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Sent: Friday, 6 October 2023 10:59 PM
To: Policy
Subject: Sustainability Strategy - submission from Taroona Environment Network

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Submission from Taroona Environment Network Inc.

The Taroona Environment Network Inc. (TEN) is a Landcare and environment group whose objects include the protection and conservation of biodiversity and the promotion of ecologically sustainable development. Our practical work focuses on the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems and the removal of invasive weeds.

We welcome the development of a Sustainability Strategy for Tasmania based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). To be effective, the Strategy should provide unambiguous and rigorous sustainability guidelines against which all developments will be assessed.

Given the focus of our organisation, we would like to see a strong emphasis on SDGs 13, 14 and 15, climate action, and the protection, conservation and restoration of natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The importance of biodiversity in sustainability has been reinforced by the United Nations:

When human activities produce greenhouse gases, around half of the emissions remain in the atmosphere, while the other half is absorbed by the land and ocean. These ecosystems – and the biodiversity they contain – are natural carbon sinks, providing so-called nature-based solutions to climate change... Climate change and biodiversity loss ...need to be tackled together if we are to advance the Sustainable Development Goals and secure a viable future on this planet.

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/climate-issues/biodiversity>

Regular *State of the Environment Tasmania* reports should form a useful part of the monitoring system to be incorporated in the Sustainability Strategy.

Taroona Environment Network Inc. also wish to register our interest to participate in further consultation.