

old forests NEW MANAGEMENT

MEDIA ALERT: 17 Jan 2008

CLIMATE CHANGE: CAN FORESTS SURVIVE?

The world's temperate forests may have to migrate to higher latitudes and altitudes as the global climate warms up. The issue of whether human intervention will be necessary to help forests cope with climate change and increased fire risk will be addressed when some of the world's leading forest scientists gather at a conference in Hobart from 17-21 February to discuss the future of the world's old forests.

The *Old Forests, New Management* conference is the first of the Sir Mark Oliphant Conferences on the frontiers of science and technology for 2008.

It will explore issues such as:

- The social and spiritual importance of old growth forests
- Whether or not forests need help to cope with climate change
- Managing forest fire risks in a hotter world
- Forests and the global carbon cycle
- Protecting endangered forest species
- Evolving management of Australia's old-growth forests
- Developing silviculture for old growth values
- Beyond old growth timber supply

The *Old Forests, New Management* Sir Mark Oliphant Conference will be held at Hobart's Hotel Grand Chancellor. It features more than 160 scientific presentations and papers about advanced temperate forest management.

The conference is hosted by the CRC for Forestry, Forestry Tasmania and the International Union of Forest Research Organisations and sponsored by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) under the International Science Linkages Programme, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Media are welcome to attend and to interview participants.

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