

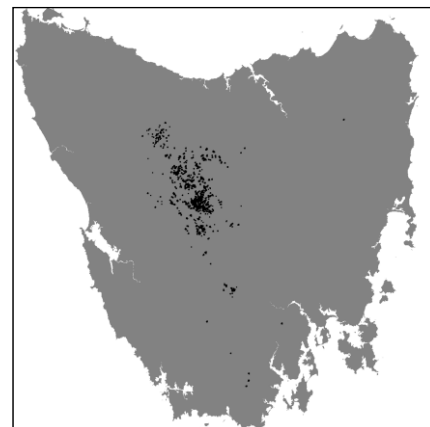
SPHAGNUM PEATLAND

(TASVEG code - MSP)

Conservation status: RARE

What is *Sphagnum Peatland*?

- *Sphagnum Peatland* contains one or more species of *Sphagnum* moss. It usually occurs on constantly wet sites (i.e. areas of high rainfall and low evaporation) and can be recognized by the lack of trees and dominance of moss beds, which can be large and hummocky with occasional moss hummocks or moss beds floating on water.
- Most *Sphagnum Peatland* occurs on the Central Plateau and in the Mersey River catchment. It typically occurs in river valleys, on sandstone shelves with impeded drainage and sites adjacent to lakes and streams above 600 m elevation. Less commonly, *Sphagnum Peatland* occurs at lower altitudes on limestone and basalt in the north-west and south-east of the State.



Where can I see *Sphagnum Peatland*?

- *Sphagnum Peatland* can be seen in Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park (e.g. near Waldheim); aquatic examples occur at Mole Creek and on the Gog Range.

Why is *Sphagnum peatland* important and what are its management issues?

- *Sphagnum Peatland* is very rare in Tasmania, covering only 3,100 hectares.
- Peatlands occur in unique and localised habitats. Individual peatlands are usually less than 10 ha in size which makes them extremely prone to disturbance.
- Major threats include moss harvesting, peat mining, burning, grazing and forestry operations. Illegal harvesting of moss beds for supply to the horticultural industry has resulted in the destruction of a number of sites throughout the State.



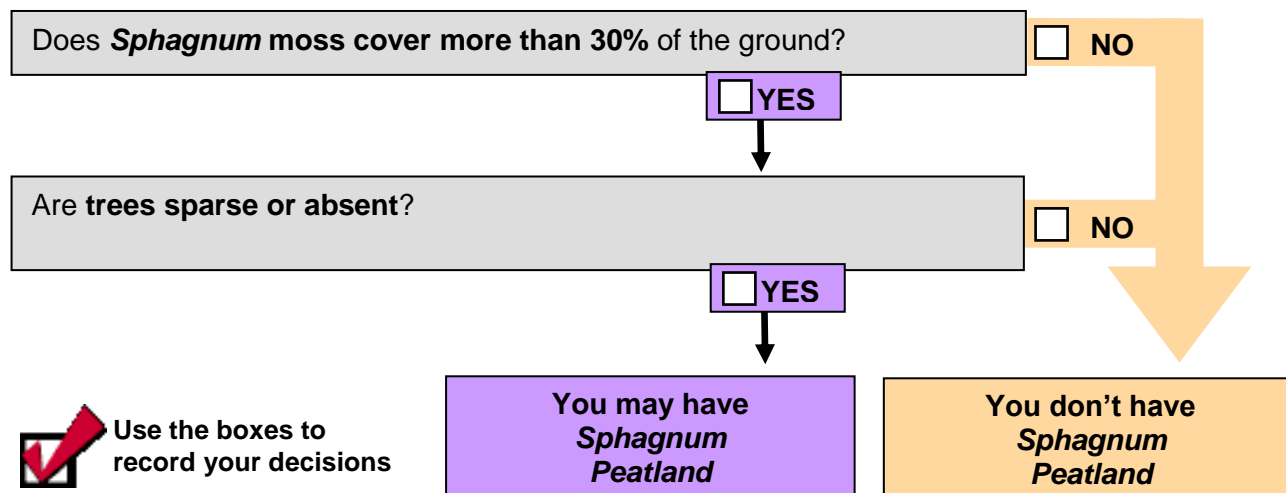
Do I have *Sphagnum Peatland* on my property?

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



Need help?

Contact the FPA or TFGA



What does it mean if I have *Sphagnum Peatland* on my property?

- If you want to **clear and convert** an area that **may be *Sphagnum Peatland*** 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