

ATTACHMENT 1

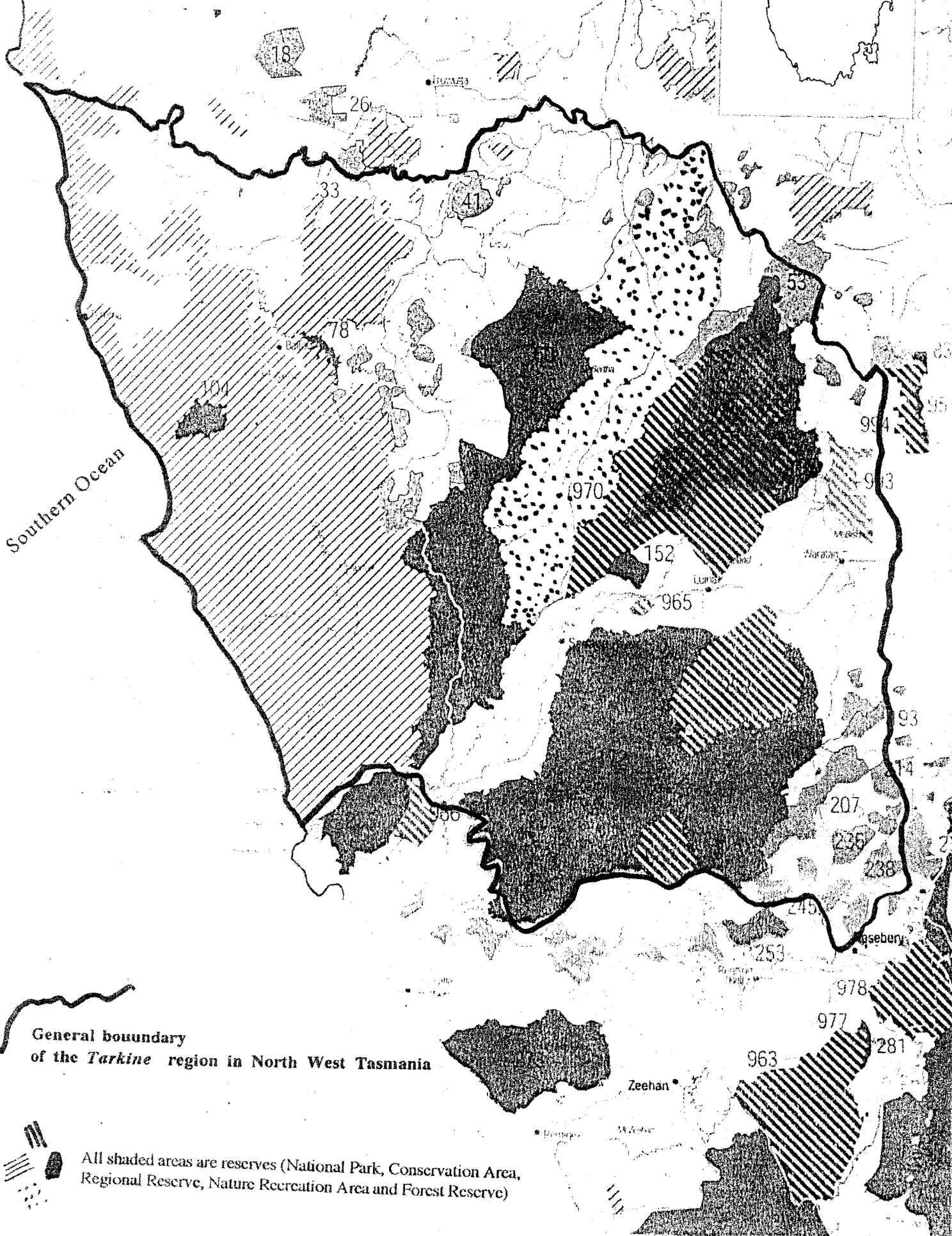
Category Name	Purposes	Objectives
<p>National Park</p> <p>This category is the same as the current category of National Park under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970 (Tas)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a large, natural area of surface and/or subterranean land containing a representative or outstanding sample of major natural regions, features or scenery; and • which should be managed for the protection and maintenance of natural and cultural values with the provision for ecologically sustainable recreation consistent with the conservation of the area's values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve biological diversity; • to conserve geodiversity; • to preserve the quality of water and protection of catchments; • to preserve sites or areas of cultural significance; • to encourage education based on the reserve's purpose and significance; • to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purpose of reservation; • to protect the reserve against, and rehabilitate the reserve following adverse impacts of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the reserve; • to encourage appropriate tourism, recreational use and enjoyment; • to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the reserve's purpose and other reserve management objectives; • to preserve the natural, primitive and remote character of wilderness areas.

Category Name	Purposes	Objectives
<p>Conservation Area</p> <p>This category is similar to existing categories under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970 (Tas)</i>, but is now a "stand alone" category. It will also include various elements of protected areas and coastal reserves under the <i>Crown Lands Act 1976 (Tas)</i>. It will also include wildlife sanctuaries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an area of land predominantly in a natural state; and • which should be managed for the protection and maintenance of natural and cultural values and the sustainable use of the area's natural resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve biological diversity; • to conserve geodiversity; • to preserve the quality of water and protection of catchments; • to preserve sites or areas of cultural significance; • to encourage education based on the reserve's purpose and significance; • to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purpose of reservation; • to protect the reserve against, and rehabilitate the reserve following adverse impacts of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the reserve; • to encourage appropriate tourism, recreational use and enjoyment (including private uses) • to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the reserve's purpose and other reserve management objectives; • to provide for the taking, on an ecologically sustainable basis, of designated game species for commercial and private purposes; • to provide for the controlled use of natural resources, including as an adjunct to utilisation of marine resources • to provide for exploration activities and utilisation of mineral resources; • to provide for other commercial or industrial uses of coastal areas.

Category Name	Purposes	Objectives
<p>Forest Reserve</p> <p>This category is the same as Forest Reserve under the <i>Forestry Act 1920 (Tas)</i>, but as a "stand alone" category.</p>	<p>Land adjoining State Forest which is managed primarily for one or more of the following purposes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public recreational use; • the preservation or protection of features of the land of aesthetic, scientific or other value; • the preservation or protection of a species of flora or fauna. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve biological diversity; • to conserve geodiversity; • to preserve the quality of water and protection of catchments; • to preserve sites or areas of cultural significance; • to encourage education based on the reserve's purpose and significance; • to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purpose of reservation; • to protect the reserve against, and rehabilitate the reserve following adverse impacts of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the reserve; • to encourage appropriate tourism, recreational use and enjoyment; • to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the reserve's purpose and other reserve management objectives; • to provide for the controlled use of natural resources; to provide for exploration activities and utilisation of mineral resources; • to provide for the taking, on an ecologically sustainable basis, of designated game species for commercial and private purposes.

TARKINE HERITAGE AREA

Tasmania



Anarchy on the Tarkine Coast

ATTACHMENT III

A report on the damage to the Aboriginal and natural values of the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area – part of the Tarkine Coast

This report has been compiled as a result of an act of vandalism that was reported on ABC Radio news on 11 January 2006 and a small article that was published in the *Mercury* newspaper on the same day.

The 315ha Greenes Creek Aboriginal petroglyph site on the Tarkine Coast was listed on the National Estate in 1981¹ and is within the 100,135ha Arthur Pieman Conservation Area (APCA), part of the greater Tarkine, much of which was also listed on the National Estate. The Tarkine is an area stretching from the Southern Ocean coastline inland and between the Arthur and Pieman River systems.

Despite my call as far back as 30 years ago to the then Director, National Parks and Wildlife Service, for the Greenes Creek site to be declared a State Reserve², this never took place. It is now, however, included in the APCA with the Managing Authority being the Parks and Wildlife Service (Mr Peter Mooney, Manager), a division of the Department of Tourism, Parks, Heritage and the Arts (DTPHA) (Mr Scott Gadd, Secretary) with the responsible Minister Hon. Judy Jackson MHA.

The APCA, including the Greenes Creek site, is covered by the Management Plan 2002 under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*, the *National Parks and Reserved Land Regulations 1990* and the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*. The preparation of the Management Plan 2002 was undertaken for the Parks and Wildlife Service after extensive public consultation by the Tasmanian Resource Planning and Development Commission. The Plan identifies the values and clearly states the intention for the reserve that ‘...provides protection to an extraordinary richness of Aboriginal cultural heritage, to highly significant and diverse ecosystems, and to spectacular coastal landscapes and wilderness values.’³

The media reports on the damage at ‘Arthur River’ prompted me to visit the area again on Thursday 12 January 2006. From the Arthur River coastal settlement I travelled south of Temma, a small coastal fishing settlement, then by 4WD (courtesy of a local identity) to Brooks Creek where I completed the trip on foot to Greenes Creek, via Ordnance Point Aboriginal site. The area south of Temma lies in the Natural Zone for which the Management Plan 2002 states as the General Aim ‘...to conserve cultural heritage values and to maintain the wilderness character of naturalness, tranquility and isolation.’⁴

Damage to Greenes Creek Aboriginal Petroglyph Site

My inspection revealed seven separate examples of recent damage that seemed to be caused by a metal object

(like a chisel) driven into the hard rock surface by a hammer or rock. Some of the rock surfaces of the ancient circular motifs have been chiselled and/or scratched in a very determined way. Contrary to some media reports, the cross (X) was not new but was an existing motif that had recently been deeply scratched.

A little further along the main track a fence has been erected by Parks and Wildlife Service at Greenes Creek which prevents vehicular access to a nearby large midden and also to the creek near the petroglyph site. However, the location of the fence fails to prevent vehicular access directly to the damaged site. There are no signs or fencing to warn against vehicular access to the rocky foreshore where there are now two tracks that lead directly to the petroglyphs, and these tracks would give easy access for any vandal. Another track from the north cuts directly through a midden and leads onto the foreshore and then on to the petroglyph site.

Close by the Greenes Creek site, deep ruts in boggy soil indicate serious problems with recent looning by bikes and other off-road vehicles/all-terrain vehicles (ORVs/ATVs) that seem to have a free rein in this Conservation Area. (See photo below, taken in January this year.) I consider that the latest Greenes Creek vandalism (there



have been other incidents in the past) can be attributed directly to the Parks and Wildlife Service as ‘managers’ responsible for this Conservation Area and to the Tasmanian State Government for not allocating sufficient funds for appropriate management.

On this recent visit I also discovered a new site consisting of three circles on a slightly sloping, smooth, low rock, covered at high tide, located about 200m to the north of the main Greenes Creek site. This now makes six separate areas at Greenes Creek where motifs exist.

In my view, all of these access points to the foreshore should be closed off at and around Greenes Creek, fenced, rehabilitated and clear signage erected. If the fences and/or the signs are vandalised, they should be replaced as

soon as possible. Note that some fencing around a nearby lagoon has been effective in other parts of the APCA which has prevented vehicles hooning in boggy ground.

It was interesting to note that, whilst I was at the site, a child innocently threw a shell which landed near a petroglyph, chipping the rock. This illustrates how fragile these artifacts are.

Many people who visit this site and also Swandown Point know of the whereabouts of the petroglyphs but have no idea of their heritage significance or of basic care. An informative illustrative sign should be erected at these locations as soon as possible. There is no basis for the argument that any such signage would draw attention to the sites and would be subject to vandalism. Signs are a useful part of the public education process, and it would be far better for signs to be vandalised than to vandalise the site.

Ordnance Point

At Ordnance Point, another important Aboriginal site, I also noted that wheel ruts are apparent on the slopes of a huge exposed midden. These may be fairly recent as the fence surrounding the site is now ineffective to such intrusions by bikes or cattle.

Other examples of damage to the natural values

There is incremental damage to the natural values of this area including:

(i) Weed invasion

The spread of sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) along this coast, first noticed by me in May 2000, is now choking native vegetation and taking a hold in previously open areas. It appears that sea birds feed on the sea spurge seeds which are then spread in their excrement. This weed is now rapidly covering the foreshore, exposed dunes and sedgeland. The latter is an important food source for the endangered orange-bellied parrot which migrates along this narrow coastal corridor.

(ii) New tracks and track erosion

With this particularly wet season and late rains there is a lot of water about. The deep water sections on the track south of Temma have led to two problems:

- bikes and some 4WDs are avoiding the big puddles and creating new tracks through the vegetation to bypass the deep water sections; and
- where vehicles have chosen to go through the deep water sections some have travelled too fast resulting in their wash causing the soil and vegetation on the sides to be eroded and slumped back into the water.

This further degrading of the Conservation Area needs to be addressed with numbers of vehicles allowed to use the track south of Temma immediately reduced until the track dries out. There is no case for 'hardening' these sections with gravel infill, as it would then allow even more vehicles to travel on this de-facto road, creating more problems further south. The proliferation of new tracks that have now been created this season needs to be documented by both on-ground and aerial monitoring as a matter of priority.

Arthur River Ranger Station and Information Centre

At the time of my short visit on Thursday 12 January, the Ranger Station office at Arthur River settlement was

closed upon my arrival at 8.15 am and was again closed upon my return at 2.30pm. With the office closed, there is just no way that any off-road user or visitor to the area could gain appropriate information or obtain a permit to travel on the track south of Temma.

An incident at the time of my visit involved five motorbikes found to be in the wrong spot. All these riders thought the permit that they had filled in allowed them to go everywhere and were planning an early start the next day to go to Pieman Heads! They had spoken to the office staff (front office lady is only part-time from 9am to 2pm) and were surrounded by maps, but somehow the important information on regulations had not got through to these individuals.

It is imperative that this office should be staffed at all times (8am – 6pm), particularly at weekends and holiday periods, by knowledgeable park rangers who will be able to provide advice and issue permits to users and be clear on where not to go.

Please note that there is no criticism of the existing office and ranger staff, who all do a tremendous job and the best that is possible with the limited resources available. However, the present situation is an indictment of the Hobart administration of the Parks and Wildlife Service and the Tasmanian State Government.

The resourcing for this reserve appears to be almost 'forgotten' by the Parks and Wildlife administration in Hobart; for example there was no summer ranger program at Arthur River and there was no ranger based at Sandy Cape during the peak holiday season.

Plan Implementation

From Arthur River, right through to Greenes Creek, there was evidence of an increasingly degraded landscape and degraded natural and cultural values, with examples of breaches of the APCA Management Plan 2002 and also serious breaches of the Burra Charter.

The Parks and Wildlife Service as the managing authority should act on the recommendation of the Resource Planning and Development Commission when it was charged with the preparation of the APCA Management Plan: '...the Commission does advocate banning recreational vehicles from more sensitive areas of the APCA if the management system is proven ineffective.'⁵

This was reflected in the Commission's Recommendation 68 for Section 8.3. Plan Implementation '...to require the managing authority to consider options such as closing access to sensitive areas where inadequate resources are available to ensure the values are protected and maintained.'⁶

In s.6.4, Vehicles Used Off-Road, in the Management Plan 2002 under the heading General Prescriptions, dot point 10, it is stated: 'Update the information and interpretation at the off-road driving information booth just south of Temma'. The present condition of this information booth has the previous information removed and the condition of the building appears to be ready for dismantling, which is contrary to the Plan.

Section 64 of the Management Plan 2002 also specifically designates beach areas where off-road activities are allowed and this does not include the coast at the Greenes Creek site.

The APCA Management Authority therefore has failed to implement the following admirable aims to:

- provide for responsible, low-impact experiences within the reserve;
- recognise the contribution to responsible use that can be made by clubs;
- develop a system that is enforceable;
- minimise conflicts with other recreational activities;
- minimise conflicts with conservation of the natural and cultural values of the conservation area.

Benchmarks in the Plan are designed to measure an effective management system and, if not met, the Minister can bring into effect the default prescriptions. It would appear that most of the General Prescriptions are being flouted by off-road users.

The areas that should be immediately closed off to all vehicles should include all access points to the coast off the main Temma – Sandy Cape track (excepting to access existing shacks), especially at sensitive Aboriginal sites at Greenes Creek, Swandown Point State Reserve, Ordinance Point, and to close off the track south of Sandy Cape to the Pieman Heads.

Since the Management Plan 2002 was released it is subject to a minor review by the Director, National Parks and Wildlife Service, three years after it came into effect. This audit, due now, is to determine what progress has been made towards implementing the Plan. If it has already been done, it should be made public, and if not, PWS should advise when it is to be undertaken.

As part of the implementation, it should be noted that the managing authority (Parks and Wildlife Service) may, where inadequate resources are available to ensure that values are protected and maintained, consider options such as closing access to sensitive areas.

There is ample proof that the cultural and natural values are being trashed in the APCA on the Tarkine Coast by anarchist behaviour. In response, the Parks and Wildlife staff have indicated that there are insufficient and inadequate resources to manage the APCA. Not only have there been breaches of the Management Plan 2000 but there are also serious breaches of the Burra Charter, to which the Australian Government is a signatory. The principles of the latter are as applicable to the conservation, protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage. If the Tasmanian State Government is unable to provide adequate resources for proper management, then the coastal areas within both the Natural Zone and the sensitive sites in the Recreation Zone should be immediately closed off by the Parks and Wildlife Service as the Managing Authority.

Recommendations

- Allocate resources immediately to increase PWS ranger staff to a level that will prevent further damage to the sensitive cultural and natural values, at strategic points such as Brooks Creek, Sandy Cape and also Pieman Heads (if unable to provide these resources the Minister responsible should immediately close off access to the sensitive sites, and to the coastline).
- Increase PWS staffing so that the office is open all day during the holiday period and at weekends from 8 am to 6 pm.

- Include Arthur River in the PWS summer activities/ education program.
- Acquire the shack (Mr House) on the south side of Brooks Creek for Ranger accommodation to manage and control access south.
- Consider closing off the track from Brooks Creek south with a boom gate.
- Erect interpretative signage at sensitive sites and sensitive areas.
- Disallow further hardening of tracks south of Temma.
- Ensure all vehicle owners and all users of the APCA, including shack owners, are adequately informed of the restricted areas.
- Assess the potential loss of feeding habitat for the orange-bellied parrot, caused by the encroachment of sea spurge.
- At the end of the 2006 summer season undertake both ground and aerial monitoring of all of the coastal tracks from West Point south to Granville Harbour.
- The Director of National Parks and Wildlife Service to undertake a minor review of the Management Plan 2002 which is now due and make this audit public.

Background to this report

My interest stems from my membership of the Australian Rock Art organisation (AURA) and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra (AIATSIS). Over the past 30 years I have been undertaking a recording project of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Petroglyph sites for AIATSIS. The Greenes Creek Aboriginal petroglyph site was part of this project, where the many motifs were recorded in detail.⁷ Following the initial site recording in 1975 a follow-up visit to the area in 2000 was undertaken to monitor the condition of the site, to identify severe deficiencies in the APCA management, and to document the damage encountered to the cultural and natural values.⁸ This information was used as evidence to the Resource Planning and Development Commission when preparing their recommendations to be included in the Management Plan 2002.⁹ A permanent archive of all of my records relating to this site and the APCA are housed in the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston and are available for inspection and discussion.

Peter C Sims OAM

References

1. Register of the National Estate 1981.
2. Letter from P Sims to Parks & Wildlife Service Director 21 July 1975.
3. *Arthur Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2000*, Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Primary Industry, Water and Environment.
4. *ibid.*
5. Resource Planning and Development Commission *Final Recommendation Report May 2001*, p77.
6. *ibid.* p 88.
7. Sims Collection. Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston. CHS37 -Series 'B'.

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8. Sims, Peter C. 'Hoof and Fun .The continuing sad story of the degrading of the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area a part of the great Tarkine Wilderness Tarkine National Coalition'. Unpublished Report 2000.
9. Sims, Peter C. Submission 31 to the Resource Planning and Development Commission 'Inquiry into the Finalisation of the Draft Arthur Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2000 Background and Draft Recommendations', March 2001.
Sims, Peter C. Submission to the Resource Planning and Development Commission 'Inquiry into the finalisation of the Draft Arthur Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2000 Final Recommendations Report', May 2001. ■



International Federation of Rock Art Organizations

Members of IFRAO: American Committee to Advance the Study of Petroglyphs and Pictographs (ACASPP) - American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) - Armenian Centre of Prehistoric Art Study (ACPAS) - Asociación Arqueológica Viguesa (AAV) - Associação Brasileira de Arte Rupestre (ABAR) - Associação Portuguesa de Arte e Arqueologia Rupestre (APAAR) - Association des Amis de l'Art Rupestre Saharien (AARS) - Association pour le Rayonnement de l'Art Pariétal Européen (ARAPE) - Australian Rock Art Research Association (AURA) - Centar za Istraživanje na Karpestatu umetnosti i Praistorijata na Makedonija - Centro de Investigación de

Arte Rupestre del Uruguay (CIARU) - Centro Studi e Museo d'Arte Preistorica (CeSMAP) - Comité de Investigación del Arte Rupestre de la Sociedad Argentina de Antropología (CIAR-SAA) - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Petroikonologie e.V. - East African Rock Art Research Association (EARARA) - Eastern States Rock Art Research Association (ESRARA) - Gesellschaft für Vergleichende Felsbildforschung (GE.FE.BI) - Grupo de Investigación de Arte Rupestre Indígena (GIPRI) - Institutum Canarium (IC) - Japan Petrograph Society (JPS) - Mid-America Geographic Foundation - Moscow Centre of Rock Art and Bioindication Research - Pictish Arts Society (PAS) - Prehistory Society of Zimbabwe (PSZ) - Rock Art Association of Manitoba (RAAM) - Rock Art Research Association of China (RARAC) - Rock Art Society of India (RASI) - Siberian Association of Prehistoric Art Researches (SAPAR) - Sociedad de Investigación del Arte Rupestre de Bolivia (SIARB) - Società Cooperativa Archeologica Le Orme dell'Uomo - Société Préhistorique Ariège-Pyrénées - Southern African Rock Art Research Association (SARARA) - Upper Midwest Rock Art Research Association (UMRARA) - Verein Auisa

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The Honourable Paul Lennon MHA

Premier of Tasmania

Parliament House

Hobart, Tasmania 7000

Dear Premier,

The recent reports about the destruction of rock art near Arthur River are of extreme concern to us. This incident is not an isolated case, but part of an ongoing pattern. For instance, in 1994, vandals added fake new petroglyphs to Ringing Rock at Trial Harbour; in 1998, a petroglyph was expertly sawn from the rock of Sundown Point; the same site was spray-painted in 2000; and now we have the serious destruction at Greenes Creek, south of Temma. This is only part of the ongoing vandalism of Tasmanian rock art, which is indicative of your government's impotence in cultural heritage management. We note that you also hold the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs, and we will write to the Minister for Parks and Heritage as well.

The reaction so far to this perennial issue, by your and previous governments, is unsatisfactory. We do not need more committees or inept public servants appointed. We suggest that much more decisive action is now required, and if you are not capable of solving this problem internally, then alternative solutions will need to be found. The evidence indicates clearly that your government is incapable of effectively protecting threatened cultural monuments on the territory you claim sovereignty over. There are agencies in Australia that have proven track records in this field, especially the federal National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are also simple and very inexpensive forms of remedial action available to you, all they require is some political will. We request that serious consideration be given to the following measures:

1. Immediately declare all rock art sites in Tasmania Protected Sites under the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*. No new legislation is required.
2. Amend the Act by introducing a *minimum* fine of \$100,000 for each petroglyph defaced, and remove Section 10 (1) (b).
3. Introduce a reward of \$50,000 for information leading to a successful conviction under the Act, and facilitate the widest possible dissemination of these changes.
4. Install warning signs at all sites likely to be visited by the public, announcing both this fine and reward.

5. Appoint an inspector of rock art sites whose principal role it will be to monitor ongoing threats to sites, both natural and human. This person should come from outside the established public service, be attached to Parks and be answerable also to Indigenous interests, as well as communicate with the world's relevant specialists.

There are, as far as we know, only 32 rock art sites in your State, and most are quite small. They constitute the entire Tasmanian cultural heritage predating British settlement, and they are irreplaceable. The efforts made so far in preserving them are pitiful in your State, when compared to the efforts in most mainland States and Territories. A significant problem you face is that there is no person of relevant knowledge (rock art preservation and management, or even rock art recording) in the employ of your government. To the best of our knowledge, there is only one researcher residing in Tasmania who would have the requisite expertise. Peter Sims OAM has conducted comprehensive surveys of Tasmanian rock art for over 30 years, which is precisely the kind of experience needed. We have no idea whether he is willing to help with this predicament, but we suggest that he be approached.

The above list of possible actions is short and involves almost no expenditure. This is not an issue of resources, it is an issue of public perceptions and government leadership. We trust that our recommendations can be accepted by you and your government, and that the required legislative changes can be effected promptly. The alternative would be that this organisation sees itself forced to embark on an intensive campaign. IFRAO has orchestrated the electoral defeats of two national governments in Europe (in 1995 and 2002), and we are currently locked in a bitter and ruthless dispute with your colleagues in Western Australia. When I first wrote to the former WA Premier four years ago, he replied with empty rhetoric. Please do not make the same mistake. We have since succeeded in driving away \$8 billion in new investment from the Dampier Archipelago, we have destroyed Dr Gallop's dream of creating Australia's largest industrial complex at Dampier. We have forced him to settle on a compensation deal with the Indigenous Claimants, and we have manoeuvred his government into a hopeless situation on its Dampier policy. It has now wasted \$185 million on infrastructure that will not be used. The only proponent Dr Gallop managed to attract to Dampier, Burrup Fertilisers, has just declared *force majeure* because it cannot export, and will sue the government for substantial damages. The required harbour extensions cannot be built because we block them and we have exposed the fact that the industrial zoning of the Burrup is illegal. We have nominated Dampier (largest rock art concentration in the world) to World Heritage listing and will take the WA government to the International Court of Justice for the genocide of the Yaburrara tribe in 1868.

International legal action can be taken against your government for contravening several parts of the *Unesco Declaration Concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage*, including its Article VI:

A State that intentionally destroys or intentionally fails to take appropriate measures to prohibit, prevent, stop, and punish any intentional destruction of cultural heritage of great importance for humanity, whether or not it is inscribed on a list maintained by UNESCO or another international organization, bears the responsibility for such destruction, to the extent provided for by international law.

Having recently spent a week with Unesco in France to help that body draft the revised rock art protection guidelines for all Member States (they will be announced later this year) I can assure you that you would also be in breach of them, so perhaps this present issue is a good opportunity to show leadership and resolution.

There are many means available to us, especially internationally (e.g. through our partner, the World Monuments Fund), to emphasise the need to significantly upgrade protection of the few Indigenous heritage sites in your State, but I trust that you will not follow the example of Dr Gallup and his incompetent former Minister for the Environment, Dr Edwards. We recommend that you consult Dr Gallop about our effectiveness to deliver what we promise.

Mr Premier, what is needed from you is decisive, strong action that sends a message reverberating through Tasmania and, just as importantly, conveys to the international community that you will not tolerate any further destruction of the precious, dwindling cultural heritage of your beautiful State.

We look forward to your response with keen interest.

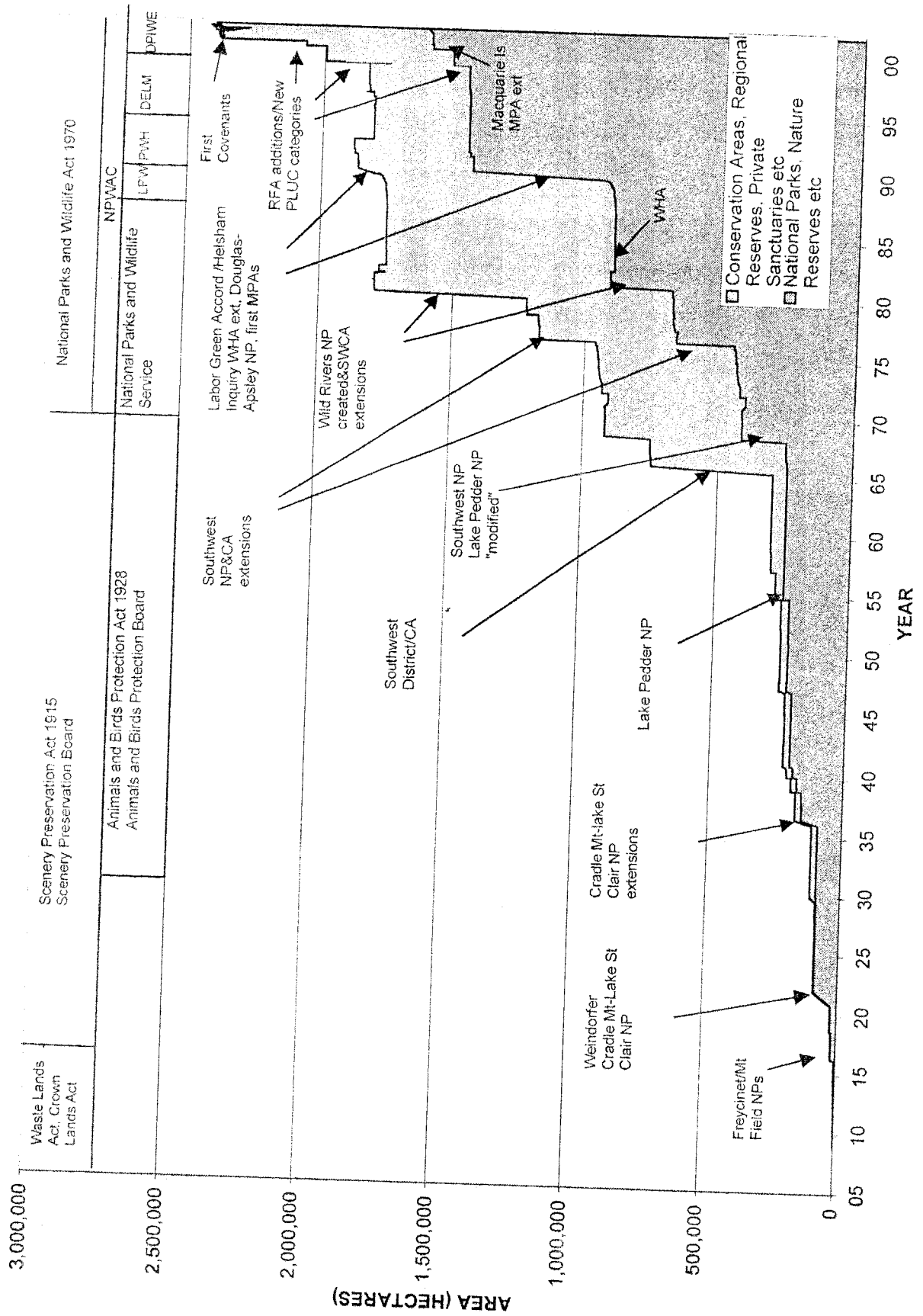
Yours sincerely,

Robert G. Bednarik
Convener/CEO, IFRAO

Land Grab...

The Circular Head Chronicle Vol.82 No.18 reports that the Circular Head Council is opposed to National Estate listings of land at Copper Creek and in the Sumac Rivulet region. Councillor Bruce Poke was reported to be angry about the proposed listings. He said *"I think it's just a land grab by greenies. My advice to the landowners was to get a bulldozer in and level it before they get their hands on it."* The Warden's motion to object to the National Estate Listings was carried.

WITH EVERY STEP: TIMELINE HISTORY OF TASMANIAN PARKS AND RESERVES



ATTACHMENT VII**CHRONOLOGY****Preliminary 1961-1966**

- 1961 - HEC field investigations in Middle Gordon area.
- 1962 - South West National Park proposal and formation of South West Committee.
- 1963 - Commonwealth grant of \$5 million for road construction into Middle Gordon area.
- **January 1964** - road construction commenced.
- 1965 - Animals and Birds Protection Board proposal for National Fauna Reserve in South West.
- **May 1965** - Interdepartmental Committee on South West appointed.
- **June 1965** - Labour Premier Eric Reece states there would be some modification of Lake Pedder National Park.
- **April 1966** - South West Faunal District established (647.773 hectares).
- **August 1966** - South West Committee submission to Government on future of South West.

**Late
1960s**

- **March 1967** - Save Lake Pedder National Park Committee (SLPNPC) formed.
- **May 1967** - HEC report on Stage 1 Gordon Power Development (Middle Gordon) and report of Interdepartmental Committee both tabled in Parliament.
- **June 1967** - 8,500 signature SLPNPC petition against power project. Legislative Council Select Committee on power project appointed; Commonwealth promised \$47 million for power development; Terrestrial Protected Areas in Tasmania total 287,995 hectares (National Parks total 219,391 hectares).
- **August 1967** - Select Committee report tabled.
- **September 1967** - Power scheme authorised.
- **April, 1968** - Tasmanian Conservation Trust (TCT) formed.
- **October 1968** - South West National Park (191,700 hectares) gazetted incorporating Lake Pedder National Park.
- **December 1968** - Special Board for South West National Park established.
- 1969/70 - Publication of scientific studies on Lake Pedder's endemic biota.
- **May 1969** - Labor Government defeated at polls; Liberal Party elected on conservation platform which included extension of South West National Park and new park legislation providing for new authority.

1970s

- 1970/71 - Photographs, lectures and paintings publicise natural beauty of South West.
- **December 1970** - National Parks and Wildlife Act passed (proclaimed July, 1971) providing for National Parks and Wildlife Service (to replace Scenery Preservation Board) and preparation of plan/of management.

- **March 1971** - Proposal for Referendum on future of Lake rejected by Legislative Council; 2000 people visit Lake at long weekend and Lake Pedder Action Committee (LPAC) formed.
- **Mid 1971** - 100,000 signatures on Save Lake Pedder petitions organised in Canberra.
- **November 1971** - Outlet of Serpentine Dam closed.
- **December 1971** - Hobart Symposium calls for moratorium and federal special purpose grant to save Lake; prospecting licence application for Precipitous Bluff.
- **March 1972** - Liberal Centre Party Government collapsed; LPAC organised public meeting called for setting up of United Tasmania Group (UTG).
- **March/April 1972** - Advertisement war between LPAC and HEC.
- **April 1972** - Labour Government returned to office.
- **June 1972** - Scotts Peak Dam closed.
- **July 1972** - publication by LPAC and others of *Lake Pedder - Why a National Park Must Be Saved*.
- **November 1972** - Shadow Federal Environment Minister, Tom Uren, promises enquiry into alternatives to flooding Pedder.
- **December 1972** - Federal Labor elected to office; Devonport Mining Warden refused Precipitous Bluff applications.
- **February 1973** - Lake Pedder Committee of Enquiry appointed.
- **June 1973** - Interim Report of Committee recommended moratorium pending feasibility investigation.
- **October 1973** - Moratorium proposal rejected by Federal Cabinet, but accepted by Caucus; Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, advises Reece of offer.
- **November 1973** - Premier Reece rejects moratorium offer.
- **Early 1974** - Campaign to stop forestry expansion in Southern Forests begins.
- **March 1973** - UTG State Conference decides to press for larger Park in South West.
- **1974** - Final report of Committee of Enquiry published.
- **August 1974** - World Heritage Convention ratified by Australia; Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) adds Western Tasmania to its list of sites for World Heritage nomination.
- **September 1974** - ACF finalises boundaries for extended South West National Park (publicised in *Habitat* Special Edition, June 1975) and begins lobbying both Governments for extended Park and World Heritage nomination.
- **October 1974** - South West Action Committee formed.
- **Early 1975** - Draft Management Plan for South West National Park published.
- **November 1975** - South West Advisory Committee (Cartland Committee) appointed.
- **December 1975** - Federal Coalition elected with promise to work for extended South West National Park.
- **March 1976** - Commonwealth notified Tasmanian Government of its intention to honour election promise.
- **May 1976** - Preliminary report of Cartland Committee.
- **August 1976** - Tasmanian Wilderness Society (TWS) formed and Government announces 211,658 hectare extension of South West National Park, including Precipitous Bluff Area.
- **May 1977** - South West Tasmania Resources Survey commenced (completed June 1981).
- **December 1977** - Doug Lowe replaced Eric Reece as Premier.

- **Mid 1978** - South West Book published.
- **August 1978** - Final Report of South West Advisory Committee.
- **October 1978** - ACF made opposition to Stage 2 of Gordon Project a high priority project.
- **November 1978** - TWS submitted a proposal for inclusion of the "Franklin River basin" in a Franklin River Wilderness Scenic Reserve.
- **1979** - South West placed on Interim Register of National Estate (full registration, July 1980).
- **March 1979** - Lowe announced Tasmanian Government's decision to appoint South West Committee as authority reporting to Cabinet and extend South West Conservation Area (proclaimed July, 1980) to cover area proposed by ACF as National Park.
- **October 1979** - Report on Stage 2 Gordon Power Development (Lower Gordon) tabled recommending Gordon below Franklin dam scheme.
- **December 1979** - Lowe Government announced support for nomination of South West National Park for World Heritage listing.

1980s

- **April 1980** - Legislative Council Select Committee on Future Power Development appointed.
- **June 1980** - Departmental Committee on Future Power Development recommended Gordon above Olga dam scheme.
- **July 1980** - Government decided in favour of Gordon above Olga scheme, a Wild Rivers National Park (to include Gordon below Franklin dam site), addition of Davey River area to South West National Park, and investigations of dams on King, Henty/Anthony, etc., Rivers.
- **Mid 1980** - Pro Gordon below Franklin Dam bodies formed (HEAT and ACE).
- **August 1980** - House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation report on South West Tasmania and Hydro-electric Power Development.
- **December 1980** - Select Committee recommended Gordon below Franklin Dam: Legislative Council substituted Gordon below Franklin scheme for House of Assembly approved (November) Gordon above Olga scheme.
- **April 1981** - Franklin-Lower Gordon Wild Rivers National Park proclaimed.
- **June 1981** - Walls of Jerusalem National Park proclaimed.
- **August 1981** - Lowe Government proposed South West, Wild Rivers and Cradle Mt-Lake St Clair National Parks for World Heritage listing.
- **November 1981** - Three parks (769,355 hectares) nominated (announced January); Lowe replaced by Harry Holgate as Premier.
- **December 1981** - Public Referendum - minority support for Gordon below Franklin dam.
- **1982** - Expert confirmation of archaeological significance of caves in Lower Franklin area (discovered 1977 and 1981).
- **May 1982** - Liberal Party led by Robin Gray elected.
- **June 1982** - Gordon below Franklin Power Scheme approved: World Heritage Bureau recommended listing; Premier Gray withdrew Tasmanian Government support for nomination.
- **July 1982** - National Conference of ALP adopted 'no dams' policy.

- **September 1982** – Tasmanian Government revoked 14,125 hectares of Wild Rivers National Park.
- **October 1982** - Senate Select Committee Report; Australian Democrats introduce World Heritage Bill.
- **November 1982** - Federal ALP commits a Labor Government to exploring alternative power developments with conservation groups.
- **December 1982** - Nominated area inscribed on World Heritage List; Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser's offer to Tasmania of \$500 million for alternative power developments rejected; TWS organised Gordon Blockade begun (14/12/82 to 7/3/83); ACF organises National South West Coalition to influence March 1983 election outcome.
- **February 1983** - Forest areas in proposed World Heritage Area extension (Lemonthyme and Southern Forests) placed on Register of the National Estate.
- **March 1983** -ALP elected at Federal election; Federal Government blocked further work on power scheme. .
- **April 1983** -*World Heritage Properties Conservation Act* approved.
- **July 1983** - High Court upheld validity of Act and actions under it.
- **September 1983** - Henty/Anthony and King-alone schemes approved by Tasmanian Parliament (schemes supported with federal finance - \$270 million compensation package).
- **March 1984** - TWS launched Greenprint for a World Class National Park (1.76 million hectares).
- **March 1985** - Joint Management arrangements for World Heritage Area agreed to.
- **September 1985** - Joint Final EIS on extension of Tasmanian Woodchip Licences after 1988.
- **December 1985** -Woodchip Licences renewed.
- **February 1986** - Farmhouse Creek Blockade.
- **June 1986** - Federal/Tasmania Memorandum of Understanding on forestry issues including woodchip export and protection of environmental values.
- **November 1986** -Woodchipping in National Estate forest at Jackey's Marsh - consultation re forestry issues breaks down.
- **1987** - World Heritage extension proposals elaborated by ACF/TCT/TWS.
- **April 1987** - *Lemonthyme and Southern Forests Act* approved.
- **May 1987** -Commission of Enquiry into Lemonthyme and Southern Forests (Helsham Commission) appointed; ACF/TWS campaign Vote for the Forests' campaign begins.
- **July 1987** - ALP Government returned in Canberra.
- **March 1988** - High Court upheld validity of interim protection of potential World Heritage areas.
- **May 1988** - Helsham Commission report.
- **August 1988** - Federal Cabinet decided to nominate World Heritage extension (submitted December).
- **November 1988** – Commonwealth - State Forestry Package agreed, no further World Heritage nominations without Tasmanian Government concurrence.
- **March 1989** - ACF decided to promote Tarkine for World Heritage nomination.
- **April 1989** - Wesley Vale Pulp Mill proposal withdrawn.
- **May 1989** - Green Independents win balance of power and agree to Parliamentary Accord

- **June 1989** - ALP under Michael Field takes office with support of Green Independents.
- **September 1989** - World Heritage Extension nomination increased to 604,645 hectares (accepted by World Heritage Committee December).

1990s

- **April 1990** - State reserves increased by 479,000 hectares.
- **June 1990** - Report on Appropriate Boundaries by Dept of Parks Wildlife and Heritage (supported by Conservation Technical Working Group (8/1990) and Peter Hitchcock review (2/1991)).
- **June 1991** - Terrestrial Protected Areas total 1,771,769 hectares (National Parks cover 1,359,548 hectares).
- **August 1991** - Campaign to restore Lake Pedder initiated (leading to formation of Lake Pedder Study Group, Lake Pedder Restoration Committee, and Pedder 2000 campaign).
- **October 1991** - Breakdown of Accord.
- **February 1992** - Liberals returned to office under Ray Groom.
- **September 1992** - Management Plan for World Heritage Area takes effect; TWS submit draft World Heritage nomination proposal for Tarkine to Federal Minister.
- **December 1993** - TWS draft nomination document for extended World Heritage Area in Western Tasmania.
- **January 1994** - General Assembly of IUCN calls on Australian Government to investigate feasibility and benefits of restoring Lake Pedder.
- **April 1994** - Protests against logging in proposed (1990) Great Western Tiers National Park.
- **February 1995** - Construction of Heemskirk Link Road (begun 1985) recommenced (opened January, 1996); Blockade mounted; Commonwealth refers to 1988 Agreement as reason for inaction.
- **March 1995** - 330,000 hectares in Tarkine area placed on interim RNE List.
- **June 1995** - Report of Commonwealth Parliamentary Committee into proposal to restore Lake Pedder.
- **June 1997** - Report of World Heritage Expert Panel on places of possible World Heritage Value in Tasmania.

2000 – 2002 (Oct)

- **June 2002** - Final Report of Joint Assessment Panel on Basslink proposal; National Parks cover 1,431,126 hectares.
- **September 2002** - Commonwealth Government approves Basslink.

Slippery prospects for Forestry's swamp venture

Dismal performance

By LUKE SAYER

FORESTRY Tasmania's major North-West tourism venture Dismal Swamp is failing to strike a chord with the local market.

Forestry Tasmania is reluctant to release figures but the \$4 million operation, west of Smithton, is believed to be performing below expectations.

The forest slide, maze and interpretation centre opened in September 2004 as the second of Forestry's major



TAKING THE PLUNGE: Paul Lennon has a go on the slide at the opening of Dismal Swamp in 2004.

tourism sites, joining the Tahune Airwalk, near Geeveston.

Tourism general manager

Jane Foley said January figures for Dismal Swamp had held up with the interstate visitors' market.

"But obviously, as a new attraction, we want to increase figures in the second year," Ms Foley said.

"The NSW market has improved and we attribute that to the Spirit III.

"Now, we are focussing on the grey nomads and have had reports of quite a few visiting in recent weeks."

But Ms Foley said Forestry knew there was some work to do in the local market.

"People were very supportive in the first year but we are looking for them to come again and again," she said.

A friends card was introduced last year to coincide with the reopening of the slide after several injuries forced it to close for four months for alterations, following an engineering study.

Ms Foley said the friends card gave locals free entry if they brought a first-time visitor, or a half-price entry on subsequent trips.

She did not believe a doubling of the admission to \$20 was turning away locals.

The price rise came into affect in November and Ms Foley said the visitor market

was quite accepting of it.

"The price is very competitive and comparable to other attractions," she said.

However, Ms Foley said comparing Dismal Swamp and the Tahune Airwalk was not possible.

"We are in a very different space with Dismal," she said.

"Tahune has the advantage of being close to Hobart and a greater population base."

"Dismal was always going to be a regional tourist attraction and we were always approaching it that way."