

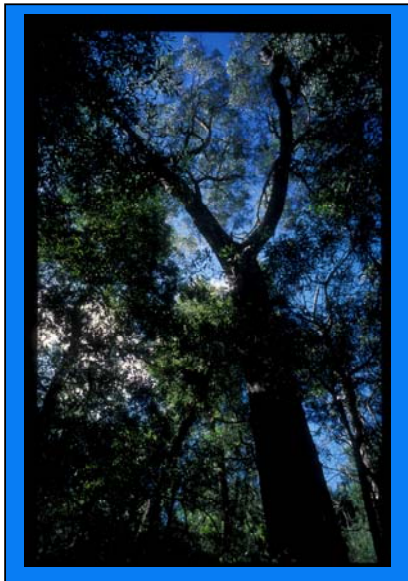
# A landmark appeal against forestry, in the public interest

We are participating in an appeal in the public interest against a huge Private Timber Reserve in Reedy Marsh that would entrench forestry without further appeal and have catastrophic impacts on residents' lives, the landscape and the natural values of the land itself, including many threatened species.

The forests subject of the appeal are recognised as Important and Critical for conservation. It is habitat for Threatened Species including the Spotted-tailed quoll, Wedge-tailed eagle, Swift Parrot, Barred Bandicoot, Grey Goshawk and Masked Owl.

This Forest Practices Tribunal appeal is a significant landmark in the forestry debate in Tasmania. It can have a positive impact on similar situations elsewhere in the state. As corporations push to expand industrial forestry with more and more PTRs and plantations on private forested land they show little regard for the lives and wellbeing of the people of Tasmania or the environment that provides our life support.

There is a large groundswell of support from the community against this PTR and a great deal of material will be presented to support the Public Interest.



***This appeal will cost at least  
\$10,000***

***No donation is too small  
– or too large!***

***Donations are urgently needed.  
This appeal is worth winning.  
Please help!***

**Please send your donation today to:**

**The Environment Association Inc.**

**P.O. Box 261**

**Deloraine, Tasmania. 7304**

## ***What is a Private Timber Reserve?***

A Private Timber Reserve [PTR], is a government planning mechanism that changes the use of private land to forestry, guaranteeing intensive industrial forestry in perpetuity, unless revoked by the minister.

PTRs are not subject to local government planning schemes. This means that people living near PTRs can have no influence at all on how the land is managed regardless of how it affects them.

There are currently over 1700 PTRs in Tasmania, about 40% of the privately owned forest, covering over 400,000 hectares of land. Some of this land was forested and some was farmland at the time it was declared a PTR. Many PTRs are converted to pulpwood plantations from native forest.

**For more information please contact:**

**Reedy Marsh Forest Conservation Group**

**780 Larcombes Rd., Reedy Marsh, Tasmania. 7304.**

**Ph 03 6368 1343 email [rmfeg@aapt.net.au](mailto:rmfeg@aapt.net.au)**

## ***What are the issues about PTRs?***

### **Natural values**

The Forest Practices Code does not protect the natural values of forested land. The clearfell and burn approach of industrial forestry causes significant harm to nature, including water, wildlife, soil and biodiversity. Natural forests with high conservation values are often replaced by pulp plantations.

Mechanisms to protect Threatened species are inadequate, even non-existent. Removal of natural vegetation causes a loss of life support for the planet.

### **Community values**

Forestry scars scenic beauty, affects land values, reduces rural infrastructures and causes a loss of farmland.

Neighbours suffer adverse affects from forestry operations including incessant noise, more log truck traffic, air, soil and water pollution, killing of wildlife with 1080 poison, increased wind and frost, chemical over-spraying with herbicides, pesticides or fertilisers and the introduction of weeds as well as community conflict.

PTRs remove neighbours' rights of objection to forestry developments. This is against natural justice. The conversion of farm land to PTRs reduces rural employment and infrastructure. Rural communities become unviable and people move away to escape declining amenity and conflict.

When a PTR is declared only immediate neighbours have the right of appeal. They are called prescribed persons. Municipal councils are also prescribed persons and can appeal in their own right or in the public interest but they rarely do so.