



# Being a good neighbour

## Tasmanian Forest Manager's Good Neighbour Protocol

Forests – both native forests and plantations – form an integral part of the Tasmanian landscape, enjoyed by all Tasmanians. As forest managers we are custodians of these forests, and manage them as a sustainable, renewable resource for a range of products and values including:

- ▶ wood production;
- ▶ provision of biodiversity habitat for flora and fauna species;
- ▶ creation of shelter belts;
- ▶ capturing carbon;
- ▶ soil and water; and
- ▶ recreational and cultural heritage values.

Forest managers understand that the way we manage our forests can impact our neighbours and this Protocol provides a framework for neighbouring landholders to manage shared responsibilities.



### Objectives:

- ▶ Promote constructive co-operation and exchange of information between neighbouring landholders and Tasmanian forest managers;
- ▶ Establish positive relationships between forest managers, neighbours and local communities, based on mutual respect, understanding and recognition of the rights and responsibilities of all landholders;
- ▶ Proactively manage issues of shared concern, including: fire mitigation, invasive weed species, threatened species, habitat management, boundary fence maintenance on private land, unauthorised access, property security and the management of natural and cultural values; and
- ▶ Demonstrate that sustainably managed forests, can deliver multiple positive outcomes at a landscape scale to numerous beneficiaries.

### General Principles:

- ▶ Establishing and maintaining open, positive and respectful two-way relationships with neighbours and local communities is a priority for forest managers subscribing to this protocol;
- ▶ Land management practices are more efficiently and effectively addressed if they are developed in consultation with neighbours and local communities; and implemented co-operatively across the landscape; and
- ▶ Issues and problems are generally best addressed at the local level, by local people working together.

### Commitments:

By subscribing to this Protocol, we as forest managers commit to promote stakeholder engagement that is based on transparency and honesty through:

- ▶ Providing a genuine opportunity for neighbourly input into forest and land management issues;
- ▶ Promoting good two-way communication between parties that includes updates on operational activities; and
- ▶ Applying the principle of fairness in all conduct relating to neighbours and undertaking all community engagements professionally.

If you would like to engage in relation to the land management practices of a subscriber to the Good Neighbour Protocol then please contact the landowner or forest manager conducting the activity through their contacts listed on the Private Forests Tasmania website at [www.pft.tas.gov.au/goodneighbourprotocol](http://www.pft.tas.gov.au/goodneighbourprotocol)

