

REPORT OF SAVEYOURLEATHERWOODHONEY ASS. INC.

We certainly do live in interesting times.

During the last 4 months -

- the World Heritage Nomination by the Commonwealth Government was approved by the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO.
- the Legislative Council passed the Tasmanian Forest Agreement (TFA) legislation with amendments which included the requirement that Forestry Tasmania obtain FSC Accreditation by 2014
- a new 3 year Timber Harvesting Plan for the Huon District was prepared by Forestry Tasmania
- a new 3 year Timber Harvesting Plan for the Derwent District was announced as being close to completion by Forestry Tasmania
- a new 3 year Timber Harvesting Plan for so much of the Black Bee Reserve as is not in either the new World Heritage area or the TFA reserves will be included in the Derwent District plan and will be available when completed
- a harvesting time schedule for the Huon District has just been completed and by the time this Report is published, ground inspections will have commenced in the date order of harvesting as shown in the schedule
- further open cut mines in the Tarkine were announced to be imminent or approved
- the manager of Forestry Tasmania Bob Annells, announced that it was intended to apply for the FSC Accreditation on the terms set by the Legislative Council.

This Association`s activities arising out of the above have been as follows –

- informing beekeepers of the new World Heritage Boundaries
- checking that all previously planned harvesting coupes in the Huon District and now within the new World Heritage area have been withdrawn from the harvesting schedule

- researching the nature and affect of FSC Accreditation, including attending an all day seminar and talking to FSC officers and examining the FSC website
- assessing the benefits to the beekeeping industry in being involved in the procedure of FSC setting Australian Standards for Forest use (currently being set), and in the assessment of Forestry Tasmania`s application for accreditation
- briefing the Tasmanian Beekeepers Association Executive on the importance of being involved in the FSC processes
- obtaining and drafting an application for noting as a stakeholder and for membership of the FSC, for completion by the Tasmanian Beekeepers Association
- researching the likely impact of open cut mining in the Tarkine on hive sites and the leatherwood resource
- preparing a memorandum of advice to beekeepers with sites in the Tarkine as to how they can individually check the records of actual and potential mines and assess the effect on hive sites
- making a submission to Forestry Tasmania to have Apiary included as a mandatory planning consideration in all Forest Practises Plans in the Derwent District. This would mirror the procedure in the Huon District
- inspecting the Huon 3 year plan with relevant beekeepers to assess its impact on hive sites.

Some of the above deal with short term issues only, but the Industry`s involvement in the FSC process is of prime long term importance. It has the potential to **permanently** influence the affect of timber harvesting in State Forest well into the future, which in turn affects the beekeeping resource well into the future.

Anyone wanting to discuss or be briefed on the FSC process, (or anything else referred to in this report), are welcome to contact the author. He will do his best to explain/clarify the situation.

Bob Davey (President). 5th August 2013.