

# The East Coast Conservation Corridor Endowment Fund

North East Bioregional Network  
in conjunction with the  
North East Tasmania Land Trust





**“A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.”** Aldo Leopold



## What is the East Coast Conservation Corridor?

**From the orange lichen encrusted granite boulders and turquoise waters of Freycinet National Park to the soaring sea cliffs of the Tasman Peninsula, to the verdant rainforests of the North East Highlands or the botanically rich dry Eucalypt and Woodland forests of the Douglas Apsley National Park, the East Coast of Tasmania is a scenic and ecological treasure.**

The North East Bioregional Network's primary aim is to protect, maintain

and restore these values through an integrated holistic approach to nature conservation.

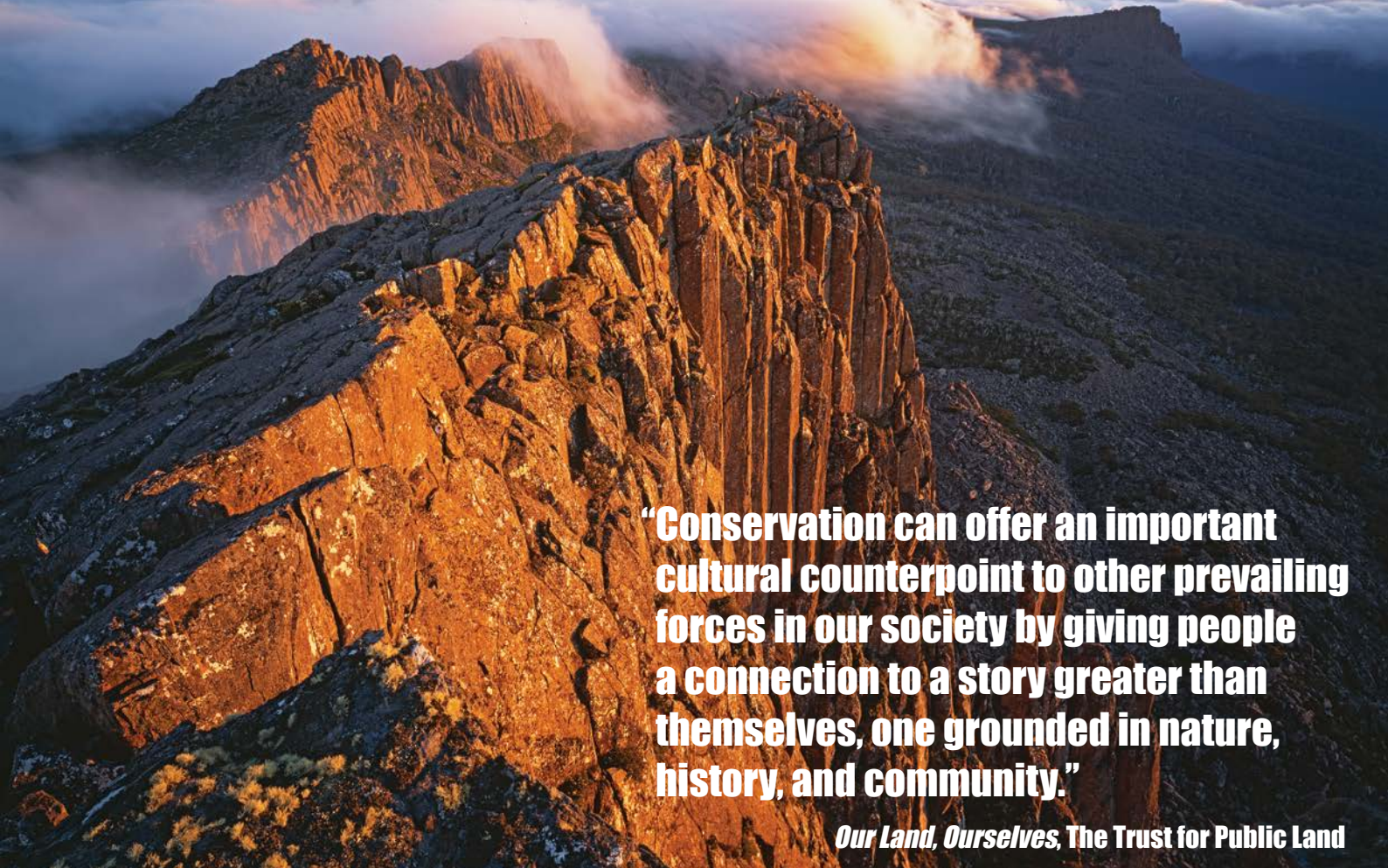
The East Coast Conservation Corridor is a large scale nature conservation initiative to connect, sustain and revive the unique ecological values of the East Coast of Tasmania. This corridor extends 280km north – south from Cape Portland to Cape Pillar covering two and a half degrees latitude.

The existing reserve system and a number of established conservation

projects/programs provide a solid foundation for this integrative approach (see [www.northeastbioregionalnetwork.org.au](http://www.northeastbioregionalnetwork.org.au) to view the report East Coast Conservation Corridor.... A Landscape of National Significance).

*The East Coast Conservation Corridor program is different from conventional nature conservation approaches because it is not only concerned with biodiversity protection and restoration but also with land ethics and cultural change.*





**“Conservation can offer an important cultural counterpoint to other prevailing forces in our society by giving people a connection to a story greater than themselves, one grounded in nature, history, and community.”**

***Our Land, Ourselves, The Trust for Public Land***

## The East Coast Conservation Corridor Endowment Fund

The special nature of the East Coast of Tasmania is widely recognised and appreciated. However the future state of the East Coast environment will depend to a large extent on the ecological literacy and conscience of current and future residents. As such there is a need for a permanent holistic program which works towards cultivating and embedding nature conservation practice and ethics in East Coast communities.

*The establishment of an East Coast Conservation Corridor Endowment Fund will provide the long term certainty required to help maintain and restore the ecological health, diversity and beauty of this exceptional place.* The proposed Endowment Fund seeks to raise \$32 million which would be used to establish four programs: Ecological Restoration Fund; Private Land Acquisition Fund; Environmental Education Fund and Land Stewardship Fund. The interest generated from a \$32 million Fund

account will provide the financial foundation necessary to implement and sustain these programs.











**“As long as there’s life,  
there’s hope”** Tamora Pierce

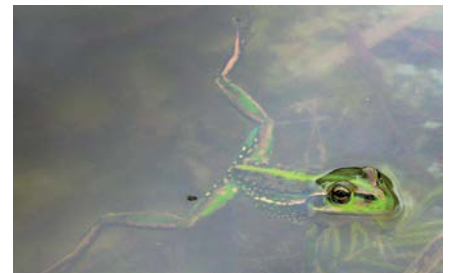
## Ecological Restoration

**Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed.**

In Tasmania over 400,000 ha of native vegetation has been cleared since 1972. There is an urgent need to begin the process of repairing land use mistakes with the goal being to increase the extent and improve the condition of native vegetation and fauna habitat.

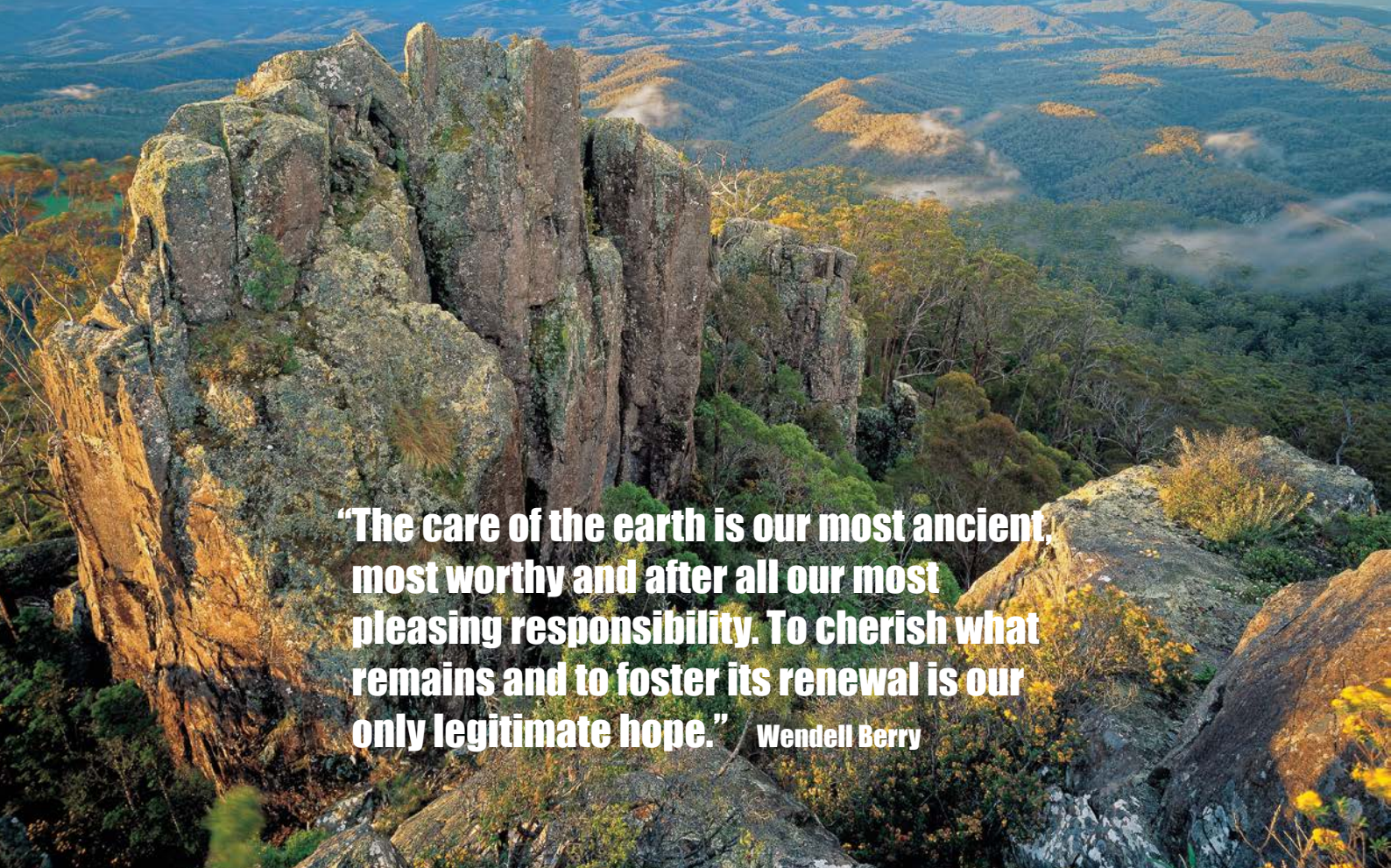
The Restore Skyline Tier project located in the hinterland behind

Scamander and Beaumaris in North East Tasmania is a flagship project for high quality landscape scale ecological restoration with over 500ha of Radiata Pine plantation being restored to thriving biodiverse native forest. There are significant opportunities to expand restoration activities to other failed plantations (as well as other degraded lands) and in the process provide employment and training in conservation land management in rural and regional areas. The alignment of nature



conservation with employment and training can help revitalise remote and rural communities based on ecologically sustainable principles. *A Ecological Restoration Endowment Fund will facilitate long term, strategic, high quality restoration of land with the support of a paid and trained workforce which can compliment and support volunteer efforts rather than relying on them.*





**“The care of the earth is our most ancient, most worthy and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope.”** Wendell Berry

## Land Stewardship

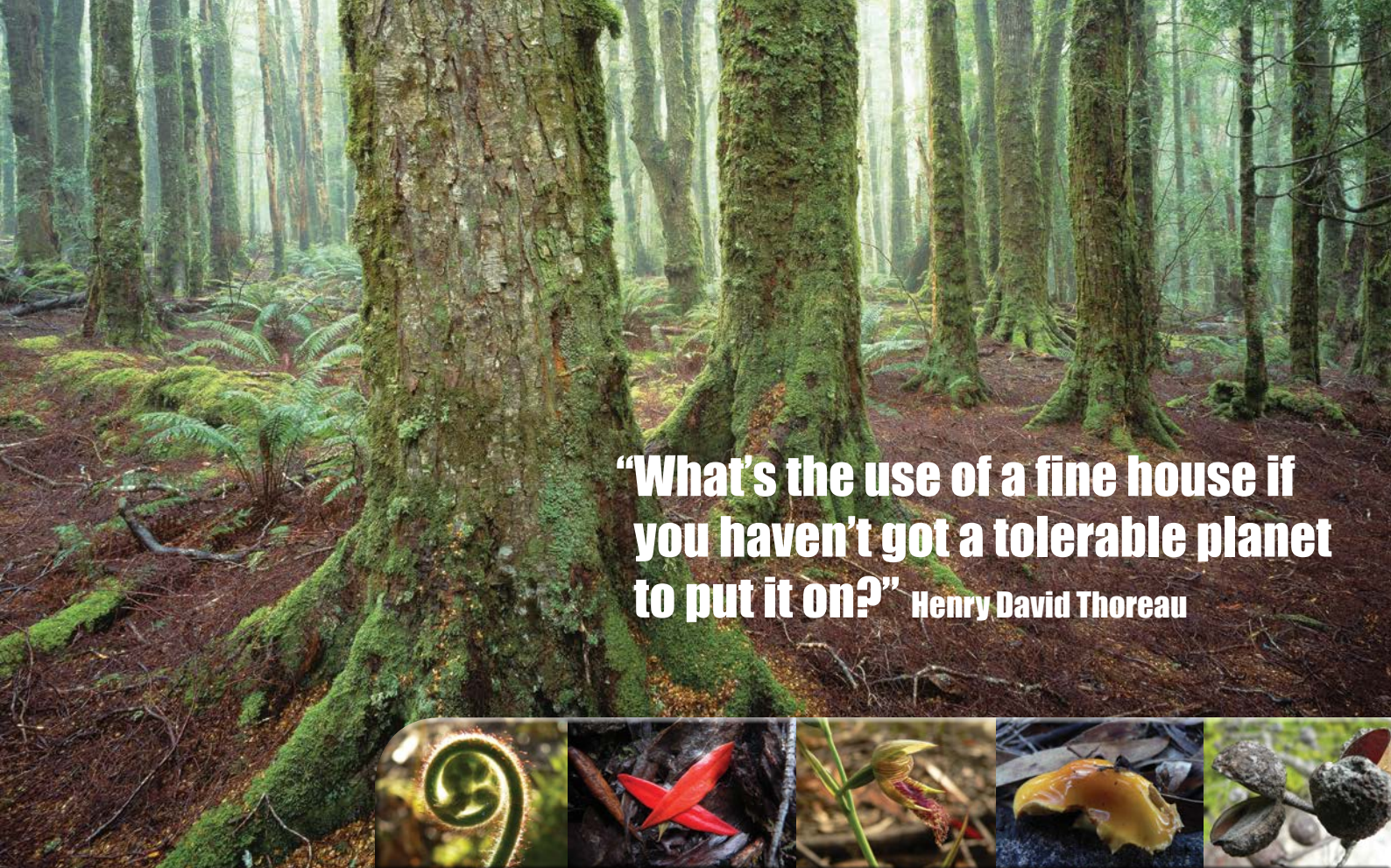
**Resources for maintaining and restoring native ecosystems on public and private land have diminished in recent years. In addition for over thirty years the spasmodic and ever changing nature of Government Landcare/NRM funding programs has meant a considerable amount of money, time and effort has been wasted or poorly targeted.**

*A Land Stewardship Endowment Fund will assist both private and public land managers to overcome these*

*deficiencies by establishing a long term, strategically focused and reliable source of support for community groups, individuals and other custodians of our precious natural heritage. As any land manager knows the art of successful land stewardship is a combination of science and ethics. However, the provision of additional labour or financial assistance can make a significant contribution in ensuring that nature based projects are successful, and just as importantly, maintained over time.*

The Endowment Fund will allow for the creation of a regular East Coast Conservation Corridor Biodiversity Grant program. This will also support the formation of well trained locally based work crews who can provide the on ground conservation assistance and expertise to deal with weeds, feral animals and other critical threats to the East Coast's ecological integrity.





**“What’s the use of a fine house if you haven’t got a tolerable planet to put it on?” Henry David Thoreau**



## Private Land Acquisition

**A significant proportion of threatened flora, fauna and vegetation communities in Tasmania are located on private property. Private land with native vegetation and fauna habitat makes a significant contribution to landscape connectivity and the overall maintenance of healthy populations of native plants and animals.**

The North East Tasmania Land Trust was established in 2009 with the main objective being to acquire and protect private land with nature conservation

value on the East Coast of Tasmania. *A Private Land Acquisition Endowment Fund will create the opportunity to ensure that private land with important biodiversity values can be protected in perpetuity from inappropriate development.*

Some of the purchased land can be set aside in its entirety as a nature reserve while other blocks could be on-sold with a conservation covenant on the title (revolving fund) to achieve the dual aims of permanently protecting the natural

values of the land while at the same time providing ongoing revenue to secure more land for protection.

A well managed and protected public and private reserve system is essential for the long term survival and flourishing of the special and distinctive plants and animals that inhabit the East Coast of Tasmania.



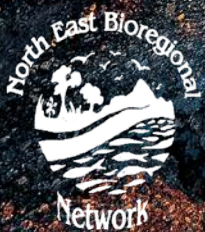




“...those parcels forming the East Coast  
Connectivity Corridor have been  
assessed collectively to have National  
Heritage significance —  
one of the more important latitudinally  
connected tracts of native habitat  
in Australia.”

**Peter Hitchcock**

Verification of the Heritage Value of  
ENGO-Proposed Reserves (2012)



Photographs by: Nick Fitzgerald, Rob Blakers, Todd Dudley,  
Kip Nunn, John Holley and Sarah Lloyd