

MEDIA RELEASE

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HUON LOGGING HIGHWAY HALTED

What : Community action on logging highway in S/E of Tasmania

Where: Weld Valley, Upper Huon, South East Tasmania (See accompanying map)

Why : To halt logging highway into pristine forest and untouched waterway.

A logging highway being pushed towards the Weld Valley, in the Upper Huon, has been halted by members of several local and national community groups.

Spokesperson for one of the groups taking part in the community action, Huon resident, Jenny Weber from the Native Forest Network, said today, "The Weld Valley is the pristine twin of the Styx Valley and was recommended for World Heritage listing in the late 1980s by a number of bodies, including the Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

"If this road goes ahead, huge areas of this magnificent valley will be clear felled, burned, poisoned with 1080, and no matter what sort of trees replace it, the Weld will never be the same ancient and biodiverse forest again.

"The reason this civil disobedience has become necessary is because all other avenues to protect high conservation areas, such as the Weld Valley, have been exhausted."

"Tasmania has a huge rate of landclearing, so we're here to protect our forests, with the support of a wide range of local, state and national community organizations.

**The Native Forest Network- The Southern Forest Alliance- The GAIA Foundation
Tasmania.**

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