

**TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FOREST  
AGREEMENT**

*Progress on the implementation of the  
Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement*

**13 May 2005 – 30 June 2006**

**Jointly prepared by the Australian and Tasmanian  
Governments**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

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### Introduction

Regional Forest Agreements (RFA) are separate Agreements between the Australian Government and the State Governments of NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia. Based on good science and extensive consultation, the Agreements set out broad strategies to achieve a balance between conservation and a sustainable and competitive forest industry. The Agreements are in place for 20 years.

Tasmania is covered in a single RFA. The Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard MP and the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon Anthony Rundle MHA, signed the Tasmanian RFA on 8 November 1997.

The RFAs are subject to annual reporting during the first five years and thereafter five-yearly reviews, to report progress against milestones.

On 13 May 2005 the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard MP and the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon Paul Lennon MHA, signed the Supplementary Tasmanian RFA (SRFA) known as the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement (TCFA).

Ministers Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald and the Hon Bryan Green MHA subsequently agreed that the Governments would jointly prepare a progress report of achievements against milestones and commitments contained in the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement until 2010.

This is the first progress report for the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement and provides details on the achievement of milestones under the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement for the period 13 May 2005 to 30 June 2006.

Subsequent progress reporting by the Australian and Tasmanian governments (the Parties) on the implementation of the TCFA has been aligned to a financial year basis, being the period 1 July to 30 June each year.

## Progress on Implementation of Agreed Commitments and Milestones

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
3	The Parties to fully implement the actions recommended in the Report of the Inquiry on the progress with Implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (2002), subject to the exception outlined in clause 5	No date	The recommended actions have either been fully implemented or are continuing to be implemented. A detailed report on each action will be provided as part of the 2007 RFA Five Year Review.  The Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement has superseded some of the recommended actions.
5	Recovery Plans will continue to be the mechanism for compliance with the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	No date	The Australian and Tasmanian Governments are currently progressing 11 new recovery plans for EPBC Act listed species in habitat relating to the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement.
6	The Parties to protect one million hectares of old growth forest – 977,000 hectares on public land, 30,000 hectares minimum on private land	No date	The area of old growth forest protected in formal and informal reserves on public land at 30 June 2006 is 978,220 hectares.  The one million hectare protection target is proposed to be achieved through implementation of the Forest Conservation Fund (see clause 21) to protect an additional minimum area of 25,000 hectares of old growth on private land.
7	The Parties to add approximately 141,000 hectares of public land to the CAR Reserve System	June 2006	The State has added 146,800 hectares of public land to the CAR reserve system arising from the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement as at 30 June 2006. This consists of all new formal reserves and State forest informal reserves and is a net increase of 7,800 hectares on the provisional area of these reserves in the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement.  A report on the final reserved areas of land and forest was published and can be viewed at <a href="http://www.forestrytas.com.au/forestrytas/pdf_files/reserves.pdf">http://www.forestrytas.com.au/forestrytas/pdf_files/reserves.pdf</a>  The 141,000 hectares to be added to the CAR reserve system includes 1400 hectares of Hydro private land and 500 hectares of Commonwealth land yet to be reserved (see clauses 13 and 15).
8	The Parties agree that all additional protected areas on public land will remain available for mineral exploration and mining under the <i>Mineral Resources Development Act 1995</i> in accordance with clause 79 of the RFA and subject to any requirements under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	No date	Completed.  All of the new reserves on public land are available for mineral exploration and mining under the <i>Mineral Resources Development Act 1995</i> .
9	The State to finalise the boundaries of the new reserves, with the exception of Commonwealth owned land, at a scale of 1:25,000.	June 2006	Completed.  The boundaries of all the new reserves have been defined on 1:25,000 scale maps.
10	The State to submit plans of new Formal Reserves to Parliament for approval	June 2006	Completed.  Plans for all agreed Formal Reserves were submitted to Parliament for approval in June 2006.

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
11	The State to finalise informal reserve boundaries and identify on Management Decision Classification maps and manage these areas for protection of CAR values, subject to field verification of the existence and extent of those values.	June 2006	Completed. Boundaries of all informal reserves on State forest were finalised in December 2005 and identified on Forestry Tasmania's Management Decision Classification maps. The reserves are being managed for the protection of their CAR values.
12	The State to progressively amend Forest Management Plans to include new Formal and Informal reserves	June 2008	Forestry Tasmania has commenced the process for amendment of Forest Management Plans in accordance with the <i>Forestry Act 1920</i> .
13	The Commonwealth to protect approximately 500 hectares of Commonwealth owned land as informal reserves. These reserves will be included in new or revised management plans prepared with public participation.	30 June 2008	The Australian Government has begun investigations to determine what actions are required to finalise this issue.
14	The State to protect 3900 hectares of old growth forest on unallocated Crown land pending completion of the Crown Land Assessment and Classification Project	No date	All identified areas of old growth on unallocated Crown land are being managed for protection pending implementation of the outcomes of the Crown Land Assessment and Classification project (CLAC). The CLAC assessment has been completed with more than 107,000 hectares of unallocated Crown land and Public Reserves including nearly 6,000 separate parcels being assessed. Of this, some 78,600 hectares has been recommended for reservation under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i> and a further 14,200 hectares recommended to be reserved (or retained) as Public Reserves under the <i>Crown Lands Act 1976</i> . In virtually all cases where old growth forest was mapped as present, the property has been recommended for reservation. In a few cases small areas have been recommended to be adhered to adjoining State Forest to rationalise management boundaries. In a very few cases, where the mapped areas of old growth were small and isolated from any nearby old growth forest on Crown land (generally less than a couple of hectares) and no other values warrant it, the Crown property has not been recommended for reservation. However, in such cases where the property is to be considered for sale, sale will be subject to further investigation. If significant values requiring reservation are found, then those properties will be recommended for reservation. Alternatively any values identified (including old growth forest) may be protected by covenant prior to sale. Areas for the recommended outcomes for old growth forest areas are not yet available.

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
15	The State to protect 3500 hectares of old growth forest on Hydro Tasmania vested land pending a review of Hydro Tasmania's infrastructure management needs. Old growth forest on land not required by Hydro Tasmania to be protected.	Post Hydro review	Hydro Tasmania is protecting all identified areas of old growth forest on Crown land vested to Hydro Tasmania pending the finalisation of the review of Hydro Tasmania's land requirements. A review has been completed on several areas to identify boundaries of the proposed reserves and is proceeding on remaining areas. Divestment of vested land no longer required will be undertaken as a single package once the review is completed (estimated to be in 2007).
15	Hydro Tasmania to covenant 1300 hectares of sub-alpine forest on its freehold land	No date	Discussions have commenced between Hydro Tasmania and the Department of Primary Industries and Water with a view to covenanting the identified areas under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i> .
16	The Parties agree that any changes to those elements of the CAR Reserve System in Informal Reserves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will only occur in accordance with the RFA; and</li> <li>- will maintain the level of protection of identified values at the regional scale; and</li> <li>- that information on all such changes will be publicly available.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	These RFA requirements are being applied to the new Informal Reserves.
17	The State to maintain records of all changes to informal reserves and net impact on CAR reserve values changes will be recorded	Ongoing and reported as part of five year RFA review	Forestry Tasmania is maintaining a record of all changes to Informal Reserves on State Forest and CAR values within changed areas. Information on any changes will be provided as part of the RFA Five Year Review.
18	The State to provide digital data of new formal and informal reserves to the Commonwealth	June 2006	Completed. Digital data of all final boundaries of the new Reserves have been provided to the Commonwealth.
19	The Parties to ensure access to data continues to be provided in accordance with clause 90 and Attachment 14 of the RFA	Ongoing	Data access arrangements have been maintained. All new Formal Reserves are incorporated into publicly available land tenure data in the Tasmanian Land Information System (LIST). Arrangements have been made for boundaries of Informal Reserves on State Forest to be made publicly available as part of Tasmanian CAR Reserve layer on the LIST.
20	The Parties to co-operate to improve the protection of Old Growth forest on private land, particularly for forest communities that complement the new reserves on public land	Ongoing	Tasmania has cooperated with the Australian Government in the design and implementation of the Australian Government's Forest Conservation Fund program.
21	The Commonwealth to establish, administer and fund a new market-based program [the Forest Conservation Program] to protect and manage up to 45,600 hectares of forested private land, additional to that secured under the Private Forest Reserve Program, targeting old growth forest and under reserved communities.	Ongoing	See response to clauses 23 and 24 for progress on the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF).

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
21	The program will include a component, capped at \$3.6 million, to protect up to 2400 hectares of forested land in the Mole Creek area	30 June 2008	The Australian Government is currently developing details of the program.
23	The Parties to jointly develop and manage the Forest Conservation Fund program through a steering committee and consult with Tasmanian private forest owner representatives on design and implementation	Ongoing	A joint Steering Committee has been formed to manage the program. An Advisory Group, with representatives of key stakeholders, has been established and has met on several occasions.
24	The Parties to develop a strategic plan under which the Forest Conservation Fund will be administered	September 2005	A Strategic Plan has been developed by the Steering Committee in consultation with the Advisory Group. The Plan was approved by the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Heritage in May 2006 and can be viewed at <a href="http://www.deh.gov.au/land/forestpolicy/fcf/strategic-plan.html">http://www.deh.gov.au/land/forestpolicy/fcf/strategic-plan.html</a>  An expert panel of economists and ecologists is finalising the assessment methodology that will be used to assess landholder proposals.
25	The State will establish conservation covenants on land titles on protected under the Forest Conservation Fund. The Commonwealth to reimburse the State all costs associated with covenanting the land.	Ongoing	No land has been protected under the Forest Conservation Fund to date.
26	The State to provide monitoring and management support services to owners of covenanted land	Ongoing	The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage and the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water have agreed on the arrangements for provision of monitoring and support services.
26	The Commonwealth to provide \$5.5 million to the State for ongoing monitoring and management support services to owners of covenanted land	30 June 2006	Completed The Australian Government has transferred \$5.5 million to the State for the agreed purposes.
27	The Parties agree that the Private Forest Reserves Program will continue until 30 June 2006, at which time the Program will cease	30 June 2006	Completed The Private Forest Reserves Program formally ceased on 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2006. However, the State, in agreement with the Australian Government, is proceeding to finalise outstanding Private Forest Reserves Program covenants.
28	The Parties agree to negotiate a new financial agreement for the use of the remaining Private Forest Reserves Program NHT funds held by the State	No date	Completed A new financial agreement has been finalised by both Governments.
28	The State to transfer any remaining Private Forest Reserves Program NHT funds to the Forest Conservation Fund program	30 June 2006	Tasmania will transfer all remaining Private Forest Reserves Program NHT funds to the Forest Conservation Fund following final reconciliation of accounts as at 30 June 2006.

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
29	The State to transfer any remaining Private Forest Reserves Program State Trust Fund funds, at 30 June 2006, to a State Private Property Vegetation Conservation program	30 June 2006	Tasmania will transfer all remaining Private Forest Reserves Program State Trust Fund funds to the Private Property Vegetation Conservation Program following final reconciliation of accounts as at 30 June 2006.
30	The Parties to joint funding of a package of forest management and operations, industry development and research and development activities for reducing clearfelling of old growth forest on State forest	2010	<p>Ministers, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz and the Hon Bryan Green MHA, agreed to an Operating Plan for the Australian Government funded Research into Alternatives to Clearfelling in Old Growth Forests Program in February 2006.</p> <p>The program of research and field trials will complement Forestry Tasmania's ongoing work to reduce the level of clearfelling of old growth forest to no more than 20% of the annual harvest of old growth on State Forests by 2010.</p> <p>A joint Research Implementation Committee has been formed and has met.</p> <p>Forestry Tasmania has identified coupes for variable retention in its current 3 year plan of operations.</p>
31	The State to publicly report the area of public old growth harvested by silviculture technique each year	Annually	<p>The area of old growth harvested on public land is to be reported in Forestry Tasmania's annual Sustainable Forest Management Report. The area of old growth harvested on State forest in 2004-05 was 2,594 hectares.</p> <p>Details are available in Forestry Tasmania's 2004-05 SFM report, publication of which is imminent. The 2005-06 SFM report is in preparation.</p>
32	The State to review progress in achieving safety, regeneration and log supply objectives through the new old growth forest silviculture	2007	The review is planned to be undertaken in 2007
33	The Parties agree that, further to clauses 75 to 77 of the RFA, further Intensive Forest Management will be used to mitigate the impact of the new reserves and the reduction in use of clearfelling in old growth forest	Ongoing	See report on clause 34
34	The State to deliver an integrated program of existing plantation productivity improvement, new plantation establishment and enhanced native forest thinning designed to maintain RFA targets for sustainable sawlog and veneer supplies to industry from State Forests	2010	<p>To 30 June 2006 the State has delivered on State forest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 466 hectares of new plantation established</li> <li>- 1820 hectares of land prepared for planting in Spring 2006</li> <li>- 8794 hectares of existing eucalypt plantation pruned</li> <li>- 2677 hectares of existing eucalypt plantation fertilised</li> <li>- 339 hectares of native forest regrowth thinned</li> </ul>
36	The State to deliver management and planning of new reserves on public land	Ongoing	All new reserves on public land are being managed by Forestry Tasmania or the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment as part of their larger land estate and consistent with relevant reserve management objectives.

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
37	The Parties agree that the management arrangements for new reserves in north west Tasmania will involve consultation with Aboriginal and other communities to maintain access for traditional land uses and to maintain cultural links and uses, consistent with conservation values	Ongoing	The Cradle Coast Authority has convened a stakeholder advisory group to provide a forum for information sharing. The Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment and Forestry Tasmania are represented on this group.
38	The State to phase out the use of 1080 on State Forest	December 2005	Completed. The use of 1080 on State forests ceased from 31 December 2005.
39	The Parties to work collaboratively on a joint program to accelerate research into and implementation of alternatives to 1080 for browsing animal control on private forest and agricultural lands.  The Commonwealth to provide \$4 million in a research, field testing and demonstration program of alternative options for private landholders and work with the State to continue to reduce usage of 1080 on private lands.	30 June 2007	An Operating Plan for the program was jointly agreed by Ministers, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz and the Hon Bryan Green MHA in February 2006. The Plan sets out the agreed objectives, outputs, governance, reporting, communications strategy and milestones for the program.  A Project Manager has been appointed and a Technical Panel and Stakeholder Advisory Panel have been established. Workshops and other stakeholder meetings have been held.  A peer reviewed report, “ <i>Research into Alternatives to the Use of 1080 for Browsing Damage Management in Tasmania</i> ” has been prepared (released 3 August 2006)  The Australian Government has provided funding for the program in accordance with the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement and the schedule in the Operating Plan.
41	The State to develop a pilot wallaby management plan for a forested area on Tasmania’s mainland as a priority	ASAP	Drafting of a wallaby management plan for the State, including forested areas, has commenced, with completion expected in 2007.
42	The Commonwealth to progress the regulatory process for the wallaby management plans for Flinders and King Islands and the proposed mainland area referred to in clause 41 under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Ongoing	The Wallaby Management Plans for Flinders and King Island were approved on 30 November 2005 but have been appealed by a third party to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.  No action is required on the pilot mainland plan until the State submits it for approval.
44	The State to deliver low-impact access roading to and management of special timber management units on State forest for selective harvesting and access to leatherwood apiary sites to maintain sustainable supplies of leatherwood honey	2007	Priority areas for new access were identified in the Huon, Derwent and Murchison forestry districts in consultation with special species industry and leatherwood beekeepers.  72 km of new roads identified. Forest Practices planning commenced.  14 km of new low impact roading constructed.



Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
45	<p>The State to revise the Permanent Forest Estate Policy so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 95 per cent of the 1996 area of native forest will be retained</li> <li>- broad scale clearing and conversion of native forest on public land will be phased out by 2010</li> <li>- broad scale clearing and conversion of native forest on private land will be phased out by 2015; and assessment criteria for regulating forest clearing and conversion ensure regional biodiversity and water quality values will be protected and salinity objectives met</li> </ul>	November 2005	<p>Completed.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government revised the Permanent Forest Estate Policy to include the agreed policy provisions. It was publicly released on 14 November 2005 - see <a href="http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/LBUN-6J563R?open">http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/LBUN-6J563R?open</a>.</p>
46	The State will design the approach outlined in clause 45 in consultation with the Commonwealth and implement the approach, including publicly release of the revised Permanent Forest Estate Policy	November 2005	<p>The policy was revised in consultation with the Commonwealth. The Policy released in November 2005 includes a requirement for development of implementation guidelines in consultation with stakeholders. The guidelines will clarify issues of definitions and implementation required to achieve the objectives of the policy.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2006 the implementation guidelines were still under development in consultation with key stakeholders. .</p>
47	Controls on private forest clearing and plantation conversion will not constrain private forest owners from undertaking sustainable commercial harvesting and regeneration of native forests and other land uses on their land that maintain the native forest cover	Ongoing	The revised policy specifically provides that sustainable commercial harvesting and regeneration of native forests and other land uses that maintain the native forest cover are not constrained by the policy.
48	The State to introduce new statutory mechanisms to Parliament to prevent clearing and conversion of threatened non-forest vegetation communities on public and private land and use best endeavours to secure the enactment of the proposals	December 2005	<p>Legislation to prevent the clearing and conversion of threatened non-forest vegetation was introduced to the Tasmanian Parliament on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2005.</p> <p>A substantial public consultation process on the Bills was conducted during the summer Parliamentary recess during December 2005 – February 2006. The Bills were revised to take account of stakeholder comment and re-tabled in Parliament following the April 2006 State election.</p> <p>Parliament is expected to again consider the Bills in September/October 2006.</p>
48	The Parties to amend the 2003 Natural Heritage Trust 2 Bilateral Agreement consistent with this Clause	No date	<p>Completed.</p> <p>The Bilateral Agreement has been amended and agreed by Ministers from both Governments.</p> <p>Actions and milestones in the original financial agreement have been revised to ensure consistency with the amended Bilateral Agreement.</p>

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
53	The Parties agree to jointly manage a program to facilitate industry retooling and investment in new plant and technology with the aim to maximise recovery of forest products from use of regrowth, plantation and other changes in the resource mix	30 June 2008	<p>Three programs funded and administered by the Australian Government have been jointly established –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forest Industry Development Program (TFIDP)</li> <li>- Softwood Industry Development Program (TSIDP)</li> <li>- Country Sawmillers Assistance Program (TCSAP)</li> </ul> <p>An Advisory Committee was established by relevant Ministers in August 2005 to assess applications for funding and make recommendations to Ministers.</p> <p>Following consultations between the Parties and with the forest industry, Ministers approved guidelines for the three programs on 12 October 2005.</p> <p>Advertisements were placed in newspapers calling for applications or expressions of interest.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2006, 92 applications had been received under the TFIDP seeking grants totalling \$73.1 million to support investments of nearly \$185.2 million.</p> <p>At 30 June 2006, Ministers had approved ten TFIDP applications for grants totalling \$2,502,364 that support total investments of over \$10 million. The approved applications include purchase of new plantation and regrowth harvesting equipment, plantation pruning equipment, and sawmill and kiln drying upgrades to process small and young logs.</p> <p>Details of the TSIDP are provided at clause 63 and the TCSAP at clause 55.</p>
54	The Parties to consult with industry to determine priority areas for funding [of the program in clause 53]	No date	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Industry was consulted in the development of the guidelines for funding applications for the three programs. The priority areas for funding are detailed in the guidelines.</p>
55	The Parties to provide assistance to country sawmillers and to special species timber mills significantly affected by the new agreed reserves in north-west Tasmania	30 June 2007	<p>The Commonwealth established and administers the Country Sawmillers Assistance Program (TCSAP) in consultation with Tasmania.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2006, 33 applications had been received under the TCSAP seeking grants totalling \$5.6 million to support investments of nearly \$11.9 million.</p> <p>At 30 June 2006 Ministers had approved eight TCSAP applications for grants totalling \$386,883 that support total investments of over \$770,000. The approved applications are all for the purchase or upgrade of equipment at country sawmills.</p> <p>The Tasmanian Government has provided specific grants to Britton Bros (Smithton) and Corinna Timbers (Somerset) to assist these mills adjust to the loss of special timbers resource from the areas reserved in the Agreement in north-west Tasmania. The grants are assisting the retooling and upgrade of the Smithton mill and installation of new kiln drying facilities at the Somerset mill to enable the mills to utilise a different log resource mix.</p>

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
56	The Parties to provide assistance for improved marketing, recovery and value adding for special species timbers	No date	Forestry Tasmania has developed a business plan in consultation with special species timbers stakeholders. Forestry Tasmania is reviewing the strategy for supply of special species timbers from State Forests.
58	The State to implement publicly accountable systems for monitoring the impact of residue harvesting for biomass energy plants on biodiversity	No date	No biomass energy plants have been established to date.
59	The Parties to fund and the State to deliver additional roading and other infrastructure to support implementation of changed harvesting programs required for the introduction of new silviculture in public old growth forests	No date	Forestry Tasmania has expended \$4 million as part of its overall roading program to adjust to new harvesting requirements. Final stages of planned infrastructure on the Southwood Huon site have been progressed.
60	The Parties to progress all required assessment processes of the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> for a pulp mill in Tasmania	As a priority	The proposal by Gunns Ltd to build a pulp mill at Bell Bay on the Tamar estuary is currently being assessed at the Integrated Assessment Statement level under the <i>Tasmanian State Policies and Projects Act 1993</i> , a process accredited by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage Environment, under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> . When this process has been completed, an assessment report will be provided to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage Environment to facilitate a decision to approve the project or not, and if so under what conditions.
62	The Commonwealth to consider giving the Gunns pulp mill project major project status and facilitation of the project at the national level	No date	Completed. The proposed pulp mill was given Major Project Facilitation status on 2 June 2005 by the Australian Government Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane.
63	The Commonwealth to fund and administer, in cooperation with the State, a \$10 million Tasmanian softwood industry assistance program	30 June 2008	As at 30 June 2006, 21 applications had been received under the Softwood Industry Development Program (TSIDP) seeking grants totalling \$27 million to support investments of nearly \$79 million. At 30 June 2006, Ministers had approved four TSIDP applications for grants totalling \$2,169,754 that support total investments of over \$8.6 million.
64	The Commonwealth to consult with the State and the Tasmanian softwood industry to determine the priorities to increase value added investment in softwood in Tasmania	No date	Completed. The Commonwealth consulted the State and the softwood industry in the development of the guidelines for funding applications for the TSIDP. The priority areas for funding are detailed in the guidelines.
66	The Commonwealth to fund [\$4 million] and administer a program to support improved training and skills development throughout the forestry sector, including environmental care, changing forest management and wood processing, safety, product quality and business skills	30 June 2009	This commitment is being delivered by the Forest and Forest Products Employment Skills Company under an agreement signed with the Department of Education, Science and Training in June 2006. A project plan is being developed with a view to beginning implementation towards the end of 2006.

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
67	The Parties to fund the development of forest tourism and visitor facilities focusing on new reserves on public land created under this Supplementary Agreement	30 June 2007	<p>Planning for the Maydena Hauler development is being progressed. Forestry Tasmania has scoped the feasibility of some potential developments in the Tarkine and has upgraded the South Arthur Forest Drive – edge of the Tarkine – as an access point. Signage and interpretation in the new Tall Trees Forest Reserves in the Styx valley have been upgraded.</p> <p>The Australian Government will fund and administer a \$2 million grants program to improve visitor facilities in forest areas of Tasmania, focussing on the new reserves created as part of the TCFA. A strategic plan and funding guidelines are being prepared in consultation with stakeholders.</p>
68	The Commonwealth to fund and administer, in cooperation with the State, and subject to any State approval processes, a \$1 million program towards the provision of bushwalking infrastructure in north west Tasmania	30 June 2007	A steering committee, on which the Tasmanian Government is represented, will be established. The objective is to ensure investments are made that support Tasmania's long-term tourism and conservation interests in the Tarkine region. A strategic plan and funding guidelines are being prepared in consultation with stakeholders.
69	The Commonwealth to provide \$1 million to a catchment water quality program to be developed and delivered in consultation with the State and drawing on CSIRO expertise, and building on State chemical audit and water monitoring programs to assess the impact of chemical usage in Tasmania's water catchments.	30 June 2007	<p>The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage and the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water (DPIW) have signed a Funding Agreement for this program. The Agreement includes agreed objectives, governance arrangements, reporting requirements and program activities and milestones.</p> <p>A project manager, management committee and a consultative committee have been appointed.</p> <p>Contracts for the respective individual projects to implement the initiative have been signed between DPIW/CSIRO, DPIW/Forestry Tasmania and DPIW/University of Tasmania.</p>
70	The Parties to support State research into the Tasmanian devil facial tumour disease through a collaborative partnership	No date	<p>The Parties have signed a Funding Agreement for the collaborative Australian Government funded program. The Agreement identifies research projects to be funded.</p> <p>Work has progressed in accordance with the project plan. A Steering Committee is to be convened in July 2006 to determine project priorities and expenditure for 2006/07.</p> <p>A progress and annual report have been provided to the Australian Government.</p>
71	The Commonwealth to provide \$2 million to specific priority projects [on research into the Tasmanian devil facial tumour disease] developed in consultation with the State	30 June 2007	<p>The Commonwealth provided \$1,659,818 (ex GST) in funding for the program in 2005-06.</p> <p>A budget of \$426,000 has contributed to establishing an insurance population, created by translocating devils that show no sign of the tumour.</p>

Clause	Commitment	Milestone	Progress with Implementation
72	The Commonwealth to provide \$2.2 million for a communication program to be delivered in consultation with the State	30 June 2006	The Parties jointly developed and delivered communication about the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement after it was signed. The Commonwealth provided funding to support this stage of the program.  The Parties have had discussions on the development of a further agreed joint communications strategy using the remaining funding..
75	The Commonwealth to contribute to the State \$66 million towards intensive forest management activities and \$13 million as a general grant	30 June 2008	The intensive forest management payment is to be paid over four financial years. To date the Commonwealth has paid \$29 million.  The \$13 million general grant was paid in June 2005.
76	The Commonwealth will contribute: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$2 million towards research into alternatives to clearfelling</li> <li>- \$42 million towards support for the hardwood sawmill industry</li> <li>- \$4 million towards support for country sawmillers</li> <li>- \$2.2 million towards a communication program</li> <li>- \$2 million towards tourism and recreation projects</li> </ul>	30 June 2006 30 June 2008 30 June 2007 30 June 2006 30 June 2007	The \$2 million has been paid to Tasmania.  See comments for clause 53.  See comments for clause 55.  See comments for clause 72.  See comments for clause 67.
77	The State will contribute \$90 million towards the package with specific allocations and stated expenditure profiles outlined in Tables 1 and 4 of Attachment 2.	30 June 2010	Tasmania has contributed funding in accordance with progressive expenditure under the TCFA.
79	The State to provide the Commonwealth with annual acquittal reports and proposed activity statement on Intensive Forest Management funds	Annually	Acquittal reports and proposed activity statements for the IFM program have been provided to the Commonwealth in accordance with the requirements of clause 79.

## Acronyms

CAR	Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
CRA	Comprehensive Regional Assessment
IFM	Intensive Forest Management
GST	Goods and Services Tax
NHT	Natural Heritage Trust
RFA	Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (1997)
TCFA	Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement (2005)
TCSAP	Tasmanian Country Sawmillers Assistance Program
TFIDP	Tasmanian Forest Industry Development Program
TSIDP	Tasmanian Softwood Industry Development Program