

## **Media Release**

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### **Three Cape Track: Bartlett puts corporate mates ahead of national park and local community**

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust said today the Labor Party's \$12.8 million Three Capes Track proposal will involve construction of new walking tracks through pristine areas of the Tasman National Park which are just not needed and will threaten existing tourist businesses.

"The Tasman Peninsula already has a series of magnificent walking destinations with a choice of local accommodation and Labor's proposal will take business away from these at an extraordinary cost to tax-payers and the environment," said TCT Director Peter McGlone.

"The Three Capes Track proposal could only be run by a large corporation catering to high-paying up-market walkers at the expense of the existing businesses.

"The Labor Party should give this \$12.8 to the Parks and Wildlife Service but it appears it prefers to help out its corporate mates.

"While the Labor Party promises millions for an environmentally damaging Three Cape Track to support its corporate mates, it continues to starve the Parks and Wildlife Service which manages 40% of Tasmania.

"In December 2009 the Labor Party announced a meagre \$10 million dollars over four years to take its budget back to where it was at a few years ago.

"Not only does the Parks and Wildlife Service continue to be starved of funding, new developments such as the Three Capes Track will place more demand on them to maintain new infrastructure such as the tracks and access roads.

"The TCT has been the state's premier advocate of recreational opportunities in the Tasman Peninsula through publication and sale of 5000 copies of the Peninsula Tracks walking guide since 1996.

"The State Government's proposal is a slap in the face for the TCT and other groups that have promoted greater appreciation and low impact enjoyment of the Tasman Peninsula's magnificent natural attractions," concluded Mr McGlone."

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