

## **Nathan Males, Tasmania, 34 years old**

### **Leadership towards the establishment of 129 private protected areas in Tasmania.**



Nathan Males is a 34 year old Tasmanian conservationist who has already made an outstanding and inspiring contribution to protecting biodiversity through establishment and management of protected areas in Tasmania.

Since June 2001, Nathan is the founder and CEO of the Tasmanian Land Conservancy, a non-profit community based organisation that has been the pioneer of conservation covenanting on private land in Tasmania. It has quickly become an

important partner of government in delivering outcomes on private lands.

His objective was to establish an organization that could raise donated funds as well as available government grants to acquire land and work with private landowners to establish private nature reserves.

In 2005 Nathan was awarded a 'World of Difference' award by Vodafone providing funds for him to work full time as CEO for the Conservancy and build its activities further.

With this and increasing community funding Nathan and a small team of staff have been able to progress in

- Raising funds to acquire land to be managed in perpetuity by the Conservancy;
- Acquiring property, protecting it using a legally binding conservation covenant and re-selling it to new owners willing to manage it as a reserve. The funds are then used to acquire more property.
- Working with other private landowners to establish and manage their own private nature reserves by entering legally binding conservation covenants.

With a starting up funding of just \$ 49 in 2001, TLC has now expanded to employ 16 expert conservation and fundraising staff.

Nathan aims to continue to build the Conservancy, creating up to 40 new private protected areas per year guided by a strategic landscape planning approach. His vision is to contribute towards the completion of a protected area system in Tasmania which can become a leading global model for effective protection of biodiversity.

For more information on Tasmanian Land Conservancy: <http://www.tasland.org.au/>

Photographer: Matthew Newton