

Conservation status: RARE

What is Rainforest Fernland?

- *Rainforest Fernland* is characterised by dense stands of tree-ferns and the absence of eucalypts. Rainforest species such as myrtle and sassafras are absent for sparse within the fernland, but often dominate the forest canopy in the surrounding area. Occasionally, bats-wing fern (*Histiopteris incisa*) is the dominant fern species.
- This fernland usually occurs on steep slopes or riverbanks where shallow soils and the gradient may prevent the establishment of trees. Wind-throw or spot fires in rainforest can also remove the canopy trees from a site, with subsequent rapid colonisation by tree-ferns or bats-wing fern.



Photo: Nepelle Temby



Where can I see examples of Rainforest Fernland?

- *Rainforest Fernland* can be seen in the gully below Keoghs Lookout on the Arve River Road south of Geeveston.

Why is Rainforest Fernland important?

- *Rainforest Fernland* is very rare, covering about 500 hectares.
- Most known occurrences are in reserves, such as the Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park, Savage River Regional Reserve, Savage River National Park, Wild Rivers National Park and the South-West National Park.



Do I have *Rainforest Fernland* on my property?

The flow chart will help you to decide if *Rainforest Fernland* may be on your property.



Need help?

Contact the FPA or TFGA

Are **trees** (e.g. myrtle, blackwood and eucalypts) **absent**? YES NO

Is the site dominated by **tree-ferns** (*Dicksonia antarctica*) or **bats-wing fern** (*Histiopteris incisa*)? YES NO

Is the patch **more than 1 hectare** (2.5 acres) in size? YES NO

Use the boxes to record your decisions

You may have *Rainforest Fernland* **You don't have *Rainforest Fernland***

What does it mean if I have *Rainforest Fernland* on my property?

- If you want to **clear and convert** an area that **may be *Rainforest Fernland*** you will need a forest practices plan. You should seek advice from the Forest Practices Authority. **Please check if you are in doubt.**
- Information on ways to make sure your management activities are compatible with environmental values can be obtained from the Forest Practices Authority or Dept Primary Industries Parks Water and Environment.



Need help or more information on threatened native vegetation communities?

Forest Practices Authority: 30 Patrick St, Hobart 7000; phone – 6233 7966; Online - www.fpa.tas.gov.au

DPIPWE: 134 Macquarie St, Hobart 7000; phone – 6233 8538; Online – www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Information and assistance for landholders is also available from the Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association: cnr Cimitiere and Charles St, Launceston 7250; phone – 6332 1800