



7 March 2006

## **THE FACTS THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY WHATS TO HIDE FROM VOTES**

There are one million reasons why the Wilderness Society is being dishonest with voters in their latest election campaign stunt for the political Greens party.

It is very clear that the Greens and their election campaigners at the Wilderness Society don't want voters know the facts about Tasmania's world class forest reserve system that includes one million hectares of old growth forest reserved for conservation along with the massive reservation of 97% of all high quality wilderness.

"For a so called wilderness organization stooping to hide from voters Tasmania's world class forest and wilderness conservation achievements is nothing more than being dishonest with voters" Barry Chipman State Manager Timber Communities Australia said today.

To return openness and honesty to the debate for the benefit of voters TCA is providing the referenced facts the Greens want hidden.

Fact 1 Tasmania has a land mass of 6,840,000ha

Fact 2 Tasmania's total land mass in conservation reserves is **2,935,000ha** (42%)

Fact 3 Included in Tasmania's total land mass is a total forest cover of **3,207,250ha**

Fact 4 Tasmania's total forest cover in reserve is **1,442,440ha** (45%) (This is part of the total land mass in reserve)

Fact 5 Tasmania's existing old growth forest cover is **1,246,000ha** (this is part of the total forest cover)

Fact 6 Tasmania's existing old growth forest reserved is **1,002,480ha** (this is part of the total forest reserved)

Fact 7 Tasmania's assessed high quality wilderness is **1,943,570ha**

Fact 8 Tasmania's assessed high quality wilderness reserved is **1,885,300ha** (97%)

With the truth voters now have every right to be proud of Tasmania's world class conservation achievement, even more when the forest conservation target set by the International Convention on Biological Diversity is just 10%. Mr Chipman concluded

Ends

For more information contact Barry Chipman on 6260 4442 or 0417 013336