

DISTRICT FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN REPORT MERSEY DISTRICT 2005/2006

1 Sustainable Production

- Supply, as part of a sustainable yield unit of production forest, a range of wood products to forest industry and the community

1.1 Market trends

Native forest markets trends declined, however, plantation production remained steady. Three Year Plan consultations took place with local council planning and engineering staff and councillors and the Tourism Council of Tasmania. Issues discussed include cartage routes, landscape and water quality.

1.2 Annual wood production

The commercial wood production figures for the District for the review period are shown in the table below:

Forest type	Product	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Native forest	Sawlog Cat. 1 & 3 (m ³)	20,055	18,741	17,945
	Sawlog Cat. 2 & 8 (m ³)	15,826	14,352	11,922
	Veneer (m ³)	588	303	4
	Regrowth peeler (tonnes)	7,593	7,337	7,266
	Special species (m ³)	63	103	76
	Pulpwood (tonnes)	265,821	280,186	236,446
	Fuel & firewood (m ³)	1,972	1,314	1,564
	Posts & poles (units)	21	7	16
	Craftwood (units)	0	0	0
	Minor Products	0	0	0
Native Forest Total		311,939	322,343	275,239
Plantation	Softwood sawlog (m ³)	1,378	1,895	1,785
	Softwood export log (m ³)	0	0	0
	Softwood roundwood (m ³)	0	0	0
	Young Eucalypt Sawlog (m ³)	0	0	541
	Softwood pulpwood (tonnes)	2,204	12,395	24,847
	Eucalypt pulpwood (tonnes)	14,065	33,476	20,708
Plantation Total		17,647	47,766	47,881

NB. The quantities reported for softwood plantation production exclude production from Taswood Growers. This is the softwood joint venture company owned by Forestry Tasmania and GMO Renewable Resources.

1.3 Pulpwood Assessment

Pulpwood audit assessments for Mersey are included in Bass and Murchison assessments.

1.4 Logging Residue Assessments

Year	Number coupes	Mean residues (m ³ /ha)	Median residues (m ³ /ha)
2001/2002	29	1.72	1.78
2002/2003	33	1.00	1.00
2003/2004	19	0.98	0.81
2004/2005	34	1.04	0.95
2005/2006	27	0.68	0.73

All Logging Residue Assessments complied with Forestry Tasmania's utilisation standards.

1.5 Special Species

- Maintain or increase the sustainable supply of special species

There were no special species produced in Mersey District in 2005-2006.

1.6 Other Forest Products

- Provide opportunities for other products to be utilised including nectar, essential oils, treeferns, other plant materials, firewood, tourism/recreation initiatives and aesthetic values of the forest.

1.6.1 Apiculture

Number of Apiary Sites Available	12
Number of Apiary Sites Utilised	8
Number of Hives	182
Volume of Honey	1,505

Poor season reported by all apiarists.

1.6.2 Tree Ferns

There were no tree ferns sold in Mersey District in 2005-2006.

1.6.3 Firewood

Volume (tonnes)	2004-2005	2005-2006
Domestic Sales	2,441	1,083
Commercial Sales	1,314	1,564
TOTAL	3,755	2,647

1.6.4 Seed collection

Species	Volume (kg)			
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
<i>E. obliqua</i>	160.1	216.6	218.1	389.8
<i>E. delegatensis</i>	587.0	134.6	136.9	83.2
<i>E. regnans</i>	1.1	0.1	17.0	2.3
<i>E. coccifera</i>	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0
<i>E. amygdalina</i>	16.9	23.7	1.9	34.4
<i>E. radiata</i>	3.8	0.0	0.0	1.1
<i>E. viminalis</i>	19.4	3.8	3.6	8.5
<i>E. dalrympleana</i>	0.8	7.1	0.1	3.8
<i>E. ovata</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
<i>E. rodwayii</i>	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	790.9	385.9	380.3	524.3

1.6.5 Other Products

Species	Volume	Units
Craftwood	17	Tonnes
Chopping Blocks	257	Lin mtrs

2 Silviculture

2.1 Harvesting and Site Preparation

Native Forest Harvesting and Site Preparation

Treatment	Clearfell (ha)	Partial Logging (ha)	Thinning (ha)	
			PCT ₁	CT ₁
Harvesting	266	1,510	0	0
Area of old growth harvested	0	218		
Area of rainforest harvested	0	0		
Mechanical disturbance (non burning) ²	0	0		
Harvesting disturbance only ²	0	660		
High Intensity Burning (Cable Harvesting) ²	50	0		
High Intensity Burning (Ground-based Harvesting) ²	92	0		
Excavator heap +/- burn ²	0	1,264		
Top disposal/Low intensity burn ²	0	0		

1. Pre-Commercial Thinning [PCT] and Commercial Thinning [CT]

2. Native forest site preparation component only.

Plantation Harvesting and Site Preparation

Treatment	Clearfell (ha)	Thinning (ha)	
		NC ₁	C ₁
Softwood Harvesting	0	0	97
Hardwood Harvesting	4	0	349
Softwood Site Preparation treatment	0		
Hardwood Site Preparation treatment	347		
Effectively established Hardwood Plantation from survival surveys (1R or 2R)	52		
Effectively established Softwood Plantation from survival surveys (1R or 2R)	0		
Remediation works for understocked Hardwood Plantation areas	0		
Remediation works for understocked Softwood Plantation areas	0		

1. Commercial [C] and Non-commercial [NC]

N/A = Information Not Available

2.2 Re-establishment treatments

2.2.1 Native Forest

Native Forest Treatment Areas (ha)

	Partial Logging ¹	Clearfell	Clearfell followed by:			Non-forest, fallow ²
			Regeneration by seeding	Plantation		
				Eucalypt	Pine	
Native Forest	1,510	266	142	11	0	124
Old Growth	218	0	0	0	0	
Rainforest	0	0	0	0	0	

1. Thinning, retention of advanced growth, seed trees, shelterwood, and group or single tree selection.

2. Clearing primarily for infrastructure or fallow (to be planted or carryover).

Regeneration Success (ha)

Forest Type	0-9% (not stocked)	10-39% (ecological stocking)	40-64% (low wood quality)	65-84% (optimum)	85-100% (maximum)	Total
Dry eucalypt ¹	0	0	446	114	0	560
Wet eucalypt ¹	0	0	4	78	36	118
High altitude <i>E. delegatensis</i> ¹	0	0	0	275	86	361
Fenced intensive blackwood ¹	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swamp blackwood ²	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rainforest ²	0	0	0	0	0	0
Huon pine forest ¹	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	450	466	122	1,038
Unacceptable Standard	% Area Met Standard					99.6%

1. 2002/2003 Sowing Season.

2. 2000/2001 Sowing Season.

2.2.2 Plantation Development

- Continue to develop a financially viable plantation estate, both hardwood and softwood, in conjunction with the forest industry and other interested parties

Plantation R1 and R2 establishment areas (ha)¹

	Existing Plantation clearfelled followed by plantation (R2)		New plantations on cleared land (R1) ⁸		Total ³
	SW ²	HW ²	SW ²	HW ²	
Forestry Tasmania (FT) Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land	0	64	0	52	116
FT Joint Venture Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land ⁴	256	0	163	0	419
FT Joint Venture on Private Land	0	0	0	0	0
Tassie Trees Trust Plantation on State Forest ⁵	0	0	0	0	0
FT Plantation on Private Land ⁶	0	0	0	0	0
Private Plantation on State Forest	0	0	0	0	0
2005/2006 TOTAL⁷	256	64	163	52	535

1. Planting period for mapping and reporting purposes is from 1st July 2004 to 30th June 2005.

2. Softwood [SW] and Hardwood [HW].

3. Figures in the Total column exclude fallow, and are rounded actual totals.

4. Includes the softwood plantations, which are 50% owned by GMO Renewable Resources, for which data is supplied by Rayonier Australia as at 30/06/06.

5. Tassie Trees Trust plantations are mainly jointly-owned with private growers, but include small proportions owned solely by FT.

6. Includes recent commercial acquisitions.

7. Figures in the Total row are not the sum of the columns, but the rounded actual totals.

8. Cleared land includes agricultural land (generally softwood plantations) and cleared/converted native forest (generally hardwood plantations).

Plantation silviculture

	Primary Fertilising (ha)		Secondary Fertilising (ha)		Non-Commercial Thinning (ha)		Commercial Thinning (ha)		Pruning (ha)	
	SW ₁	HW ₁	SW ₁	HW ₁	SW ₁	HW ₁	SW ₁	HW ₁	SW ₁	HW ₁
Forestry Tasmania (FT) Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land	0	124	0	490	0	0	97	341	55	739
FT Joint Venture Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FT Joint Venture on Private Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
Tassie Trees Trust Plantation on State Forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	53
FT Plantation on Private Land	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	34
Private Plantation on State Forest	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	187	0	506	0	0	97	349	156	827

1. Softwood [SW] and Hardwood [HW]

Plantation Ownership Area (ha)

Ownership	Net Area of Plantation at 30/06/06 ³	
	SW	HW
Forestry Tasmania (FT) Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land	138	3,924
FT Joint Venture Plantation on State Forest & Crown Land ¹	9,297	261
FT Joint Venture on Private Land	0	63
Tassie Trees Trust Plantation on State Forest ²	132	53
FT Plantation on Private Land ⁵	0	52
Private Plantation on State Forest	0	373
2005/2006 TOTAL⁴	9,567	4,726

1. Includes the softwood plantations that are 50% owned by GMO Renewable Resources, for which, data is supplied by Rayonier Australia, as at 30/06/05.

2. Tassie Trees Trust plantations are mainly jointly-owned with private growers, but include small proportions owned solely by FT.

3. Totals exclude plantation areas clearfelled but not yet replanted.

4. Figures in the Total rows are not the sum of these columns but the rounded actual totals.

5. Includes recent commercial acquisitions.

Species Planted (ha)

Species ^{1,2}	Area Planted 2005-2006	Total Area Planted at 30/06/06 ³
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	0	262
<i>Eucalyptus nitens</i>	57	3,482
Other Hardwoods	60	983
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	419	9,471
Other Softwoods	0	96

1. Other hardwoods and other softwoods may contain mixed plantings of *E. globulus/nitens* and/or *P. radiata* with or without other species.
2. The majority of mixed hardwood/softwood plantations are reported as hardwood.
3. Totals exclude plantation areas harvested but not yet re-planted.

2.3 Seed Sown

Species	2004-2005 (kg)	2005-2006 (kg)
<i>E. obliqua</i>	163.9	123.4
<i>E. delegatensis</i>	59.8	18.1
<i>E. regnans</i>	1.7	7.6
<i>E. amygdalina</i>	5.5	7.5
<i>E. viminalis</i>	1.9	2.1
<i>E. dalrympleana</i>	2.8	1.2
TOTAL	234.6	158.9

2.4 High Intensity Burning

2.4.1 Regeneration Burning

Year	No. planned	Total area to be burnt (ha)	No. attempted	Total area which achieved standard (ha)
2003/2004	7	159	7	137
2004/2005	22	270	22	270
2005/2006	9	157	9	157

2.4.2 Plantation Establishment Burning

Year	No. planned	Total area to be burnt (ha)	No. attempted	Total area which achieved standard (ha)
2003/2004	7	107	7	107
2004/2005	4	135	4	135
2005/2006	8	135	8	135

2.5 Seeding

Year	No. coupes sown	Avg On-Site Seed (%)	Avg In-Zone Seed (%)	Avg Out of Zone Seed (%)	No. met On-Site standard	No. met Pi-type standard
2003/2004	11	28	46	26	5	11
2004/2005	23	47	53	0	15	?
2005/2006	9	76	24	0	9	

2.6 Silvicultural Season

Good burns achieved despite the short burning season due to early rains. Generally short sowing delay achieved apart from a couple of high altitude coupes which were left for spring sowing. A substantial effort was made to collect on-site-seed for all coupes sown with an average of 76% on site seed across all coupes.

3 Operational Achievements

3.1 Roading

Road work type	2005/2006
New road construction (km)	19
Major road upgrades or realignments (km)	0
Major new structures (#)	0
Road maintained/resheeted (km)	3

3.2 The Forest Estate

Land Classification	Area (ha) ¹	% ³
Formal Reserves	23,000	1.5%
Informal Reserves	37,500	2.5%
Native Forest Wood Production Coupes	27,500	1.8%
Native Forest Outside Wood Production Coupes	67,200	4.4%
Hardwood Plantation ²	4,600	0.3%
Softwood Plantation ²	9,600	0.6%
State forest Total	169,400	11.1%
Non-production Total	88,000	5.8%

1. Area as at 30th June, 2006. Includes Buckland Military Training Area.
2. Excludes Forestry Tasmania managed plantations on private land as well as plantations in Reserves.
3. Percentage of total State forest (Statewide).

3.3 Browsing control

Browsing assessments

	Native forest	Plantation
Area monitored (ha)	700	400
Area deemed to require treatment (ha)	200	200

3.3.1 1080 usage

1080 usage on Forestry Tasmania's Defined Forest Area²

	1080 used (kg)	Area established (ha)	Area treated (ha)
Hardwood Plantation ¹	0.0000	116	0
Softwood Plantation ¹	0.0000	0	0
Native Forest	0.0120	1,652	38
TOTAL	0.0120	1,768	38

1. Including second rotation planting.
2. On land managed by FT (excluding JV's).

3.4 Non-chemical browsing control

Treatment Type	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Number of shooting or trapping operations (no. of coupes)	15	15	47
Length of fencing (km)	3	0	0
Seedlings treated with repellent (ha)	6	0	0

The District continued to be at the forefront of developing trapping as a viable alternative to 1080 for control of wallabies and possums. 1800 Mersey Box Traps were built for and 400 were distributed to each FT District. Transport trailers were also built for each District. The District trapping staff continued to host field days and visit other centres (including DPIW) training and educating about efficient trapping. The Districts regeneration and plantations were very well protected from browsing with low damage levels using mainly trapping but with some shooting on coupes with only low browsing pressure.

3.5 Pesticide Usage^{5,6}

Use	Category	Kilograms ³			Area treated (ha)		
		2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Herbicide	Unscheduled ⁴	5	0	0	56	0	0
	Sched 5 Chemical ¹	95	82	32	91	1,165	428
	Sched 6 Chemical ²	14	7	0	83	214	0
	TOTAL	114	89	32	230	1,379	428
Insecticide/Fungicide	Unscheduled ⁴	1	4	2	48	318	123
	Sched 5 Chemical ¹	0	0	3	48	0	236
	Sched 6 Chemical ²	11	2	1	430	105	19
	TOTAL	12	6	6	526	423	378
Adjuvant	Unscheduled ⁴	N/A	13	2	N/A	397	423
	TOTAL	N/A	13	2	N/A	397	423

1. Poisons of a hazardous nature that are readily available to the public but require caution in handling storage and use.
2. Poisons that are available to the public but are of a more hazardous or poisonous nature than those classified in schedule 5.
3. Kilograms of active ingredient
4. Poisons that have not yet received a poison schedule rating.
5. Excludes Perth Nursery
6. Includes usage by FT on Joint Ventures and leases, but not usage by third parties (eg Rayonier) on State forest.

3.6 Weeds, Pests and Diseases

- Institute effective weed, pest and disease control

Damage agent	Area treated (ha)	Vegetation affected	Control method
Vertebrate Pests			
Possums, Wallabies	38	Native forest, Plantations	Poisoning
Possums, Wallabies	1,339	Native forest, Plantations	Shooting, Trapping
Invertebrate Pests			
Chrysomelid Leaf Beetles/ Gonipteros Weevil	672	Hardwood plantations	IPM and spray with alpha-cypermethrin or spinosad
Weeds			
Ragwort	1	Native forest	Spot spraying
Pampass	1	Native forest	Spot spraying
Spanish Heath	2	Native forest	Spot spraying
Gorse	4	Plantation	Spot spraying
Broom	2	Plantation/Native forest	Spot spraying
Other	1	Native forest	Spot spraying

General Forest Health Issues

Forest health issue	Number	Area
Machinery hygiene breaches	0	
New <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> susceptible areas identified (ha)		0

3.7 Fire Management

- Protect high value assets from fire through application of the District fire management plan and through appropriate wildfire suppression

3.7.1 Fuel Reduction Burning

Standard smoke management practices and pre-burn notification procedures were implemented. Only one smoke complaint received in the District and the entire planned program was completed.

Fuel reduction burning on State forest

Performance indicator	Number of burn plans prepared	Number of burns conducted and achieved standard	Total area for which burn plans prepared (ha)	Total area burnt and standard achieved (ha)
Fuel reduction burns – partially harvested coupes ¹	54	38	2,351	1,264
Broad area fuel reduction burns ²	3	3	47	47
TOTAL	57	41	2,398	1,311

- These partially harvested areas do not require fire for regeneration purposes, but do require burning to reduce the fire hazard. These coupes can be excavator heaped, extending the time-frame in which they can be burnt.
- Broad-area fuel reduction burns that are strategically planned to protect nearby assets, or for ecological purposes (e.g. coastal heath or buttongrass).

3.7.2 Non-burning Fuel Reduction

Some progress was made in preparing a new District Fire Management Plan. District Staff attended meetings of the 5 Fire Management Area Committees as required over the year. Firebreak maintenance was minimal due to the exceptionally wet summer and record quiet fire season.

3.7.3 Wildfires

The following table shows the area of **unplanned** fire including the area with severe damage on State forest:

	Area burnt 2004-2005 (ha)	Number of fires 2005-2006	Area burnt 2005-2006 (ha)	Ten year average to 2005-2006 (ha)
Total unplanned fire	67	6	30	1,038
Severe fire damage	53		25	168
Rehabilitation of severely burnt native forest	0		0	

Note: 10-year average data does include current year in the ten years.

Number of wildfires by month

Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	6

4 RFA Implementation

- Implement the outcomes of the RFA as they apply to the Plan Area, including those relating to the maintenance of a permanent native forest estate, maintenance of biodiversity and protection of regional conservation values.
- Maintain State forest contribution to the CAR system in accordance with RFA requirements.

Priority communities that are known or identified through pre-harvest coupe inspections have been excluded from coupes. No known clearing of internal patches of priority communities has occurred. Areas are mapped and registered on the Management Decision Classification (MDC) system where appropriate.

5 Financial Performance

- Provide a contribution from the commercial management of the Plan Area

Forestry Tasmania operates as a commercial organisation and pays an annual dividend to its shareholder, the Tasmanian Government, based on operating performance after tax that is calculated by an agreed formula with the Department of Treasury and Finance. Total annual payments to the consolidated fund are comprised of dividends, taxation equivalents and guarantee fees.

All returns to the consolidated fund are based on the organisation as a whole and not individually calculated based on individual operating districts. Refer to the Forestry Tasmania 2005-2006 Annual Report for full details on financial performance.

6 Conformance with Sustainable Forest Management Policy

- Conform to Forestry Tasmania's environmental policy, including the fulfilment of all statutory environmental standards and achievement of sustainable forest management targets

6.1 Forest Practices Authority Audit

Forest practices authority audit results

Forest Practices Code Criteria	2003-2004 Performance (Rating 1-4)	2004-2005 Performance (Rating 1-4)	2005-2006 Performance (Rating 1-4)
Roading	3.6	3.6	3.7
Harvesting	3.6	3.5	3.8
Planning	3.9	3.5	3.9
Reforestation	3.8	3.6	3.7
Flora	3.7	3.8	3.8
Fauna	3.9	3.6	3.6
Geomorphology	4.0	3.3	4.0
Cultural Heritage	4.0	3.6	3.8
Landscape	3.8	3.3	3.8
Fuel and Rubbish	4.0	3.5	3.9
Soil and Water	4.0	3.4	3.6
AVERAGE	3.9	3.5	3.8

1 = Unacceptable; 2 = Less than Sound; 3 = Sound (FPA benchmark score); 3.5 = Above Sound; 4 = High

6.2 Forest Practices Breaches (non-S41)

List of Forest Practices Breaches that resulted in reports being made to the Forest Practices Authority, but no S41 notice was issued.

Coupe	Non-conformance
LT215V	A Gunns logging contractor established two snig tracks within a streamside reserve.
BE106V	Contractor established an additional landing without approval by FPO.
MZ133V	Firebreak / vehicle access into coupe was not gripped following burning program. Track was found to have water running down the non-gripped track onto the landing.
PN003C	Skidder operator used a drainage line to snig timber along.
PD101E	During a cable harvesting operation contractor failed to ensure that falling of timber remained within the prescribed marked coupe boundary, and felled timber outside the coupe boundary.
BC104A	During monitoring of road construction a number of non-conformances of the FPP were discovered and brought to the attention of Gunns roading supervisor.
PN003C	FPP stated "clearing width including side drains should not exceed a total width of 15 m." audit showed that the clearing width exceeded 15 m.
Road Line MI010C	Road has been constructed outside the FPP Boundary and within class 4 stream side reserve, landing constructed and used within 40 m of streamside reserve and has not been shown on the plan.
MI010C	A road construction monitoring report was carried out on Moina Road and found the coupe still required restoration through spreading bark and logging slash over the stock pile point.
MI014C	First 200 m of new access track has been gravelled by Gunns Contractor to the bottom log landing and water is running directly onto Moina Road.
LR433Y	Road turning bay has been constructed within 10 m exclusion zone of a class 4 stream.
Dalgarth 6	A Rayonier harvesting contractor has snigged pines approximately 600 m down a road, resulting in table drains and water culverts becoming blocked with debris. Road surface has suffered damage and needs to be restored.
BG030C	On a Gunns low quality coupe, a site containing possible historical significance that was within the harvesting area, had been damaged. Harvesting machinery ran over the area containing old bricks and household materials.
CL360X	During harvesting operations by a Gunns contractor, skidder encroached into a class 4 machinery exclusion zone and crossed a class 4 stream.

6.3 Notices

6.3.1 S41 Notices

S41 No.	FPP No.	Coupe	Non-conformance	Corrective action
Verbal	RIC0035	CR161P	Shovel harvesting excavator being used to feed logs to cable harvesting machine.	Gunns Supervisor must ensure that harvesting contractor follows terms and conditions of the Certified FPP. Monitor operations with Gunns Supervisor to ensure compliance. Gunns to provide a Variation to the FPP to cover the use of the shovel harvester in assisting the cable harvesting machine.

6.3.2 S38 and S39 Notices

No S38 or S39 notices were issued to Mersey District by Workplace Standards in 2005-2006.

6.4 Fines or prosecutions

No fines or prosecutions issued to Mersey District in 2005-2006.

6.5 Compliance with other legislation

Mersey District complied with all other legislation.

7 Non-timber Forest Values

7.1.1 Biodiversity

- Maintain biodiversity values

Special value	Area managed (ha)
Biodiversity Spines	34,222
Fauna	10,773
Flora	46,754
Wildlife Habitat Strips	9,489

7.1.2 Threatened Flora

- Protect rare or threatened plant species, and plant communities or associations that are of botanical significance and maintain the extent and diversity of flora habitat sufficient to allow the maintenance of viable populations of plant species

Threatened species management	Number	Species
Habitat Surveys Conducted	4	<i>Prasophyllum montanum</i> , <i>Thismia rodwayii</i> , <i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i> , <i>Pimelea filiformis</i>
New Sites Identified	0	

7.1.3 Threatened Fauna

- Protect rare or threatened forest dependent fauna species and maintain an area and diversity of fauna habitat sufficient to allow the maintenance of the long term viability and range of fauna species

Threatened species management	Number	Species
Habitat Surveys Conducted	2	Masked Owl, Giant Freshwater Crayfish
Animal/Nest Surveys Conducted	59	Wedge Tailed Eagle
New threatened species records identified on State forest	2	Wedge Tailed Eagle

7.1.4 Landscape Values

- Conserve landscape values

New area managed for Landscape/Visual Amenity 2005-2006 (ha)	20
Total area managed for Landscape/Visual Amenity (ha)	50,136

Several coupes were modified during the year to manage visual amenity. This included careful location of habitat clumps, modification of coupe boundaries to protect skylines and use of roadside screens.

7.1.5 Management of non-Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sites

- Conserve places, sites and features of non-Aboriginal cultural significance

Non-Aboriginal surveys

Year	Area Surveyed (ha)	Number of new sites detected	Number of old sites redetected
2003-2004	186	8	1
2004-2005	31	7	0
2005-2006	40	6	0

Non-Aboriginal cultural heritage management

Non-Aboriginal cultural heritage management	Number	Site types
Number of sites assessed¹	6	Mining adits, tunnels, huts and sawmill sites
• Number of sites in good condition	6	
• Number of sites in average condition	0	
• Number of sites in poor condition	0	

1. Assessed = assessed by or within consultation with FPA expert on site.

The new sites detected were small mining adits or tunnels and some remnants of old huts and sawmill sites.

7.1.6 Management of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sites

- Encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with other management practices

Aboriginal surveys

Year	Area Surveyed (ha)	Number of new sites detected	Number of old sites redetected
2003-2004	186	0	0
2004-2005	285	0	0
2005-2006	240	2	0

Aboriginal cultural heritage management

Aboriginal cultural heritage management	Number	Site types
Number of sites assessed¹	2	Isolated artefacts
• Number of sites in good condition	2	
• Number of sites in average condition	0	
• Number of sites in poor condition	0	

1. Assessed = assessed by or within consultation with FPA expert on site.

7.1.7 Soil Conservation

- Conserve and identify soil values

Area assessed for soil erodibility (ha)		3,507
	Low	1,796
	Moderate	1,115
	Mod-High	540
	High	57
	Very High	0
Unavailable for harvest due to erosion hazard (ha)		0
Number of landslips detected in the district in 05/06		1
Total area within district managed for soil values (ha)		14,253

A landslip occurred near Blackwood Creek that became the subject of community concern. It was investigated by the FPA and found to be an entirely natural incident. The area was removed from production, placed in informal protection and recorded on MDC as a hazard zone.

7.1.8 Geodiversity and Geomorphological Significance

- Maintain geodiversity and protect features and systems of geomorphological significance

Number of geomorphological sites identified	0
Number of geomorphological sites protected from damage	0
Area managed for geoconservation values (ha)	13,904

7.1.9 Water Quality and Supply

- Maintain water values and allow for the continued supply of water for domestic and rural purposes

Water Quality Monitoring Results

Contaminant sampled for	No. samples	No. samples returning positive results	No. returning results outside standard	Acceptable standard
Chemical Contaminants₁				
Clopyralid (Lontrel)	0	0	0	1000 µg/litre
Dominex (Cypermethrin)	12	0	0	Not listed
Glyphosate (Round Up)	3	0	0	1000 µg/litre
Haloxypop (Verdict)	0	0	0	Not listed
Metsulfuron-methyl (Brush Off, Brushkiller)	24	0	0	30 µg/litre
Phosphorous	0	0	0	100 µg/litre
Total Nitrogen	26	20	4	800 µg/litre
Terbacil (Eucmix)	4	0	0	30 µg/litre
Sulfometuron-methyl (Mako, Oust, Eucmix)	24	0	0	Not listed
Spinosad (Success)	24	0	0	Not listed
Non-chemical Contaminants₂				
Temperature	0	0	0	No value set
Turbidity	0	0	0	5 NTU
pH	0	0	0	6.5-8.5
Dissolved Oxygen	0	0	0	>85%
Electrical Conductivity (EC)	0	0	0	Not listed
TOTAL	117	20	0	
Spray Operations				
No. spray operations	27			
No. spray operations where water samples were taken	27	20	4	

1. Standard is ADWG Health Value where standard exists. Where no standard exists, any detection is recorded.

2. Generally accepted standards (e.g. Waterwatch standard).

1 coupe returned results outside the standard for Total Nitrogen.

Fuel or chemical spills

Number of fuel or chemical spills	1
Volume of fuel or chemical spills (Litres)	0.2
Number of fuel or chemical spills that entered a watercourse	0

The only spill for the District in 2005/2006, was a very small amount of fire fighting foam, which was washed into an open drain. Emergency spill control procedures were implemented to prevent the spill entering the storm water system.

7.1.10 Tourism, Recreation and Education

- Provide infrastructure for and foster tourism, recreation and visitor education consistent with multiple use values

Visitor numbers to specified recreational sites

Site	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Upper Mersey Valley (includes Arm River)	9,400	21,500	27,600	18,800	25,620
Liffey Falls	20,500	24,400	26,800	29,900	19,304
Arm River Area	No data	No data	No data	18,800	25,620
Meander Falls Walk	No data	No data	No data	5,900	2,500

Recreational activities and facilities on State forest

Activity	Site	Meander	Liffey	Stoodley	Arm Camp	Winterbrook	Cluan Tier	Beulah	China Bush	Warrabee
Self Guided Interpretation		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y
Guided Interpretation							Y			
Short Walk		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Day Walk		Y			Y	Y	Y			
Overnight Walk										
Education		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Cultural Heritage		Y		Y	Y	Y	Y			
Mountain Bike Riding				Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Trail Bike Riding				Y	Y			Y	Y	
Horse Riding				Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
Boating					Y					
Canoeing					Y					
Fishing					Y					
Lookout					Y					
Special Events					Y					
Facilities										
Disabled Access		Y	Y		Y					Y
Info/Visitor Centre										
Toilets		Y	Y		Y					Y
Gas BBQ		Y	Y							
Wood BBQ					Y					Y
Picnic Shelter		Y	Y		Y					Y
Picnic Area		Y	Y		Y					Y
Fireplace					Y					
Camp Sites					Y		Y			
Caravan Sites					Y					
Boat Ramp										
Walking Tracks		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y
Playground Equipment										

New facilities or existing facilities upgraded

Facilities	Number	Details
Toilets	1	Dooleys Track
Picnic Shelter	3	Dooleys Track
Camp Sites	1	Dooleys Track

Organised recreational events on State forest

Date	Event
July 2005	Jill Sheehan Memorial Endurance Ride
July and November 2005 and April/May 2006	Motorcycle Enduro
August and November 2005	Mountain Bike Orienteering
October 2005	4WD Navigational Rally
October 2005	Dial Riders Endurance Ride
November 2005	Tasmanian "Trailathlon" (horses and Mt bikes)
November 2005	Gordon Williams Memorial Endurance Ride
November 2005	TEERA State Endurance Championship
February/March 2006	Rally Car Testing
February 2006	Jill Sheehan Memorial Riders Endurance Ride
February 2006	NW Endurance Club Endurance Ride
March 2006	Kentish Riders Endurance Ride
April 2006	Tassie Challenge 4WD Rally
May 2006	Gannons Hill Training Ride
June 2006	Black Bluff Riders Endurance Ride (Equestrian)

The development of Dooleys Track and associated infrastructure has continued throughout the year and phase one, from Alma Reserve to East Ellis Flats, has now reached completion with the installation of toilet facilities on State Forest opposite Alma Reserve. A joint project to restore the Lobster Falls Track has resulted in close cooperation between Chudleigh Landcare, Deloraine Rotary and Forestry Tasmania. The track has been substantially upgraded with the addition of boardwalk and steps to avoid erosion in steep or wet areas.

Forestry Tasmania continues engage the Meander Resource Group. Plans are under way to expand the existing community agreement in order to facilitate the completion of disabled access to the forest loop behind the picnic shelters on the Meander Falls Rd. The group has also expressed an interest in maintaining vehicular access on Bessell's Rd to facilitate the use of Johnson's and Stagg's Tracks for walkers.

7.1.11 Education

Public and school education opportunities

	No. Presentations	No. People
Public Education		
Forest Tours by FT Staff	3	54
Forest Management Presentations	5	100+
Number of positive newspaper articles	0	
School Education		
School Tours by FT Staff	2	34
School Visits	8	100+
Students – Work Experience		5

7.1.12 Community Liaison and Sponsorship

Community forums attended by District staff

Community forum categories	Number of meetings 2002-2003	Number of meetings 2003-2004	Number of meetings 2004-2005	Number of meetings 2005-2006
Fire management	20	11	4	6
Catchment management	14	10	8	6
Local emergency management	0	1	6	4
Education	9	9	13	14
Local government	6	7	5	5
Cultural management	4	4	4	3
Biodiversity management	0	2	3	2
Feral animals/weeds	0	2	2	1
Industry	3	2	2	3
Recreation/tourism	11	7	9	7
Regional planning	3	3	5	3
Conservation/environmental	4	2	3	2
Forest practices	0	2	1	1
Other	27	16	9	12
TOTAL	101	78	74	69

District sponsorship

Name of Organisation	Type of Sponsorship (Cash, In Kind)	Value
Misc. Charities	Cash & In Kind	\$220
Rotary/Lions/Apex	Cash & In Kind	\$250
Horse Riding Events	Cash & In Kind	\$213
Other Sporting Clubs/Events	Cash & In Kind	\$2,251
Schools	Cash & In Kind	\$225
Misc. Donations	Cash & In Kind	\$650
	TOTAL	\$3,809

7.1.13 Mineral Exploration and Development

- Facilitate the exploration and development of mineral resources found within multiple use forest land consistent with the good management of wood, cultural, natural and recreational values

Mineral Exploration Working Group (MEWG) Referrals

Type	Number
New EL Applications	4
Existing EL Reviews and Development Proposals	0
New Works Programs	1
Mineral Lease Applications	0
Mineral Lease reviews and reports	0
Number of Site Rehabilitations	0