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BOB BROWN'S HEROIC STAND

Wielangta Win a Landmark for Threatened Species

The Tasmanian Greens have lauded Senator Bob Brown as an environmental hero whose courage in launching a landmark court case has set a legal precedent which sweeps aside forestry spin to acknowledge the illegality of Wielangta forest logging.

Greens Opposition Leader Peg Putt MHA said that threatened species great and small that are in the way of forest industry chainsaws around

Australia have a champion whose dedication to their cause, and to the pursuit of scientific and legal arguments to secure their future, is inspirational and unstinting.

"Thank goodness for the courage and fortitude of our own environmental hero Bob Brown, because in daring to take on the might of Forestry Tasmania and the Commonwealth and Tasmanian governments he has won a landmark victory," Ms Putt said.

"Threatened species across this land have a great champion and protector, and the many people who care deeply have an inspiring role model in this great man."

More information: Senator Bob Brown's Wielangta campaign page - http://www.bobbrown.org.au/300_campaigns_sub.php?&deptItemID=28

THANKS TO FIRIES

Concern Over Community Losses

The Tasmanian Greens have expressed their gratitude to fire fighters around Tasmania and especially at the Scamander fire.

Greens Opposition Leader Peg Putt MHA also expressed her Party's concern for people who have lost property or are affected by the huge blazes.

"The Greens join others in expressing our gratitude to the fire fighters who have done a terrific job in the face of extreme events,

and we share the concerns of so many in our community about those who have lost property or been affected in other ways," Ms Putt said.

"No doubt Tasmanians will again show their generous hearts and we will see an outpouring of community support and assistance."

"Obviously the fire danger has not yet subsided and our thoughts are with all involved."

COMING SOON THE GREEN VOICE

This is the last edition of Greenweek. Starting early in 2007 *Greenweek* will be replaced with a new monthly newsletter, *The Green Voice*.

Campaign Information

The Green Voice will give you a brief look back at the campaigns and issues of the month past, as well as a look at the campaigns that will shape the month ahead.

More Links

The Green Voice will come to your inbox packed with links to more information

including podcasts, [RSS newsfeeds](#), [upcoming events](#), [campaign web pages](#), and more!



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TAS ROADS CANNOT HANDLE B-TRIPLES

The Tasmanian Greens have expressed alarm at the possibility of B-triple trucks being allowed on any Tasmanian roads and are seeking an assurance that if the rail network needs greater investment then that will happen rather than allow B-triples on roads that are already substandard in many parts for the existing heavy trucks.

Greens Shadow Infrastructure spokesperson Tim Morris MHA said that the Government is on the right track in taking control of the Tasmanian rail network, but must rule out B-triples.

Mr Morris said that the government understand that it may require a bit more investment than is currently planned in order to ensure that rail can deliver the freight task for Tasmania and ensure that there is no need to introduce ever larger trucks causing ever more damage to our roads and emitting greenhouse gases.

Mr Morris said "Tasmanian roads, even many sections of the highway from Burnie to Hobart are substandard for the larger trucks already using the highway, so to contemplate the introduction of B-triples is inappropriate from both safety and road damage points of view."

"It is critical that the rail be used wherever possible and practicable for moving bulk freight and containers and that the roads be left for light and local freight movement."

TOTE INQUIRY INTO RACING INDUSTRY IMPACT "CURIOUS"

The Tasmanian Greens have described as curious the Government's announcement of a study to assess the Tasmanian racing industry's contribution to the State, and have queried whether in fact this study is a precursor to the eventual privatisation of TOTE Tasmania.

Greens Shadow Racing spokesperson Kim Booth MHA said that people could be forgiven for suspecting that this may be a rear-guard action to try and provide a positive spin to distract from growing anger over the controversial Elwick co-location bungle and concerns over other aspects of TOTE's financials.

WHAT IS MINISTER WREIDT DOING ON MACQUARIE ISLAND CRISIS?

The Tasmanian Greens have queried the long running silence from Tasmania's Minister for Tourism, Parks and Heritage over the crisis facing Macquarie Island, a Tasmanian World Heritage property.

Greens Opposition Leader and Shadow spokesperson on Tourism, Parks & Heritage, Peg Putt MHA, said that landslide damage resulting from an uncontrolled explosion in the rabbit population was affecting wildlife and tourism, and that both a sign-off on the eradication plan and a funding commitment to contribute to its implementation were urgently required.

Ms Putt pointed out that time is of the essence, that eradication efforts must be in place by next winter, and that the survival of albatross species was at stake.

"Here we have a pressing erosion problem being caused by rabbits and time is of the essence, yet we have had months of silence from the responsible Minister in Tasmania and absolutely no commitment to any urgent action or to fund the eradication plan," Ms Putt said.

"Albatross species are under threat, a mudslide has decimated a penguin colony, and tourism is being affected with a key boardwalk to a viewing platform now closed due to safety concerns caused by the massive erosion."

"It is simply unacceptable that the Tasmanian government can bring down a cone of silence to cover their lack of action."

KINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL CONTROVERSY CAN EASILY BE RESOLVED

The Tasmanian Greens last week said that the controversy over a new Kingston High School could be resolved by the government reversing its decision to fund the project from the Education Department's Capital Investment Program (CIP).

Greens Shadow Education spokesperson Nick McKim MHA said that the decision to fund the proposed new school from the CIP is wrong, because it means that a new school at Kingston can only be built at the expense of much needed improvements at other schools.

"A new school should be built at Kingston, but it should be funded from Consolidated Revenue and the sale of the land on which Kingston High School currently stands,

not at the expense of much needed infrastructure upgrades at other schools," Mr McKim said.

"The government is hoping to get out of its election commitment to build a new school at Kingston by playing school communities off against each other, which is divisive and wrong."

"There are many schools in southern Tasmania with a desperate need for infrastructure upgrades, and Labor's decision to fund a new Kingston High School from the CIP has duded other school communities which rightfully believe that their schools need urgent infrastructure upgrades."

From all the Tasmanian Greens state parliamentarians
Best wishes for the new year!

Your Greens Representatives in Tasmania's State Parliament



Peg Putt
Denison



Nick McKim
Franklin



Kim Booth
Bass



Tim Morris
Lyons

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