

6 January 2004

The Premier
The Hon J Bacon
Minister for Tourism, Parks, Heritage and the Arts
22 Elizabeth Street
Hobart 7000

Dear Mr Bacon,

Re: Tasman National Park

It has come to our attention that a block of land at Canoe Bay, surrounded by and crucial to, the continuity of the Tasman National Park, is scheduled for auction on 13 February. The Tasmanian National Parks Association (TNPA) is aware that 3 years ago the Parks Service canvassed options to procure this strategic block and that the District Officer has very recently alerted the Parks and Wildlife General Manager Peter Mooney, concerned that the present window of opportunity to circumvent incompatible activities within Fortescue Bay, is not overlooked.

The Tasmanian National Parks Association is requesting that:

1. you, as Minister, give an immediate guarantee that no road access will be given through the 100 metre width National Park buffer. Just as you have the power to stop the roadworks within the Southport Conservation Area and thereby save the North East Peninsular of Recherche Bay, you have a clear opportunity to make it very clear, in the public arena, that such access will be out of the question.
2. the Tasmanian Government purchase the land because of its crucial value to the Tasman National Park on the grounds of park continuity, management practicalities, coastal protection and the unity of the whole Tasman National Park. This is a clear opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to ensuring there are no commercial developments within National Parks, reinforcing the spirit and the letter of the National Parks Act.

I am sure you are aware of the nightmare for management in the event of a commercial venture within Fortescue Bay, particularly now that the Park is managed somewhat remotely from Seven Mile Beach, a move that TNPA was not able to condone. Please act with precautionary foresight to protect this very beautiful natural tourist icon, Fortescue Bay. We would be very glad to discuss this issue in person. We have the longterm interests of Tasmania and the Tasmanian people at heart,

Yours Sincerely

**Helen Gee
Campaign Officer**

Cc Bryan Green MHA,
Peg Putt MHA,
Michael Lynch, TCT