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TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

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Celebrating Tasmania's forests

Tasmania's forestry sector is a critical contributor to our state's economy and provides vital employment and opportunities for many regional communities.

Today marks International Day of the Forests and I am proud of our world class Forest Practices System that delivers ecologically sustainable forest management.

We have always stated that we have full confidence in our Regional Forest Agreement and our sustainable forest management practices.

The System continues to provide the necessary protections to ensure environmental, social and economic values are appropriately managed. Tasmania hosts world leading conservation, forest protection and land management.

We have one of the highest proportions of reserved land on the planet, with more than 51 per cent of our land is formally reserved. We also protect more than one million hectares of Tasmania's old growth forests.

Tasmania is lucky enough to have large productive forest that sequesters carbon and provides society with low emissions products.

Our sustainable forest industry is the ultimate renewable, producing appearance-grade forest products and eucalypt sawlogs and veneer logs. These provide hard, durable, appearance grade timber suitable for flooring, stair treads, construction and architectural uses. – In people's homes and workplaces.

Sustainable forest management can also lower greenhouse gas emissions and can contribute to climate change adaptation. Forest management is widely recognised as an important tool in preventing and fighting fires by managing fuel loads and providing access to fight fires.

Tasmanians can be proud of our responsible, sustainable Forest Management System and the Government's commitment to continually improve practices while supporting the sector which employs thousands of

Tasmanians, injects more than \$1.2 billion into our economy and supports regional communities and families.