

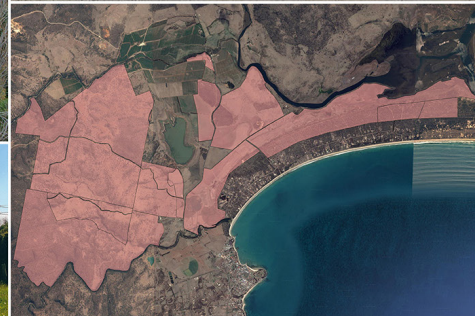
tasmanian conservation trust
celebrating over 50 years of protecting Tasmania's unique environment

Annual Report & Audited Financial Statement

2019-2020

THIS REPORT CONTAINS

TCT Council and Staff details
TCT Council report
Director's report
Fundraising & Community Engagement Coordinator's report
Audited Financial Statement



TCT Council 2019-2020

Tim Morris	34 Stephen St, New Norfolk 7140
Trish Baily	741 Nubeena Back Road, Koonya 7189
Anne Layton-Bennett	514 Los Angelos Road, Swan Bay 7252
Robyn McNicol	3246 South Arm Road, South Arm 7020
Jarrah Vercoe	9 Avon Road, South Hobart 7004

North West Branch

Mavis Rowlands	143 Brickport Road, Burnie 7320
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Retirements during the year:

Michael Lynch, Helen Prior, Christian Bell, Phillip Hoysted, Phil Anstie, Richard Hatcher, Kim Booth, Alistair Graham.

TCT Staff 2019-2020

Peter McGlone	Director
Jon Bryan	Marine Campaigner
Oliver Cassidy	Office Manager
Jack Redpath	Fundraising and Community Engagement Coordinator
Leigh Craven	Office Support Officer

TCT and Kingborough Council Partnership

Kaylene Allan	Kingborough Cat Management Officer
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Special thanks to these people for their exceptional work in their own campaigns and in supporting the work of the TCT: Blake Laurent, Anh Quan Le, Patsy Jones

Front Cover image credit: Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania. Graphic design: Beverly Waldie, Coalface Design & Production.

Skyscrapers in Hobart: Artist's impression of the previously proposed 200 metre Fragrance skyscraper in Hobart. Image: Tasmanian Conservation Trust.

Cambria Green mega-development on Tasmania's east coast: Extent of the 3000+ ha Cambria Green zoning amendment proposed for Tasmania's largest tourism development ever. Image: Freycinet Action Network.

kunanyi/Mt Wellington Cable Car: Over 5000 people rallied to support the protection of kunanyi/Mt Wellington from a cable car and commercial development on its summit. Image: Rob Blakers & Residents Opposed to the Cable Car.

Westbury Prison: Westbury locals opposing a prison being built in close proximity to their community. Image: Westbury Region Against the Prison.

Transmission lines & Towers: Artist Impression of Transmission Line and Towers in Loongana Valley dissecting the Penguin to Cradle Trail. Image: SOLVE - Supporting Our Loongana Valley Environment.

TCT Council Report



Photo of new president, Tim Morris

It has been a year of change for the TCT Council. With Michael Lynch, Helen Pryor, Phillip Hoysted, Phil Anstie, Alistair Graham and Christian Bell departing the Council, and Richard Hatcher's position being terminated after failing to attend three meetings without notice – as per the Constitution – there was an urgent requirement to recruit other members to make up a quorum.

Meetings continued to be held, which were deemed constitutionally legal according to Clause 26 (3). Since April we have been holding regular monthly meetings and the Trust is running well and carrying out its functions as intended.

The current Council members are Tim Morris, President; Robyn McNicol, Secretary and Public Officer; Jarrah Vercoe, Treasurer; Anne Layton-Bennett and Trish Bailey.

The Council would like to thank our very generous donors since none of the Trust's work is possible without you.

TCT's financial situation is better than in the previous few years and all accounts have been paid as they fell due.

The Council recognised the need to review and revise the Constitution in order to better reflect modern governance practices, and the way we operate. One of our plans is to substantially increase the TCT membership, beginning with encouraging as many of our Supporters as possible to become TCT Members. We also recognise our database needs to be upgraded to better manage and communicate with our members and supporters.

The coronavirus has resulted in all meetings since late March being conducted by Zoom – which we've found works very well. We will continue to use this tool for our meetings, because it removes the need for councillors outside of the greater Hobart area to travel. We anticipate this being an opportunity to encourage potential councillors from across

the state to nominate for the board, which in turn will help to provide diversity of knowledge and skills, and a stronger representation.

Increasing Councillor numbers is important, not just so a wider range of views is heard but also to benefit from the varied experiences and life skills each person can offer. We therefore strongly encourage those in our membership to consider stepping forward to offer their unique and valuable input. We stress that the ability to undertake our role properly is unsustainable unless additional Councillors can be recruited.

We thank Peter, Oliver, Jack, Jon, Leigh and Kaylene for the outstanding contributions and support you have given to the Trust, and its members and Councillors. Your work is invaluable in supporting individuals and communities better care for and protect their environments.

Plans to draft a Strategic Plan for the coming year(s) are underway, which we aim to have open for comment and consultation with members as soon as possible. The Plan will provide a 'roadmap' for the issues deemed to be priority ones to focus on, and the direction we need to take to achieve positive outcomes. The Plan will also provide clarity, and a focus about where our resources and energies should be directed for the next 12 months.

The Council is excited about the Trust's future and its ability to help communities preserve and protect Tasmania's natural environment, and its cultural, built and Indigenous heritage.



Director's Report

Peter McGlone

Our campaigning success in recent years has been due in large part to our ability to collaborate with a large variety of community organisations and individuals and being able to add value to what they are already doing. I acknowledge some of our partners in the report.

Major Projects Bill

The state government's third iteration of its Major Projects Bill (MPB) was released in March 2020. Following a controversial consultation during the peak of the COVID19 crisis the bill was finalised and passed by the House of Assembly on 26 August 2020. This controversial piece of legislation has been the TCT's main focus for the last four months for very important reasons. If it is allowed to pass unamended it will represent an Armageddon for the planning system in Tasmania giving any future government the power to force through any development, on public and private land, ignoring community sentiment and over turning decisions of local councils and the Planning Appeals Tribunal.

The MPB gives developers special treatment while cutting the community out by removing appeal rights and limiting our right to have input to development decisions. The MPB removes fairness and balance from the planning system and seriously weakens our democracy. The MPB sets up a special pathway similar to those gifted to mining, forestry and industrial fish farms.

Since the latest draft MPB was released in March, the TCT has been working intensely with other community and conservation groups, in particular Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania, to stop or significantly amend it. The MPB was passed by the House of Assembly on 26 August 2020 with no significant amendments but critically, we have convinced the Labor Party to propose amendments relating to some of our key concerns. Key proposed amendments include providing for the right to appeal against approvals of major project permits and making the Development Assessment

I would like to thank all TCT staff, councillors, volunteers, members, supporters and partners for their magnificent contributions to TCT's work during the last year. The last year has been very stressful due to funding problems but as detailed below and in Jack Redpath's report we have responded to this funding crisis and delivered an unprecedented level of income through donations from our supporters. The staff have had to improve our fundraising and maintain effective conservation campaigns while taking a substantial wages cut at the end of 2019. In particular I would like to thank the core, office-based staff Oliver Cassidy and Jack Redpath for helping to turn the TCT's fortunes around. On a personal note, as Director, I would not have been able to do my job without the commitment, energy, skill and loyalty of Jack and Oliver.

After a period of change and disruption in the TCT Council, I am glad to say that over the last 5 months the current TCT Council has been stable, effective and supportive of staff. I thank them and all other councillors who gave their time during the last year. I particularly thank the President Tim Morris and other councillors for undertaking the long overdue review of the TCT's constitution.

We start this new financial year with renewed confidence that we can become financially sustainable while delivering even more effectively for Tasmania's natural environment, heritage and lifestyle.

Panel more independent by requiring a majority of its members to be Tasmanian Planning Commission members.

While the most significant amendments proposed in the House of Assembly were defeated, the Labor Party has a much better chance of success in the Legislative Council where it has five members and there are seven non-party aligned members. The bill is expected to be debated on 15 September.

We will focus our attention on ensuring the Labor Party tables its amendments and fights hard for them. We will lobby the non-party aligned councillors to back them. An additional challenge will be to convince the Labor and independent councillors to support the very important amendments proposed by the Greens in the House of Assembly.

Thanks to Jack Redpath's skills and tireless efforts we amassed a total of 1062 submission on the Draft Major Projects Bill and encouraged hundreds of supporters to email and phone the Labor Party. Jack was also crucial in lifting the TCT's media presence on MPB when it was most need in the lead up to the parliamentary debate.

TCT support for the community on planning

The TCT has continued to assist community groups dealing with local developments and navigating the planning system. The following are just the highlights of our work in this area.

The TCT has assisted Tasman Peninsula residents this year with a raft of tourism-related developments: a Recreational Vehicle (RV) park at Koonya; a polo field, club house, vineyard and cellar door at Koonya; and a restaurant and accommodation development at Stormlea Road near the start of the Cape Raoul Track. All involve the alienation of agricultural land, impacts on adjacent landowners' amenity and, to varying degrees, impacts on natural values.

At the beginning of 2020 a local resident appealed the Koonya RV park to the Planning Appeals Tribunal and five other locals joined the appeal. The TCT assisted

them in mediation and through six weeks of discussions with the proponent we came to an agreement on a range of additional permit conditions which limited the potential impact of the development on the environment and local resident's amenity. This was a very good outcome for the local community and shows what we can achieve together if the proponent and community are keen to mediate. The TCT has begun to promote itself as having resources to assist the community in preparing applications for planning appeals and attempt mediation.

At the end of last year, the Latrobe Council proposed to retrospectively approve the destruction of saltmarsh near Port Sorell that had taken place by incremental infilling over a number of years. After the TCT and a few locals made representations, including pointing out that saltmarsh is a nationally threatened vegetation community, the council took a sideways step. It issued a decision that prevented more destruction while not punishing the landowner or requiring rehabilitation. For this council, this was quite a good outcome.

The TCT has continued to assist the Re-Imagine the End (RITE) group which is fighting to stop an approved golf course from proceeding on the beautiful Arm End Reserve at Opossum Bay and a pipeline which is proposed to provide treated effluent to irrigate the golf course. Through our combined pestering over two years, we succeeded in getting the Parks and Wildlife Service to order the leaseholder last summer to start controlling the boxthorn that had been spreading uncontrolled since the lease was issued in 2014. We assisted RITE recently with its launch of a new vision for Arm End Reserve. RITE's vision – as an alternative to the golf course if its permits expire in April 2022 – is for low scale infrastructure improvements, facilities and rehabilitation to enhance the recreational experience while improving protection of Arm End's natural and heritage values. We also assisted RITE in highlighting the proponent's failure to meet planning permit conditions and its misleading claims regarding the project's imminent commencement.

Once again thanks to Jack Redpath's skills the TCT helped facilitate 460 submissions

Continued overleaf....

Director's Report continued

from concerned members of the community opposing the Rosny Hill tourism development. This was the highest number of submissions made on a single development in Clarence since the Walker Corporation marina in Ralphs Bay but this didn't convince the Council who approved the proposal. The approval has been appealed by the Rosny Hill Friends Network. The TCT has joined the appeal but our main involvement has been to provide moral support and assistance with fundraising for the considerable cost of running a planning appeal. The final hearing is to be held in October 2020.

TCT has been working with the East Coast Alliance for several years to help stop the rezoning of the 3000 hectare Cambria property. If this development goes ahead it would be the largest single development on the east coast in Tasmania's history and a terrible precedent. Cambria's rezoning was refused at the end of last year by the Tasmanian Planning Commission and we fear the Major Projects Legislation will provide a way around this hurdle.

The TCT made numerous other representations to councils on development proposals, complaints to councils and other regulators regarding apparent illegal actions such as land clearing and provide advice to community members regarding development and planning issues.

Other planning issues

The Major Projects Bill (MPB) has dominated the TCT's work and the public debate on planning recently, but a number of other important initiatives of the State government are taking place in the background. The government initiated a review of the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) at the same time as calling for public input to the draft MPB. We don't believe this is a coincidence and we fear that the government intends to weaken the independence of the TPC to make it easier to get major projects and normal planning scheme amendments approved.

The government is also intending to amend the legislation governing the Resource Management and Planning Appeals Tribunal (RMPAT). The government has proposed legislation that is merely aimed at amalgamating a number of tribunals into a single tribunal to achieve efficiencies while not changing how RMPAT operates. However, it has also flagged a second stage of legislation, with uncertain objectives. We fear this legislation may change how the tribunal operates, who has a right to take an appeal and the scope of matters an appeal can address.

The state government's legislation to enable it to create Tasmanian Planning Policies passed the parliament in late 2018 with the support of many groups, including the TCT. We had expected to see the draft TPPs by the middle of 2019 but this did not eventuate. This is disappointing as the TPPs have the potential to provide much-needed guidance for review of the Statewide Planning Provisions and could limit which projects could be approved as major projects.

The TCT is one of the major contributors to the Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania,

Both photos are of tyres dumped at Townsend Lagoon and are by Gwen Egg



which in addition to its central role in the campaign against the Major Projects Bill, has been supporting community members to make submissions on the Local Planning Provisions for their area. This process will have profound and lasting impacts on the local planning rules for years to come.

Through the LPP process the TCT have made a ground-breaking proposal that could lead to the planning system extending to cover all marine waters adjacent to municipalities. Currently even endangered species such as the spotted handfish are not guaranteed to be considered by councils in developments that affect the coastal marine environment e.g. water pipelines, jetties, marinas.

Waste management

The TCT probably upset a lot of Councils and residents of southern Tasmania when we blew the whistle on the problem of stockpiling and landfilling of plastics collected from residential recycling bins in Southern Tasmania. This problem came to light after the collapse of former recycling company SKM in August 2019 and interestingly the only newspaper that would cover the story initially was The Australian.

The TCT unsuccessfully applied to the Tasmanian Community fund in October 2019 for funds for a project coordinator and education program to tackle the problem of illegally dumped and inappropriately used and stored used car tyres. The goal was to clean up more than 12,000 used tyres in the first year. The rejection decision was very disappointing as we secured cash commitments from Tyrecycle and the state government's Environment Protection Fund totalling \$60,000 and in-kind contributions of \$40,000, well in excess of the grant we requested. While it was disappointing that we were unsuccessful, we had produced a 'spade-ready' project to submit to other funding bodies.

The Australian Government has announced its investment of \$190 million into its Recycling Modernisation Fund to boost recycling capacity and increase jobs in the waste management sector. The TCT has put forward its used car-tyre cleanup and education program. Car tyres are one of the priority waste types being addressed by the Australian Government so we are hopeful that we will be successful this time.

In our submission on the Hobart City Council's Draft Single-Use Plastics By-law we supported the by-law but we highlighted some significant limitations e.g. it is unknown if composted non-petroleum based plastics

Continued overleaf...



Director's Report continued

can be safely used on food plants and it is uncertain how compostable packaging will be collected and diverted from landfill.

Forestry

The TCT's main involvement in forestry has been in providing input on the latest attempt by Sustainable Timbers Tasmania (STT) to gain FSC certification – which was recently found to be unsuccessful. We made a highly critical submission to the FSC auditors on the STT's High Conservation Value Forest Assessment and Management Plan, April 2019.

The TCT was the only non-government conservation group involved in the review of the Forest Practices Code over the last two years, which seems to have passed with almost no public or media attention. In our final submission on the draft new Code we highlighted how insignificant the changes were and that this was due to the fact that the scope of the review excluded any change to legislation or policy. STT failed in its second attempt to obtain FSC certification in large part due to its inability to protect swift parrot habitat. As the TCT pointed out in its submission to STT's FSC auditors, the Code review was a missed opportunity to regulate to strengthen the forest practices system to better protect threatened species.

Aquaculture

As reported last year we continue to be frustrated at our lack of progress on improving management and regulation of salmon farms. This is due largely to the limited rights the community has to have input to the assessment and approval of fish farms.

The massive expansion into Storm Bay has been rolling out over the last year with little the community can do to stop it. The TCT along with numerous other groups have made submissions and presentations to the Legislative Council Committee of Inquiry into Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania. This committee gave everyone a fair hearing but its work was unfortunately interrupted by the Coronavirus crisis. We look forward to it recommencing soon.

The only other positive development has been an opportunity to provide input to a review undertaken by World Wide Fund for Nature into the international Aquaculture Stewardship Council. The TCT and other groups were highly critical of its rubber stamping of salmon farming operations, in particular those in Macquarie Harbor that later were closed or scaled down.

Another key area of work was to make a submission on the Environmental Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendment) Bill 2019, which included numerous amendments to regulations covering salmon farming. The Bill is yet to be tabled in Parliament.

Other marine issues - See report on Jon Bryan's work

Cats and other invasive species – also see report on Kaylene Allan's work

While the state government has proposed a number of positive improvements to the Cat Management Act it has opposed any amendment addressing roaming of domestic cats. The TCT drafted an amendment to address roaming cats and we secured support from a range of animal welfare, cat management and conservation groups but there wasn't the willingness from other groups to publicly pressure the government to adopt the amendment. When the government tabled amendments it was left to the Greens to propose an additional amendment to address cat confinement. This predictably led to the Liberal and Labor Party opposing the proposal.

We will propose our amendments to address cat confinement to the Legislative Council but we face the problem that the Labor Party has already stated its opposition to the notion of regulating cat ownership.

Input to proposed legislation not mentioned elsewhere

The state government are preparing to review a raft of legislation related to management of water and its use in

agriculture. This review started last year and we were led to believe it might lead to some positive outcomes which motivated us to provide input at an early stage. However, we were disappointed when the 'Rural Water Use Strategy – Position Paper' was released. Despite the Position Paper pointing out that most rivers in agricultural areas are at or approaching full allocations and identifying key knowledge gaps, e.g. related to groundwater, the main purpose of the document is to identify novel ways of allocating more water for agriculture without sufficient knowledge of the consequences.

The TCT has made a submission to the ten-year review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act in which we focused on encouraging better use of the non-regulatory measures allowable under the act e.g. regional biodiversity plans and national threat abatement plans. While this approach accords with many of the recommendations made by the independent reviewer Professor Graeme Samuel, it seems like the Australian Government is more intent on misrepresenting some of recommendations in an obvious political strategy to weaken the EPBC Act in the name of cutting red tape and COVID recovery.

The TCT has made a submission to the 10-year review of the Wildlife Regulations. While the Department has made some disappointing recommendations e.g. no recommended actions to improve management of browsing animals, there are a number of positive recommendations that we have supported and will advocate to have implemented e.g. better regulation of deer farms and better controls over who can keep and care for an injured native animal. It is notable that the department did not recommend changes to firearms laws to expand the range of people who are eligible for licences for rapid-firing rifles and shot guns.

State government committees

The state government has been incrementally reducing the opportunities for community and conservation organisations to provide constructive input to development

and implementation of government strategies, policies and legislation via formal committees. Following the lead of the Australian government the state government has been reducing the number of committees that conservation groups are represented on. Last year we reported our membership of the following committees but all of them have ceased to operate.

- DPIPWE Invasive Species Partnership Group
- Cat Management Reference Group
- Biosecurity Primary Stakeholders group (disbanded once the Biosecurity Act came into force recently)
- Forest Practices Code Biodiversity Working Group

We nominated for the newly created Biosecurity Advisory Committee but were unsuccessful. We have not been invited to any other committees.

Major submissions over the last 12 months

- House of Assembly Select Committee on Housing Affordability.
- Draft Cat Management Bill 2019
- House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy
- Environmental Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendment) Bill 2019
- Draft Waste Action Plan, Consultation Draft June 2019
- Input to the 10-yearly review of the Wildlife Regulations
- Hobart City Council's Draft Single-Use Plastics By-law
- Legislative Council Sessional Committee of Inquiry into Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania
- Review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act
- Draft Major Projects Bill
- Rural Water Use Strategy – Position Paper
- The Standing Committee on Environment and Energy, Inquiry into the problem of feral and domestic cats in Australia

In addition to these the TCT through its representation on the State government

Continued overleaf....

Director's Report continued

Fisheries Advisory Committees (see below), has made numerous submissions on reviews of fisheries management plans, setting of total allowable catch limits and other issues.

TCT Staff

Jack Redpath – TCT Fundraising and Community Engagement Coordinator

We have published a standalone report from TCT's Fundraising and Community Engagement Coordinator, Jack Redpath, as recognition of the importance of this work to the TCT's future. While we have had to cut Jack's wages to two days per week he has responded magnificently to again increase the TCT's income from donations, grow the number of our supporters and effectively engage supporters in key campaigns.

Our income generated during the last financial year from donations is unprecedented and enables us to operate with some comfort over the next twelve months to help grow our fundraising to give us greater financial stability.

Oliver Cassidy – TCT Office Manager

Administration is the grease that oils the wheels of all organisations and without it we stop operating. Thank you to Oliver for another great year: processing an ever growing number of donations; making sure all our bills, tax and salaries are paid; providing financial reports to the TCT Council each month; working with the auditor to prepare the annual audited accounts; developing the annual budget and reporting to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (to name just the highlights).

Oliver and Jack Redpath made sure the TCT benefited from the Job Keeper grants which have been a timely additional income during the Coronavirus crisis and should continue for a few months longer.

Oliver managed the process of finding and hiring an Administrative Assistant, Leigh Craven which turned out very satisfactorily.

Oliver has started the enormous task of transitioning the TCT to accounting software ("Xero") that is more compatible with our campaign and donor management system. Managing this transition will be Oliver's main focus for the rest of the year and while it will be a lot of additional work in the short term it will greatly improve our financial and campaigning effectiveness on the long-term.

Leigh Craven – Administrative Assistant

Leigh started in July this year in a casual capacity to cover for Oliver during leave and to assist with the increased workload during the end of financial year and lead up to the Annual General Meeting. Leigh is a highly experienced administrator and financial manager and has ably stepped in when we most needed the help, fitting very well in to the team.

Jon Bryan – TCT Marine Spokesperson

Jon Bryan is the TCT representative on all Tasmanian government fisheries advisory committees:

- Crustacean fisheries advisory committee
- Scalefish fisheries advisory committee
- Scallop fisheries advisory committee
- Abalone fisheries advisory committee
- Recreational fisheries advisory committee

Jon Bryan is also a Board member of Tasmania's peak marine recreational fishing organisation Tasmanian Association for Recreational Fishing (Tarfish).

Much of Jon's work outside of these committees over the last year has again been associated with advocating for more decisive action by the state government to stop the spread of the long spined sea urchin. Sadly the state government has not progressed a strategy as promised on this most pressing marine issue.

Jon has provided some valuable assistance to our work on improving regulation and management of the salmon farming industry.

Kaylene Allan - Kingborough Cat Management Officer (a partnership of the TCT and Kingborough Council)

The Bruny Island Cat Management Project was funded by the Australian Government from July 2016 to June 2019 and Kaylene Allan, employed by the TCT, was the project coordinator. The project aimed to determine the feasibility of cat eradication from Bruny Island. Due to the outstanding results of that project (reported in last year's Annual Report and *Tasmanian Conservationist* articles) funding was committed (an election promise at the 2019 Federal Election) for the next stage of the project. Kaylene Allan was again appointed as the project coordinator. After a long process of negotiation over the funding contracts and management arrangements it is expected that funding will flow in the next few weeks and the next stage will commence soon.

Kaylene has continued her two-day per week work based at Kingborough Council running a responsible cat education program in Kingborough. Kaylene also assisted the TCT to finalise our 'At Home with Cats' video series and organise the launch event in July this year. The three videos: 'Why contain your cat?', 'How to contain your cat' and 'Helping your cat adjust to containment' can be viewed by going to the Kingborough Council website at: <https://www.kingborough.tas.gov.au/services/animal-management/cats/home-with-cats/>.

Photo by Jack Redpath of Hall's Fall





Fundraising and Community

Engagement Report

Jack Redpath

The financial year 2019/20 was an exceptional year for the Tasmanian Conservation Trust. Our governance structure is being revitalized, our supporter fundraising continues to grow and our presence in the community has been solidified.

Fundraising:

As the TCT grows, our supporters have become more important to the overall fundraising income of the Trust. By focusing on supporter fundraising the TCT has increased its donations income year on year for the last three full financial years.

Income (not including bequests) has increased over the last four years

- \$33,000 in 2016-17,
- \$76,000 in 2017-18,
- \$94,000 in 2018-19,
- \$164,000 in 2019-20

Our long term members are giving more generously and our total number of supporters and donors continues to increase. Each source of donations increased: regular gifts (at least once per month), major gifts (\$10,000 plus) and general donations.

Other Income:

This financial year was unusual in that we received no bequests; despite this we anticipate that bequests will continue to be an important source of income for the Trust going into the future.

Whilst we have not received any government grants, we are in receipt of a quantity of funding (\$9000 from Jobkeeper and \$10,000 cash flow boosting et al) as part of the Federal government's COVID-19 response.

Growth and reform:

Our priorities for next year include soliciting bequests, looking at relevant grant opportunities and, continuing to increase income from regular donors. The Trust has commenced a revision of the constitution and it is expected that this will enhance our ability to operate effectively and increase our fundraising capabilities.

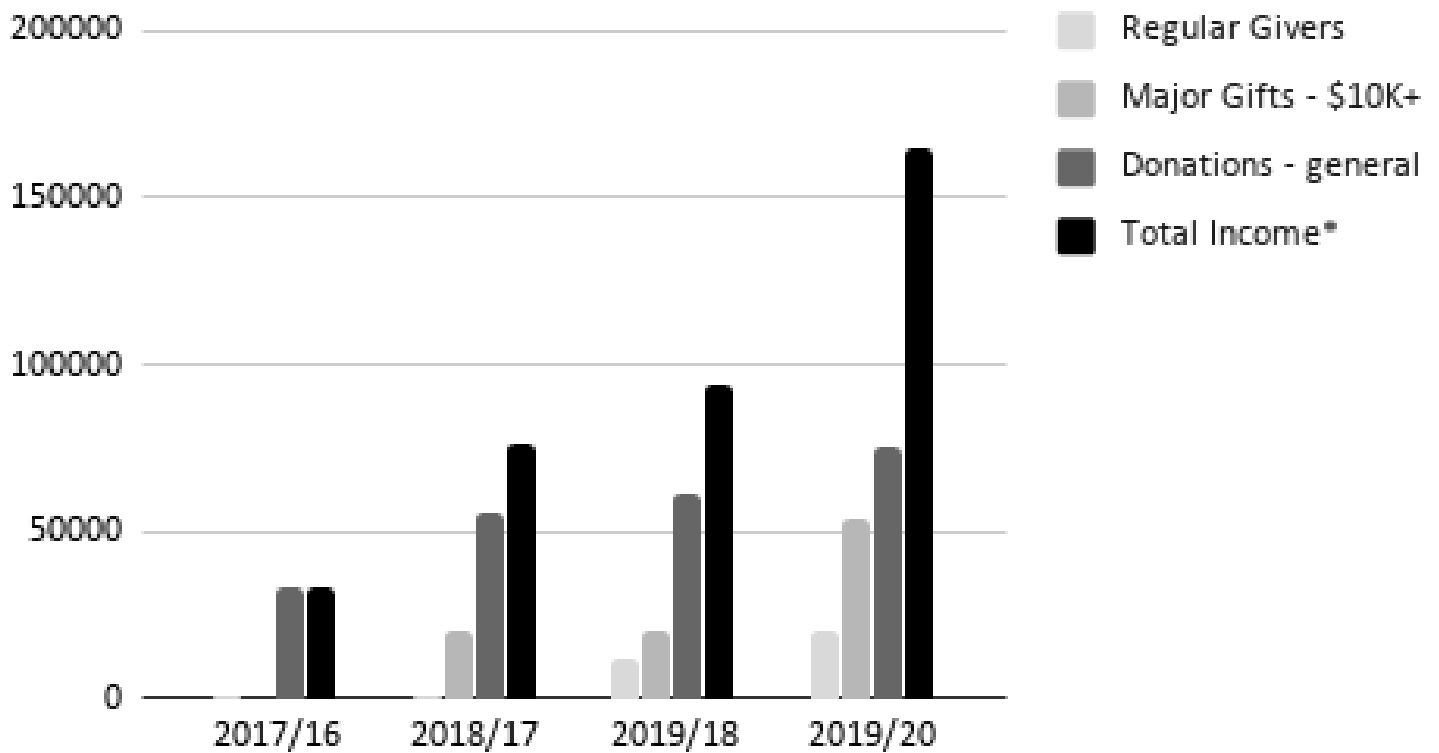
Community Engagement:

Our work with local communities continues. All organisations we work with continue to be resilient and self-supporting which is the key pillar of the Trust's community engagement strategy.

Some highlights include collecting and submitting over 1,500 representations on: the Major Projects Legislation, the Rosny Hill development application and the Welcome Stranger development application.

We are anticipating several high profile developments to re-enter the public debate in the coming months and our relationships with key community groups will inform and strengthen our ability to protect Tasmania against over development.

High profile and controversial developments provide key moments for engagement with the general public. The Trust's work as a conduit for representations to councils is the primary source of our growth in supporter numbers. As a result of our work in the community more people are becoming supporters of the Trust.



The following organisations deserve special praise for their work and achievements:

- East Coast Alliance – Stop the SAP at Cambria Green
- Residents Opposed to the Cable Car
- Rosny Hill Friends Network
- Hobart not Highrise
- Launceston Heritage not Highrise
- North East Bioregional Network
- Tasmanian Alliance for Marine Protection and all its member groups
- Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania and all its member groups

Without these groups Tasmania would be worse off. Thanks to you if you support these groups. Know that TCT will continue our community engagement to strengthen our joint goals.

Photo by Jack Redpath of ocean view from Bicheno



Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc

2nd Floor, 191-193 Liverpool Street, Hobart 7000

Profit and Loss statement for year ended 30 June 2020

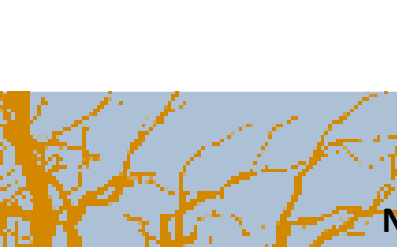
	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Income			
Donations		174,435	114,032
Projects		34,000	187,498
COVID-19 supplement		10,000	0
Memberships		4,027	2,804
Other income		1,181	4,142
General sales		181	226
Interest		70	7,777
Bequests		0	5,564
Total income		223,894	322,042
Expenses			
Employment		169,074	229,701
Superannuation		15,653	21,588
Consultants and contractors		23,061	108,622
Rent and occupancy costs		14,881	16,304
Printing, stationery and telephones		7,444	9,854
Legal		7,601	299
Postage		3,203	3,917
Computer and internet		3,114	2,625
Newsletter		2,133	2,596
Bank charges		2,580	1,277
Insurance		2,518	2,565
Travel and accomodation		1,427	3,362
Bad debts		1,211	8,076
Accounting		1,106	982
Audit		890	860
Advertising		400	0
Library—newspapers		378	1,411
Licenses, regulatory and appeals		0	79
Other expenses		7,312	2,445
Project expenses (net)		-13,572	22,173
Total expenses		250,415	438,736
Operating result		-26,521	-116,694

The profit and loss statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc
 2nd Floor, 191-193 Liverpool Street, Hobart 7000
Balance Sheet for year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		140,443	145,398
Trade debtors		3,813	2,646
Investment account		194,285	232,786
Total assets		<u>338,542</u>	<u>380,830</u>
Liabilities			
Trade creditors		5,158	0
Payable to ATO (BAS)		12,591	10,465
Employee entitlements		53,257	47,786
Payroll liabilities		0	8,268
Grants received in advance		33,201	52,141
Provision for legal costs		10,000	10,000
Prepaid subscriptions		1,614	2,928
Total liabilities		<u>115,820</u>	<u>131,588</u>
Net assets		<u>222,721</u>	<u>249,242</u>
Equity			
Retained earnings		-38,558	78,136
Operating result for year		-26,521	-116,694
Dreaper and Luckman reserves		287,800	287,800
Total equity		<u>222,721</u>	<u>249,242</u>

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.



Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc
2nd Floor, 191-193 Liverpool Street, Hobart 7000
Notes to financial report for year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1 – Statement of significant accounting policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012*. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity. The financial report may not be suitable for any other purpose.

The following Australian Accounting Standards have been used in the preparation of the report:

AASB 101	<i>Presentation of Financial Statements</i>
AASB 107	<i>Statement of Cash Flows</i>
AASB 108	<i>Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors</i>
AASB 1048	<i>Interpretation of Standards</i>
AASB 1054	<i>Additional Australian Disclosures</i>

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

a. GST and income tax

The association is registered on the Australian Business Register (ABN 63 091 237 520). The association is registered for GST, and the amounts recorded in the financial report exclude any GST paid that is recoverable from the ATO. No provision for income tax has been raised as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

b. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation. Fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the asset to the association commencing from the time the asset was held ready for use. The Association's only fixed assets is office furniture, which has been fully depreciated.



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TASMANIAN CONSERVATION TRUST INC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Report on the financial report

I have audited the special purpose financial report of Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc for the year ended 30 June 2020. In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012*.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibility* section of my report. I am independent of Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc in accordance with the ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence that I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibility of the Council for the financial report

The Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012 and the needs of the members. The Council's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial report so that they are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

In preparing the financial report, the Council is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is the intention to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

Yours faithfully

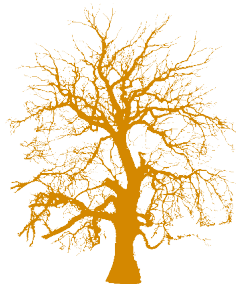
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kennett', written over a white background.

Michael Kennett CA

4 September 2020

Why make a bequest to the TCT?

A bequest in your will to the Tasmanian Conservation Trust will help us to continue to protect Tasmania's natural areas and species into the future. Previous bequests have been invaluable to our work, including being vital for our recent court challenge to the Tamar Valley pulp mill permit. With governments cutting funding of conservation groups, the TCT will be increasingly dependent on financial support from our members to continue our work. Phone the TCT office on (03) 6234 3552 for further information.



tasmanian conservation trust

annual report and financial statement 2018 - 2019 of
the **Tasmanian Conservation Trust** Inc ABN 63 091 237 520.

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