



Peg Putt MHA GREENS OPPOSITION LEADER

Sunday, 7 SEPTEMBER 2003

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SWAMP EYEBRIGHT THREATENED BY RECHERCHE BAY LOGGING ACCESS ROAD

The Tasmanian Greens used today, which is National Threatened Species Day, to expose the threat to survival of the critically endangered swamp eyebright posed by the proposed logging road through the Southport Lagoon Conservation Area which would enable the controversial private land logging of the north east peninsula of Recherche Bay.

Greens Opposition Leader and spokesperson on Parks, Heritage and Forestry, Peg Putt MHA, released the listing statements prepared under both Commonwealth and Tasmanian law, which highlight the proposed road and its probable use by 4WD vehicles as the main threat to the very survival of the small perennial herb, which is found only in this area.

Ms Putt called on the Premier to immediately rule out any go-ahead for this road, pointing out that there is no way the impacts could be satisfactorily managed on the ground given the routine disregard for track management by 4WD vehicles in this conservation area.

“A critically endangered species, the swamp eyebright which is found only in the Southport Lagoon Conservation Area is formally listed here and in Canberra as having its very survival threatened by the proposed logging access to Recherche Bay,” Ms Putt said.

“This means that the logging access simply must not be opened up or we will see this endemic Tasmanian flowering herb go extinct.”

“Here is also another imperative to reconsider the controversial plans to log the north-east peninsula of Recherche Bay where the historically important French garden was recently re-discovered.”

For Comment: Office of the Tasmanian Greens MHAs on 6233 8300

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“It is appalling enough that government would ever contemplate creating a logging access road through a reserve, and completely unacceptable when that road would also spell extinction for a threatened species.”

“Jim Bacon must put an end to this environmental travesty and use National Threatened Species Day to do so.”

ATTACHED:

- **Tasmanian (4 pgs) and Commonwealth Threatened Species (2 pgs) Listing Statements for the swamp eyebright.**
- **Photographs of 4WD track braiding damage in Southport Lagoon Conservation Area, north-east peninsula of Recherche Bay. Taken circa April 2003, (2 pgs).**