

# Aboriginal Heritage Policy

## Background

Sustainable Timber Tasmania is responsible for land management and wood production in Tasmania's Permanent Timber Production Zone. Sustainable Timber Tasmania recognises the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as traditional custodians of the land and the significance of heritage, including places, objects and stories, for maintaining continuous links with the land. Sustainable Timber Tasmania acknowledges the historical, cultural and spiritual values of Aboriginal heritage in Tasmania's production forests and recognises its shared responsibility to conserve it.

## Objective

The purpose of this policy is to provide the principles by which Sustainable Timber Tasmania will manage places of Aboriginal heritage within the Tasmanian production forest landscape. Under this policy, and in collaboration with Aboriginal communities, Sustainable Timber Tasmania will:

- Foster positive and respectful relationships with local Aboriginal communities and relevant statutory bodies and agencies to inform and guide forest planning and management activities;
- Identify, protect and manage places of Aboriginal cultural significance in accordance with the Forest Practices Code, the Australian ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013 and the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*;
- Explore and promote participation, economic and employment opportunities for Aboriginal communities to maintain the link with their heritage;
- Develop and implement appropriate training to assist staff gain an awareness of Aboriginal culture and allow for identification of Aboriginal heritage.



Steve Whiteley, Chief Executive Officer

9<sup>th</sup> April 2018