be a controversial topic, because of the diverse perspectives, understandings and values, as well as the complex nature of forest ecosystems.

The sustainability of Tasmania's forests and forest resources relies on an integration of multiples values and perspective, as well as continued research and innovation in forest management.

## Theme 3

# How do we interact with forest landscapes?

### Making Decisions

Understanding why and how forests are managed helps prepare students to participate in forest management decisions. By understanding that many individuals and groups are involved in forest management, students can recognise that the responsibility of forest management is shared.

A variety of individuals, companies, organisations and government agencies manage forests. Forest management decisions may involve some or all of these entities working collaboratively to ensure mutually beneficial outcomes aiming to meet environmental, social/cultural and economic needs.

The type and intensity of forest management, including harvesting and re-planting, is dependent on the purposes for which the forest is managed, as well as forest type, ownership, size and location.

Government has a role in actively engaging organisations, businesses, communities and individuals in forest management, policy and decision-making processes.

Forest industries encompass management of natural forests and woodlands, tree plantations, and the many combinations of trees and agricultural activities, known as agroforestry or farm forestry.

Sustainable management of forests takes into account environmental, social/cultural and economic dimensions of sustainability. It includes maintaining forest health, productivity, diversity and conserving forest landscapes for the needs of present and future generations.

