

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2010

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Tarkine talk tomorrow at Cradle Coast campus

The fine line between exploration and exploitation of Tasmania's Tarkine wilderness will be the subject of a public presentation at the UTAS Cradle Coast campus in Burnie tomorrow (Thursday 14 October 2010).

Architect and environmental designer, Jen Evans has spent the past two years documenting and assessing the Tarkine, to help guide its development as a destination of world renown.

"The physical area that we know as the Tarkine may be well defined but it represents much more than a big green area on a map. The countless hours I have spent in the company of scientists, developers and nature lovers or just exploring the Tarkine on my own terms, have raised more questions- about its future- than answers," she said.

Ms Evans, who has contributed to a soon-to-be-released book on the Tarkine, said three themes have emerged from her experiences of the area, which she describes as sometimes overwhelming.

"I'll be looking at the Tarkine as a place of naturalness – of high quality wilderness values and ancient and diverse landscapes and ecosystems.

"I'll also touch on the contentious nature of exploration and exploitation and how there is often little to separate the two. And finally, I'll reflect on what I'm calling the Tasmanian condition – our fearfulness of the unknown and the power of the wilderness."

This free presentation, *Mystery and the Tarkine – Portent or Potential* is the fifth in a series of sustainable living public lectures organised by the campus' Institute for Regional Development and begins at 7pm.

People interested in attending should call the campus on (03) 6430 4949.

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