Douglas-Apsley National Park
Management Plan
1993
DOUGLAS-APSLEY NATIONAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN 1993

This management plan for the Douglas-Apsley National Park has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of part IV of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970.

A draft of this plan was released for public comment in accordance with statutory requirements from 30 November 1992 until 15 January 1993.

This plan is a modified version of that draft, having been varied to take account of public input during that period and the views of the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Unless otherwise specified, this plan adopts the interpretation of terms given in Section 3 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970. The term “Minister” when used in the plan means the Minister administering the Act. The statutory position of Director of National Parks and Wildlife is held by the Director of the Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment and Land Management. The term “Park” refers to the Douglas-Apsley National Park.

In accordance with Section 23(2) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, the managing authority for the Park, in this case the Director of National Parks and Wildlife, shall carry out his or her duties in relation to the Park for the purpose of giving effect to, and in accordance with the provisions of, this management plan.

APPROVAL

This management plan was approved by His Excellency the Governor-in-Council on 20 September 1993 and took effect on 20 October 1993 being seven days after publication of that approval in the Government Gazette.

The approval of the inclusion of Section 3.13 by both Houses of the Parliament of Tasmania was gazetted in accordance with Section 21 (3A) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970 on 3 November 1993.

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INTRODUCTION

The Douglas-Apsley National Park is Tasmania's newest National Park. The proposal for a Douglas-Apsley National Park was first made in the 1970s following public concern about the large scale clearing of Tasmania's dry sclerophyll forest for agriculture and for the export woodchip industry. Studies of the plants and animals of the Douglas-Apsley area subsequently confirmed its conservation significance. The area was declared a National Park on 27 December, 1989 by Statutory Rule No. 210 of 1989.

The Director of the Parks and Wildlife Service is the managing authority for the Park and is charged with the preparation of a management plan for the Park in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970.

This management plan is comprised of three parts. Part 1 gives an account of those features of the area that are seen to particularly influence the management objectives and prescriptions for the Park. Part 2 sets out the management objectives. Part 3 sets out the prescriptions for management necessary for achieving the management objectives for the Park. Parts 2 and 3 constitute the plan as required by the Act. The plan may only be varied in accordance with the procedures set out in Sections 19 and 20 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970 and, in any case, will be reviewed within five years from the time of approval of the plan by the Governor.

Many organisations and individuals have assisted in the preparation of this plan by providing information and comments on earlier drafts. Their time and effort is gratefully acknowledged.
PART 1 ACCOUNT OF THE AREA

1.1 LOCATION, REGIONAL CONTEXT AND ACCESS

1.1.1 Location and Regional Context

The Douglas-Apsley National Park is located close to the east coast of Tasmania between Bicheno and St Marys (Map 1). Freycinet National Park lies some 50 kilometres by road to the south. A number of coastal reserves and nature reserves occur along the coast to the east of the Park. These include the Lagoons Beach Coastal Reserve, Seymour Coastal Reserve and the Denison Rivulet Coastal Reserve. To the west, lies the Hardings Falls Forest Reserve and the Mt Puzzler Forest Reserve. To the north of the Park lies the Lower Marsh Creek Forest Reserve. The Moulting Lagoon Game Reserve lies to the south along the road to Freycinet National Park. The regional context for the Park in relationship to other reserves in the area is the protection of the last large untouched area of dry sclerophyll forest along the east coast of Tasmania.

1.1.2 Vehicular Access

There is no sealed road access to the Park but access is provided by a number of unsealed roads and tracks (Map 2). None of these roads and tracks are provided or maintained by the Parks and Wildlife Service. There is two wheel drive vehicle access through both the north-west corner of the Park and a section of the former Apsley Myrtle Forest Reserve in the west of the Park along the restricted access MG road built by Tasmanian Pulp and Forest Holdings Limited for timber extraction and now operated and maintained by APPM Forest Products. Several two wheel drive roads lead up to the eastern boundary of the Park. To the south-east, the most accessible route to the park is along Rosedale Road from just north of Bicheno to the Apsley River, and in the north east two wheel drive access via the E and E4 logging roads reaches the Park boundary. However, several kilometres of this route from the Tasman Highway is along a road privately owned by APPM Forest Products and the company maintains its right to restrict access if it desires. In the south, two wheel drive access is possible along the O logging road from Cherry Tree Hill on the Tasman Highway south of Bicheno.

A series of four wheel drive roads and tracks run up to the Park boundary through private land to the east of the Park. On the northern and western perimeters of the Park there is four wheel drive access along forestry roads, some of which dissect the Park. Similarly, a series of four wheel drive tracks constructed during mineral exploration cross the Park.

1.1.3 Walking Access

A walking track traverses the Park from north to south, being accessible in the north from Dalmanyne Road off Elephant Pass or the end of the E4 road accessible from the Tasman Highway, and in the south, accessed by Rosedale Road.

1.2 AREA, BOUNDARIES & TENURE

1.2.1 Area

The area of the Park is approximately 16080 hectares. It stretches some 25 kilometres from north to south and is approximately 8.5 kilometres wide at its widest point.

Because of municipal boundary changes resulting from local government amalgamation, all of the Park now lies in the Municipality of Break O'Day.
1.2.2 Boundaries

The boundaries of the Park are set out on Plan Number L.D. 1134 registered in the Central Plan Office, Department of Environment and Land Management.

The north-east, north, west and southern boundaries of the Park abut State Forest while the eastern boundary of the Park adjoins private land. Most of the adjoining freehold land forms part of large agricultural properties but south of the Douglas River sub-division of marginal agricultural land into rural residential blocks has occurred.

In the north of the Park, boundaries were principally determined with the intention of protecting the catchment of the Douglas River. However, mapping information available at the time of the declaration of the Park included inaccurate locations of some tracks used to define the boundaries of the Park along the north western side of the Park. Since grid references were used to register the boundary, the boundary is not consistent with the original intended location. As a result, some adjustment of the north western boundary of the Park will be necessary if the intent of catchment protection is to be realised.

There are proposals to limit the depth below the ground surface to which the boundaries of National Parks extend. This plan applies within the boundaries of the National Park as determined from time to time in accordance with statutory requirements.

1.2.3 Reservation and National Estate Registration of Park

The reservation of the Park was formally proclaimed on 27 December 1989 by Statutory Rule No. 210 of 1989.

In 1984, most of the area that is now the Park was nominated for, and then on 21 February, 1989 listed, on the Register of the National Estate.

Three trees in the Park were registered on the National Trust of Australia Significant Tree Register in June 1990 (Refer to Section 1.6.2).

1.2.4 Private Tenure

A 10.17 hectare block of private land lies wholly within the Park in the Thompsons Marshes area near the north-east boundary. In the south, a block of private land is situated in a key location adjacent to the boundary at the entrance to the Park near the end of Rosedale Road. This land, close by the Apsley River swimming hole, was given to the Wilderness Society and dedicated by them to the memory of Arthur Jones.

1.2.5 State Forest

Except for the private land within the Park and two areas purchased by the Forestry Commission in 1986 which then became Crown land, the entire Park was State Forest until December 1991 when State Forest in the Douglas-Apsley National Park was revoked by the Public Land (Administration and Forests) Act 1991.

1.2.6 Mineral Exploration

The Shell Co. of Australia Limited holds three Retention Licences over parts of the National Park (Retention Licences 879, 8710, and 8711). The licences, which remain in force until 3 August 1993, give the holder authority to carry out investigations to evaluate the potential of the area for coal mining (Map 7).
The retention licences were granted prior to the declaration of the National Park and hence constitute a private right which may be retained in accordance with Section 24(3) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970.

Conditions applying to the retention licences require that any activity to investigate the coal resource in the area must be approved by the Mineral Exploration Working Group. The Working Group comprises representatives of the -

Director of Mines, Mineral Resources Tasmania
Director, National Parks and Wildlife
Director, Department of Environment and Land Management
Chief Commissioner, Forestry Commission

Any program of investigation will require the approval in writing of the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife in consultation with the Minister for Mines.

1.2.7 Exercise of Statutory Powers

Section 24(1) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970 governs the exercise of certain statutory powers (as defined in the Act) in State Reserves, including National Parks, and requires that any that are to be exercised be authorised in the management plan. To take effect, any provision in the management plan which authorises the exercise of any such statutory power for the purpose of permitting the use or a development of a State Reserve other than under the powers conferred by the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, must be approved by both Houses of Parliament in accordance with Section 21(2) & (3) of the Act.

The powers of any agencies related to matters such as search and rescue and law enforcement do not require authorisation in the management plan.

1.3 TOPOGRAPHY AND LANDSCAPE

The Douglas-Apsley National Park consists of a dolerite capped plateau deeply dissected by river gorges. Prominent dolerite features such as Nichols Cap rise above deep boulder strewn river gorges surrounded by steep forested slopes which rise abruptly from the adjacent narrow coastal plain to form the characteristic landscape of the Park.

The Douglas River, whose catchment to about three kilometres from its mouth is wholly contained within the Park boundaries, is a substantially unaltered natural landscape except for some logged coupes in the Dogwood Hill area adjacent to the northern boundary of the Park. The river features several dramatic waterfalls in its fall from the headwaters at an altitude of 540 metres to sea level, through some 20 kilometres length. The headwaters of the river rise in the Thompsons Marshes.

The Denison Rivulet catchment, which is also wholly contained within the Park except for about two kilometres from the Park boundary to the sea, remains a substantially unaltered natural landscape. The Denison Marshes, a smaller marsh area than Thompsons Marshes, occur along the middle and upper reaches of the Denison Rivulet.

The Apsley River contains a series of steep gorges and, near the south-east boundary of the Park, a number of easily accessible and popular swimming holes. The river supplies Bicheno with water (Refer to Section 1.11).

The north-western side of the Park rises in places to just over 700 metres a.s.l. while the lowest point occurs where the Denison Rivulet leaves the Park in the south east at approximately 20 metres a.s.l.
1.4 GEOLOGY, GEOMORPHOLOGY AND SOILS

1.4.1 Geology

The predominant rock type in the Douglas-Apsley National Park is Jurassic dolerite forming a cap on the plateaux and hills of the Park over the essentially flat-lying Parmeener Super Group. The Upper Parmeener Super Group, wholly Triassic in age, lies usually disconformably over the Permian Lower Parmeener Super Group sediments.

The Upper Parmeener Super Group sediments consist of an interbedded sequence of lithic sandstone, mudstone, siltstone and coal, while the Lower Parmeener Super Group has been informally divided into a lower Marine Sequence (predominantly black mudstone with dropstones; marine fossils at top), a lower Freshwater Sequence (predominantly well-sorted quartz sandstone, minor carbonaceous mudstone and coal), and an Upper Freshwater Sequence (subdivided into a basal limestone, followed by a poorly sorted glauconitic sandstone, followed by a dark grey mudstone with foraminifera, sparse drop-stones and rare woody debris).

These Parmeener Super Group sediments were gently folded prior to the intrusion of the Jurassic dolerite which began about the time that Gondwanaland began to split up about 165 million years ago. The Jurassic dolerite intruded up faults and other zones of weakness in the folded and cleaved Devonian Mathinna Beds basement rocks (Map 4). Columnar jointing and features such as the needles of Nichols Cap were probably formed by cooling and regional movements of the dolerite.

Extensively altered pyroclastics of rhyolitic to rhyodacitic composition have been found near Bicheno including, in situ, in the Denison Rivulet inside the Park (Bacon & Everard, 1981). The rock texture indicates ash-fall tuff formed by aerial deposition of ash, thus showing the presence of volcanic rock in the Tasmanian Triassic.

1.4.2 Geomorphology

The landform of the Park has evolved as erosion by water produced the deeply dissecting river valleys and gorges. Weathering of a retreating escarpment, possibly by periglacial solifluction during the Pleistocene, has mantled slopes in the Park with dolerite talus. Landslips have transported the dolerite downhill and active landslips occur on the steep slopes of the river valleys. Further research on the talus slopes may provide important information on periglacial conditions in eastern Tasmania.

The deeply eroded river gorges in the Park have exposed coal bearing outcrops in Triassic lithic sandstone of the Upper Parmeener Super Group.

Areas of stream alluvium and swamp deposits are found predominantly in marsh areas and alluvial sand and gravel occur on the coastal plain immediately to the east of the Park.

Many faults, probably of Tertiary age, occur in the Park; some of which are not readily located or specified. Along the north-east edge of the Park, a series of faults run approximately NW-SE towards Seymour on the coast.

1.4.3 Soils

The information on soils within the Park set out below is drawn from Davies (1988).

On the hilltops and plateau areas of the Park, exposed stony crests and outcrops have a shallow stony dark brown loam soil developed on bedrock. Shallow stony yellowish brown to strong brown duplex soils occur on the exposed upper slopes and flats while protected slopes contain a deep stony gradational soil with a clay loam surface over a yellowish red to yellowish brown, medium clay.
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At lower altitudes, steep exposed stony slopes have a shallow duplex soil, with a clay loam surface over a yellowish brown, heavy clay.

Marshes and swamps within the Park contain a deep gradational, black to light grey clay with a strong brown mottle.

The land is not particularly prone to erosion although gully erosion is sometimes evident on the lower slopes associated with drainage lines. Waterlogging and flooding hazards are associated with the marshes and swamps.

Exposed upper slopes on hills near where the Douglas River leaves the Park contain a shallow stony duplex soil consisting of a hardsetting, fine sandy loam surface over a grey, heavy clay with a yellowish brown mottle. This area is particularly susceptible to sheet, rill and gully erosion.

At the entrance to the Park at the end of Rosedale Road, undulating flats formed on sediments of the Upper Parmeener Super Group occur. Slopes contain a deep duplex soil consisting of a fine sandy loam to clay loam surface over a light grey to yellowish brown clay. Flats contain a clay loam surface over a light grey to grey clay with a yellowish brown mottle. The area is particularly vulnerable to sheet, rill, gully, streambank and tunnel erosion, whilst waterlogging and flooding hazards are associated with the drainage flats.

The impact of fire on the soil types of the Park is poorly understood (Pemberton, pers. comm.). Therefore, soils and soil development must be considered in determining an appropriate fire management regime.

1.5 CLIMATE

Generally, the central east coast of Tasmania has a dry mild climate with Bicheno claiming the warmest winter climate of any town in Tasmania. However, there is a large disparity between the rainfall patterns in the north and south of the Douglas-Apsley National Park. (Map 5)

In the north where altitudes of 700 metres are reached, rainfall is high. Periodic heavy orographic rainfall occurs when mists and moisture laden air from easterly weather patterns collect and precipitate on the high hills and plateau of the northern section of the Park.

Rainfall records at Gray, just to the north-east of the Park, show a mean annual rainfall of 1279 mm. In contrast, the township of Bicheno near the southern end of the Park has an average annual rainfall of 760 mm (Appendix I).

At an altitude of 10 metres and in immediate proximity to the sea, Bicheno has a mean maximum of 21.4 C and a mean minimum of 12.7 C in the warmest month of February. July which is the coolest month, has a mean maximum of 13.8 C and a mean minimum of 6.0 C. No temperature records are kept at Gray, but cooler temperatures occur in the higher altitudes of the Park away from the coast (Appendix I).

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the Park rarely experiences snow and certainly the harsh winter conditions prevalent in National Parks in other parts of the state do not occur. As a result of the periodic heavy rains in the north of the Park, rivers and streams are subject to periodic flooding which could pose a hazard to park users.
1.6 VEGETATION

1.6.1 Introduction

The Douglas-Apsley National Park conserves a representative example of Tasmania's dry sclerophyll forest. As Statham (1986) points out, the catchments of the Douglas and Apsley Rivers contain the largest tracts of substantially unaltered dry sclerophyll vegetation remaining in Tasmania. The Park contains a diversity of communities of high conservation value and includes many restricted endemic species (Appendix II).

1.6.2 General Account

Much of the following account of the vegetation is drawn from the work of Duncan (1983).

Climatic and edaphic conditions have favoured the development of eucalypt-dominated open forests and woodlands with a predominantly xeric (hard leaved) understorey. However, mesic (soft leaved) species dominate the understorey on well drained sites with comparatively high moisture availability, such as gullies and shaded south and east-facing slopes.

Fourteen species of eucalypts have been recorded in the Park; five of these species are endemic to Tasmania. With the exception of closed-forest, comprising rainforest and mixed forest, communities in the Park can be identified in terms of their composition and canopy cover of their eucalypt overstorey.

Ten communities have been identified in the Park. These can be considered as nodal points on a vegetation continuum, with major axes appearing to reflect susceptibility of sites to drought, to waterlogging, and altitude above sea level. Riverine vegetation, with a disjoint mosaic of communities whose structure and composition are determined by orientation of river valleys and susceptibility of sites to flooding, also occurs.

Transition zones between communities tend to be wide, though sharp boundaries are encountered along rivers, and at the interface between well drained slopes and flats subject to waterlogging.

Several communities within the Park have a high conservation priority. These high priority communities are riverine scrub, *E. pulchella* - *E. viminalis* ± *E. barberi* (low) woodlands, *E. sieberi* ± *E. amygdalina* - *E. viminalis* open forest, *E. pauciflora* ± *E. amygdalina* - *E. dalrympleana* woodland, *E. tenuiramis* - *E. viminalis* open forest, and *E. rodwayi* (low open) woodland.

Old growth, unlogged stands of (tall) open-forests dominated by *E. delegatensis*, *E. obliqua* or *E. amygdalina* are also found throughout the Park.

The Park contains some mixed forests with emergent eucalypts and pockets of rainforest with sassafras *Atherosperma moschatum* the community dominant, while myrtle *Notothfagus cunninghamii* is occasional. On the east coast, this callidendrous rainforest community (Jarman et al., 1984) is usually found on fire protected steep south or east facing slopes and in deep gullies, creeks and along gorges. Neyland (1991) identifies 2 floristic groups occurring in the Park as callidendrous sassafras-musk rainforest and callidendrous myrtle rainforest.

Many restricted endemic species occur in the Park. *Epacris limbata* is known only from the mid-stream reaches of the Douglas River and Duncan (1986) records the presence of the rasp fern *Doodia media* which is not well reserved. The Douglas River gorge also has scientific interest for the presence of several alpine and subalpine species, including the conifer *Podocarpus lawrencii* (MacPhail & Moscal, 1981). In the Blindburn Creek area, the rare endemics *Pullenaea selaginoides* and *Spyridium microphyllum* can be found (Kirkpatrick et al., 1980). *Telopea truncata* has been recorded in a creek gully near Thompsons Marshes (Weston, pers. comm.). The southern portion of the Park lies within a centre of local endemism identified by

LEGEND
- Park boundary
- - Vegetation survey boundary

DISTRIBUTION OF PLANT COMMUNITIES
- Closed forest (Myrtaceous and Mixed forest)
- E. delgadillo - E. viminalis open forest
- E. haemato - E. viminalis open forest
- E. amygdalina - E. viminalis open forest
- E. lanigera - E. viminalis open forest
- E. serotina - E. amygdalina - E. viminalis open forest
- E. juniper E. amygdalina - E. viminalis woodland
- E. obtusifolia - low open woodland
- E. nitida - low open woodland
- E. juncifoli E. viminalis - E. barbinervis low woodland
- Logged areas within survey area

KEY TO INDICATED FEATURES
- Thompsons Marsh
- Badgood Hill
- Usutaul Hill
- Nichols Cop
- Organ Hill
- Mount Allan
- Pinnacles Knob
- Gordon Knob
- Mts Andrew

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Kirkpatrick and Brown (1984) who note that the centre of endemism occurs in what is presently the driest part of the east coast. This, they argue, supports the suggestion that effective rainfall during the Last Glacial was less in eastern Tasmania than at present.

A fine stand of *Callitris oblonga* is found on the Apsley River upstream of the Apsley Gorge. This species, now considered to be endemic, has a restricted distribution in Tasmania (Harris, 1989).

Three stringybark trees, *Eucalyptus obliqua*, were registered on the National Trust of Australia Significant Tree Register in June 1990. The trees, some 300 years old and 50 metres high are located about a half a kilometre to the west of the Douglas River and a kilometre to the north of the Mayson River.

Understorey species diversity is high throughout much of the Park, particularly in the shrub strata in open forest and woodland communities. This is largely attributable to a comparatively low fire frequency, with the area being spared the frequent burning practised in more accessible forest areas. Future fire management requires careful planning if diversity is to be maintained.

The fungal disease *Phytophthora cinnamoni* has been identified within the Park, causing a possible threat to the rare and vulnerable plant species in the Park. The true extent of the infection is as yet unknown but careful management will be required to prevent its spread.

Some introduced species, including *Hedera helix*, are found on the private block of land in the north of the Park, and introduced weeds are found along forestry and mining tracks.

There has been a major resource inventory of the park undertaken (TASFORHAB, Peters & Cordy, 1986) using transects 400 metres apart with survey plots located, in most instances, 200 metres apart along each transect (See Appendix VI). These extensive data base profiles comprise floristic, structural and environmental data. This data can be accessed for a range of applications, including research into fire behaviour, fire effects on community dynamics, modelling distribution of rare species and projects reliant on a high resolution spatial data base. Peters and Cordy (1986) derived a series of ecotones for the Douglas-Apsley area which represent areas of high conservation value because of their ecological variation. Proposals for development within the Park need to take into account these conservation values.

The Douglas-Apsley National Park is an invaluable reserve of the community and species diversity of Tasmania's dry sclerophyll forests, and as such has an important role in the conservation of these communities and species. Management of the Park must give full attention to these values and encourage further research and inventory of the flora in the Park. Fire management and disease control constitute the main requirements from the perspective of conservation of the flora of the Park. These requirements will also impact on site development proposals, and access by vehicles and walkers.

1.7 FAUNA

1.7.1 Introduction

Information on the vertebrate and invertebrate fauna occurring in the Park is incomplete. Some survey work has been done on birds, fish and invertebrates. However, overall knowledge of the animal life of the park is poor and requires further research.

1.7.2 Mammals

No systematic recording of mammals has been undertaken in the Park. Observations during TASFORHAB (Peters & Cordy, 1986) surveys and knowledge of habitat preferences of Tasmanian mammals provide an idea of the likely range of mammals to be found. Statham
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(1986) reports that forest provides the optimum habitat for twenty seven Tasmanian mammals although twelve of these species are residents who are non dependent on forests for their survival. Most of the twenty seven mammals are likely to occur in the Park but their conservation status is uncertain (Appendix III).

The Tasmanian bettong Betongia gaimardi can be expected to occur in parts of the park since the bettong is restricted to the drier forests of the central and eastern parts of Tasmania (Hocking, 1989) and has been recorded near the coast at the bottom of Elephant Pass (Rose, 1986). The bettong is of potentially vulnerable conservation status (Driessen et al., 1990) and favours an open grassy understorey habitat. For this reason, fire is important in maintaining its habitat not only to maintain the grassy understorey but to stimulate fruiting of mycorrhizal fungi upon which the bettong feeds. Therefore, while Johnson (1978) says fire frequency should be managed to ensure availability of nesting materials and sites, fire management should take account of the role of high fire frequency in maintaining bettong habitat (Driessen et al., 1990). Although knowledge of the two species of pygmy possum is limited, Cercartetus nanus nanus has been found in the Park (Skira, pers. comm.) and Cercartetus lepidus is likely to occur.

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The tiger cat Dasyurus maculatus maculatus may occur although the tiger cat is now uncommon over most of its range in Tasmania.

All of the eight species of bats described for Tasmania are likely to occur in the Park (Statham, 1986).

While the macropods, Bennetts wallaby Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus, red-bellied pademelon Thylogale billardierii and the long-nosed potoroo Potorous tridactylus apicalis should occur, it is very unlikely that the forester kangaroo Macropus giganteus tasmaniensis is now present.

The endangered white footed dunnart Sminthopsis leucopus leucopus may occur in the Park but its ecology is poorly known and further research is needed to determine this.

1.7.3 Birds

Sixty-two bird species have been recorded in the Park, although it is likely that another five unrecorded species are present, given knowledge of their usual habitat and distribution (Appendix IV). However, information on numbers and distribution of species within the Park is scarce.

Both of the endemic non-passerines, the Tasmanian native hen Gallinula mortierii and the green rosella Platycercus caledonicus occur in the Park as does the vulnerable swift parrot Lathamus discolor. A number of raptors have been recorded including the wedge tail eagle Aquila audax fleayi and nocturnal species such as the Australian owlet-nightjar Aegotheles cristatus tasmanicus and the tawny frogmouth Podargus strigoides strigoides are probably widespread but rarely seen. Also rarely seen are the spotted quail thrush Cinclosoma punctatum dovei and painted button quail Turnix variā variā which both live on the ground and are considered vulnerable to fire. The introduced kookaburra Dacelo novaeguineae novaeguineae appears to be common in the dry sclerophyll forests.

1.7.4 Reptiles

The tiger snake Notechis ater is recorded in the Park as are a number of skinks including Whites skink Egeria whitei and the ocellated skink Niveoscincus ocellatus. Both the copperhead snake Austrelaps superbus and the white-lipped whip snake Drysdalia coronoides are predicted to occur in habitats within the Park (Longmore, 1986). It is likely that both the metallic skink Niveoscincus metallicus and the southern bluetongue lizard Tiliqua nigrolutea occur as they have been recorded adjacent to the Park (Rawlinson, 1974). The mountain dragon Tympanocryptis diemensis has been recorded near the Apsley River causeway at the end of O Road (Nagel, pers. comm.).
1.7.5 Amphibians

No systematic survey of amphibians has been undertaken in the Park, but the endemic Tasmanian froglet *Ranidella tasmaniensis* has been recorded as have *Ranidella signifera* and *Litoria ewingii* (Wilson, 1984). The southern toadlet *Pseudophryne semimarmorata* has been found on the Mt Allen ridgetop (Mesibov, pers. comm.)

1.7.6 Fish

The rare freshwater fish, the Australian or southern grayling *Prototroctes maraena* occurs in the Douglas River which according to Sloane (1981) may be the last stronghold of the grayling on the east coast of Tasmania. While further research may establish additional populations of the fish, the Douglas River remains one of the very few rivers inhabited by the fish whose catchment is virtually entirely protected and unaltered. Wilson (1984) has also reported the fish in the Apsley Gorge. In Victoria where the fish is not protected, the conservation status of the fish is “Vulnerable” (Koehn & O’Connor, 1990) while in Tasmania the conservation status is “Potentially Threatened”. In accordance with Regulation 7 of the *Inland Fisheries Regulations 1973*, the taking of the species is prohibited in Tasmania because of the decline of fish numbers.

The grayling was once common in Tasmanian coastal streams and, in the last century, popular with anglers. A recent article in a popular national angling magazine (Stackpole, 1991) describes the virtues of the fish as a sporting fish and suggests chasing the grayling again but in Tasmania this is illegal because of the risks to surviving fish populations. In common with the now extinct New Zealand species, the decline of the grayling occurred very rapidly after European settlement. Reasons for the decline have not been established with certainty but it appears to be related to interference with stream ecology through deforestation and the construction of dams and weirs. The introduction of brown trout may also be partly responsible for the decline (McDowall, 1976).

Three species of Galaxias, *G. maculatus*, *G. truttaceus*, & *G. brevipinnis*, have been recorded in the Park. Other native freshwater fish recorded include the lampreys *Geotria australis* and *Mordacia mordax*, a congoili *Pseudaphritis urvilli* and the Tamar goby *Favonigobius tamarensis* (Sloane, 1984).

Two species of freshwater eels are found in the Park. Both the long-finned eel *Anguilla reinhardtii* and the short-finned eel *A. australis* occur in the lower reaches of the Douglas River while in the headwaters of the river in Thompsons Marshes only the short-finned eel has been recorded (Sloane, 1984).

Sparse populations of the introduced brown trout *Salmo trutta* are also found in the rivers of the Park (Sloane, 1984).

1.7.7 Invertebrates

Considering the Tasmanian invertebrate fauna totals an estimated 32,000 species, knowledge of such fauna in the park is extremely limited. A land snail survey (Mesibov, 1988), undertaken for and entered on the TASFORHAB data base, found 21 identifiable native species of land snail, the introduced slug *Arion intermedius* and a species not previously recorded in Tasmania which has tentatively been placed in the family *Charopidae*. Wet forest contained the highest populations of snails and marshland the lowest populations.

Although no studies have been undertaken in the Park, records show occurrences of the hairstreak butterfly *Pseudalmenus chlorinda* to the west and south west of the Park. This butterfly, which must be considered vulnerable in Tasmania (Prince, 1988), has a complex life cycle involving a symbiotic relationship with a species of ant, *Iridomyrmex foetans*. It almost always relies on an association of *Acacia dealbata* as a larval food plant and mature eucalypt trees, most commonly *Eucalyptus viminalis* for pupation under the bark. To date, *P. chlorinda*
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has been recorded predominantly on sites of low altitude generally less than 75 metres. Potential habitat for this butterfly occurs in the Park and research needs to be undertaken to determine if the butterfly is present (Refer to Map 6 - Vegetation).

Velvet worms have been recorded in the Park and all species of velvet worms are regarded as vulnerable by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (Mesibov, 1990). The onychophorans *Ooperipatellus insignus* and the rare blind velvet worm *Tasmanipatus anophthalmus* occur in the north east area of the Park. The blind velvet worm thrives in flowlines and steep wet slopes that are unlogged and unburned. The Stonyford, Cliff and Doctors Creek catchments constitute the main habitat area of the blind velvet worm in the Park. The worms need to be protected from destructive wildfire since onychophorans can be killed and their microhabitats destroyed by fires that are too hot, too frequent or both.

1.7.8 Introduced Species

Feral cats *Felis catus* have been reported in the Park but the numbers and distribution of the cats are unknown. Cats pose a serious threat to native fauna, particularly birds and the smaller mammals.

Anecdotal reports of feral goats *Capra hircus* have not been confirmed and although fallow deer *Dama dama dama* are found to the west of the Park, there are no records of deer within it. Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus cuniculus* are found particularly along the eastern perimeter of the Park adjacent to farmland.

The sugar glider *Petaurus breviceps breviceps*, introduced from mainland Australia, is believed to occur and the introduced kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae novaeguineae* is common in the Park.

The brown trout *Salmo trutta* is found in limited numbers in the rivers of the Park.

1.8 HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

1.8.1 Aboriginal History

The Douglas-Apsley National Park lies within the northern end of the territory of the Oyster Bay tribe. Based on data in the journals of George Augustus Robinson (Plomley, 1966), two bands of the tribe occupied the area of the east coast where the Park lies. In the north, the Leetermairremener band's territory was between St Patricks Head and the Douglas River. From the Douglas River south to the Swan River mouth lay the territory of the Plangummairremener band.

Each band comprised a number of family groups, with band numbers ranging between 30 to 80 people. Although bands were based in their own territory, they also moved over the territories of other friendly bands. (Brown, 1991) Based on evidence available in the journals of the early European explorers, the boundary between the territory of the Oyster Bay tribe and the North Midlands tribe ran through the eastern tier country which includes the Douglas-Apsley National Park (Ferguson, 1986). Evidence suggests that relations between the two tribes were hostile (Brown, 1991) and Ferguson (1986) says that the Douglas-Apsley region may have served as a little used and dangerous borderland between the hostile tribes. Certainly, there is not a great deal of evidence of Aboriginal activity in the Park which "suggests that the area was probably never intensely utilized by Aboriginal people" (Ferguson, 1986, p 22) and Cosgrove (1988, p 104) says "that past Aboriginal use of forested environments in the hilly rugged terrain of the east coast was limited. The small sites found reflect short infrequent visits to either certain resource rich environments or campsites used briefly along trackways."
The key determinant in the location of Aboriginal sites is topography with sites being most dense along river and creek valley floors and adjacent gently sloping, north facing hill slopes and on the break of slope on forest/marsh edges (Ranson, pers. comm.). Large sites are very uncommon on steep slopes (Brown, 1986). It is possible that a route of traverse from the coast to the midlands may have existed during times of amicable relations between tribes. The most likely route was up the Douglas River to the Thompsons Marshes and then down the Dukes River to the midlands. The greatest density of recorded sites is in the Thompsons Marshes area, but it is still unlikely that the area was ever extensively used (Ferguson, 1986).

While Harris (1981) recorded stone tools and Ferguson (1986) found a number of sites, to date the Aboriginal sites recorded in the Park are assessed to be of low to moderate significance (Ferguson, 1986). Ferguson’s assessment is the result of the only detailed study of the Douglas-Apsley area, undertaken with the approval of and in consultation with the Aboriginal community. However, future discoveries are possible, particularly along river courses and around marshes. As Cosgrove (1990) points out, the potential for heavily forested areas to contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation is high. Therefore, care must be taken if any development is proposed in the Park to ensure full assessment of possible Aboriginal heritage.

1.8.2 Mining

Coal was discovered in a creek south of the Douglas River in 1843, and in May 1849 the Douglas River Coal Company was formed. Shafts were sunk close to the Denison Rivulet just at the eastern boundary of the Park and these workings were known as the "Inner Mines". The first recorded sale of coal from the area occurred in Hobart Town in October, 1850 when 10 tons were auctioned. Adits were also dug on the banks of the Denison Rivulet upstream of the Inner Mines (within the area which is now the Park) in 1898 and two adits may be seen in the bed of the Rivulet today (Bacon, 1984/22).

To the north, two outcrops of coal in the bed of the Douglas River some 6 kilometres upstream of the mouth of the river were described in 1849. A number of seams were reported further upstream in 1861. A short tunnel was dug into an outcrop of coal in Coal Creek in 1886 and a short drive was dug in 1891 on the north bank of the Douglas River into the eastern most outcrop. In 1921, it was reported that the Mt John Coal Company was working the area and production for 1925 was 25 tons. An adit can be seen today in the bank of the Douglas River below Organ Hill about 10 minutes walk upstream from where the north-south walking track crosses the river. At the crossing, the remains of stone structures can be observed near the camping area on the south bank of the river.

In 1888, the Department of Mines drilled a hole approximately 1 kilometre north of the Douglas River and 1 kilometre west of the Park’s eastern boundary to determine coal intersections (Bacon, 1984/14).

In 1861, an outcrop of coal was reported from upper Piccaninny Creek to the north east of the Park boundary. Various leases for mining coal were issued, changing hands many times.

The Dalmayne Collieries Company commenced operations in 1914 and in August 1917 the mine was officially opened. An aerial ropeway transported the coal from the mine to Piccaninny Point where the coal was loaded onto boats from a 180 metre long jetty. The jetty was badly damaged by stormy weather in 1918 and the mine closed. The mine reopened in 1939 with the coal being transported by road to St Marys. In 1950, a second drive was begun to the south but by 1953 the mine closed (Bacon & Calver, 1984).

In 1978, the Shell Co. of Australia Limited in a joint venture with Industrial Mining and Investigations Pty Ltd began exploration for coal over much of the area which now forms the National Park. Consequently a network of tracks was constructed in the area to service a series of drill sites. Exploration revealed that a significant part of the area is underlain by confirmed steaming coal reserves which amount to approximately 36% of the State’s coal reserves. Further reserves are likely to occur in the area. The coal is unsuitable for coking-coal and
uncompetitive for export steaming coal, but adequate for power generation. The company holds retention licences over much of the area until 3 August, 1993 (Refer to Section 1.2.6 and Map 7).

1.8.3 Farming and Trapping

There is little reference to the area of the Park in published histories and most of the following information is drawn from unpublished work by Gee (1991).

On the private land in the north of the Park at Thompsons Marshes are the ruins of an old farmhouse known as "Thorne’s". Dated from between 1870 and 1890, all that remains is a rapidly deteriorating stone chimney, low stone walls forming enclosures and some grassy cleared areas with some introduced weed species and ivy *Hedera helix*. Nearby, the outlines of furrows and drains are still visible. Just inside the Park boundary east of Nichols Cap, in two separate locations along an old track, are the remains of stone hearths and low stone walls. A sawmill was once located between the eastern boundary of the Park and Nichols Cap.

In the early part of the 20th century, Jacob Madsen ran dry cattle on Madsens Marsh (possibly that now known as Hunters Marsh). Some of these cattle escaped and ran wild in the region. However, during the Depression wild unbranded cattle were hunted out. Dukes, Thompsons and several other smaller marshes were regularly used for grazing over many years. The marshes were regularly burned to provide good feed for cattle. In the north, cattle were driven into the area along the old Thompsons Marshes road, now known as Dalmayne Road. At different times, grazing leases have been granted over portions of the former State Forest now in the Park. The most recent of these, which was to the north of Bedggood Hill, expired at the end of 1989.

Professional trapping began in the area in about 1921 in response to the rising value of skins after World War 1. There were 14 or 15 men working the region but by the end of World War 2 snaring fell away as prices fell and other work became available. Kangaroo, wallaby, ringtail and brushtail possums were considered properly furred from May to August and the snarers spent several days at a time out in the bush using the same camps throughout the season. In summer, snarers would patch burn areas they wanted for the next season as the burn encouraged feed for the animals. The burns ran in a cycle of about four to five years and would run until a previously fired area was reached.

1.8.4 Forest Management

At the turn of the century, some minor logging occurred around Thompsons Marshes and during the coal mining period some logging occurred, probably in the Mt Andrew area, for pit props and tramway construction along the Denison Rivulet to serve mining operations. After World War 2, some sawlog operations were undertaken to the north and east of the Douglas River below Nichols Cap (McDonald, pers. comm.).

Much of the area now covered by the Park was gazetted as State Forest in 1925. As a result of the *Pulpwood Products Industry (Eastern and Central Tasmania) Act 1968*, pulpwood rights for the area were granted to Tasmanian Pulp and Forest Holdings Limited (TPFH). Harvesting operations for sawlog and pulpwood commenced to the north of what is now the Park in 1980 and in 1984 approximately 250 hectares in the north-western tip of the Park were felled and then regenerated. Company forestry operations in State Forest adjacent to the Park now form part of APPM Forest Products activities.

The Forestry Commission prepared a multiple use management plan (Forestry Commission, 1987) for the area after the then State Government rejected proposals to declare the area a National Park. This management plan was not a statutory document and was overtaken by the eventual declaration of the National Park. Relevant sections of the Forestry Commission plan have been taken into account in preparing this management plan.
1.8.5 Air Crash

In the Thompsons Marshes area near “Thorne’s” block, lie the scattered remains of a fatal aircrash. A Beech A23A Musketeer crashed in fine weather on 30 November, 1977. Forestry Commission staff assisted in the removal of the motor and parts of the aircraft for investigation, but the cause of the accident was never determined.

1.8.6 Declaration as a National Park

In 1977, the Douglas-Apsley region was identified as wilderness area by a university study (Russell et al., 1979). A number of vegetation studies detailed the rich diversity of the plant communities and identified the area as the last large untouched area of dry sclerophyll forest on the east coast of Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Wilderness Society (1981) proposed the establishment of a National Park in the area, and in 1984 a group of conservation organisations (The Australian Conservation Foundation et al., 1984) prepared a more detailed proposal for the creation of the Douglas-Apsley National Park. A rough track to Heritage Falls was constructed by supporters of the Park proposal and in 1984 a circuit track was marked connecting to Nichols Cap and an area of rainforest. The following year, this track was extended creating an overland walking track through the length of the area.

In 1984, most of the area of what is now the Park was nominated for, and on 21 February, 1989 listed on, the Register of the National Estate. However, the then Government rejected the 1984 National Park proposal. The campaign for a National Park continued and the area was declared a National Park on 27 December, 1989.

1.9 FIRE

Prior to the proclamation of the Park in December, 1989, the area was managed as State Forest by the Forestry Commission and responsibility for fire management rested with the Commission in accordance with its objectives.

As a consequence of a recommendation made at the declaration of the Park, the State Fire Commission has extended the boundaries of the Eastern Tiers Special Fire Area to include the Douglas-Apsley National Park. The Park also lies within the Bicheno and Foster Fire Protected Areas. The Parks and Wildlife Service is responsible under the Fire Service Act 1979 and the Fire Service Regulations 1981 for all aspects of fire management within the Park including prevention, containment and suppression. Formal consultation is required between the Parks and Wildlife Service and the Department of Forestry on fire management planning for land in a ten kilometre zone centered on the boundaries of the Park. The Tasmania Fire Service and the Bicheno Fire Brigade are responsible for fire protection over the private land to the east of the Park.

While existing archaeological evidence suggests the area was not much used by Aborigines, the area may have been fired for hunting and gathering purposes. However some areas of the Park appear not to have been fired for hundreds of years. With European settlement, firing, particularly of marsh areas such as Thompsons Marshes and Denison Marshes, was regularly carried out by trappers.

Apart from fuel reduction burns on private farmland along the eastern boundary of the Park in 1992, no burns have been undertaken in or adjacent to the Park since 1984 when burning was carried out along the edges of the Organ Hill- Mt Allen track. Regeneration burns of logged coupes to the west, north and north-east of the Park have been undertaken in the past ten years. In recent years, a number of small wildfires have occurred, the largest being in November 1981 to
the east of Mt Punter in the vicinity of Cornish Falls and in 1979-1980 to the east of Nichols Cap and Lookout Hill, centred on Blind Creek.

There have been no major fires in the Park in nearly fifty years, though major fires were recorded in 1922 and 1945. Rainforest communities found in the Park depend upon the total exclusion of fire. On the other hand, some plant communities possess evolutionary adaptations to fire and some animal species are adapted to particular fire regimes or particular seral stages of plant communities produced by fire. This is why both Aborigines and trappers used fire to encourage particular animal species. While fire can therefore be used to manipulate habitats for conservation or other purposes, such an approach can only be adopted after comprehensive research has established its validity as a safe and effective management tool. Consequently, research into fire ecology should be a priority.

Within the Park, the main risk of fire is from Park users although lightning strikes may also be a cause. At present, visitor numbers are relatively low. However it can reasonably be expected that use will increase substantially and thus require careful management to prevent fires. There is also the possibility of escape of fuel reduction burns being undertaken within the Park.

From outside the Park, escaped regeneration, or fuel reduction burns, both in State Forest and on private land could pose a threat to the Park, as could arson.

1.10 PHYTOPHTHORA

A fungal disease, *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, has been identified in soil samples collected from the Park and symptoms of the disease can be observed particularly around drill sites, along the length of many of the mineral exploration tracks (Harris, pers. comm.) and along sections of the walking track south of the Douglas River (Duncan, 1989). The disease has also been recorded at the Park boundary on the O Road and in logged coupes near Cornish Falls on the Apsley River boundary of the Park (Wardlaw, 1988).

*Phytophthora* is a microscopic fungus which lives in the soil and roots and causes severe dieback or death in at least 136 native plant species in sedgeland, heath, open forest, scrub and disturbed rainforest. The disease is spread in soil on boots, in wheels and tracks of vehicles and machinery and by animals which scratch or dig in the soil. The rate of spread by natural means is generally limited to between 1 to 40 metres each year (Kirkpatrick, pers. comm.) but downslope spread of up to 400 metres in a year have been recorded (Weste & Law, 1973). The disease is spread more rapidly and over greater areas by human activity. Except for very localised spot infections, once a area is infected there is no known practical means of intervention to eliminate it from that area.

The whole of the Douglas-Apsley National Park is climatically suitable for *Phytophthora*, but the extent of infection within the Park is unknown. The possibility of local extinction by fungal disease of gene pools of rare species, which may be geographically widespread but have highly localised populations, must be regarded as a potential danger for some rare species in the Park (Harris, pers. comm.).

1.11 TOWN WATER SUPPLY

The township of Bicheno draws its water supply from the Apsley River. The intake is upstream of the Lilla Villa bridge on the Tasman Highway and some 8 kilometres downstream of where the river leaves the Park. Between the Park and the intake, the river flows through farmland and State Forest.

The Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council has installed a new pump station and pipeline from the intake. A new filtration and chlorination plant was installed in late 1990.
Hughes (1987) includes the Apsley River in a hydrological classification group which has the lowest mean annual runoff, the highest variation of annual flows, the greatest variability of monthly flows, the lowest specific mean low annual flows and the most variable low flow of the four groups of rivers she determined for Tasmania. Perhaps not surprisingly, problems with the water supply have occurred in past years. During drought periods, flow rates in the river have dropped dramatically, and on at least one occasion, stopped completely. This problem may be compounded by unauthorised agricultural use of the river for irrigation but to date, storage in the intake pool has been sufficient to maintain supply (Cleaver, pers. comm.). While the volume of Bicheno's future water supply requirements needs to be resolved, consideration of this issue is outside the scope of the management plan for the Park.

Especially during periods of low flow, but also at other times, the water supply has been affected by turbidity and discolouration (Cleaver, pers. comm.). The periods of turbidity and discolouration have been attributed to farming practices along the river banks. The Glamorgan Planning Scheme (1985) designates a 15 metre wide stream side reserve. However, to solve the problem of sediment discolouration, Crooks (1982) suggests that,

> Particular emphasis should be placed on controlling stream and riverbank erosion throughout the catchment, particularly in the Tertiary sediments which are particularly prone to erosion. Stock access to the river should be restricted and it would be most desirable to prohibit ploughing in the immediate vicinity of river banks. Ideally, a riparian buffer strip of, say, 20 - 30 metres width should be declared and fenced off along all the major rivers.

The Forestry Commission (1987) recommended a minimum reserve width of 40 metres each side of rivers which are important for town water supplies. This is to retain forest vegetation to provide a physical barrier to the movement of soil and water, and also filter out sediment (Michaelis, 1984). Destruction of vegetation by fire along rivers and streams also can reduce water quality, decreasing soil infiltration rates and increasing erosion (Michaelis, 1984). Protection can be afforded within the Park where activity along the river is covered by this management plan. However, the downstream length of the river is not subject to the provisions of this management plan.

The Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council conducts water quality testing at both the supply intake and in the township of Bicheno. No serious problems have been encountered and coliform readings have been attributed to either native animals or domestic stock. However, concerns have been expressed about possible water contamination through increased recreational use of the Apsley River by Park visitors. As a result, and in addition to the monitoring by the Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council, Park staff have collected baseline data on water quality within the Park. "Sampling was undertaken from November of 1991 until immediately after Easter of 1992. Samples were regularly collected from the river at the causeway over the river at the end of O Road, at a point immediately upstream of the main Apsley River swimming hole, at a point immediately downstream of the main Apsley River swimming hole and at the Municipal pump station. Furthermore, any development within the Park will need to be carefully undertaken, and visitor behaviour closely monitored to prevent it causing any deterioration of water quality in the Apsley River.

1.12 RECREATION AND TOURISM

1.12.1 Regional Role

The Douglas-Apsley National Park provides both an inland alternative to and complements the other east coast parks of Maria Island National Park and Freycinet National Park. The natural features of the Park and the mild climate ensure that the Park will become increasingly important for recreation and tourism. In keeping with the State's tourism strategy (Department
of Tourism, Sport and Recreation, 1990), these natural attractions of the Park, with careful planning and management, can provide visitors with relaxation, recreation, and an appreciation of some of the natural values of Tasmania's east coast.

In the future, the walking track beginning at the north of the Park may be linked at its southern end with the partially completed coastal walking track from Bicheno to Freycinet National Park. This east coast walking track could provide a popular alternative to the overland track through the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. Furthermore, provision of nature trails, picnic areas and specific interpretation and information facilities in the most accessible parts of the Park would allow visitors to appreciate and enjoy the area irrespective of the length of their stay.

1.12.2 Visitor Services

Since the declaration of the Park, some visitor facilities have been provided. A carpark and turning area have been constructed at the end of Rosedale Road near Bicheno. Direction and information signs have been erected and a new pit toilet constructed, with the approval of the owners, on private land adjacent to the Apsley River. On the same private land is a visitor shelter which was constructed prior to the declaration of the Park. Because much of the topographically suitable land conveniently adjacent to the popular Apsley River swimming hole is privately owned, the existing boundaries and land tenure in this area present difficulties in managing access to and use of the Park, particularly in the provision of adequate visitor services.

In the north, direction and information signs have been erected near Thompsons Marshes where the E4 Road meets the Park boundary.

The former Apsley Myrtle Forest Reserve includes a parking area and walking track constructed by the Forestry Commission.

Two editions of a note sheet for walkers in the Park have been published by the Parks and Wildlife Service.

In the south, the nearby town of Bicheno provides a wide range of facilities and services for visitors. To the north, the township of St Marys also provides visitor facilities. In addition to hotel, motel, caravan and camping accommodation in the towns, cabin accommodation is available at the Douglas River while camping is available in a private campground and informal camping occurs in coastal reserves. A youth hostel is located in Bicheno and at Seaview Farm just north of St Marys. Informal campsites are located in the Park near Heritage Falls, beside the Douglas River, the Denison Rivulet, and the Apsley River.

Redline Coaches provides a bus service between Bicheno and Launceston. The route between Bicheno and Hobart is serviced by both Hobart Coaches and Redline Coaches.

1.12.3 Visitor Numbers

The visitor statistics available for the Park are not comprehensive. A self-administered visitor survey commenced data collection immediately prior to Christmas 1990 and continued through until 3 April 1991. Data from this survey deals with visitor interests and requirements rather than visitor numbers.

A traffic counter was installed on Rosedale Road in mid 1991 and while traffic volumes have yet to be recorded for a sufficient period to give a clear picture of visitor numbers, some figures are available. In an eight month period during 1991/1992, there were some 13,000 visitors to the Park using Rosedale Road, which supports earlier anecdotal evidence of a considerable increase in the vehicular use of Rosedale Road, and some increase in visits to the north of the Park. There is no doubt that the majority of visitors to the Park visit the Apsley River swimming hole, and to a lesser extent the Apsley Gorge, as day visitors. A small number of
visitors enter the Park at the northern end near Thompsons Marshes, either for return walks to Heritage Falls and the rainforest circuit or to walk the length of the Park, exiting at the Apsley River. Some walkers enter the Park through private property along the Douglas River and occasionally users of off-road vehicles enter the Park from the north and west. Visitors also use the limited access MG Road to visit the former Apsley Myrtle Forest Reserve. Refer to Map 2 for access points to the Park.

The Tasmanian Visitor Survey 1988 (1989) found that the East Coast had only a marginal increase in visitor numbers during the survey period (1986 - 1988) but that there was a significant increase in the length of stay, resulting in a 24% increase in visitor-nights spent there. Recent surveys indicate that there has been an increase in visitor numbers to Bicheno and Coles Bay/Freycinet. The surveys do not yet indicate the impact of the Park on tourism in the area but as the Park becomes better known, it can be assumed that visitor numbers will increase.

1.13 ADMINISTRATION & STAFFING

1.13.1 Douglas-Apsley National Park Advisory Committee

In accordance with Section 12 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, a Douglas-Apsley National Park Advisory Committee has been formally established to advise upon the management of the Park. Members of the committee are drawn from:

- Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council
- Break O'Day Council
- Bicheno Community Development Association
- Local Landowners
- The Wilderness Society
- Forestry Commission
- East Coast Conservation Interests
- Department of Parks, Wildlife & Heritage

The committee has met frequently during the preparation of the draft management plan, inspected various parts of the Park, advised on aspects of management and commented on preliminary drafts of the plan.

1.13.2 Administration

Until January 1991, the Park was managed on an interim basis by Parks and Wildlife Service staff at Freycinet National Park. In late 1990, a house was purchased in Bicheno and a ranger appointed, commencing duties in January 1991. In addition to the Park, the ranger is responsible for coastal reserves from Piccaninny Point in the north to Butlers Point in the south, including a portion of the Friendly Beaches extension of the Freycinet National Park. Ranger duties include park protection, park development, maintenance of facilities, assistance to visitors and the implementation of any management, interpretation or other plans.

1.13.3 Management Facilities

It is intended that eventually the Park will be served by two rangers and a second ranger residence may be required. Workshop, storage and office facilities are required for effective Park management. At present, these are attached to the existing ranger residence in Bicheno, but this location may not be adequate, in the longer term, because of space and access limitations.
1.13.4 Interpretation Services

At present, interpretation facilities in the Park are limited to a few signs but the Parks and Wildlife Service intends developing additional interpretive facilities for visitors which complement those in other east coast national parks.

1.13.5 Funding

Funding for the Park comes predominantly from Consolidated Revenue which provides for maintenance of such things as buildings, roads, and tracks, as well as the cost of running vehicles, providing fuel and power, and salaries. Funding available from this source is limited.

Funds for capital works are usually derived from Loan Funds and Special Treasury Funds. Such funds also are limited at present.

Park entry fees will apply to the Park from 1 May, 1993 and funds available from this source will be provided for Park purposes as determined from time to time by the Director of National Parks and Wildlife.
PART 2 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

2.1 PARK VALUES

The Douglas-Apsley National Park is a unique representative repository of a diverse range of plant species and communities of considerable conservation importance. The Park also protects one of the few Tasmanian habitats of the rare fish, the Australian grayling.

The forested catchments of the Douglas and Apsley Rivers and the Denison Rivulet remain in a substantially natural condition and together with dramatic rock outcrops and river gorges represent a scenic natural area of great value for recreation and tourism. Therefore the Park attracts visitors for walking and other recreational and tourism activities which rely on the natural values of the area.

As a consequence, the intent of the principal objective of the management plan is to maintain the natural values of the Park, both for the purposes of conservation and for the enjoyment of visitors. In so far as they are compatible with this principal objective, other objectives for the management of the Park provide for recreation, education, research and protection of the Park and neighbouring properties.

2.2 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

2.2.1 Principal Objective

• To protect and conserve the Park's natural systems and features, and the habitat and diversity of species and communities of indigenous flora and fauna.

2.2.2 Associated Objectives

• To provide recreation and tourism opportunities based on enjoyment of the natural values of the Park.

• To identify and protect the cultural heritage of the Park.

• To encourage and facilitate research and study within the Park which increases knowledge and understanding of the Park's values without diminishing those values.

• To protect the Park from damage by fire, disease, introduced plants and animals, and human activity.

• To provide educational and interpretive opportunities and materials on the natural, scientific, cultural and recreational values of the Park.

• To co-operate with neighbours and users in managing the Park.

• To protect the water quality of the Apsley River.
PART 3 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

3.1 BOUNDARIES

The boundary of the Park near Rosedale Road requires adjustment to provide sufficient area for future provision of improved visitor access, parking, and visitor services and to allow more effective protection and management through rationalisation of tenure over sections of the Apsley River and adjacent land (Refer to Section 1.12.2).

- The Parks and Wildlife Service will negotiate with adjacent landholders to effect rationalisation of these boundaries.
- If determined necessary by a site plan for the area (Refer to Section 3.2.2), the Department will negotiate with the Forestry Commission to effect minor adjustments to the boundary of the Park where the E4 road reaches the Park at Thompsons Marshes to provide topographically suitable areas for visitor facilities.
- To ensure protection of the Douglas River catchment, the Department will negotiate with the Forestry Commission to resolve boundary anomalies resulting from inaccurate mapping information along the north west boundary of the Park (Refer to Section 1.2.2).

3.2 MANAGEMENT ZONES

3.2.1 Zoning Principles

Although the management objectives set out in Part 2 apply to the entire Park, different conditions prevail in different areas of the Park. Therefore to ensure appropriate management, management zones have been adopted.

The zones have been developed to reflect different conditions or requirements for management as set out in the management objectives. There are many factors determining the location of the zones. These are set out and discussed in Part 1. The zones will remain in force for the life of this plan. Because of the sometimes limited information available for identifying zones, zones will be subject to ongoing review but any variation of the zones will be subject to the prescriptions of Section 3.15.

No restricted zone, as provided for by Section 25 of the Act, has been designated. However, there are a number of important, sensitive areas within the Natural Zone which will be monitored and if necessary public access will be restricted to protect these areas (Refer to Sections 3.5.3 and 3.5.4).

- Three management zones have been designated. These are the Visitor Services, Recreation, and Natural Zones (Map 8).
- If the need to restrict public access should arise, restrictions may be declared under the provisions of Regulation 12 of the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971 until a revision of the management plan allows the declaration of restricted areas.

3.2.2 Visitor Services Zones

The Visitor Services Zones are designated to cater for large numbers of visitors and possible high visitor impacts, providing ready access and a range of facilities to suit people with diverse backgrounds, interests and capacities. Four such Zones are located on the perimeter of the Park at major public access points. Three of the public access points exist and an additional
point is proposed at Doctors Creek. The Zones are located at Thompsons Marshes, Doctors Creek, Apsley Myrtle Forest, and the Apsley River. For details of development of facilities in Visitor Services Zones, refer to Section 3.11. The additional public access point at the proposed Doctors Creek Visitor Services Zone has been identified to provide for possible longer term public facilities requirements. It may become necessary to cater for and redirect increasing visitor pressures particularly at the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone, and to provide an alternative access to the northern sections of the Park if ready public access to the Thompsons Marshes Visitor Services Zone becomes difficult.

- Development within the Visitor Services Zones will be carefully planned to provide facilities which ensure visitors can appreciate and enjoy their visit without damaging the environment.

- The Visitor Services Zones will concentrate development and use, preventing piecemeal uncoordinated development occurring throughout the Park at the expense of Park values and visitor enjoyment. All of the main services and facilities for visitors to the Park and for management purposes will be contained within these areas.

- Although the exact provision and extent of visitor and management facilities will depend on the rationalisation of Park boundaries at the end of Rosedale Road, this Visitor Services Zone will serve as the principal location for development of facilities. This is because of the ready access, the existing visitor attractions and its established popular use.

- Facilities provided in the other Visitor Services Zones will be more low key than those in the Apsley River Visitor Services Zones.

3.2.3 Recreation Zone

This Zone, which stretches north-south through the Park and includes Heritage Falls, Nichols Cap and the Douglas River, provides recreational opportunities for those visitors who wish to see and experience the Park largely dependent on their own resources. In addition, the zone extends along a corridor where the MG road crosses the Park and includes a portion of the Apsley Myrtle Forest.

- The Recreation Zone will provide opportunities for bush camping and for both day walks and longer walks up to several days in duration.

- Conditional on the approval of the Forestry Commission and APFM, vehicle access will be available along the MG Road corridor and to the Apsley Myrtle Forest.

3.2.4 Natural Zone

Much of the Park remains a substantially unaltered natural landscape with important ecological values.

- The Natural Zone will preserve much of the Park in this unaltered condition and provide protection for valuable natural systems sensitive to disturbance, in accordance with the principal objective of the management plan.

- Unless otherwise permitted by this management plan, no tracks will be developed in this Zone. Apart from tracks designated for fire management (See Section 3.7), existing vehicular tracks will be allowed to regenerate naturally. Minor rehabilitation and regeneration works will be undertaken on existing tracks if problems such as serious erosion are identified.
As detailed in Section 3.2.1, areas of the Natural Zone may be declared restricted areas, limited to public access, if monitoring of sensitive natural systems determines that restrictions are necessary.

### TENURE, PRIVATE RIGHTS AND LICENCES

#### 3.3.1 Private Land

- As the opportunity arises, the Parks and Wildlife Service will seek to acquire the private land located within the boundaries of the Park near Thompsons Marshes and encourage the addition of the block of land adjacent to the Apsley River, owned by the Wilderness Society, to the national park.

- Further acquisition of small areas of land in the vicinity of Rosedale Road will be necessary to achieve the rationalisation of boundaries proposed in Section 3.1.

- The Parks and Wildlife Service will also seek to acquire small sections of private land along the boundaries between adjacent private blocks near Seymour to link up with an existing road reservation, creek reserve and unallocated Crown land to give private vehicular access to the Doctors Creek boundary of the Park. This access may not be acquired during the life of this plan, but eventually will provide for the future development of the proposed Doctors Creek Visitor Services Zone.

#### 3.3.2 Mineral Exploration and Mining

- Retention licences 879, 8710 and 8711 held by the Shell Co. of Australia Limited will remain in force until 3 August, 1993 (Refer to Section 1.2.6). During this period, any program to investigate the coal resource in the area must be approved by the Mineral Exploration Working Group and will then require approval in writing by the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife in consultation with the Minister for Mines.

- Mineral Resources Tasmania may renew retention licences 879, 8710 and 8711 for periods not exceeding five years and as provided for in the Mining Act 1929 as required. Such conditions and schedules associated with retention licences will be determined by the Minister for Mines in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife. Any program to investigate the coal resource in the national park must be approved by the Mineral Exploration Working Group and given approval in writing by the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife in consultation with the Minister for Mines (Refer also to Section 3.13).

- The retention licences may be transferred in accordance with Section 15H of the Mining Act 1929. The transferred licences are subject to the prescriptions of this management plan.

- Any decision to grant a mining lease within the national park to the holders of the current retention licences will require revision of this management plan. To allow Mineral Resources Tasmania to exercise its statutory powers to grant a mining lease would require approval of both Houses of Parliament, in accordance with Section 21(2) & (3) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970.

#### 3.3.3 Licences

- Subject to Section 25B of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, licences to provide services within the Park may be permitted at the discretion of the Minister provided that they relate to tourism, recreation, education or scientific study and assist the management of the Park.
Licences to provide services may be issued for the Visitor Services Zones, Recreation Zone and the Natural Zone.

All licences will conform to the objectives and prescriptions of this management plan.

Consistent with Section 3.5.6, an environmental impact assessment will be required before licence proposals can be considered. A detailed, proposal specific management plan may also be required.

3.4 ACCESS

3.4.1 Roads and Tracks

Private vehicular access to the Park boundary will be available along existing public roads shown on Map 2 and may be available along roads shown with limited public access.

Possibilities for private vehicular access to the Doctors Creek boundary of the Park will be investigated when funding permits. Such improved access would provide for the future development of the proposed Doctors Creek Visitor Services Zone.

The Parks and Wildlife Service will monitor the traffic volumes on Rosedale Road and any other roads to the Park where deemed necessary, to provide data to assist those government agencies responsible for determining future road standards, and funding and maintenance requirements.

The Parks and Wildlife Service will negotiate with APPM Forest Products and the Forestry Commission in relation to public access over the private section of the E Road and through State Forest from the Tasman Highway to the Thompsons Marshes Visitor Services Zone. If access along the private road is restricted, the alternative walking access along Dalmayne Road will serve as access to the Zone.

To limit disease and fire risk and to maintain the Park's values, private vehicular access in the Park will be limited to MG Road which passes through sections of the Park, and the Visitor Services Zones if provided for in a site plan. Access along the MG Road is conditional on the approval of the Forestry Commission and APPM Forest Products and may be restricted because of forestry operations.

Tracks retained or constructed within the Park for fire management or other purposes permitted by this management plan will be securely gated and locked with access limited in accordance with the prescriptions of the fire management plan, this management plan and the guidelines for entry into the Park of authorised vehicles (See Section 3.9). All other tracks into the Park will be permanently blocked.

Because of the unsuitable track conditions, private vehicular use of Dalmayne Road will not be encouraged. The Parks and Wildlife Service will cooperate with the Municipality of Break O'Day to monitor the use of the road and review the need for provision of signs, parking and turning facilities.

With the approval of the owners, the Service may locate interpretive signs at the Pancake Barn on Elephant Pass to encourage parking there rather than along Dalmayne Road. Park visitors will be encouraged to use Dalmayne Road for walking access only.
3.4.2 Walking Tracks

- Priority will be given to upgrading existing tracks before any new tracks are constructed. Both existing and proposed new tracks are shown on Map 2.

- A new walking track is proposed from the Heritage Falls campsite to an existing panoramic lookout to the west of the Douglas River.

- An alternative access to the base of Heritage Falls will be investigated.

- With the future development of the Doctors Creek Visitor Services Zone, a new walking track link to the existing Lookout Hill - rainforest circuit track is proposed. A new track is also proposed from this Visitor Services Zone to the top of Bedggood Hill to give panoramic coastal views.

- Short walks and nature trails will be constructed in the Visitor Services Zones as resources permit.

- In the site plans for Visitor Services Zones, consideration will be given to providing some wheelchair access to special features of the Zones.

- The Parks and Wildlife Service will liaise with the Forestry Commission to upgrade, and reroute in parts, the walking track linking Dalmaine Road and the Thompsons Marshes Visitor Services Zone.

- The existing north-south track, the Apsley myrtle forest track, and the Apsley Gorge track will be upgraded and marked sufficiently to encourage walkers not to stray from the track or get lost. Sections of the track through marsh or Phytophthora infested areas may be rerouted or upgraded but only in accordance with the relevant prescriptions set out below.

- Prior to the construction of any new walking tracks, or the rerouting of existing tracks, a survey of the proposed route will be undertaken to determine disease risk and habitat and species significance along the route.

- Track development will accord with the prescriptions of Section 3.5.6.

- Track location and construction will be undertaken in accordance with the appropriate guidelines of the Walking Track Management Manual (Blamey, 1987).

- In the Recreation Zone, walking tracks will be constructed to “Track” standard in accordance with the Walking Track Management Manual. Track structures, construction standards and materials will be limited to the minimum required to protect the environment.

- In the Visitor Services Zones, the standards of construction and maintenance of walking tracks and nature trails will be “Walk” to “Track” standard, depending on the provisions of any site plan applicable to the area, but in any case sufficient to withstand the impact of large numbers of visitors.

- Bridging of small streams and gullies will be undertaken when necessary for erosion control or to limit the spread of Phytophthora.

- Signs will be erected at appropriate places to inform walkers of suitable actions to deal with the different flow conditions which may be encountered where walking tracks cross rivers or major streams.

- Signs may be erected in appropriate places indicating emergency escape routes.
River crossing procedures and escape route information will be included on printed material available to Park visitors (See Section 3.10).

### 3.5 PROTECTION OF NATURAL SYSTEMS AND SPECIES

#### 3.5.1 Introduced Plants and Animals

- Introduced plants and animals will be eradicated from the Park where this is feasible and warranted by the damage being caused by them.
- Eradication will only be attempted where non target species are not threatened by the proposed methods.
- If eradication is not possible, the objective will be control and containment.
- Monitoring and research will be carried out to determine the most appropriate eradication, control and containment programs and priorities.
- In accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971, the entry into the Park of pets and domestic stock will not be permitted.
- If introduced plants are identified as historically significant, they may be preserved provided that their spread can readily be controlled.

#### 3.5.2 Human Impact

Human activity in the Park may cause adverse impacts on both the Park and on visitors enjoyment and appreciation of the area. Some of these impacts may not be immediately apparent, and regular monitoring by Park staff will be necessary to identify any that occur. Other, more readily apparent impacts can be limited by appropriate management actions.

- Toilets will be constructed in each of the Visitor Services Zones, located to protect environmental and visual qualities of the Zone.
- An education and interpretative program will be implemented to inform Park visitors of appropriate low impact use of the Park.
- Any site plans for Visitor Services Zones will be prepared in accordance with Section 3.11.1.
- Airdrops will only be permitted within the Park for management or emergency purposes.
- A maximum party size for overnight parties of thirteen in the Recreation Zone and eight in the Natural Zone will be encouraged.
- The maximum party size for commercial overnight walking tours in the Recreation Zone will be thirteen with a maximum of ten clients and at least one guide per five clients. The maximum party size permitted in the Natural Zone will be no more than eight with a minimum of two guides per party.
- Subject to regulation 5E of the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971, park users will be required to remove their own rubbish from all Zones.
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- Camping areas within the Park will be designated and if necessary tent sites defined to prevent the piecemeal spread of camping areas with consequent environmental damage.

- The Park will be declared a fuel stove only area from 1 October each year until 30 April of the following year and no open fires will be permitted in the Park during this period (Refer to Section 3.7). This prescription is subject to review if monitoring suggests that this is required.

- The collection of firewood at any time for use outside the Park, or within the Park during fuel stove only periods will not be permitted.

3.5.3 Fauna

The diverse range of fauna and their habitats within the Park require the best possible protection. Because of the limited knowledge of the range of species occurring in the Park, and their habitat requirements, further research is needed to give a more comprehensive basis for management decisions.

Particular habitats known to require protection and management are:

- Watercourses in the known range of the blind velvet worm;
- Areas of likely habitat for the Tasmanian bettong;
- Areas of likely habitat for the hairstreak butterfly; and
- River habitats of the Australian grayling.

- Any fire management activities in the vicinity of the blind velvet worm habitat will be based on the prescriptions set out by Mesibov (1990) and summarised in Section 1.7.7.

- Bettong habitat management burning will only be undertaken when research locates habitat in the Park and demonstrates the need for such burning.

- Research will be encouraged to identify the potential habitat locations of the hairstreak butterfly and the presence of any colonies. Fire and other disturbance of identified potential habitat will be avoided pending the outcome of research into the presence of colonies.

- In consultation with the Inland Fisheries Commission, research will be encouraged to further determine the population, habitat requirements and conservation status of the Australian or southern grayling.

- To protect the habitat of the fish, no damming of any permanent watercourse within the Park will be permitted.

- While the conservation status of the grayling remains potentially threatened (Refer to Section 1.7.6), the Inland Fisheries Commission, in consultation with the Parks and Wildlife Service, will monitor the status of the fish and take such actions necessary, in accordance with relevant sections of the Fisheries Act 1959, to protect the grayling. By agreement with the Service, the Inland Fisheries Commission will prohibit the introduction of trout and other exotic fish species into the Park in accordance with relevant sections of the Fisheries Act 1959.
3.5.4 Flora

Management of the Park needs to give full attention to the value of the community and species diversity of the flora and encourage further research and inventory of the flora in the Park. Fire management and disease control constitute the main requirements from the perspective of conservation of the flora of the Park. These requirements are also relevant to site development proposals, and access by vehicles and walkers.

The following areas within the Park contain important species and communities and have a high conservation status:

- The area, centred on Blindburn Creek, between Champ Creek, the Denison Rivulet, and the Park Boundary including the *E. sieberi* open forest on the south bank of the Denison Rivulet;

- The area along the Apsley River from Pennefathers Knob south to the Apsley Gorge out to the Park boundary in the west and including the large flattish area of *E. tenuiramis* - *E. viminalis* open forest to the east of the river;

- All areas of rainforest;

- All areas of riverine scrub;

- The area of wet sclerophyll forest west of the Douglas River near Heritage Falls stretching close to and parallel with the western boundary of the Park; and

- The lower reaches of the Douglas River.

- Modification of these areas by human activity will be avoided or limited on a carefully planned basis to walking tracks and designated camping areas. No other modifications will be permitted.

- Fire management in these areas, including fuel reduction burning, will conform with the prescriptions set out in Section 3.7.

- These areas of the Park will be monitored to establish the occurrence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* and its rate of spread.

- Rainforest and other fire sensitive plant communities and species will as far as is practical be protected from the destructive effects of fire.

- Any habitat management burning for species or habitat manipulation or protection which is identified as necessary in the future will be subject to the provisions of Section 3.5.6.

- If monitoring of the above areas shows that restriction of public access is warranted, restrictions may be declared under the provisions of Regulation 12 of the *National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971* until a revision of the management plan allows the declaration of restricted areas.

3.5.5 Earth Systems

- The geological, geomorphological and soil features of the Park will be protected and further researched. Refer to Section 3.12.2 for research priorities.

- No development proposals will proceed without assessment of the impacts on the earth systems of the Park.
Areas of erosion along old tracks will be monitored to determine if rehabilitation works are required to supplement natural regeneration. Any rehabilitation works determined necessary will be undertaken in accordance with the prescriptions of the management plan.

3.5.6 Development Works

- All development will be compatible with conservation of natural and cultural values, protection of water quality in rivers and streams and maintenance of scenic quality.
- All development will accord with the prescriptions of this management plan.
- In all areas of the Park not covered by a site plan, any development, landscape modification or management and maintenance work of any kind will be controlled by submission for approval of a Project Proposal Form and Initial Environmental Effects Statement in accordance with established departmental procedures.
- In the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone and other Zones where determined appropriate, development will be controlled by the prior comprehensive preparation and approval of a site plan covering the whole Zone (See Section 3.11.1).

3.6 CULTURAL HERITAGE

- An inventory of structures and historic places in the Park will be compiled. The historic values of these places will be assessed and protected in accordance with both the objectives and prescriptions of this management plan and the guidelines established by the ICOMOS Burra Charter.
- Sites of Aboriginal or other heritage significance will not be publicised unless the site has been assessed and chosen by archaeology and interpretation staff of the Department, in consultation with the Aboriginal community, for educational or interpretative use.
- All Aboriginal sites discovered in the Park will be included on the Tasmanian Aboriginal Sites Index.
- The Aboriginal community will be consulted on any undertaking or development which may impinge upon Aboriginal sites.
- All proposed landscape modification, development, or maintenance within the Park will be subject to the prescriptions of Section 3.5.6.
- No Aboriginal sites will be deliberately disturbed for management, development or research purposes unless there is no feasible alternative and a permit has been issued under the Aboriginal Relics Act 1975.

3.7 FIRE MANAGEMENT

Fire management needs to be undertaken in a manner which limits any damage to Park values. However the protection of life and property both within the Park and on adjacent lands requires fire management measures.

- A fire management plan will be prepared for the Park in accordance with Parks and Wildlife Service policy. The plan will be prepared in consultation with relevant
Fire management and suppression will be in accord with the Inter-Agency Fire Management Protocol agreed between the Parks and Wildlife Service and the Forestry Commission.

All fire management actions including habitat management burning, fuel reduction burning, water hole and fire track construction or maintenance will occur in accordance with the prescriptions set out in Section 3.5.6.

Within areas designated as Visitor Services Zones, intensive fuel load management may be undertaken as specified in detail in the fire management plan. Fuel load management in these Zones may be achieved by fuel reduction burning, mechanical clearing or other approved methods. The fire management objective within these zones will be to protect life and property from wildfire.

Fuel reduction burning may occur within the Park in areas designated and approved in the fire management plan. In cooperation with the Forestry Commission and adjacent private land owners, fuel reduction burning around strategic sections of the park boundary, identified in the fire management plan, may be undertaken to minimise the risk of wildfire crossing the Park boundary in either direction.

To lessen the risk of arson or inadvertent ignition causing a wildfire, no private vehicular access will be permitted in the Park except along the restricted access MG Road, and within Visitor Services Zones if provided for by a site plan. All other vehicular access to the Park will be barred except where authorised by the managing authority. Therefore, the fire management plan will identify existing tracks which will be required for fire management. Such tracks will be fitted with secure locked gates. Access to all other tracks will be permanently blocked.

No new fire management vehicular tracks will be constructed within the Park except as may be necessary along the eastern boundary where the linking of fire tracks on adjacent private land must follow topographic features rather than arbitrary boundaries.

No fire towers will be constructed within the Park. The Service will liaise with the Forestry Commission to establish a suitable location for a fire and communication tower outside the Park.

Earth moving machinery will only be used for fire management or suppression on approved fire trails designated in the fire management plan or, in emergencies, in accordance with the Inter-Agency Fire Management Protocol.

Earth moving machinery will be subject to the guidelines for the entry into the park of authorised vehicles as prescribed in Section 3.9.

To limit the risk of wildfire, and in accordance with Regulation 5C of the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971, the Park will be declared a fuel stove only area from 1 October each year until 30 April of the following year. No open fires will be permitted in the Park during this period. This prescription is subject to review if monitoring suggests that this is required.

Any fire management activities in the vicinity of the blind velvet worm habitat will be based on the prescriptions set out by Mesibov (1990) and summarised in Section 1.7.7.

Bettong habitat management burning will only be undertaken when research in the Park locates habitat and demonstrates the need for such burning.
• Fire disturbance of identified potential hairstreak butterfly habitat will be avoided pending the outcome of research undertaken to determine the extent of hairstreak butterfly colonies.

• Rainforest and other fire sensitive plant communities and species will, as far as is practical, be protected from the destructive effects of fire.

• When fire danger conditions warrant, Park staff will be authorised to close all or some of the Visitor Services Zones to visitors.

• The site plans for Visitor Service Zones will consider the provision of enclosed gas or, if power is available, electric operated cooking facilities within particular areas of these Zones.

• Visitor education to explain fire management policies and fire safety procedures will be undertaken as part of an interpretive program for the Park.

3.8 WATER QUALITY - APSLEY RIVER

• All development in the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone will be subject to the provisions of a site plan for the area. Refer to Section 3.11.1 for prescriptions regarding site plans. The site plan will be subject to the prescriptions of this Section.

• Private vehicular access, including parking, will not be located within 200 metres of the Apsley River.

• No buildings will be erected within 50 metres of the Apsley River.

• No camping will be permitted within 50 metres of the Apsley River.

• Tank water utilising roof runoff from visitor facilities buildings will be provided for use by day visitors and campers.

• Toilet systems and locations will be determined in accordance with the provisions of the site plan in consultation with the Department of Community and Health Services and with relevant professional advice.

• Interpretive and educational information will be located in the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone to inform visitors on low impact use of the Park and protection of water quality in the Apsley River.

• Park staff will regularly monitor visitor behaviour in the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone and if necessary advise on appropriate measures to ensure water quality is maintained.

• Park staff will maintain baseline water monitoring records obtained from samples collected during the months from November of 1991 until immediately after Easter of 1992 (Refer to 1.11).

• Any necessary future sampling will be undertaken at these baseline sites for the purposes of comparison with the baseline data. All samples will be analysed by the Department of Health laboratories for bacteriological contamination.
3.9 **PHYTOPHTHORA**

As there is no known method to prevent the spread, by natural means, of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* or to eliminate the disease from more than a small infected area, management needs to be directed towards slowing, as much as possible, its spread through human activity. As surveys and monitoring of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* infection within the Park are undertaken, management prescriptions may need to be revised in the light of data collected. Catchment management plans for the protection of *Phytophthora* susceptible rare or threatened plant species are planned and methods for eradication of new spot infections are being developed. The following prescriptions are based on the available, limited knowledge of the distribution of infection within the Park and the methods of containing it.

- No new walking tracks will be constructed in the Recreation Zone south of the Douglas River.
- Prior to the construction of any new walking tracks, or the rerouting of existing tracks including those south of the Douglas River, a survey of the proposed route will be undertaken by an experienced botanist to determine disease risk along the route. Track works will be subject to the prescriptions set out in Section 3.5.6.
- The walking track running the length of the Park will be promoted as a north to south route only.
- Camping between the Douglas River camping area and the Apsley River will be discouraged and the existing camping areas near the Denison Rivulet closed.
- An education and interpretative program will be implemented to inform Park visitors of the *Phytophthora* threat to the Park.
- Except for authorised management, research, or emergency purposes, no vehicles will be allowed in the Recreation or Natural Zones of the Park.
- In consultation with the Senior Botanist and Senior Protection Officer, guidelines for the entry into the Park of authorised vehicles will be drawn up, disseminated and strictly enforced. The guidelines will define the authorised purposes for vehicle entry into the Park, types of permitted vehicles, entry permit procedures, weather and seasonal conditions on entry, minimum hygiene standards, route and manouevring controls and any other controls as may be determined necessary.
- Vehicular tracks retained within the Park for fire management will be securely gated and locked with access limited in accordance with the prescriptions of the fire management plan. Access to all other vehicular tracks in the Park will be permanently blocked.
- Public use of the O Road access to the Apsley River will not be encouraged.
- Except within the Visitor Services Zones and on approved fire trails designated in the fire management plan, no earth moving machinery will be used in the Park. Where earth moving machinery is permitted, it will be subject to the guidelines for the entry into the Park of authorised vehicles.
- All soil, fill or crushed rock used in any construction project will be obtained from a certified *Phytophthora*-free site using *Phytophthora*-free machinery unless a Project Proposal Form and Initial Environmental Effects Statement setting out and justifying alternative sources is submitted and approved.
All plants used in planting works within the Park will be obtained by propagation, in Phytophthora free soil or other growing medium, of seeds collected from plants in the Park or, if this method is not available, plant selection will be approved by the Senior Botanist and plants obtained from certified Phytophthora free nurseries.

3.10 INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

The aim of interpretation and education will be to:

- Provide orientation for visitors including location of facilities and features of the Park;
- Increase the safety of visitors by alerting them to essential precautions;
- Protect the Park and adjacent lands and waters by explaining low impact use of the Park to visitors; and
- Enhance visitor understanding and enjoyment of the Park by explaining natural and cultural features.

When resources permit, an interpretation plan for the Park will be prepared incorporating these aims. Interpretation will be low key, responding primarily to management issues.

Interpretation facilities and activities will be concentrated in the Visitor Services Zones.

Printed material will be prepared to help achieve the interpretive and educational aims for the Park. In particular, material on low impact use of the Park, protection of water quality in the Apsley River, use of fuel stoves throughout the Park in prescribed periods, and the risks of spreading Phytophthora in the Park will be prepared.

In addition, material setting out possible hazards likely to be encountered by visitors will be provided. The material will detail appropriate ways for visitors to prepare for the their visit to the Park, and to handle emergency situations which may occur during their visit.

The walking note sheet for the Park, published by the Parks and Wildlife Service, will be upgraded progressively as resources permit.

The location, scale, form materials and colour of structures for interpretative purposes, including signs, will be subject to the provisions of any relevant site plan (Refer to section 3.11.1).

Signs will conform with the guidelines of the current Signs Manual of the Parks and Wildlife Service. The Recreation Zone will be considered a non developed area as defined by the provisions of the Signs Manual.

3.11 RECREATION AND TOURISM

3.11.1 Development of Visitor Facilities

Facilities for visitor relaxation, recreation and experience of the natural beauty and tranquility of the Park will be provided. Principally, these facilities will be provided in the Visitor Services Zones.
Facilities provided in the Park will be developed progressively when resources are available. In all Management Zones, the range of visitor facilities will complement rather than compete with facilities which are or could be provided in nearby towns or adjacent areas.

In the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone, development will be guided by the provisions of a site plan covering the whole Zone. This site plan will be made available for public comment prior to being implemented.

Site plans for the other Visitor Services Zones will be prepared if warranted by the site conditions and the extent of development proposed.

Site plans will guide, in a co-ordinated and integrated manner, long-term development in the Visitor Services Zones for which they are prepared. The plan will define planning and design objectives and performance standards for the Zone with which it deals. It will include environmental standards and the extent and quality of visitor and management facilities and services.

Development of basic facilities such as signs, and the undertaking of essential protection works, may proceed prior to the preparation of a site plan in accordance with Section 3.5.6. Basic facilities are those which can be readily relocated if such a relocation is determined necessary by a subsequent site plan.

All development will be compatible with conservation of natural and cultural values, protection of water quality in rivers and streams and maintenance of scenic quality.

### 3.11.2 Priorities for Development of Visitor Facilities

While flexibility in response to visitor needs and budgetary constraints must be maintained, the general priorities for development of visitor facilities are set out below.

- Priority will be given to developing visitor facilities in the Visitor Services Zones before any in the Recreation Zone.

- Of the Visitor Services Zones, the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone will receive highest priority for the development of visitor facilities.

- The provision of toilet facilities at the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone will be the highest priority for this Zone, followed by visitor information and provision of short walks.

- In general, development of short walks within or from Visitor Services Zones will receive priority over upgrading of longer overnight walks.

- Visitor information and interpretation in the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone will receive priority over other areas and include information to ensure protection of the water quality of the Apsley River.

- Visitor information and interpretation will give priority to visitor orientation and safety and to protection of the Park’s natural assets.

### 3.11.3 Facilities - Apsley River Visitor Services Zone

While the exact provision and extent of visitor and management facilities depends on the rationalisation of Park boundaries, the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone is intended to serve as the principal location for development of facilities for visitors to the Park.
Within the Apsley River Visitor Services Zone, facilities may include unpowered sites for tent camping, day visitor shelter/s with fireplace and enclosed gas or electric cooking facilities, picnic areas, toilet facilities, lookouts, nature trails, and a range of short walks, interpretative displays and facilities, roof water collection from buildings approved in the site plan, and visitor parking.

The existing shelter on land near the Apsley River owned by the Wilderness Society may be replaced if so determined by the site plan for the area (subject to the permission of the owners).

To ensure a balance between development of the area for visitor enjoyment and protection of the water quality of the Apsley River, provision of facilities will be subject to the prescriptions set out in Section 3.8.

3.11.4 Facilities - Apsley Myrtle Forest Visitor Services Zone

- Facilities in this Zone may include picnic facilities, day visitor shelter with fireplace, toilet facilities, nature trail and short walk, interpretative display and visitor parking.

- Use of this Zone will be constrained by the limitations on public use of the MG Road.

3.11.5 Facilities - Thompsons Marshes Visitor Services Zone

- Facilities in this Zone may include unpowered sites for tent camping, a day visitor shelter with fireplace, toilet facilities, nature trails and short walks, day walks and the start of overnight walks, interpretative displays, roof water collection from buildings approved in this section, and visitor parking.

- If determined necessary by the site plan for the area, the Service will negotiate with the Forestry Commission to effect minor adjustments to the boundary of the Park where the E4 Road reaches the Park at Thompsons Marshes (Refer to Section 3.1).

3.11.6 Facilities - Doctors Creek Visitor Services Zone

- Facilities in this Zone may include a day visitor shelter with fireplace and enclosed gas cooking facilities, toilet facilities, nature trails and short walks, day walks and the start of overnight walks, interpretative displays, roof water collection from buildings approved in this section, and visitor parking.

3.11.7 Facilities - Recreation Zone

- Facilities in this Zone may be developed to the level of walking tracks, designated camping areas with environmentally appropriate toilets, roof water collection from buildings approved in this section, and signs.

- Tracks will be upgraded to ensure safety of users and protection of the environment. Track marking will be improved but limited to that which is required for safety. Track upgrading will be in accordance with prescriptions set out in Sections 3.4 and 3.9.

- The designated camping areas will be located beside the Douglas River near Heritage Falls and on the south side of the Douglas River where the walking track crosses below Nichols Cap. These camping areas will be monitored for environmental damage and if necessary tent sites will be designated and camping limited to those sites.

- In accordance with Regulation 5D of the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971, the camping areas near the Denison Rivulet will be closed.
Douglas-Apsley National Park Management Plan 1993

- No building for accommodation purposes will be permitted in the Recreation Zone.
- Signs, in accordance with prescriptions set out in Section 3.10, will be limited to those giving necessary information on directions, safety of users or protection of the Park.

3.11.8 Facilities - Natural Zone

- No facilities will be provided in the Natural Zone.

3.12 RESEARCH

3.12.1 Procedures

- All manipulative research proposed within the Park will require prior approval of detailed study proposals and methods before research begins. Manipulative research not undertaken by staff of the Parks and Wildlife Service will require a written permit from the Director of National Parks and Wildlife before fieldwork commences. Proposals by staff for manipulative research will be subject to the prescriptions set out in 3.5.6.
- A research permit will require that researchers submit to the Director not less than three copies of all work produced during the period of the research. The permit will specify conditions on the form of submission, its timing, confidentiality, and any other matters which the Director may determine.
- Permits will not be issued for the collection of material within the Park where the Director determines that it is possible and appropriate to collect the material outside the Park.
- Research will only be permitted which does not have long term adverse effects on the natural, cultural or aesthetic values of the Park.

3.12.2 Scope of Monitoring and Research

- Research which improves the inventory and understanding of natural and cultural features of the Park, uses the Park as a scientific reference area, or assists management of the Park will be encouraged.
- Comprehensive TASFORHAB reference data will be available to be utilised in research.
- All research proposed in this management plan is subject to funding.
- Priority areas for research will include:
  - Systematic recording and analysis of visitor numbers, behaviour, and impacts to provide information useful for the management of the Park;
  - Systematic recording and analysis of visitor attitudes and expectations to provide information useful for the management of the Park;
  - Monitoring and research on the distribution, numbers and control of feral animals, introduced plants, and diseases, directed towards determining appropriate management measures;
The relationship between fire and plant species and communities, particularly to guide fire management practices;

The effect of fire on soils and soil development, particularly to guide fire management practices; and

The distribution, numbers, behaviour and habitat requirements of faunal species.

3.13 STATUTORY POWERS

- The Inland Fisheries Commission may exercise within the Park its statutory powers under the *Fisheries Act 1959* provided that exotic fish are not released into any water body within the Park (Refer to Section 3.5.3). In so far as this exercise of powers relates to works or activities by the Commission, its staff or agents, or to the granting of any right for any commercial purpose within the Park, this may only be done in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Director of National Parks and Wildlife.

- The company referred to in Section 23 of the *Pulpwood Products Industry (Eastern and Central Tasmania) Act 1968* is authorised to improve, repair and maintain the MG Road where the road crosses the Park in accordance with that Section, provided that this may only be done in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Director of National Parks and Wildlife.

- Pursuant to the *Forestry Act 1920*, Section 8A, the Forestry Commission is authorised to improve, repair and maintain the MG Road where the road crosses the Park provided that this may only be done in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Director of National Parks and Wildlife.

- Mineral Resources Tasmania may renew retention licences 879, 8710 and 8711 for periods not exceeding five years and as provided for in the *Mining Act 1929* as required. Such conditions and schedules associated with retention licences will be determined by the Minister for Mines, in consultation with, and with the agreement of, the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife. Any program to investigate the coal resource in the national park must be approved by the Mineral Exploration Working Group and given approval in writing by the Minister for National Parks and Wildlife in consultation with the Minister for Mines.

- Retention licences 879, 8710 and 8711 may be transferred in accordance with Section 15H of the *Mining Act 1929*. The transferred licences are subject to the prescriptions of this management plan.

3.14 ADMINISTRATION

3.14.1 General

- The prescriptions of this plan which involve a budget allocation will be subject to the determination of budget priorities by the Director of National Parks and Wildlife.

3.14.2 Staffing

- Staffing will be increased to two persons, if funding permits, to ensure proper administration and maintenance of the Park.
Douglas-Apsley National Park Management Plan 1993

- New staff will be appropriately trained to implement the objectives and prescriptions of the management plan.

3.14.3 Staff Accommodation

- Residential accommodation for Parks and Wildlife Service staff will be provided as the need arises.

- For protection and security of the most heavily used area of the Park, a staff house may be located at the Rosedale Road entrance to the Park, subject to the proposed rationalisation of boundaries and the provisions of the site plan for the area. All other staff accommodation will be provided in the vicinity of Bicheno.

3.14.4 Other Management Facilities

- Workshop and office facilities will remain at the existing ranger residence until accommodation for a second ranger is provided. Thereafter, these facilities will be located as is appropriate to the new circumstances.

3.14.5 Vehicles and Equipment

- Vehicles and equipment for the proper management of the Park will be provided commensurate with management requirements and funding provisions.

3.14.6 Search and Rescue

- The safety of visitors, within the normal risks associated with the activity being undertaken, will be promoted by education.

- Interpretive and educational material, setting out hazards likely to be encountered, will be provided for the use of visitors. The material will detail appropriate ways for visitors to prepare for their visit to the Park, and to handle emergency situations which may occur during their visit.

- Tasmania Police and State Emergency Services are responsible for search and rescue within the Park and the Parks and Wildlife Service will cooperate in search and rescue operations.

- The Parks and Wildlife Service will progressively increase resources for the Park to assist in meeting the demands of emergencies. Radio communications and rescue equipment will progressively be provided and contingency plans prepared. Park staff will continue to be trained in search and rescue.

3.14.7 Law Enforcement

- Within the Park, authorised staff of the Parks and Wildlife Service will be responsible for enforcing the provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, the Aboriginal Relics Act 1975, the National Parks and Reserves Regulations 1971, and the Wildlife Regulations 1971.

- The provisions of the Fisheries Act 1959 and its regulations will be policed by staff of the Inland Fisheries Commission or where agreed by the Commission, staff of the Parks and Wildlife Service may be empowered to police these provisions.

- Other law enforcement is the responsibility of Tasmania Police.
3.15 REVISION OF PLAN

- This management plan may only be varied in accordance with the procedures set out in Sections 19 and 20 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*.

- This plan will be reviewed within five years of gazettel of its approval by the Governor, or sooner if research, monitoring or other circumstances show this to be needed.
APPENDIX I - CLIMATE

TEMPERATURE

Mean Daily Maximum Temperature (°C) - Bicheno
(Source: Department of Science, Bureau of Meteorology)

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Mean Daily Minimum Temperature (°C) - Bicheno
(Source: Department of Science, Bureau of Meteorology)

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RAINFALL

Total rainfall in millimetres - Bicheno
(Source: Department of Science, Bureau of Meteorology)

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Total rainfall in millimetres - Gray
(Source: Department of Science, Bureau of Meteorology)

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### APPENDIX II - FLORA (Douglas-Apsley National Park)

#### LIST OF SPECIES (Duncan, 1983; Duncan, 1986; Kirkpatrick et al., 1991)

**PTERIDOPHYTA**

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<th>Species</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADIANTACEAE</td>
<td>Adiantum aethiopicum</td>
<td>Mother shield fern</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pellaea falcata</td>
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<td>ASPIDIACEAE</td>
<td>Polystichum proliferum</td>
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<td>ASPLENIACEAE</td>
<td>Asplenium flabellifolium</td>
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<td>Blechnum nudum</td>
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<td>Blechnum penna-marina</td>
<td>Hard water-fern</td>
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<td>Blechnum waltii</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doodia media</td>
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<td>CYATHEACEAE</td>
<td>Cyathea australis</td>
<td>Rough tree-fern</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rumohra adiantiformis</td>
<td>Leathery shield fern</td>
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<td>DAVALIACEAE</td>
<td>Culcita dubia</td>
<td>Common bracken</td>
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<td>DENNSTAEDIACEAE</td>
<td>Pteridium esculentum</td>
<td>Man fern, Soft tree-fern</td>
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<td>DICKSONIACEAE</td>
<td>Dicksonia antarctica</td>
<td>Scrambling coral fern</td>
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**GYMNOSPERMAE**

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**ANGIOSPERMAE**

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<td>ARALIACEAE</td>
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Olearia lirata
Olearia ramulosa
Olearia viscosa
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Wahlenbergia sp.
Stellaria flavida
Allocasuarina littoralis
Allocasuarina montifera
Allocasuarina verticillata
Dichondra repens
Bauera rubiodes
Hibbertia empetrifolia
Hibbertia riparia
Drosera auriculata
Aristotelia peduncularis
Acrotriche serrulata
Astroloba humifusum
Cyathodes divaricata
Cyathodes glauca
Cyathodes pendulosa
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Epacris impressa
Epacris lanuginosa
Epacris limbata
Epacris tasmanica
Leucopogon collinus
Lissanthe strigosa
Monotoca submutica
Monotoca submutica var. autumnalis
Sprengelia incarnata
Amperea xiphociada
Beyeria viscosa
Micrantheum hexandrum
Poranthera microphylla
Acacia botrycephala
Acacia dealbata
Acacia genistifolia
Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia mucronata
Acacia myrtifolia
Acacia stricta
Acacia verniciflua
Acacia verticillata
Bossiaea prostrata
Daviesia ulicifolia
Hovea heterophylla
Indigofera australis
Oxylobium ellipticum
Platylabium formosum
Platylabium formosum ssp. formosum
Pultenaea daphnoides
Pultenaea gunnii
Pultenaea juniperina
Pultenaea selaginoides
Pultenaea subumbellata
Daisy bush
Musk
Swamp daisy-bush
Dwarf musk
Bluebell
Variable she-oak
She-oak
River rose
Trailing guinea-flower
Erect guinea-flower
Ants delight
Native cranberry
Cheeseberry
Mountain berry
Pink heath
Woolly heath
Rough beard-heath
Peach heath
Pink swamp-heath
Broom spurge
Pinkwood
Sunshine wattle
Silver wattle
Dagger wattle
Blackwood
Narrow-leaf wattle
Myrtle wattle
Varnish wattle
Prickly moses
Native gorse
Handsome flat-pea
Native daphne
Golden bush-pea
Prickly beauty
Native wallflower
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### ROSACEAE
- Spyridium obovatum
- Acaena echinata
- Acaena novae-zelandiae
- Rubus parvifolius

**E** Dusty miller

### RUBIACEAE
- Coprosma hirtella
- Coprosma quadrifida
- Galium album
- Galium australe
- Galium gaudichaudii

**E** Rough coffee-berry

### RUTACEAE
- Correa laurenciana
- Correa reflexa
- Correa reflexa var reflexa
- Phebalium bilobum
- Phebalium squameum

**E** Bedstraw

### SANTALACEAE
- Exocarpos cupressiformis
- Exocarpos strictus
- Leptomeria drupacea

**E** Prickly currant-bush

### SAPINDACEAE
- Dodonaea filiformis
- Dodonaea viscosa ssp. spathulata

**E** Native fuschia

### SCROPHULARIACEAE
- Euphrasia scabra
- Parahebe formosa

**E** Native violet

### STYLIDIACEAE
- Stylium graminifolium
- Pimelea drupacea
- Pimelea humilis
- Pimelea linifolia
- Pimelea nivea

**E** Cherry riceflower

### THYMELAEACEAE
- Tetratheca pilosa

**E** Slender riceflower

### TREMENDRACEAE
- Viola hederacea ssp. cleistogama
- Viola hederacea ssp. hederaceae

**E** Round-head riceflower

### VIOLACEAE
- Tasmannia lanceolata

**E** Pepper bush

### WINTERACEAE
- Zieria arborescens
- Exocarpos cupressiformis
- Exocarpos strictus
- Leptomeria drupacea
- Dodonaea filiformis
- Dodonaea viscosa ssp. spathulata

**E** Lancewood

### ANGIOSPERMAE: MONOCOTYLEDONES

### CYPERACEAE
- Baumea tetragona
- Carex appressa
- Carex breviculmis
- Carex cataractae
- Gahnia grandis
- Gahnia microstachya
- Gahnia radula
- Isolepis spp.
- Lepidosperma canescens
- Lepidosperma concavum
- Lepidosperma elatius
- Lepidosperma elatius var. ensiforme
- Lepidosperma filiforme
- Lepidosperma inops
- Lepidosperma laterale
- Lepidosperma lineare
- Lepidosperma lineare var. lineare
- Schoenus apogon
- Schoenus teniusimus
- Tetraria capillaris
- Diplarrhena morea
- Patersonia fragilis
- Juncus australis
- Juncus melanobasis
- Juncus pauciflorus
- Juncus planifolius

**E** Little sword-sedge

### IRIDACEAE
- Tetraria capillaris
- Diplarrhena morea
- Patersonia fragilis
- Juncus australis
- Juncus melanobasis
- Juncus pauciflorus
- Juncus planifolius

**E** Hair-sedge

### JUNCACEAE
- Juncus australis
- Juncus melanobasis
- Juncus pauciflorus
- Juncus planifolius

**E** White iris

### CYPERACEAE
- Baumea tetragona
- Carex appressa
- Carex breviculmis
- Carex cataractae
- Gahnia grandis
- Gahnia microstachya
- Gahnia radula
- Isolepis spp.
- Lepidosperma canescens
- Lepidosperma concavum
- Lepidosperma elatius
- Lepidosperma elatius var. ensiforme
- Lepidosperma filiforme
- Lepidosperma inops
- Lepidosperma laterale
- Lepidosperma lineare
- Lepidosperma lineare var. lineare
- Schoenus apogon
- Schoenus teniusimus
- Tetraria capillaris
- Diplarrhena morea
- Patersonia fragilis
- Juncus australis
- Juncus melanobasis
- Juncus pauciflorus
- Juncus planifolius

**E** Little sword-sedge
**LILIACEAE**  
- Luzula meridionalis  
- Arthropodium milleflorum  
- Caesia parviflora  
- Dianella revoluta  
- Dianella tasmanica  
- Drymophila cyanocarpa  
- Acianthus exsertus  
- Acianthus reniformis  
- Caladenia pallida  
- Corybas aconitiflorus  
- Corybas dilatatus  
- Corybas unguiculatus (?)  
- Eriocheilus cucullatus  
- Microtis sp.  
- Pterostylis longifolia  
- Pterostylis nutans  
- Pterostylis sp.  
- Thelymitra sp.  

**ORCHIDACEAE**  
- Luzula meridionalis  
- Arthropodium multiflorum  
- Caesia parviflora  
- Dianella revoluta  
- Dianella tasmanica  
- Drymophila cyanocarpa  
- Acianthus exsertus  
- Acianthus reniformis  
- Caladenia pallida  
- Corybas aconitiflorus  
- Corybas dilatatus  
- Corybas unguiculatus (?)  
- Eriocheilus cucullatus  
- Microtis sp.  
- Pterostylis longifolia  
- Pterostylis nutans  
- Pterostylis sp.  
- Thelymitra sp.  

**POACEAE**  
- Agropyron scabrum  
- Danthonia dimidiata  
- Danthonia nitens  
- Danthonia pilosa  
- Deyeuxia accedens  
- Deyeuxia apsleyensis  
- Deyeuxia quadrirista  
- Dichelachne rara  
- Hierochloe rariflora  
- Microlaena stipoides  
- Poa labillardieri  
- Poa labillardieri var. labillardieri  
- Poa rosidyi  
- Poa sieberana  
- Stipa aphylla  
- Stipa spp.  
- Tettrarrhena distichophylla  
- Themeda triandra  

**RESTIONACEAE**  
- Leptocarpus tenax  
- Restio complanatus  

**XANTHORROEACEAE**  
- Lomandra longifolia  
- Xanthorrhoea australis  
- Xyris marginata  

**KEY**  

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## APPENDIX III - LIST OF MAMMALS (Douglas-Apsley National Park)

| Species | Common Name | Status | Distribution | Conservation | Occurrence of Mammals
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<td>Tiger cat</td>
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<td>White-footed Dunnart</td>
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<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King River bat</td>
<td>Epitesicus regulus</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large forest eptesicus</td>
<td>Epitesicus darlingtoni</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmanian pipistrelle</td>
<td>Falisstrellus tasmaniensis</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser long-eared bat</td>
<td>Nyctophilus geoffroyi pacificus</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goulds long-eared bat</td>
<td>Nyctophilus gouldi</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed mouse</td>
<td>Pseudomys fuliginosus</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit</td>
<td>Oryctolagus cuniculus</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat</td>
<td>Felis catus</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### KEY

- **Distribution (Smith, 1990)**
  - N: native; indigenous; neither deliberately nor accidentally introduced since 1788
  - N-Es: native, endemic species: wild populations of the species live only in Tasmania
  - N-Es-K: native, endemic sub-species: wild populations of the sub-species live only in Tasmania
  - I: introduced: introduced by humans; feral (as well as domestic) populations live in Tasmania

- **Conservation (Smith, 1990)**
  - V: vulnerable: taxa believed likely to move into the endangered category in the near future if the causal factors continue operating
  - X: insufficiently known (includes "potentially vulnerable" and "apparently stable"): taxa that are suspected to have a threatened conservation status, but not definitely known because of lack of information; or taxa that are potentially vulnerable and require monitoring; or that are apparently stable and require monitoring

- **Occurrence of mammals in different plant communities of the Park (Statham, 1986)**

1. Closed-forest (rainforest and mixed forest)
2. E. obliqua - dominated (tall) open-forest
3. E. delegatensis - dominated (tall) open-forest
4. E. amygdaлина - E. viminalis open-forest
5. E. tenuiramis - E. viminalis open-forest
6. E. sieberi - E. amygdaлина - E. viminalis open-forest
7. E. pauciflora - E. amygdaлина - E. dalrympleana woodland
8. E. rodwayi (low open) woodland
9. E. ovata (low open) woodland
10. E. pulchella - E. viminalis - E. barberi (low) woodland
11. Riverine vegetation

( ) possibly present in communities bracketed
## APPENDIX IV - LIST OF BIRDS (Douglas-Apsley National Park)

Presence recorded by Tasmanian Conservation Trust (Statham, 1986)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown goshawk</td>
<td>Accipiter fasciatus fasciatus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collared sparrowhawk</td>
<td>Accipiter cirrocephalus cirrocephalus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedge-tailed eagle</td>
<td>Aquila audax flexi</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsh harrier</td>
<td>Circus aeruginosus gouldii</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peregrine falcon</td>
<td>Falco peregrinus macropus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown falcon</td>
<td>Falco berigora tasmanica</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp quail</td>
<td>Coturnix australis ypsilophorus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted button-quail</td>
<td>Turnix varia varia</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masked lapwing</td>
<td>Vanellus miles novaehollandiae</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common bronzewing</td>
<td>Phaps chalcoptera</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush bronzewing</td>
<td>Phaps elegans</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-tailed black cockatoo</td>
<td>Calyptorhynchus tunerus xanthanotus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musk lorikeet</td>
<td>Glossopsitta concinna</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swift parrot</td>
<td>Lathamus discolor</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green rosella</td>
<td>Ploceus caledonicus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-winged parrot</td>
<td>Neophema chrysotoma</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallid cuckoo</td>
<td>Cuculus pallidus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan-tailed cuckoo</td>
<td>Cuculus pyrrhophanus priornus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horsfield's bronze cuckoo</td>
<td>Chrysococcyx basalis</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shining bronze cuckoo</td>
<td>Chrysococcyx kudius plagiosus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masked owl</td>
<td>Tyto novaehollandiae cassinops</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tawny frogmouth</td>
<td>Podargus strigoides strigoides</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian owlet-nightjar</td>
<td>Aegotheles cristatus tasmanicus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kookaburra</td>
<td>Dacelo novaeguineana novaeguineae</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome swallow</td>
<td>Hirundo neoxena</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree martin</td>
<td>Cecropis nigricans nigricans</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard's pipit</td>
<td>Anthus novaaseelandiae</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-faced cuckoo shrike</td>
<td>Coracina novaehollandiae</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White's thrush</td>
<td>Zoothera dauma lurulata</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackbird</td>
<td>Turdus merula</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink robin</td>
<td>Petroica rodinogaster</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame robin</td>
<td>Petica phoenica</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlet robin</td>
<td>Petica multicolor boodang</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky robin</td>
<td>Melanodryas vittata</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olive whirlster</td>
<td>Pachyphala olivacea</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey shrike-thrush</td>
<td>Cactorchile harmonica harmonica</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satin flycatcher</td>
<td>Myiagra cyanolucia</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey fantail</td>
<td>Rhipidura fuliginosa abicarpa</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted quail-thrush</td>
<td>Cinclosa punctatum dovei</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb fairy-wren</td>
<td>Malurus cyanus cyanus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis frontalis humilis</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrubbit</td>
<td>Sericornis magnus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striated fieldwren</td>
<td>Sericornis fuliginos</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown thornbill</td>
<td>Acanthiza pusilla diemenensis</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-rumped thornbill</td>
<td>Acanthiza chrysothra</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow wattledbird</td>
<td>Anthochaera paradoxa</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noisy miner</td>
<td>Maroaria melancophana melancophana</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-throated honeyeater</td>
<td>Lichenoetus flavicolus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong-billed honeyeater</td>
<td>Melithreptus validirostris</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed honeyeater</td>
<td>Melithreptus affinis</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crescent honeyeater</td>
<td>Phylidonyris pyrrophaera inornata</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Holland honeyeater</td>
<td>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae caseolos</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern spinetail</td>
<td>Acanthornynchus tenuirostris</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted pardalote</td>
<td>Pardalotus punctatus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striated pardalote</td>
<td>Pardalotus striatus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silvereye</td>
<td>Zosterops lateralis lateralis</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful firetail</td>
<td>Emblema bella</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusty woodswallow</td>
<td>Aratus cyanopterus cyanopterus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey butcherbird</td>
<td>Trachirius torquatus sinuereus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black currawong</td>
<td>Strepera fuliginosa</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey currawong</td>
<td>Strepera versicolor arguta</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest raven</td>
<td>Corvus tasmanicus tasmanicus</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

56
Birds likely to be present (Statham, 1986)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Native</th>
<th>Habitat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern rosella</td>
<td>Platycercus eximius diemanensis</td>
<td>Nes</td>
<td>DSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern boobook</td>
<td>Ninox novaeseelandiae leucopsis</td>
<td>Nes</td>
<td>DSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden whistler</td>
<td>Pachycephala pectoralis</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>DSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmanian thornbill</td>
<td>Acanthiza ewingii</td>
<td>Ne</td>
<td>DSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little wattlebird</td>
<td>Anthochaera chrysopera tasmanica</td>
<td>Nes</td>
<td>DSF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY

Distribution (Smith, 1990)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>native: indigenous; neither deliberately nor accidentally introduced since 1788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ne</td>
<td>native, endemic species: wild populations of the species live only in Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>native, migratory: a native species or sub-species, all or most of which migrate annually to and from Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nmb</td>
<td>native, migratory, only breeds in Tasmania: a migratory species or sub-species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nes</td>
<td>native, endemic sub-species: wild populations of the sub-species live only in Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nes(m)</td>
<td>native, endemic sub-species (partly migratory): an endemic Tasmanian sub-species in which some individuals seasonally migrate, but many stay throughout the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>introduced: introduced by humans; feral (as well as domestic) populations live in Tasmania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conservation (Smith, 1990)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>vulnerable: taxa believed likely to move into the endangered category in the near future if the causal factors continue operating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>insufficiently known (includes “potentially vulnerable” and “apparently stable”): taxa that are suspected to have a threatened conservation status, but not definitely known because of lack of information; or taxa that are potentially vulnerable and require monitoring; or that are apparently stable and require monitoring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Likely habitats of birds within the Park (Statham, 1986)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSF</td>
<td>Dry Sclerophyll Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSF</td>
<td>Wet Sclerophyll Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MF</td>
<td>Mixed Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRF</td>
<td>Temperate Rainforest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ne</td>
<td>Marshes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROJECT PROPOSAL AND INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS STATEMENT

A. Use of the Project Proposal Form (PPF)

1. A PPF is required for all developments (as listed in Section C below) on land for which the Department is responsible and is to be completed well before the project is proposed to commence. In most cases the forms should be completed and approved as part of the budget planning process. This will allow time to sort out any problems, carry out any studies and investigate alternatives, if necessary.
2. The officer directly responsible for the project or for the locality in which a development is proposed is to initiate the form.
3. Completion is required regardless of who is the actual developer (eg the Crown or a lessee).
4. A completed PPF, including all supporting documentation, is to be lodged with the Dep. Ass. Sec. (Land Management), from whom it will be available for inspection by others.
5. Copies of page 1 are to be sent separately to the Assistant Directors (Wildlife, Resources and Planning and Heritage) at the time the form is lodged. Their comments are to be entered on p.3 by the Dep. Ass. Sec. (Land Management).
6. Any officer wishing to comment on a particular project must do so by the deadline given at the bottom of page 1. After that date it will be assumed that there is no comment.

B. Reasons for Requiring an Environmental Assessment

Land (whether reserved or not) is managed by the Department for a variety of purposes including the conservation of natural and cultural resources and areas of scenic beauty.

In the process of providing facilities for staff to manage land and for visitor enjoyment, it is important that these natural and cultural values are not affected more than is absolutely essential. The same applies to other types of development on land which the Department manages.

A major role of the Department is to promote the conservation of these values outside reserves, particularly amongst other departments and private groups involved in development. In order to do this effectively, the Department must set the highest standards in its own areas.

C. Guidelines for Completion of a Project Proposal Form

It is difficult to design a simple system to cater for all the possible types of development and a great deal is inevitably left to the discretion of field officers and other project initiators.

However, the following guidelines are to be followed:

1. Substantial projects involving potential for large scale environmental impacts should be the subject of full Environmental Impact Assessments and Management Plans and should meet the guidelines laid down by the Government. (A copy of these procedures can be obtained from Head Office). These are an essential component of the normal planning process that must be carried out in any case for a major project.
Lesser Departmental projects with potential for environmental impact should be the subject of a PPF. These must be completed where a project involves:

(a) disturbance of the habitat of threatened or rare species or communities of plants or animals or disturbance of important or unusual rocks, minerals, landforms or soils;
(b) interference, including landscape modification, with a site of known or likely historical or archaeological importance (NB Aboriginal heritage is protected by the *Aboriginal Relics Act*);
(c) a marked change, or potentially controversial change, in use of an area by the public;
(d) the building or major realignment of a road, firebreak or walking track;
(e) clearing of vegetation or soil or other disturbance where the area cleared or disturbed is greater than 50 square metres;
(f) interference with a watercourse or some other potential for affecting a wider area than the immediate project area - e.g. erosion on sand dunes;
(g) potential for introduction of weeds, diseases or feral animals;
(h) a cumulative effect over a number of years - e.g. cutting firewood;
(i) disturbance of any area larger than one hectare of natural bush by factors other than direct clearing - e.g. fire, use of herbicides etc;
(j) the erection of a building or major facility (e.g. a wharf);
(k) the removal or modification of any structure, excluding routine maintenance of structures erected within the last 30 years;
(l) potential for visual or landscape modification.

Public comment must be sought on projects which will significantly alter the present use of an area and where the change in use has not been covered by other planning such as management plans or development plans. Examples include new tracks, new buildings, removal of buildings, closure of tracks, restrictions on use, proposals in wilderness etc. The Dep. Ass. Sec. (Land Management) will be responsible for deciding on the need and level of public involvement. Comment may be sought by a range of means from direct contact to public advertisement.

IF IN DOUBT, PLAY IT SAFE AND COMPLETE A STATEMENT.

Following review and any necessary amendment, all forms are to be submitted to the Assistant Secretary (Land Management) for final approval.

A. J. Pedder
SECRETARY
1 January 1991

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1 Landscape modification shall include any change to the landscape through, but not limited to, digging, ploughing, bulldozing, scraping, ditching, trenching, roading, fire trails, forestry operations, dam construction and impoundments, flood mitigation, mining, quarrying, extractive industries, pipeline and powerline construction, service trenches for water, gas, electricity, telecommunications, fire prevention, sewage, drainage, intensive agriculture, establishing gardens, planting trees, intensive recreation, cattle agistment, real estate development and planning zone amendments.
## A. PROPOSED PROJECT

### 1. Purpose

### 2. Project Outline
   Attach a plan or sketch map of locality if needed and clearly indicate position and size.

### 3. Relationship to other planning
   Is the project consistent with the Management Plan or other planning for the area? If not, why?

### 4. Materials required:

### 5. Estimated costs:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract/labour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6. If project requires use of heavy machinery, list:

### 7. Estimated time required to carry out project:

### 8. Are there any seasonal or other constraints on timing of project?** Decision Deadline:**

### 9. What alternative means of achieving the objective, and alternative locations, have been considered? Briefly indicate what, where and why rejected.

### 10. Deadline for receipt of comments:

   Note: This deadline not to be less than 4 weeks after completion and posting of form. After this deadline it will be assumed there are no further objections or comments.
**PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM AND INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS STATEMENT**

**B. DETAILS OF PROPOSED SITE AND EFFECTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11. Describe existing site (topography, water courses, rock and soil types, vegetation, notable wildlife)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attach relevant photographs if possible.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12. Is the locality known to be the habitat of any rare or threatened plants, animals or communities, or to contain any unusual minerals, rocks, landforms or soils?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have any surveys been undertaken? Are any required?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>13. Is the locality known to have historic significance, or contain Aboriginal or historical cultural material? Describe:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have any surveys been undertaken? Are any required? Will archaeological supervision be necessary?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 14. Does the area have *Phytophthora*? |  |

| 15. Describe any anticipated environmental effects not covered above and any means proposed to minimise adverse effects: |  |

| 16. Endorsement/comment of District Ranger/Area Manager/Assistant Director (Wildlife, Resources and Planning, Heritage) as appropriate. |  |
C. REFERENCE TO SPECIALIST OFFICERS

Initiating or reviewing officer to record advice obtained from specialist officers. Others may be added, where relevant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICER</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director-Wildlife</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director-Resources and Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director-Cultural Heritage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM AND
INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS STATEMENT

Area Manager responsible for project to indicate how matters raised above have been resolved:

RECOMMENDED (following any arbitration with other Assistant Directors)

Assistant Director (Land Management) Date

APPROVED subject to availability of funds and normal accounting procedures:

Director (Land Management) Date

Forward to Area Manager for information/implementation.
Original to be returned to records for filing.
APPENDIX VI
TASFORHAB SURVEY PROFILE LOCATIONS
1 : 100 000
REFERENCES

AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, TASMANIAN CONSERVATION TRUST, WILDERNESS SOCIETY, & FOREST ACTION NETWORK, 1984; Proposal for an east coast forest park, the Douglas-Apsley National Park; Hobart, Tasmania.


BROWN, S., 1986; Aboriginal archaeological resources in south east Tasmania: An overview of the nature and management of aboriginal sites; Occasional Paper No 12, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania.

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