



Australian Government



Tasmania

TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FOREST AGREEMENT RESEARCH INTO ALTERNATIVES TO 1080

NEWSLETTER 1

AUGUST 2006

Introduction

In May 2005, the State and Commonwealth Governments entered into a new agreement for the management of Tasmania's Forests.

As part of this agreement (Clause 39) the Commonwealth Government provided \$4 million to develop and encourage the adoption of alternatives to 1080 that private land managers can use to protect seedlings in plantations, regrowth forests, crops and pastures from grazing animals, particularly wallabies, pademelons and possums.

The Governments also committed (Clause 41) to developing a wildlife management export plan for Wallabies from Mainland Tasmania.

It is expected that the core of this program will occur over the next two years, or longer if required, and will be focussed on developing commercially viable alternatives that can be adopted by land owners.

You can view the full copy of the Supplementary Agreement to the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement on the [DAFF web site](#).

Management of the Program

The program is being jointly implemented by the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Department of Primary Industries and Water (DPIW) in Tasmania.

The Relevant Ministers are Senator Eric Abetz and Minister David Llewellyn. Tony Bartlett from DAFF and John Whittington from DPIW are responsible for Implementing this program, and a

full time Project Manager, John Dawson, has been appointed.

The directions of the program will be informed by a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) consisting of 15 members from across the farming, private forestry, animal welfare and commercial harvesting groups. The program has, and will continue to actively consult with other stakeholders and the broader community.

The program also has a Technical Panel (TP) consisting of a number of government and private sector experts who will be assisting with the development of specific research and demonstration programs.

The purpose of the program is outlined in the [Operating Plan](#) and the roles and membership of each of these groups is [available](#).

Independent Reviewers Report

As the first phase of the program, a New Zealand company, [Landcare Research](#), in conjunction with the Arthur Rylah Institute of Victoria were appointed by competitive tender to undertake an independent review of research into alternatives to the use of 1080 for management of browsing damage by mammals in Tasmania and make recommendations on research and demonstration priorities for the project. The Technical Panel managed the tender process.

The review began by bringing together the key individuals and for a two day workshop in Launceston in April 2006 where the aims and the objectives of the program were discussed. This was followed by interviews with a wide range

of stakeholders including forestry and farming, shooting groups, animal welfare groups, Technical experts and Government employees.

Participants in this part of the process were given the opportunity to attend a one day presentation of the draft report on 27 June, and were then able to provide written submissions which were incorporated into the final draft.

The final report was made public on August 4 and is available on the [DAFF](#) and [DPIW](#) websites.

The report provides a comprehensive overview of the existing knowledge and adoption of alternatives to 1080 and outlines a range of research areas that it believes will extend the knowledge and adoption of alternatives to 1080.

The Next Step: Developing a Strategic Plan

Over the months of August and September the Implementation Committee will be developing a strategic plan for the expenditure of the programs funds for presentation to the Ministers.

This plan will draw strongly on the information provided in the Landcare Research Report, alongside comments from the Stakeholder Advisory Group members and The Technical Panel.

Other stakeholders have the opportunity to provide input through the Project Manager, who as part of this process is visiting and talking to local groups around Tasmania about their issues with browsing damage and 1080 usage.

Key Upcoming Dates

Date	Milestone
16-Aug	Stakeholder Advisory Group will meet to discuss Strategic Plan
22- Aug	Technical Panel will meet to discuss Strategic Plan
01-Sep	Draft Strategic Plan released to SAG and TP for comment
Sep-Oct	Development and release of strategic plan by Ministers
Oct -	Commencement of Strategic Plan.

About this Newsletter

This newsletter will be released on approximately the first Tuesday of each Month.

Its purpose is to let stakeholders know what's happening with the program, any upcoming events, project outcomes and articles of relevance.

This newsletter will be available on the DAFF website. It will also be sent to people who request a copy through the Project Manager.

Any questions or comments on the Newsletter should be directed to John Dawson, Project Manager 1080 Alternatives on 03 6233 2256 or john.dawson@dpiw.tas.gov.au.

Any media enquires about the 1080 Alternatives Program should initially be directed to Shaun Rigby 03 6233 2451 or shaun.rigby@dpac.tas.gov.au