

## Statement regarding completion of access licence to Skullbone Plains (Five Rivers Reserve)

<u>Skullbone Plains</u> consist of 1600 hectares (part of the Five Rivers Reserve) of exquisite open valleys, old-growth forests, native grasslands, cushion plants and rare, endangered sphagnum moss beds. The reserve provides critical wild habitat for a species of nationally endangered fish, the Clarence galaxias. The endangered Tasmanian devil, spotted-tailed quoll and wedge-tailed eagle also call Skullbone Plains home.

Skullbone Plains Reserve forms part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area and was purchased and protected by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy (TLC) in 2010, thanks to the generosity of TLC supporters.

In 2012 the TLC entered into an access licence agreement with <u>RiverFly</u> 1864 Pty Ltd for a small standing camp on Skullbone Plains (Five Rivers Reserve). This agreement had a fixed term which will reach completion in May 2021. The TLC acknowledges the agreement between TLC and RiverFly and thank their team and staff for the consideration shown to TLC's Five Rivers Reserve during that time.

The TLC Board recently decided not to enter into a new access licence agreement with RiverFly, or any other operator, at this time. Accordingly, the TLC has, out of courtesy, provided eight months advance notice to RiverFly, giving the company significant time to make alternative arrangements for the 2022 fly fishing season.

The TLC encourages visitor access to our reserves. We continue to facilitate a range of activities (including bushwalking, fishing etc) across our reserve estate. Access is granted on a case-by-case basis (via info@tasland.org.au) to ensure visitor safety, reserve-specific management requirements and conservation values.

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