

# **STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP**

## **TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FOREST AGREEMENT RESEARCH INTO ALTERNATIVES TO THE USE OF 1080**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The primary role of the Stakeholder Advisory Group is to represent the views of their constituents to the Implementation Committee and Technical Panel on all matters involved in the research and development of alternatives to 1080.

They will ensure, as far as practicable, that their constituents have the ability to provide regular and meaningful input into the development of program, and that the program objectives are broadly understood and activities and outcomes communicated.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will meet at least six monthly. It is envisaged that in the initial phase of this program, the Stakeholder Advisory Group will be required to meet more frequently to assess and provide comment on the initial review, research and development proposals and the progress of new demonstration trials of alternatives to 1080.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will:

- provide advice to the Implementation Committee and Technical Panel on the initial priorities for research and/or extension activities;
- review the achievements and outcomes of research and demonstration projects;
- provide advice on the priority of arising research and extension activities;
- suggest approaches to effectively and efficiently monitor the program;
- assist with developing effective communication strategies for the program, including providing advice on ways to promote community understanding and uptake of research alternatives considered to have a practical application; and
- work with the Technical Panel in the identification of suitable demonstration sites and trials that can be used to illustrate the practical implementation of research alternatives to their constituents.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will provide advice and views directly to the Implementation Committee and Technical Panel through the Chair (or nominated representative) of the Stakeholder Advisory Group.

No member or members of the Stakeholder Advisory Group will provide public comment on behalf of the Group; however, this does not preclude individual representatives commenting on the program on behalf of themselves or the groups they represent.

The membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Group is listed in Attachment A.

An explanation of the membership composition as attached in Attachment B.

## **Attachment A – Membership Stakeholder Advisory Group**

The Stakeholder Advisory Group will comprise of the following organisations\*;

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania	Yvette Watt
Forest Industries Association of Tasmania (FIAT)	Katy Hobbs
Forests & Forest Industry Council of Tasmania (FFIC)	Sean Riley
Lenah Game Meats	John Kelly
NRM – Cradle Coast	Guy Robertson
NRM- North	Liz Grimshaw
Private Forests Tasmania (PFT)	Arthur Lyons
RSPCA Tasmania	Julie Williamson
Tasmania Agricultural Productivity Group (TAPG)	Mark Smith
Tasmanian Conservation Trust (TCT)	Suzi Manigian
Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association (TFGA)	Kem Perkins David Byard Jim Cooper
Timber Communities Australia (TCA)	Alan Ashbury

\*Other representatives may be added as required, and nominees may change over time.

## Attachment B - Understanding the Membership of the SAG

The primary role of the Stakeholder Advisory Group is to represent the views of their constituents to the Implementation Committee and Technical Panel on all matters involved in the research and development of alternatives to 1080<sup>1</sup>.

There has been considerable debate over the composition of the Stakeholder Advisory Group since the initial workshop, and the perceived imbalances in representation. This document outlines the basis of the current composition of the SAG so all stakeholders can better understand the logic behind its composition.

The 1080 Alternatives Program derived from Clause 39 of the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement which reads:

"The Parties agree to work collaboratively on a joint program to accelerate research into, and implementation of, alternative strategies for browsing animal control on private forest and agricultural lands. The Commonwealth will invest \$4 million in a research, field testing and demonstration program to provide alternative options for private landholders, and work with the State in the light of these results to continue to reduce the usage of 1080 on private lands".

This clause provides a clear emphasis for the program on identifying alternative options to 1080 for private landowners. This is further clarified in Fact Sheet 14 of the TCFA process that, in part, reads "**The objective is to develop and encourage adoption of alternatives to 1080 that land managers can use to protect seedlings in plantations, regrowth forests, crops and pastures from grazing animals**".

These statements clearly identify private landowners as the key stakeholders.

Recognising that there are a diverse range of issues and interests in private forestry and, more particularly, farming three forestry groups (FIAT, FFIC & PFT) were invited to join the group representing their different interest groups and the TFGA were also asked to nominate three representatives to represent the broader farming community.

The Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group were asked to join given their interest in this area and Timber Communities Australia were asked to join given their diverse membership of both forestry and farming interests in rural communities. This composition reflects the TCFA documents which demonstrate that it is the acceptance and adoption by these groups of the new alternatives that will ultimately drive the success of the project.

The TCFA also alludes to the need for any alternative to 1080 to be accepted by the broader community. Fact Sheet 14 states that "this work will provide humane and environmentally sound alternate methods of controlling browsing animals". Although all stakeholders have a commitment to these principals, the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, RSPCA and Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania were invited onto the

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<sup>1</sup> The Full Terms of Reference for the SAG are contained in a separate document "STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE."

stakeholder group to ensure that these interests are represented and considered. Of course, any research or demonstration will be required to conform with the requirements of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*.

The two remaining stakeholder groups on the SAG are NRM (Natural Resource Management) and a representative of the commercial harvesting industry . NRM were invited to the SAG as wildlife issues are part of their charter under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*.

Lenah Game Meats were invited to join on behalf of those groups interested in the Commercial harvesting of wallabies and possums. Fact Sheet 14 on reducing 1080 usage, clearly refers to wallaby management plans as a component of the browsing animal control strategy.

In summary, the Stakeholder Advisory Group membership derives directly from the Implementation Committees understanding of the TCFA documents on what is to be achieved from the 1080 Alternatives Program.