

FACT SHEET

Forestry (Unlocking Production Forests) Bill 2017

The Forestry (Unlocking Production Forests) Bill 2017 amends the *Forestry (Rebuilding the Forest Industry) Act 2014*, *Crown Lands Act 1976*, *Forest Management Act 2014*, *Nature Conservation Act 2002* and the *Forest Practices Regulations 2007* and implements a new management framework for the area of land currently identified as future potential production forest land.

The Bill:

- converts 356 000 hectares of future potential production forest land, located outside of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, to Production Forest Land;
- permits native forest harvesting on Production Forest Land from 1 July 2018;
- makes the Minister for Resources responsible for approval of forest harvesting on Production Forest Land, that is Crown land;
- allows the Minister to make Production Forest Land available, to the private sector, for forest harvesting, for periods of up to 10 years;
- allows for access to special species timber, by partial harvesting, from October 2017, consistent with existing statutory provisions;
- permits Forestry Tasmania to complete operations in transition coupes specified in the *Forestry (Rebuilding the Forest Industry) Act 2014* but otherwise prohibits Forestry Tasmania from harvesting Production Forest Land; and
- permits Forestry Tasmania to meet its statutory obligations to make available to industry a minimum of 137 000 cubic metres of high quality sawlogs, with logs sourced from within, and outside of, the permanent timber production zone land.