

Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 2002

(Altering the Tasmanian
Wilderness World Heritage Area
Management Plan 1999
in the Cockle Creek East Area)



Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Primary Industries,
Water and Environment

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This management plan for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part IV of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*.

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 term 'PWS' refers to the Parks and Wildlife Service.

The draft of this plan [Draft Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 2000 (Altering the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 1999 in the Cockle Creek East Area)] was available for public comment from 18 November 2000 until 18 December 2000. As required by Section 20 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*, the Director PWS has reported to the Resource Planning and Development Commission on this public comment. This plan is a modified version of the draft, having been varied to take account of public input during that period, advice from the Resource Planning and Development Commission, the views of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Consultative Committee and the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council. Its approval was recommended on 21 December 2001 by the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Ministerial Council under the joint management arrangement between the Tasmanian and Commonwealth Governments.

In accordance with Section 23 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*, the managing authority for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area will give effect to the provisions of this management plan.

Approval

This management plan was approved by His Excellency the Governor-in-Council on XX XXXXXXXX 2002 and took effect on XX XXXXXXXX 2002 being seven days after publication of that approval in the *Government Gazette*.

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INTRODUCTION

This plan has been prepared to provide for the construction and operation of an Eco Tourism Development on a site located on the coast between the mouth of Cockle Creek and Fishers Point. The proposal was initially known as the Planter Beach Eco Tourism Development but the site is now being referred to as Cockle Creek East.

The management of the WHA (as defined on page 17 of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 1999) will be governed by the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 1999 and this plan read together.

PURPOSES OF RESERVATION AND OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

This plan is to alter the 1999 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan in the Cockle Creek East area. The purposes of reservation are those stated in the 1999 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan Chapter 2, pages 22-26. The management objectives to apply within the plan area are those stated in the 1999 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan Chapter 3, pages 30-41, with additional objectives as stated at the start of each plan section.

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

The construction of the proposed development is subject to a number of conditions stipulated in the Environmental Management Plan. These include a requirement for a surface and sub-surface testing program for Aboriginal sites. This testing program should be carried out prior to the construction earthworks proceeding. Since the dense vegetation on the site makes access extremely difficult and ground visibility is extremely poor, it may be necessary to clear vegetation, as appropriate, to enable this testing program to be undertaken. Expert advice suggests that most of the Aboriginal sites in the area are the already known middens to the immediate rear of the beach and that the likelihood of finding further extensive sites greater than 80m inland (the location of the proposed facilities) is low. The proposed layout of the development is sufficiently flexible to permit some relocation of facilities to minimise damage to Aboriginal sites. However, it is recognised that the testing program may identify significant Aboriginal sites within the footprint of the proposed facilities. If this proves to be the case, then it may be impossible to avoid the Aboriginal sites in which case the Minister will determine whether to issue a permit under the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* to conceal or destroy Aboriginal relics.

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**ALTERATIONS TO THE TASMANIAN WILDERNESS WORLD HERITAGE
AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN 1999**

1. MAPS

The attached Map 3 (Zoning) and Map 5 (Visitor Facilities & Major Recreation Features) are to replace the current Maps 3 and 5 (WHA Plan pages 216 and 218).

On the current Map 3 (Zoning, WHA Plan, page 216), the proposed development site is located in an area which was unzoned and is adjacent to the Visitor Services Site 'star' which is located to cover the current facilities at Cockle Creek–Recherche Bay.

Replacement Zoning Map (Map 3)

- A Visitor Services Site symbol (the Cockle Creek East Visitor Services Site) has been added at the location of the proposed development.
- The coastline (to 500 metres inland) between Cockle Creek and Fishers Point has been zoned 'recreation' to cater for the more intensive use which is a likely consequence of the development.
- The remainder of the unzoned area in this vicinity has been zoned 'wilderness'.
- The map is otherwise unchanged.

Replacement Visitor Facilities & Major Recreation Features Map (Map 5)

- The Cockle Creek East Visitor Services Site has been added.
- The spelling of 'Meander Forest Res~~erve~~' has been corrected.
- The map is otherwise unchanged.

More Precise Delineation of Area of the Visitor Services Site

The Visitor Services Site symbol is an indication only of the location of visitor facilities in the area. The exact extent of the Cockle Creek East Visitor Services Site is defined in the Site Plan.

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2. PLAN TEXT

Page 154, column 1:

The following sentence:

'In the Southwest National Park development of infrastructure, including huts, is not allowed in view of the natural character of the area'

is to be replaced by:

'In the Southwest National Park, in view of the natural character of the area, development of accommodation infrastructure, including huts, is not allowed, except within the Cockle Creek East Visitor Services Site.'

Page 181, column 1:

The following sentence:

'If new commercial huts are proposed, they are to be:

- located within a Visitor Services Zone, a Visitor Services Site or a Recreation Zone;
- outside Southwest National Park, which is to be retained as an area providing natural camping opportunities'

is to be replaced by:

'If new commercial huts are proposed, they are to be:

- located within a Visitor Services Zone, a Visitor Services Site or a Recreation Zone;
- outside Southwest National Park, which is to be retained as an area providing natural camping opportunities, with the exception of the Cockle Creek East Visitor Services Site'.

Page 160, column 2:

The following sentence is to be inserted under, Roads and Sightseeing, Management Prescriptions, Other Areas:

'New roading identified in the approved Cockle Creek East Site Plan may be constructed'.