



REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT

Fact Sheet

The Derwent Valley

The Regional Forest Agreement - Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reservation

The Regional Forest Agreement was signed by the Tasmanian and Commonwealth Governments in November 1997. As part of this agreement, an additional 396,000 hectares of public land were added to Tasmania's reserves, increasing public land in reserves by 17%.

The areas reserved were chosen to create a world class CAR forest reserve system for Tasmania. CAR means a forest reserve system that is:

Comprehensive - covering the full range of different forest communities.

Adequate - with areas large enough to sustain, in the long-term, the survival of animal and plant populations.

Representative - reflecting the diversity of life in the forests.

RFA Conservation gains in the Derwent District and Derwent Valley

30 000 ha of new formal reserves have been created in the District. The total area of formal reserves in the District is now 423 000 hectares or 56% of public land.

The RFA has added to the reserve system:

- 15 000 ha of new National Parks (Tasman, Beech Creek, Styx River, Upper Florentine, Tiger Range);
- 11 000 ha of other new reserves to be managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service (includes areas at Cape Bernier, Thumbs, Pine Tier, Nubeena); and
- 4 000 ha of new Forest Reserves to be managed by Forestry Tasmania (includes Mt Dromedary, Mt Morrison, Tarraleah).

The new reserves are primarily for the protection of additional areas of old growth forest, create new National Parks, and protection of high quality wilderness areas.

Reservation of public forest in the Derwent District

- Public forest in the District is 400 000 ha. - of this, 199 000 ha or 50% is reserved.
- Old growth forest on public land in the District is 183 000 ha. - of this, 123 000 ha or 67% is reserved.
- High quality wilderness in the District is 296 000 ha. - of this, 279 000 ha or 94% is reserved.

Plantation expansion post-RFA in the Derwent District

To maintain wood production and to support forest industries within Tasmania, more intensive management of wood production forest is necessary to compensate for the increase in reservation.

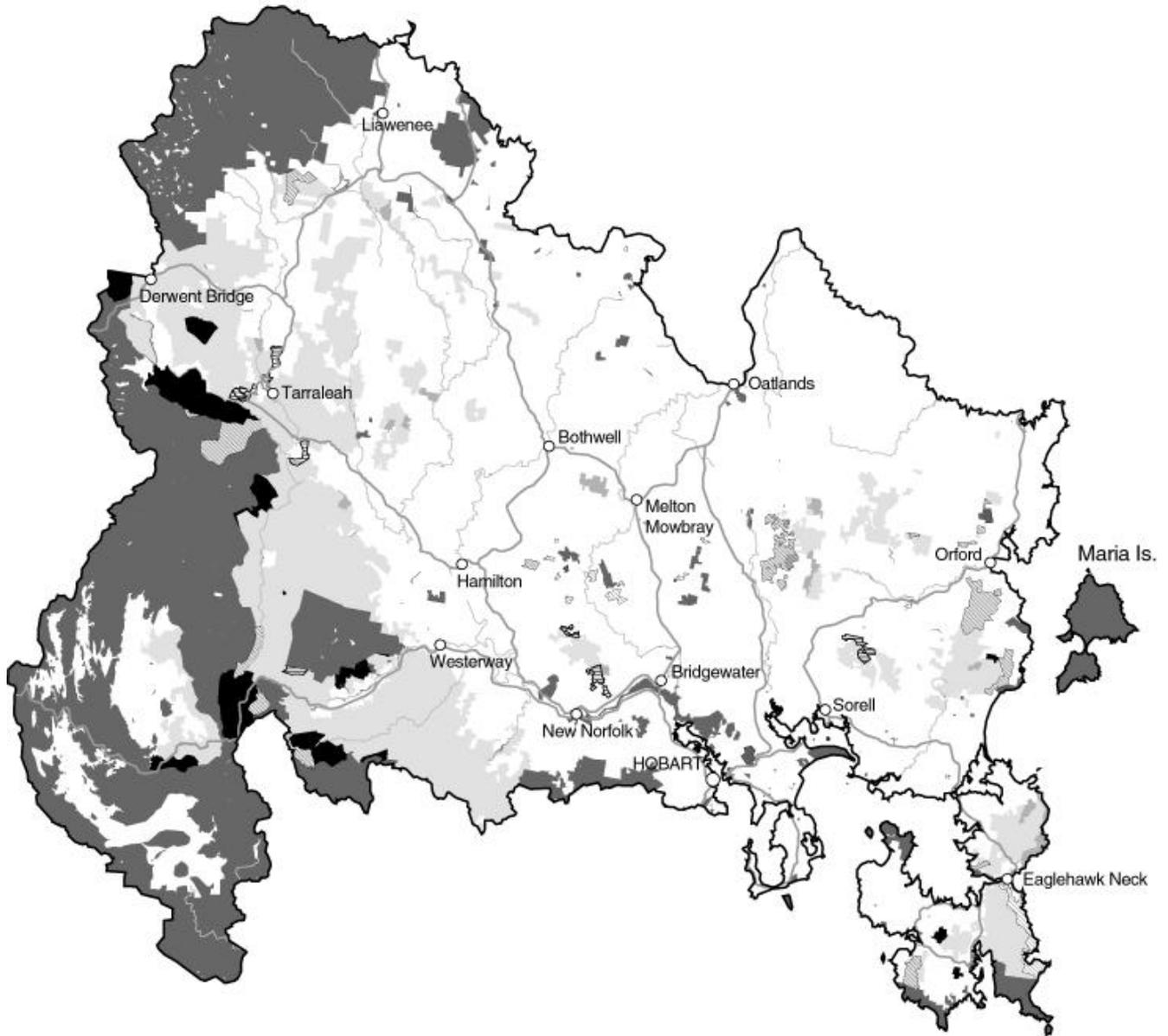
The RFA provided \$67M for sustainable wood production to be developed on less land through Intensive Forest Management (IFM) programs.

IFM improves yield and quality through:

- establishing plantations on cleared land or by converting native forest; and
- thinning native forest regrowth. Forestry Tasmania's plantation expansion program is part of this IFM program. Over the next ten years, plantation expansion and thinning will increase to 100 000 hectares on State forest, taking Tasmania's forest resource to worldscale, to attract industry and foster downstream processing of forest products within the State.

SEE MAP OVERLEAF

Derwent District



LEGEND	
Pre RFA	
	State forest
	Forest Reserve
	Crown Reserve
Post RFA	
	New Multiple Use Forest
	New Forest Reserve
	New Crown Reserve

