Detailed Plan for a

Comprehensive Cultural Assessment

of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)

November 2017

Australian Government

Tasmanian Government

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Foreword from the Aboriginal Heritage Council

The Aboriginal Heritage Council welcomes the 'Detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)'. The Plan was developed with extensive guidance and advice from the previous Aboriginal Heritage Council, and I acknowledge its important input and contribution to the final document.

The Council acknowledges that current awareness and knowledge of the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA has developed through a relatively small number of Aboriginal community visits, archaeological research and cultural heritage projects, and as such it relates to a small proportion of the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA. A great deal remains to be learnt, and there is significant potential for projects to benefit the Aboriginal community and visitors in managing, interpreting and engaging with our cultural values in the TWWHA.

The Plan has been established to assess existing and identify new Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA while acknowledging the strategic importance of ensuring ongoing co-management of these values for future generations. The Council looks forward to the development of the 'packages' and the benefits, including employment and training, these can provide to Aboriginal people and the wider Tasmanian, Australian and international community.

Rodney Dillon
Chair – Aboriginal Heritage Council

List of Abbreviations

AACV Project	Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Values Project
AHC	Aboriginal Heritage Council (Tasmania)
AHO	Aboriginal Heritage Officer
AHT	Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania
CMG	Cultural Management Group (TWWHA)
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (Commonwealth)
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (Tasmania)
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service (Tasmania)
TWWHA	Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

Executive Summary

The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) has commissioned the 'Detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)' (hereafter 'the Plan') to outline a proposed multi-year comprehensive cultural assessment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA). The Plan is based on a version developed by the cultural heritage consultancy Extent Heritage[1] in collaboration with the Cultural Management Group (CMG) within Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania (AHT).

Tasmanian Aboriginal community organisations and individuals were engaged and consulted throughout the preparation of the Plan, and it was guided and supported by the Aboriginal Heritage Council (AHC). While consultation and engagement were undertaken, it is recognised that any future implementation of the Plan will require additional engagement with, and the involvement of, the Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

The Plan was prepared as one component of the 'Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Values (AACV) Project' for the TWWHA and is funded by the Australian Government.

Overview of the Plan

This Plan for a comprehensive cultural assessment of the TWWHA responds to the 2016 decision of the World Heritage Committee requesting a detailed plan for a comprehensive cultural survey (Decision 40 COM 7B.66) (UNESCO 2016), and Recommendation 13 of the 2015 ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission report (Jaeger & Sand 2015) that requested a "detailed proposal for a comprehensive cultural survey, a longer term initiative" in that it sets out a plan for the assessment of Aboriginal cultural values across the whole of the TWWHA.

The structure of the Plan is as follows:

- Part 1: The Plan – overview of the Plan and the relationship to the AACV Project.
- Part 2: The Packages – ten proposed packages of work designed to improve the understanding and management of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA.
- Part 3: Steps required to implement the Plan – Aboriginal stakeholder engagement and consultation, timing and resourcing, and project management.
- Part 4: Conclusion.

Proposed packages of work

The Plan includes ten proposed packages of work. This includes six proposed 'understanding values' packages that are designed to discover and better understand the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA (and in

[1] Details on Extent Heritage are available at - **http://extent.com.au/**

particular those aspects that contribute to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)). The proposed packages also include four proposed 'managing values' packages that are directed at improving the management and appreciation of Aboriginal cultural values.

The six proposed 'understanding values' packages are as follows:

1. **The Southern Lacuna – Aboriginal occupation in the southern valleys**

   This package addresses a significant geographical gap in the knowledge of Aboriginal values of the TWWHA and has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of the OUV of the TWWHA as an area that is linked to the Pleistocene history of humankind. This multidisciplinary package has two key aims: firstly, to characterise the nature of Aboriginal settlement within the southernmost river valleys of the TWWHA, and secondly, to provide a dataset with which to contextualise and inform the present value of the existing Pleistocene record, as well as the less well-expressed, mid to late-Holocene coastal record.

2. **Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement**

   This package compiles and synthesises previous work, and delivers a comprehensive, multi-regional excavation and dating program to understand and articulate the scale and complexity of these marine engagements – the cultural seascapes and coastal settlement during the Holocene in the TWWHA.

3. **From the Highlands to the Lakes (Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem)**

   This package addresses the cultural values of the northernmost parts of the TWWHA. It is considered likely that the outcomes of the survey will document Tasmanian Aboriginal people's creative social responses to climatic change and the resultant shifts in their environment throughout time from the deep past until today.

4. **People and the buttongrass**

   This package explores people-environment interactions in the buttongrass moorlands of the TWWHA. Moorlands comprise a considerable portion of the TWWHA landscape, but few archaeological studies have been undertaken in these areas and their cultural values are almost entirely unknown, especially for the extensive buttongrass moorland systems in the far south-west.

5. **Rock art in the landscape and seascape – recording, conservation and management**

   Rock art sites[2] are cited specifically in the justification of OUV for the TWWHA and they are known to be of high significance to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. Despite this, few have been comprehensively recorded, investigated or interpreted and there remains no synthesis of the rock art sites (i.e. all humanly created painting, engravings, tally marks, cupules etc.) within the TWWHA. This package addresses the specific need to improve present understandings of rock art within the TWWHA through the delivery of a comprehensive and systematic regional rock art recording program of all sites within the TWWHA (both engravings and paintings).

6. **Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values**

   This package examines the post-contact heritage of the TWWHA to determine the extent to which it may reflect continued Aboriginal connections with the area in the historic period, and whether there are

[2] Although this Plan refers to 'rock art', 'rock markings' is regularly used to define this site type in Tasmania. 'Rock art' has been used here as it is considered to be a widely used and universal term for the site type and recognisable for intended audience.

places that have shared significance for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Places that attest to the recent historical past may have significance for Aboriginal people as sites of contact, dispossession, historic employment, subsistence, recreation or activism.

The four proposed 'managing values' packages are as follows:

7. Strategic responses to predictive and unexpected natural disasters and climatic events

   This theme and package acknowledges that, with increasingly variable climatic conditions, more unplanned events will occur over time. It recognises the need for flexible land management responses to events such as bushfire, floods, cave or cliff collapse and storm surges, but also concedes that they present opportunistic windows for research.

8. Reviewing, building and integrating robust systems for the management of cultural values in the TWWHA

   This package is focused on strengthening existing management systems, guidelines and protocols that relate to Aboriginal cultural heritage in the TWWHA. It acknowledges that there are already a range of relevant systems that exist within DPIPWE into which heritage may be integrated to varying degrees, but many of these systems require substantial work to fully integrate cultural values into day-to-day management activities in order to achieve long-term and robust management of the values.

9. Training for Aboriginal people working in the TWWHA – managing cultural values

   The need for Cultural Heritage Management training has been raised consistently, including by the AHC, Aboriginal people within the Tasmanian community, AHT and Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania (PWS) staff. Accordingly, two training-orientated packages have been devised: one for Aboriginal people and another for departmental staff and land managers (who are currently mainly non-Aboriginal people). Proposed package 9 targets training for Aboriginal people who currently work or aspire to work in Aboriginal cultural heritage management within the TWWHA (and elsewhere) along with potential TWWHA related employment opportunities for Aboriginal people. It will contribute not only to the better management of cultural heritage but also to capacity building in order to facilitate the flow of social and economic benefits to the Aboriginal community from the TWWHA.

10. Cultural Heritage training for in-house government personnel involved in managing the cultural values of the TWWHA

    This second training package focuses on the cultural heritage training needs of the people within the agencies that have a management responsibility for the TWWHA. There are two components of this package. The first is the development of a cultural awareness program and training for Aboriginal people to deliver in a 'Train the Trainer' model. The second component is cultural heritage management training for PWS and other relevant staff and/or contractors working in the TWWHA.

Next steps

Part 3 of this Plan sets out the next stages required for the implementation of the Plan for the Cultural Heritage Assessment. The Plan will be implemented with reference to the management framework established by the TWWHA Management Plan (DPIPWE 2016).

Importantly, the CMG within AHT, with the support and guidance of the AHC, will prepare a stand-alone Community Engagement Agreement as part of the commitments of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016, p.161). It is envisaged that this agreement will provide guidance and direction from the Aboriginal community on how it wishes to be consulted on and involved in projects associated with the

TWWHA Management Plan and the implementation of this Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA.

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments are discussing the resourcing required to implement the Plan and the priorities. The timing and phasing of implementation of the Plan will need to be agreed through further consultation and engagement with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community and Tasmanian Government agencies.

It is proposed that the delivery of the packages will be carried out in stages if possible, over the ten-year duration of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (Table 1).

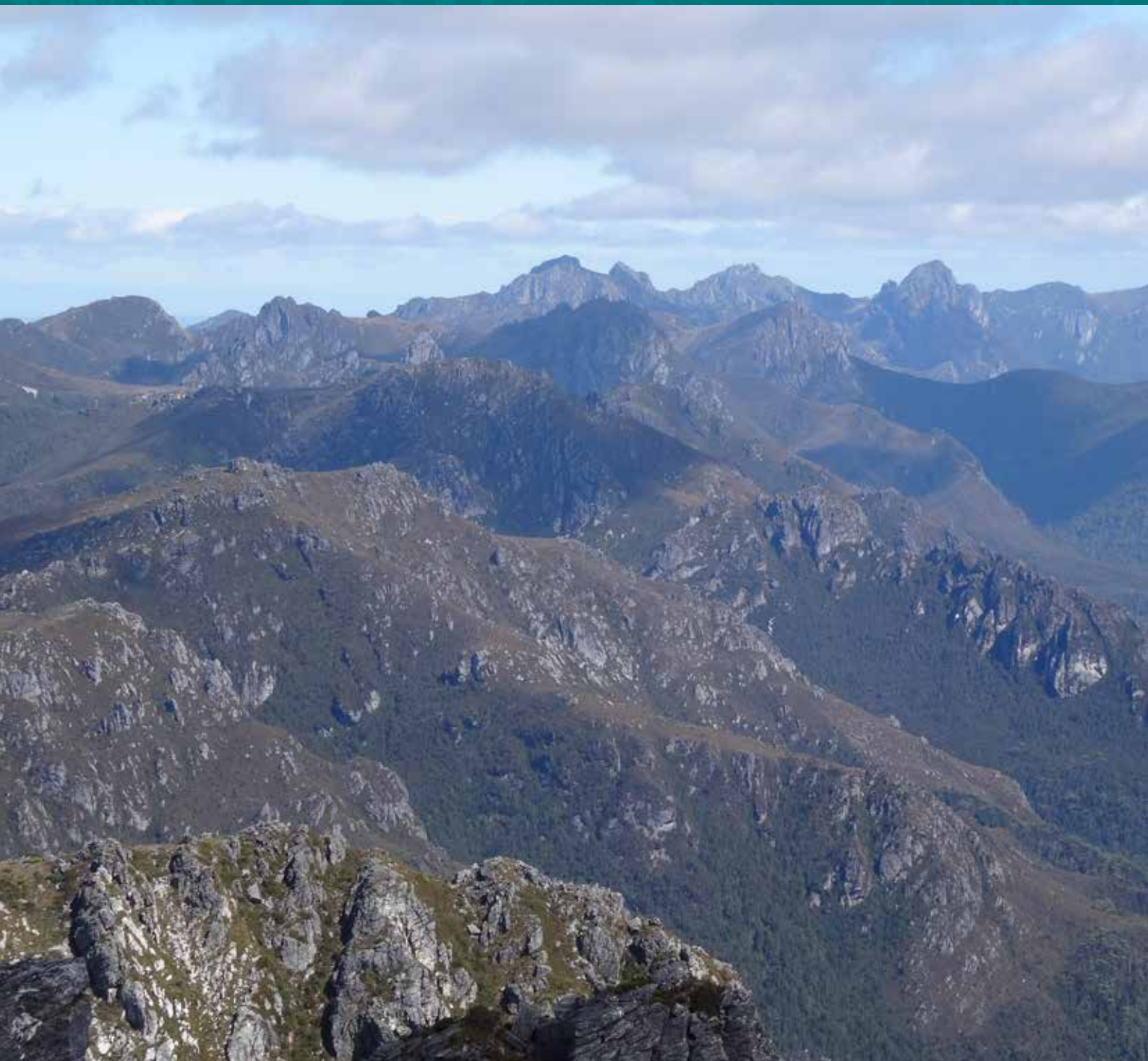
Table 1. Understanding and managing values packages and proposed priority schedule

PRIORITY	PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE NAME
1	8	Reviewing, building and integrating robust systems for the management of cultural values in the TWWHA
2	1	The Southern Lacuna – Aboriginal occupation in the southern valleys.
	2	Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement.
	3	From the Highlands to the Lakes (Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem).
	4	People and the button grass.
3	9	Training for Aboriginal people working in the TWWHA – managing cultural values.
	10	Cultural Heritage training for in-house government personnel involved in managing the cultural values of the TWWHA.
4	5	Rock art in the landscape and seascape – recording, conservation and management.
5	6	Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values
	7	Strategic responses to predictive and unexpected natural disasters and climatic events

This delivery is subject to a number of factors including funding and resource availability (including human resources/personnel). Importantly, the aspirations and priorities of the Aboriginal community are a fundamental consideration, with the need for additional engagement and consultation with the community prior to implementation recognised as important to its success.

PART I.

THE PLAN



The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) has commissioned the 'Detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)' (hereafter 'the Plan') to outline a multi-year comprehensive cultural assessment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA). A map of the TWWHA, including the 2013 extension, is provided in Figure 1.

The Plan is based on an earlier version developed by the cultural heritage consultancy Extent Heritage in collaboration with the Cultural Management Group (CMG) within Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania (AHT) in DPIPWE. Details of how the Plan was developed including the community engagement undertaken, the use of predictive models and other details can be provided by AHT on request[3].

Tasmanian Aboriginal community organisations and individuals were engaged and consulted during the development of the Plan, with the Aboriginal Heritage Council (AHC) providing guidance and support to the project. A list of Aboriginal organisations and individuals contacted and involved during the preparation of the Plan is included in Appendix 1 and written responses received from Aboriginal organisations are included as Appendix 2.

Although consultation and engagement were undertaken, it is recognised that any future implementation of the Plan will require additional engagement with, and the involvement of, the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. The Tasmanian and Australian Governments recognise that it is vitally important that work towards a stronger understanding of the Aboriginal values of the TWWHA is undertaken in close cooperation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. This requires extensive, meaningful and respectful consultation and engagement, as "the Indigenous cultural heritage significance of places can only be determined by the Indigenous community themselves" (Australia ICOMOS 2001). The Plan makes provisions for both the further identification of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA and for their improved management through the involvement of Tasmania's Aboriginal community.

1.1 The Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Values (AACV) Project

The Plan is one component of the Assessment of Aboriginal Cultural Values (AACV) Project for the TWWHA, implemented by AHT and funded by the Australian Government.

The AACV Project derives from four key requirements. These are:

1. the recognition that the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the TWWHA and its values are currently not sufficiently understood (Jaeger & Sand 2015);
2. that the Aboriginal values in the TWWHA have not been identified to the same extent as the area's natural values (DPIPWE 2016);
3. that the lack of understanding about those values and their place in the landscape is a key threat to their effective management (DPIPWE 2016); and
4. that there is a need for the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA to be adequately reflected in its Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (Jaeger & Sand 2015).

[3] Contact Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania on 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

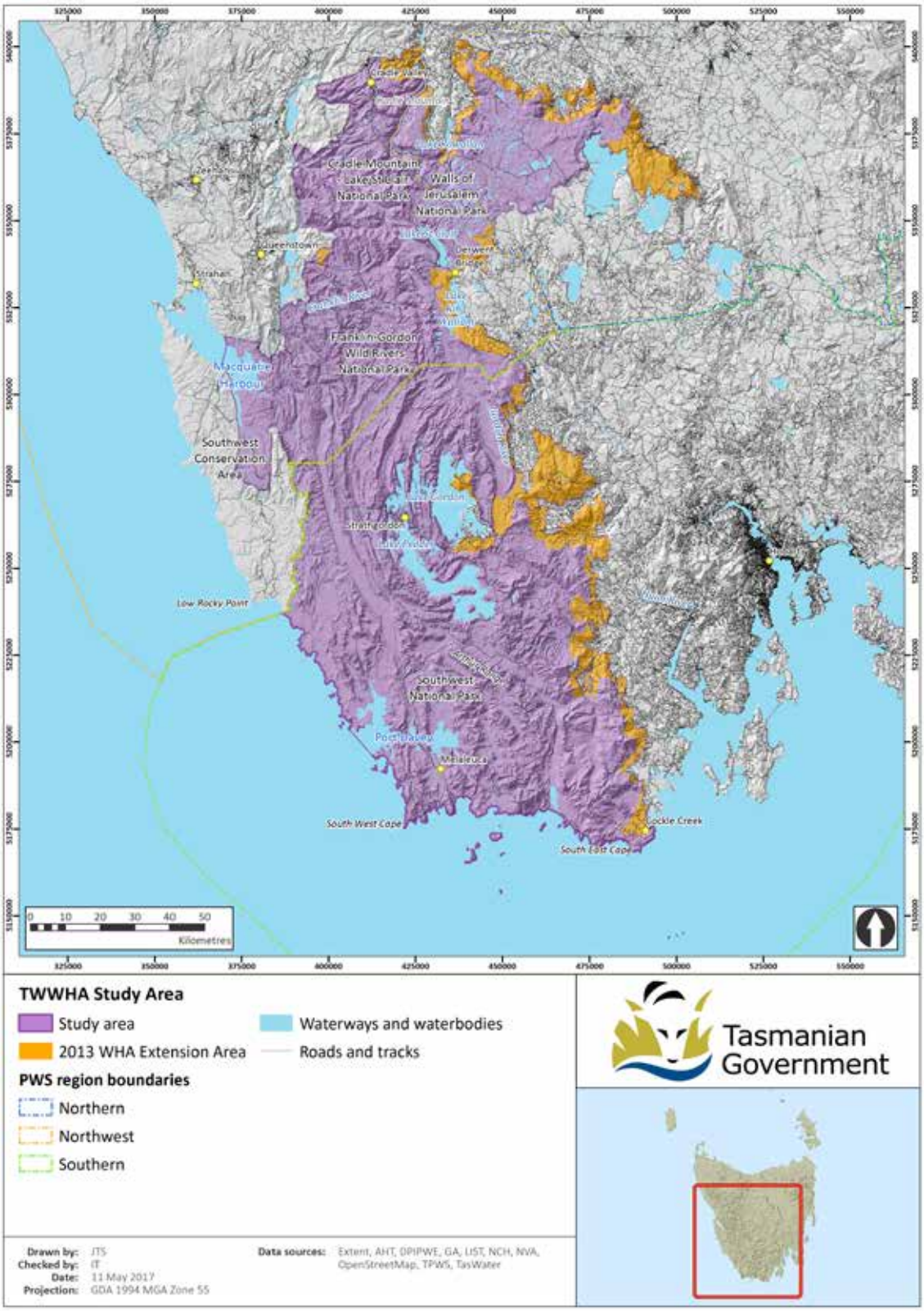


Figure 1. The Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA) including the 2013 extension area.

The AACV Project comprises three components:

1. the preparation of the 'Synthesis Report' (DPIPWE 2017) as a contribution towards preparing a Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the TWWHA;
2. the Cultural Values Assessment of the 2013 Extension Area of the TWWHA[4]; and
3. the preparation of a detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA (this Plan).

The approach taken to develop this Plan has been designed to best contribute to the seven desired outcomes of the AACV Project, which are as follows:

1. That all Tasmanian Aboriginal people have an equitable opportunity to have a voice in the identification, assessment and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the cultural values of the property as a whole.
2. The timely provision of information regarding the OUV to inform the draft Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV), including additional on-ground surveys and consultation, as requested by the World Heritage Committee.
3. Improved opportunities for Aboriginal people to engage with the TWWHA estate, through involvement in the AACV Project.
4. A better understanding across the community of the significant Aboriginal values of the TWWHA.
5. To further inform legal protection for Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA.
6. To identify the threats to the OUV and ensure that it is managed in a way that recognises its significance and ensures its protection.
7. Improved opportunities for Tasmanian Aboriginal people to participate in the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of management actions focused on Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA.

The AACV Project is being carried out in accordance with the management framework established by the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016).

1.2 Overview of the detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA (the Plan)

This Plan responds to the 2016 decision of the World Heritage Committee requesting a detailed plan for a comprehensive cultural survey (Decision 40 COM 7B.66) (UNESCO 2016) and Recommendation 13 of the 2015 ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission report (Jaeger & Sand 2015) that requested a "detailed proposal for a comprehensive cultural survey, a longer term initiative" in that it sets out a plan for the assessment of Aboriginal cultural values across the whole of the World Heritage Area.

Importantly, the Plan is more than a 'survey'; it is a comprehensive cultural assessment that includes consultation, engagement, training, employment, research and field surveys. The Plan includes ten proposed packages of work designed to improve the understanding and management of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA.

As noted above, the Cultural Values Assessment of the 2013 Extension Area of the TWWHA has commenced and includes both planning and survey of the 2013 Extension Area. This Plan prepares for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment for the balance of the TWWHA.

[4] This assessment has commenced and is scheduled for completion in late 2018.

1.2.1 Development of the Plan

The Plan was developed in three stages:

- Stage 1 – Development of the draft survey plan
- Stage 2 – Consultation and engagement
- Stage 3 – Completion of the detailed Plan for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment

Further details of how the Plan was developed including the community engagement undertaken, the use of predictive models and other details can be provided by AHT on request[5].

1.2.2 The Plan is a 'comprehensive' assessment

The Plan presents a comprehensive assessment that is thematic rather than geographical. As acknowledged by the ICOMOS representative for the 2015 Reactive Monitoring Mission, the TWWHA's massive size, rugged terrain and often dense and inhospitable vegetation are significant challenges, and cultural surveys are highly expensive and time-consuming, especially considering the harsh climatic conditions and the short field season. Actual ground survey of the whole TWWHA is inconceivable, especially if more intensive investigation (such as excavation or detailed recording) is also required.

The Plan therefore necessarily envisages that investigations, and related fieldwork, or management improvement actions are targeted to the core values contributing to the TWWHA's OUV, other Aboriginal cultural values, and management goals. These various thematic investigations have been translated into proposed 'packages' in the Plan (see Part 2 of this Plan).

1.2.3 Response from Aboriginal community and organisations

Comprehensive engagement and consultation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community is vital for the success of the implementation of the Plan and it should be carried out in partnership with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. To date the response from the Aboriginal community organisations contacted has been supportive of the Plan and its objectives. However, the response has not been sufficient to confirm how each would wish to be engaged and consulted during implementation of the Plan.

Importantly, the CMG within AHT, with the support and guidance of the AHC, will prepare a stand-alone Community Engagement Agreement as part of the commitments of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016, p.161). It is envisaged that this agreement will provide guidance and direction from the Aboriginal community on how it wishes to be consulted on and involved in projects associated with the TWWHA Management Plan and the implementation of this Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA.

[5] Contact Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania on 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

1.3 Scope and structure of the Plan

As noted above, rather than preparing a 'Plan' or 'Survey' for one single and large project, this Plan for the detailed Comprehensive Cultural Assessment divides the project into proposed 'packages' of work. This division has been employed to:

- facilitate planning by enabling a stronger appreciation of the scale of individual parts of the project, and therefore the resourcing required;
- allow for each of the key major areas for investigation to be addressed, and allow for this to be done by a team with skills specifically appropriate to that area;
- provide some flexibility in the size and scope of each package – not all need be the same 'size' and, if necessary, some can be more easily expanded and others reduced to match resourcing; and
- allow for a more equitable division of work – potentially between government agencies, Aboriginal organisations, other institutions and the private sector.

As a result the Plan is structured as follows:

- Part 1: The Plan – overview of the Plan and its relationship to the AACV Project.
- Part 2: The Proposed Packages – ten proposed packages of work designed to improve the understanding and management of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA.
- Part 3: Steps required to implement the Plan – Aboriginal stakeholder engagement and consultation, timing and resourcing and project management.
- Part 4: Conclusion.

1.4 Relationship to the TWWHA Management Plan

The Plan for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment will be implemented with reference to the management framework established by the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016).

Reference has been made to the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 throughout this document, including where aspects of the Plan for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment address, contribute to or relate to its Key Desired Outcomes.

PART 2.

THE PROPOSED PACKAGES

This part of the Plan sets out the ten proposed packages that comprise the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA — six 'understanding values' packages and four 'managing values' packages — and proposed sequencing for their implementation.

Importantly, while all packages are designed as proposals for work that could be completed, their implementation and format is subject to further engagement, consultation and the agreement of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, the Aboriginal Heritage Council and key Tasmanian Government agencies including AHT, DPIPWE and the PWS. Furthermore, while the proposed packages provide targeted areas in which fieldwork could be undertaken, these locations should be viewed as proposals and could be modified and adapted depending on factors including the interests, wishes and knowledge of the Aboriginal community and input from key Tasmanian Government agencies.

2.1 Proposed 'Understanding Values' Packages

The six proposed 'understanding values' packages (packages 1-6) are directed at discovering and better understanding the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA, including aspects that contribute to its OUV. The packages target thematic gaps that have been identified through the Synthesis Report (DPIPWE 2017), by predictive modelling prepared to inform the Plan, and input from consultation undertaken with the Aboriginal community. Further information on the development of the packages can be provided by AHT on request[6]. The proposed packages are as follows:

1. The Southern Lacuna: Aboriginal occupation in the southern valleys.
2. Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement.
3. From the Highlands to the Lakes (Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem).
4. People and the buttongrass.
5. Rock art[7] in the landscape and seascape: recording conservation and management.
6. Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values.

Geographically, the proposed packages cover the southern, northern and inland regions of the TWWHA, and address not only the Pleistocene[8] but also the Holocene[9] values. This is undertaken through a focus on cave sites and a range of coastal open sites. Recognising the fragility and the relative scarcity of rock art sites and their significance to Aboriginal people, the Plan also seeks to more comprehensively record the known sites and provide a basis for off-site interpretation and a baseline for future condition reporting.

[6] Contact Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania on 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

[7] Although this Plan refers to 'rock art', 'rock markings' is regularly used to define this site type in Tasmania. 'Rock art' has been used here as it is considered to be a widely used and universal term for the site type and recognisable for intended audience.

[8] In this context, the Pleistocene relates to the time period from approximately 35,000 BP until approximately 10,000 BP (Before Present).

[9] In this context, the Holocene refers to the time period from 10,000 BP (Before Present) until the present day.

As the major cost in all proposed packages is related to accessing such remote areas (involving helicopters, boats, canoes and trekking), field teams will need to be multidisciplinary in composition and provision will be made to sample and test sites when found as part of a detailed recording program. This may involve test excavations and/or coring, recording of rock art/rock markings and pigment sampling where relevant. Similarly, all teams will involve Aboriginal participants, and will include recording of intangible values where relevant.

All proposed packages include post fieldwork workshops with the Aboriginal community that provide not only a chance for the survey team to report on findings but also for the Aboriginal community to provide further input and to discuss the meaning and implications of the findings, including intangible values.

The details of the six proposed 'understanding values' packages are provided below.

2.1.1 Package 1: The Southern Lacuna – Aboriginal occupation in the southern valleys

Description

This proposed package focuses on the cave-bearing karst landscapes within the southernmost river valleys of the TWWHA (Figure 2). These areas are among the most remote and poorly characterised valley systems within the TWWHA. South of Lake Pedder, only a handful of sites are known to occur within inland systems (~20 sites); and yet many of these valley systems share attributes broadly comparable to the internationally regarded Franklin-Gordon complex of Pleistocene sites. A range of different cave-bearing karst systems are present, especially in the south-eastern portions of the park. Here there is evidence of Pleistocene settlement and art (e.g. Wargata Mina in the Cracroft Valley, and the Riveaux art site in the Riveaux valley). To the south-west, other valley systems, such as the Giblin River Valley, are yet to be systematically investigated by archaeologists. With a relatively open passage linking the west coast with areas inland, this valley, and others like it, have potential to clarify important questions raised by earlier archaeological research. These questions relate to the nature, longevity, and possible abandonment of the south-west inland during the late Pleistocene.

This multidisciplinary package therefore seeks to address two key aims: firstly, to characterise the nature of Aboriginal settlement within the southernmost river valleys of the TWWHA, and secondly, to provide a dataset with which to contextualise and inform the present value of the existing Pleistocene record, as well as the less well-expressed, mid to late-Holocene coastal record.

Value of proposed package

The proposed package and associated theme addresses a major gap in current knowledge and explores Aboriginal cultural values of some of the most rugged and remote regions in the TWWHA. How did people interact with this landscape? One interpretation is that these places were too rugged and too marginal to sustain a human presence, and yet this interpretation is based on an absence of evidence that may be a product of the lack of survey undertaken in these areas.

This proposed package and associated theme explores Aboriginal cultural values of the south-west region of the TWWHA. Current archaeological evidence suggests that the inland south-west of the TWWHA was abandoned by people following encroachment of the rainforests in the late Pleistocene. Very little is known, however, about similar cave-bearing karst areas in river valleys in the southern portions of the TWWHA. Did people venture so far south? Might inland areas have been used by people venturing in off the coast during this period of possible 'abandonment'? This theme therefore is open in intent; it is proposed to examine the potentially southernmost extent of people into Tasmania during the Pleistocene, but also to consider whether there is another more recent history to these regions.

Specifically, it could:

- address a major geographical gap in the data relating to Aboriginal occupation of the TWWHA;
- address a specific knowledge gap to address the OUV of this dimension of the TWWHA;
- seek to expand the existing Pleistocene record of the TWWHA and explore relationships between inland sites and the mid- to late-Holocene coastal record;
- furnish a deeper and richer understanding of the broader cultural landscape;
- provide a rare opportunity to note the condition of any cave located within the survey areas in this remote part of the TWWHA;
- provide Aboriginal organisations, land managers and site custodians results that will feed directly into existing management systems and site records, including GIS survey coverage records; and
- provide cultural heritage field training opportunities for Aboriginal people and departmental staff.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- packages 2-6 in that information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 2-6 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 2-6; and
- packages 9 and 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal representatives and departmental staff to provide in-field training should be allowed for.

Locations in the TWWHA

The proposed fieldwork locations for Package 1 southern valleys surveys are provided in Figure 3 and include:

- Hardwood Davey and Giblin River areas.
- Precipitous Bluff area and Ile de Golfe.
- Cracroft and Lower Cracroft valleys.

The fieldwork areas are proposed only and are to be decided in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff, and following a review of the generalised predictive model and the background literature. The work program may be changed following further consultation with the Aboriginal community who may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered.

These particular field locations are proposed based on the results from the inner east predictive model developed by the cultural heritage consultancy Extent Heritage[10], results of previous regional or karst area studies and with qualitative readings for each locale's capacity to address questions of the nature and depth of inland use by Aboriginal people in the past (e.g. river valley passageways to and from the coast, for example the source to sea river Giblin River catchment and Precipitous Bluff areas).

Some areas, such as the wide valley floor of the Hardwood-Olga area, suggested here on the strength of the predictive model, may prove unsuitable given the low-relief expression of the karst system in this locale and the limited potential for the development of cave-systems (the predictive model, generalised TWWHA-wide, did not discriminate at the level of karst area types).

[10] Details of this predictive model are available from AHT on request by contacting 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

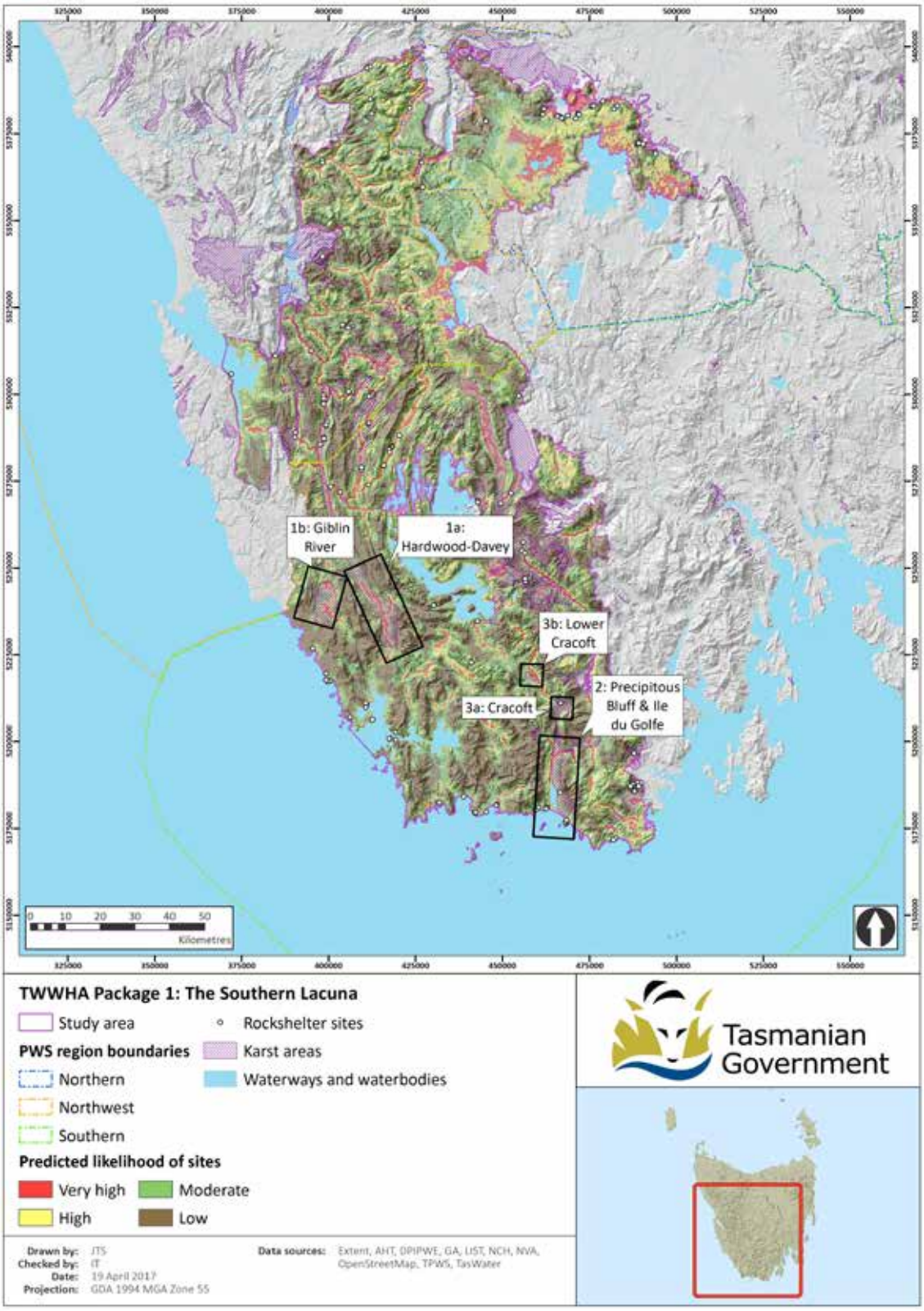


Figure 2. Karst systems and sites in the TWWHA and proposed fieldwork locations for Package 1: The Southern Lacuna.

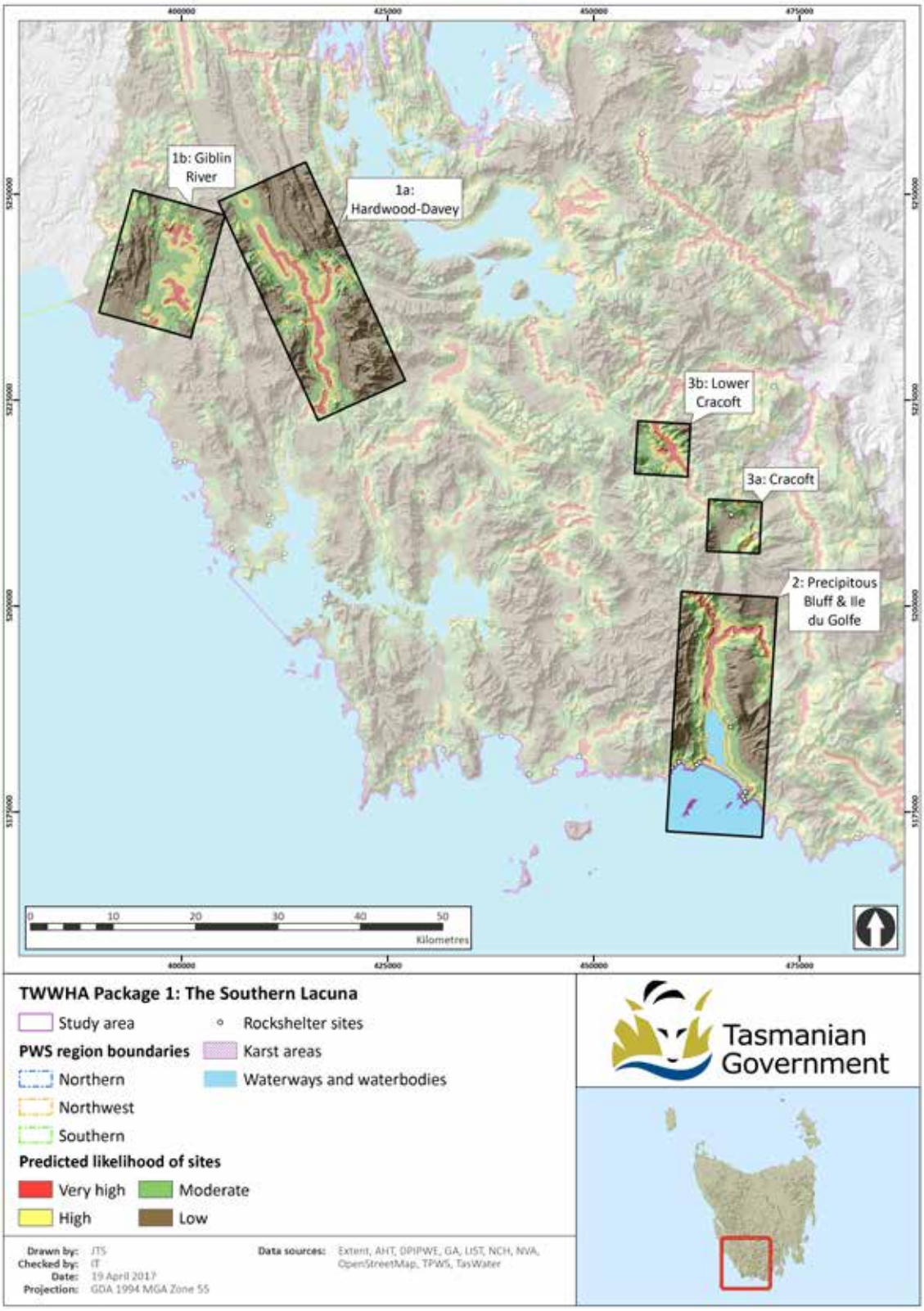


Figure 3. Detail of proposed locations for fieldwork for Package 1:The Southern Lacuna.

2.1.2 Package 2: Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement

Description

The archaeological evidence from the southern and western coasts and offshore islands of the TWWHA is exceptional by any measure. The people of the coast were a seagoing people, known to have travelled up to 16km across the open water from the mainland to visit offshore islands. The complexity, array, composition and regional variability of shell middens are remarkable, and several of the latter possess the depressions of Tasmanian Aboriginal people's huts. Several rock art sites adjacent to the intertidal zone depict engraved human footprints, seemingly oriented in tracks as though emerging out of the sea. Whereas the understanding of the cultural values of the TWWHA is dominated by the ancient Pleistocene archaeological landscape, the southern Tasmanian seascape provides a continuous history of at least a 3,000-year engagement with the coast, sea and islands that continues in several respects today.

Building on the work of a handful of previous studies, this proposed package examines the cultural values of "one of the richest coastal regions in Australia" (DPIPWE 2017, p.7). This proposed package compiles this previous work, as well as proposing a comprehensive, multi-regional excavation and dating program to understand and articulate the scale and complexity of these marine engagements (see Figure 4).

Value of the proposed package

This proposed package will contribute to a greater understanding of the cultural values of the TWWHA and their effective management by:

- addressing the specific need to take a more expansive and holistic appreciation of the cultural attributes of the TWWHA;
- providing a detailed and comprehensive summary of the southernmost seascape in Australia;
- establishing a direct and continuous link between Tasmanian Aboriginal people and the coast, sea and islands of the TWWHA, extending back at least 3,000 years, and almost certainly more;
- implementing a comprehensive conservation project that connects with existing systems, and provides critical baseline data to monitor the effects of erosion upon the fabric of highly significant sites (e.g. hut depressions);
- enhancing the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community and individuals involved in cultural heritage management by furnishing more information and deeper engagements with this part of the TWWHA landscape; and
- incorporating cultural heritage field training opportunities for Aboriginal people and DPIPWE staff.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- package 8 in that it should contribute to and rely on systems operated by PWS, AHT and DPIPWE;
- packages 1 and 3-6 as information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 1 and 3-6 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 1 and 3-6; and
- packages 9 and 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal representatives and departmental staff to provide in field training should be allowed for.

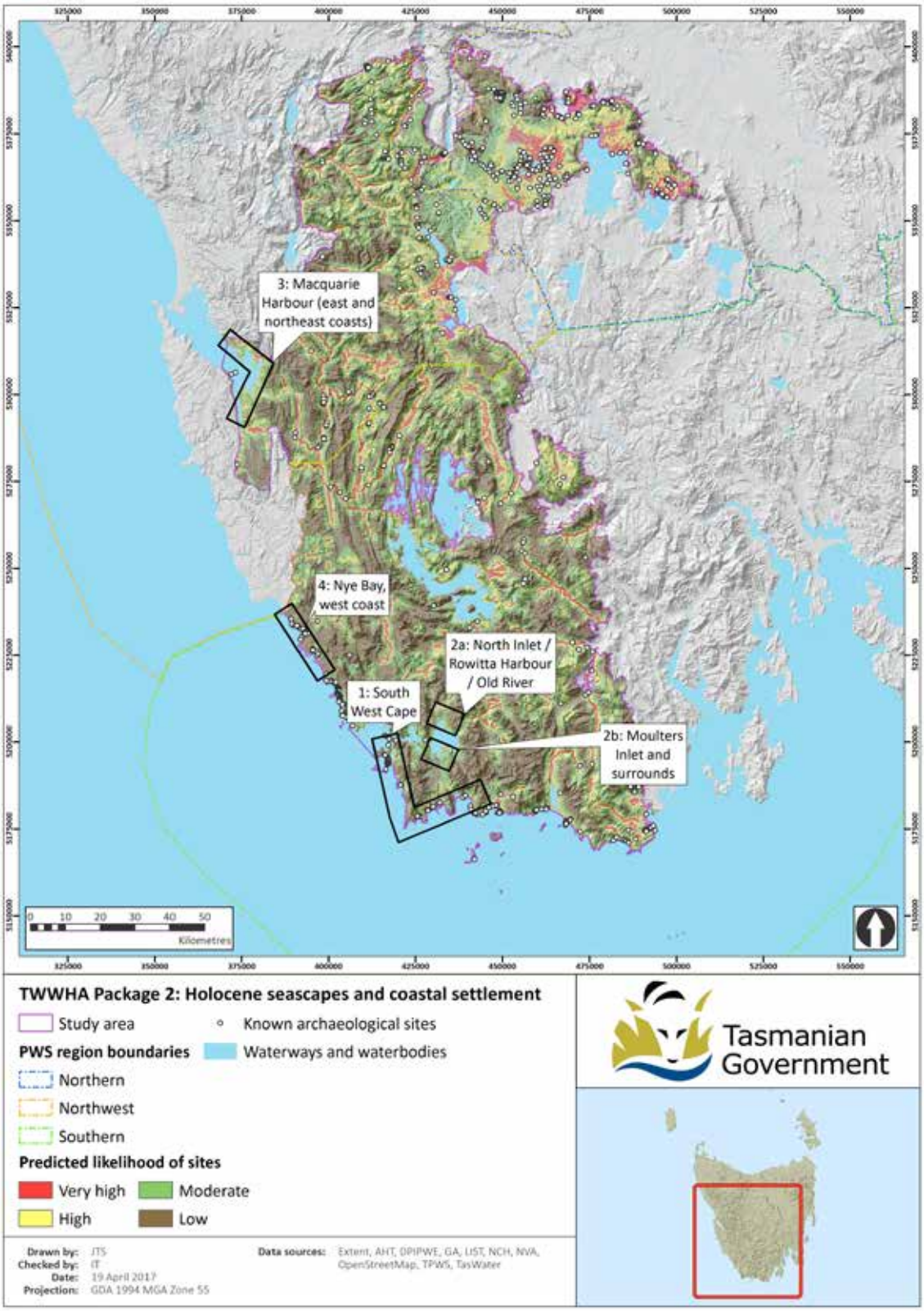


Figure 4. Sites and proposed fieldwork locations for Package 2: Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement.

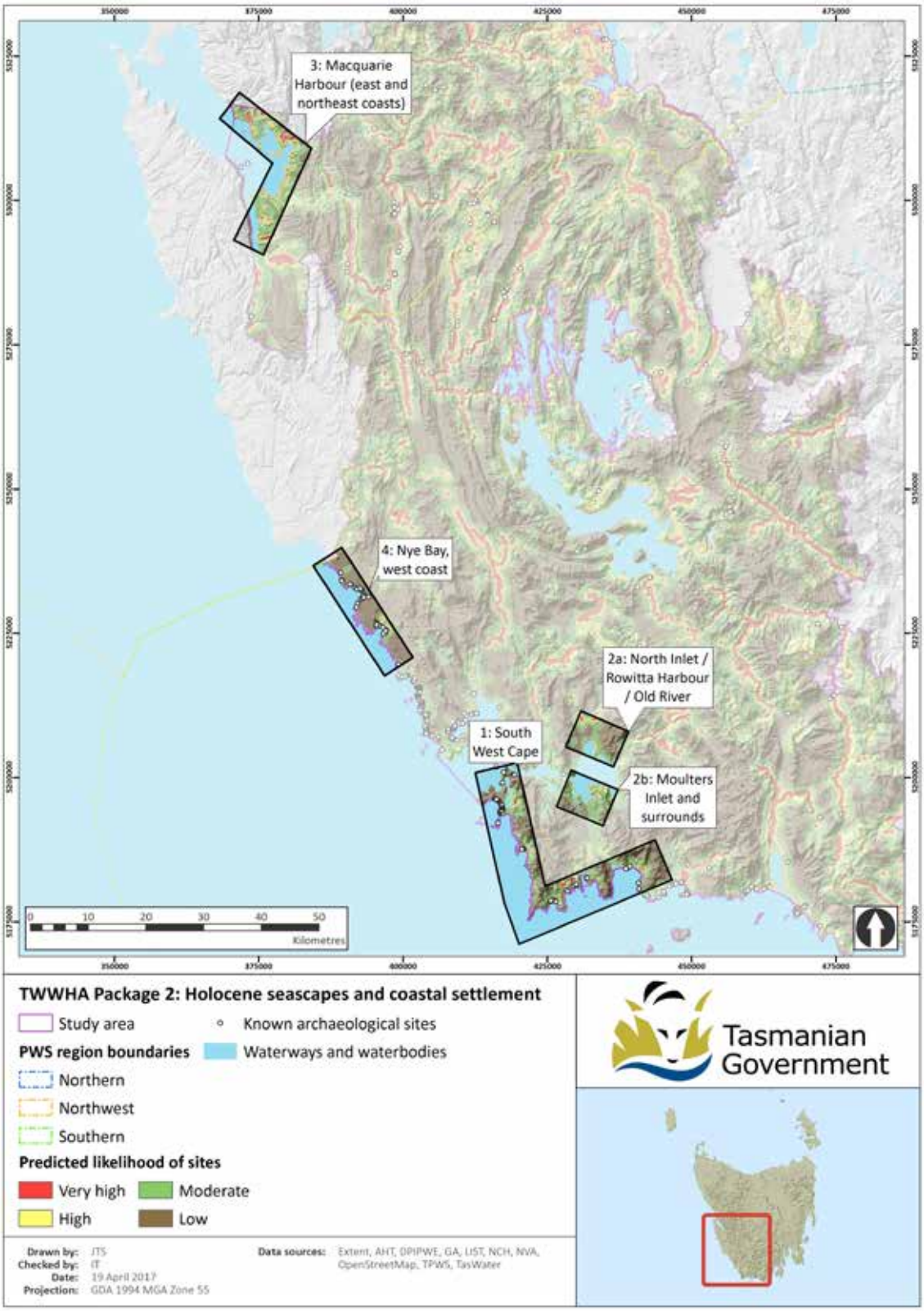


Figure 5. Detail of proposed locations for fieldwork for Package 2: Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement.

Locations in the TWWHA

This proposed package targets areas on both the south and west coasts of the TWWHA in PWS' north-western and southern regions (Figure 5). The proposed areas include:

- South West Cape.
- North Inlet / Rowitta Harbour / Old River.
- Moulters Inlet and surrounds.
- Macquarie Harbour (east and north-east shores).
- Nye Bay.

The fieldwork areas are proposed only and are to be decided in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff, and following a review of the generalised predictive model and the background literature. The work program may be changed following further consultation with the Aboriginal community who may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered.

The proposed locations for fieldwork are based predominately on the predictive model[11]. The model is general in content, and groups data from both the southern and western coasts, including embayments and offshore islands, and inland to 500m. Local-area predictive models specific to each fieldwork location or region may be required; differences in site type, composition, shellfish exploitation, numbers of sites and so on can be further delineated at the package level. These locations are a guide only.

2.1.3 Package 3: From the Highlands to the Lakes (Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem)

Description

This proposed package addresses the cultural values of the northernmost parts of the TWWHA, and will aim to document Tasmanian Aboriginal people's creative social responses to climatic change and the resultant shifts in their environment throughout time from the deep past until today (Figure 6). The Central Plateau areas in the eastern part of the area represent the richest cultural landscape within the inland TWWHA. Although several archaeological studies have been undertaken in these areas, and despite the region's potential to shed light on the major social changes occurring into the ethnographic and post-contact periods, the archaeology of the region remains generally under-researched. To the west, in the previously glaciated Mersey Valley system south of Cradle Mountain, excavations reveal tantalising clues as to how people negotiated the retreat of the glaciers. To the north of this area, in the Forth River Valley, excavations at *Parmerpar Meethaner* reveal the continuous occupation of the region from the Pleistocene into the present, which contrasts strongly with the possible abandonment of the inland south-west at the end of the Pleistocene.

This proposed package acknowledges the apparent distinctiveness of Aboriginal settlement in these northern parts of the TWWHA (and indeed the variation between the eastern and western parts of the northern region) and it seeks to better articulate and understand this variation. It also serves to complement the geographic spread of the suggested focal areas for the work packages across the TWWHA.

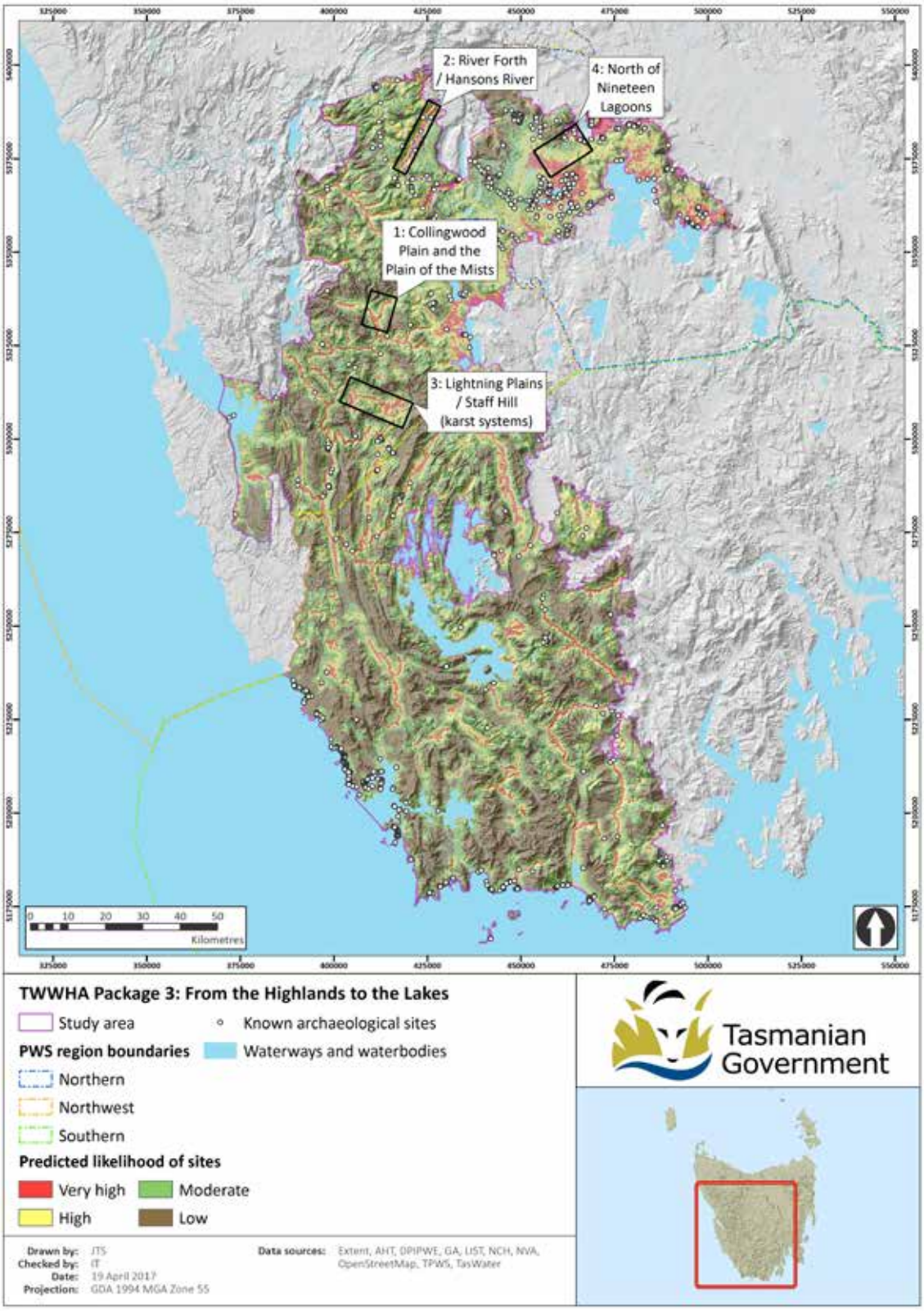


Figure 6. Sites and karst systems and proposed fieldwork locations for Package 3: From the Highlands to the Lakes.

Value of proposed package

This proposed study seeks to characterise the regional and temporal variability of occupation in the northernmost parts of the TWWHA. The value of this study is to:

- delineate major regional differences in use of different landforms over the past 3,000 to 4,000 years (from river valleys to lacustrine environments);
- trace the expression of changing social practices in the late-Holocene following climatic amelioration (movement into upland areas following deglaciation, burning and hunting of buttongrass environments);
- establish direct connections between the archaeology and the ethnographically-known past (not possible elsewhere, except to some degree with the coastal theme);
- contribute to the training of in-house staff in AHT and PWS by providing targeted cultural heritage field opportunities;
- feed results of the fieldwork directly into existing management systems and site records, GIS survey coverage records etc.;
- opportunistically test predictive cultural heritage models for the TWWHA; and
- enhance the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community and individuals involved in cultural heritage management, given the package's focus on the recent past.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- package 8 in that it should contribute to and rely on systems operated by PWS, AHT and DPIPWE;
- packages 1-2 and 4-7 in that information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 1-2 and 4-7 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 1-2 and 4-7; and
- packages 9 and 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal representatives and departmental staff to provide in-field training should be allowed for.

Locations in the TWWHA

This proposed package focuses on several locations in the Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem National Park (Figure 7). Proposed fieldwork locations are in PWS' northern and north-western regions and include sections of the:

- Collingwood Plain and the Plain of the Mists.
- River Forth / Hansons River.
- Lightning Plains / Staff Hill (karst systems).
- Areas north of Nineteen Lagoons.

The fieldwork locations are proposed only and are to be decided in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff, and following a review of the generalised predictive model[12] and the background literature. The work program may be changed following further consultation with the Aboriginal community who may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered.

[12] Details of this predictive model are available from AHT on request by contacting 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

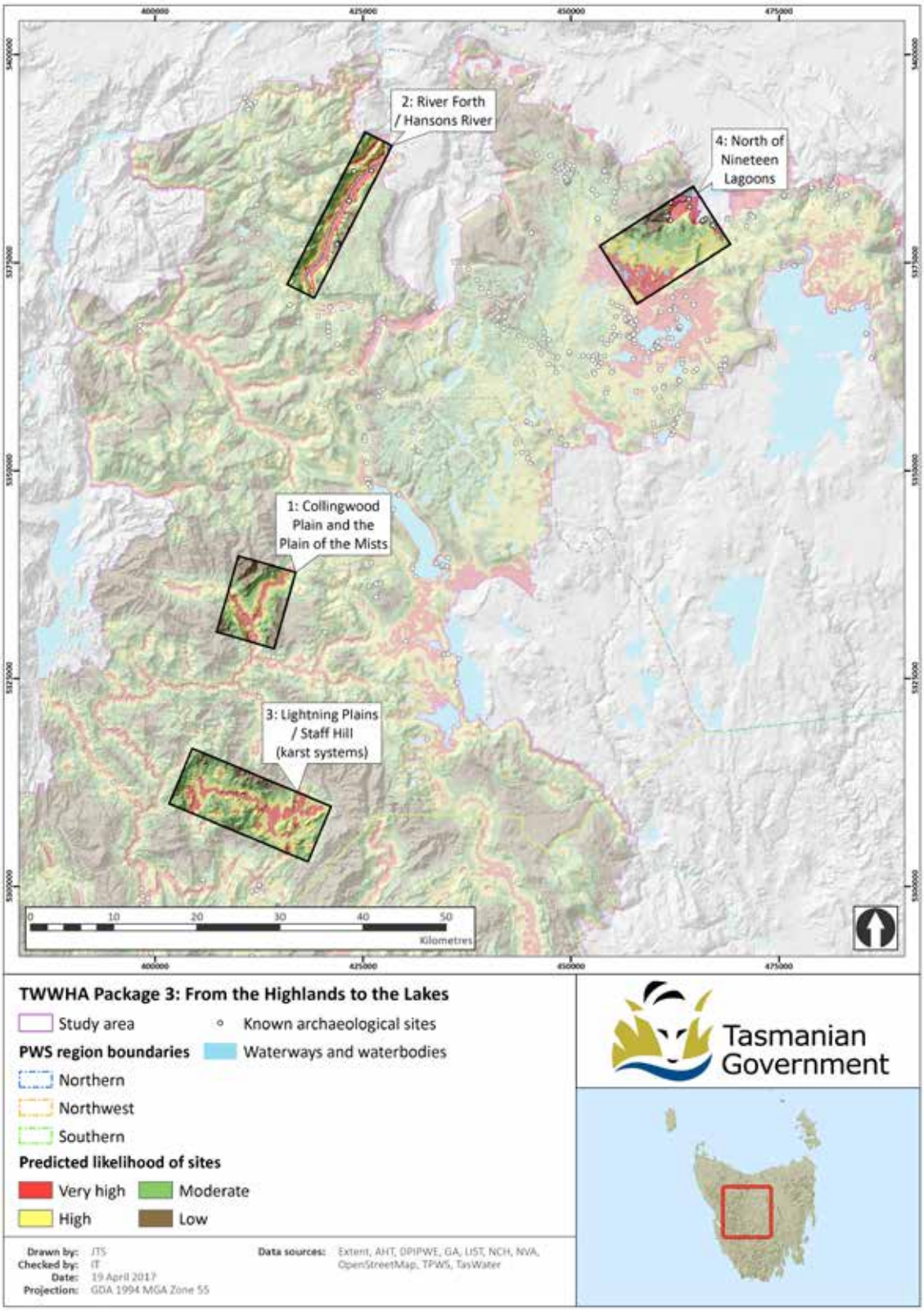


Figure 7. Detail of proposed locations for fieldwork for Package 3: From the Highlands to the Lakes.

These nominated field locations are based on the combination of the results from the inner east (Cradle Mountain region) and inner west (Walls of Jerusalem) predictive model results of published and unpublished archaeological studies in regards to the likely capacity for each area to achieve the overarching aims of the package.

2.1.4 Package 4: People and the buttongrass

Description

This proposed package and theme explores people-environment interactions in the buttongrass moorlands of the TWWHA (Figure 8). Moorlands comprise a considerable portion of the TWWHA landscape but the cultural values of these areas are almost entirely unknown in any direct sense. Few archaeological studies have been undertaken in these areas, especially in the extensive buttongrass moorland systems in the far south-west. Indirectly, there is some limited evidence that might indicate that the burning regime of ancestral Tasmanian Aboriginal people influenced the mosaic of vegetation communities (e.g. in burning of forest and the subsequent expansion of buttongrass communities). Overall, however, the relative influence of anthropogenic burning practices upon the evolution and composition of buttongrass moorlands and blanket bog soil environments remains a significant research question (Sharples 2003, p.185), albeit one with considerable implications for assessing the outstanding cultural and natural heritage values of the south-west.

This proposed multidisciplinary package is designed to address two interrelated questions: firstly, how did Aboriginal people interact with the buttongrasses through time and secondly, did anthropogenic burning significantly influence the distribution of the buttongrass?

Value of proposed package

This proposed package jointly aims to address the need to clarify the extent and nature of Aboriginal settlement in buttongrass moorlands, and the dynamics of human-environment interactions in the evolution and ecology of buttongrass moorlands within the TWWHA. This study will contribute important information and opportunities for improved management of Aboriginal cultural values, including:

- understanding the processes underpinning the formation and development of the environment of the TWWHA through time;
- the influence of people on the formation and development of environments or ecological niches or processes in the TWWHA through time;
- how people shaped, responded and or strategically adapted or altered their life-ways in response to the natural environment;
- a deeper understanding of the relationships between the 'natural' and 'cultural' OUV of the south-west, and a deeper appreciation of the relationships between Tasmanian Aboriginal people and their cultural landscapes;
- cross-disciplinary work and collaborations within the TWWHA, such as generating community engagement and dialogues around natural and cultural values between and among land managers, scientists, archaeologists and Aboriginal people; and
- providing Aboriginal organisations, land managers and site custodians archaeological results that will feed directly into existing management systems and site records, GIS survey coverage records etc. that influence management considerations.

This proposed package will enhance the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community and individuals involved in cultural heritage management by providing information on the nature of the relationship between people

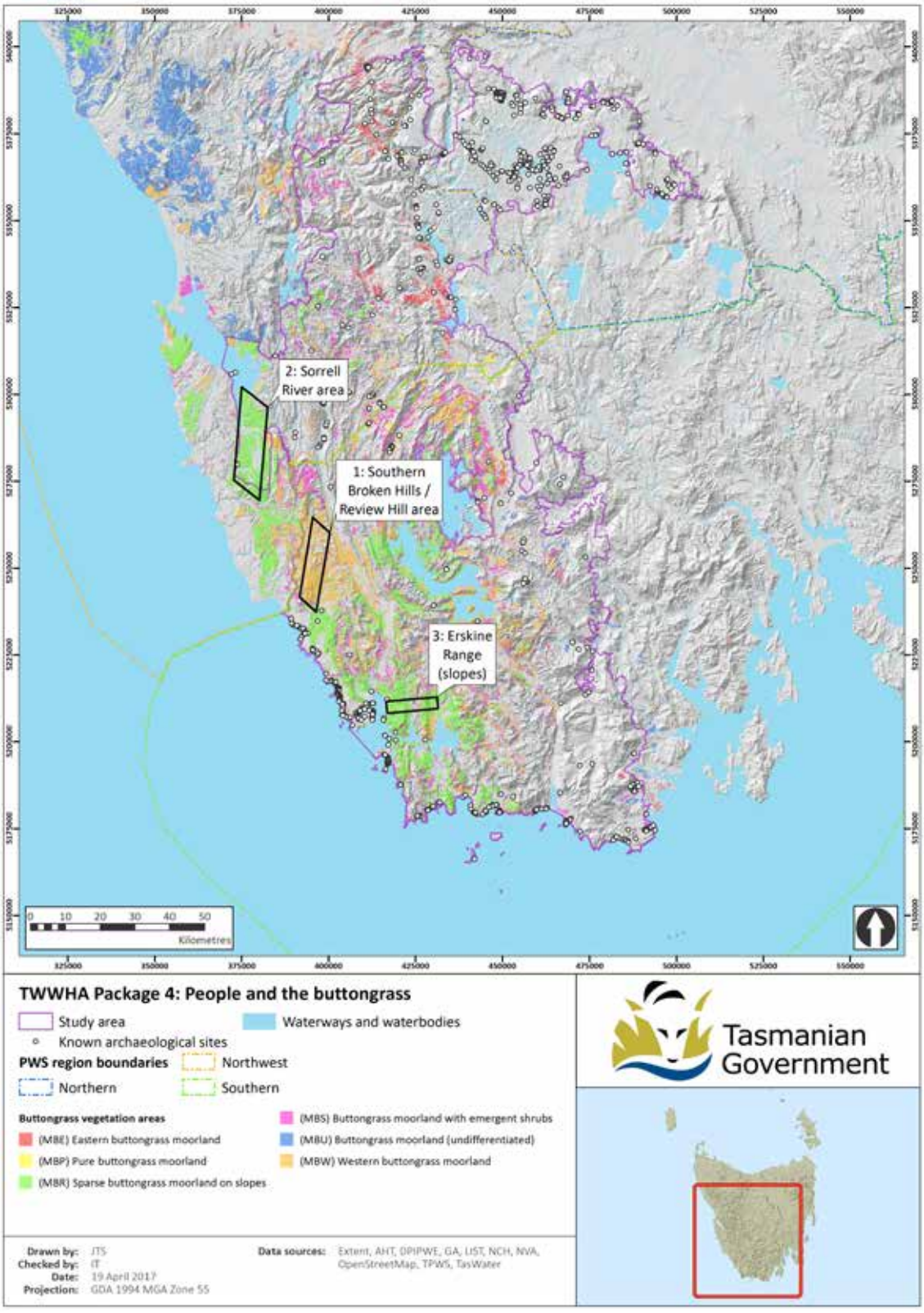


Figure 8. Buttongrass moorlands, sites in the TWWHA and proposed fieldwork locations for Package 4: People and the buttongrass.

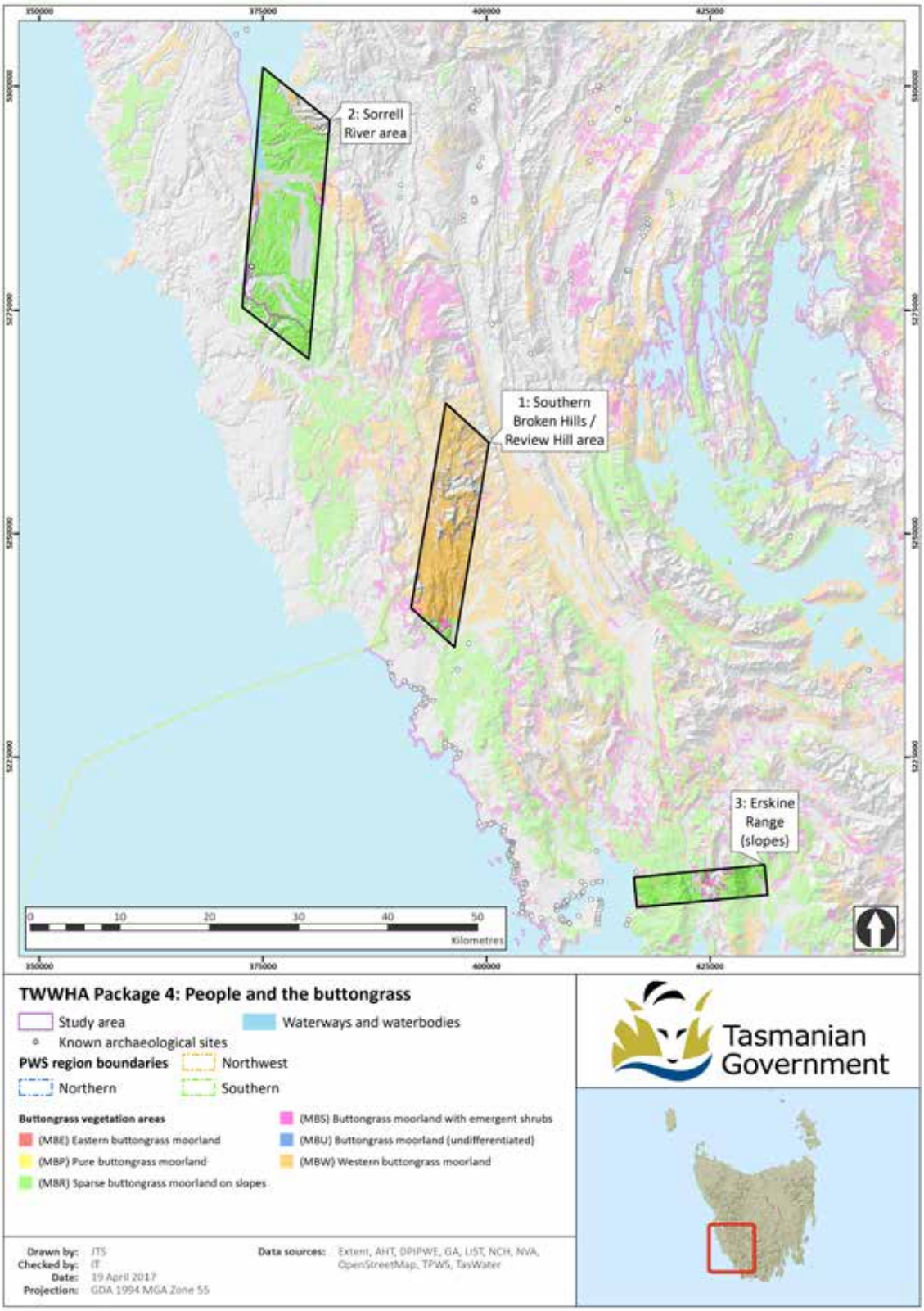


Figure 9. Detail of proposed locations for fieldwork for Package 4: People and the buttongrass.

and the past, and the opportunity to explore how this relationship might continue. It will also provide a practical opportunity for cultural heritage field training for Aboriginal people and DPIPWE staff.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- package 8 in that it should contribute to and rely on systems operated by PWS, AHT and DPIPWE;
- packages 1-4 and 6 in that information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 1-4 and 6 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 1-4 and 6; and
- packages 9 and 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal representatives and departmental staff to provide in-field training should be allowed for.

Locations in the TWWHA

The proposed fieldwork survey locations for package 4 are shown in Figure 9 and comprise a cross-section of buttongrass moorland types in the TWWHA. These include the western buttongrass moorland type in the Southern Broken Hills and Review Hill area, sparse buttongrass moorland on slopes in the Sorrell River area and the mosaic of buttongrass types in the Erskine Ranges area (see Figure 9).

However, while these areas are suggested as possibilities for investigation, there is insufficient archaeological data available to generate a robust predictive model in these locales. It is recommended that to maximise the potential for results, the final fieldwork locations for this package be decided by the multidisciplinary team of researchers, collaboratively with ecologists and field staff from PWS and in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff. The work program may be changed following further consultation with the Aboriginal community who may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered. For example, at the time of developing this Plan some areas of buttongrass had recently been burnt by bushfires, which would have optimised survey potential. It is therefore suggested that the location of any recent fires in buttongrass areas be determined prior to finalising the survey plan.

2.1.5 Package 5: Rock art in the landscape and seascape – recording, conservation and management

Description

This proposed package addresses the specific need to improve current understandings of rock art within the TWWHA[13]. This proposed package acknowledges limitations in our understanding of the cultural and scientific values of rock art in the TWWHA and seeks to address these, in collaboration with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, through the delivery of a comprehensive and systematic regional rock art recording program of all sites within the TWWHA (both engravings and paintings).

The OUV of the almost certainly Pleistocene-aged hand stencil sites, notably *Wargata Mina* and *Ballawinne* Cave, is recognised under World Heritage criterion (iii) as they form part of the constellation of Pleistocene-aged sites documenting an ice-age human occupation in the high-latitudes, as well as under World Heritage criterion (vi) as a tangible link to understanding the symbolic language of people during the last ice age. The rock art places are of especial cultural, spiritual, and historical value to Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the hand prints themselves connecting people with long-distant ancestors (DPIPWE 2017).

[13] Although this Plan refers to 'Rock art', 'Rock markings' is regularly used to define this site type in Tasmania. 'Rock art' has been used here as it is considered to be a widely used and universal term for the site type and recognisable for intended audience.

Nevertheless, both the cultural and scientific values of these places are very poorly understood, especially in terms of assessing these values regionally and through time. At present, rock art (i.e. all humanly created painting, engravings, tally marks, cupules etc.) has not been comprehensively recorded within the TWWHA. In part this reflects the very small subset of rock art sites that have been well documented within the wilderness area. Information on most other sites is rudimentary and insufficient to answer questions around antiquity, regional distinctiveness or uniqueness, and how the rock art might have changed through time and space. This fragmentary knowledge base is also at odds with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community's attachment to these sites, which emphasises the artistic, spiritual, cultural and/or historical value as forming part of its cultural landscapes and seascapes (Jaeger & Sand 2015, p.24; Smith 2014; Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council 2001).

This proposed package also addresses the requirement to ensure the ongoing protection of the OUV of the rock art. A second component of this package is to identify threats or risks to the fabric of each site, to offer management recommendations and management systems for land managers and custodians. Most sites have not been systematically monitored for condition and visitor and natural impacts. However, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council Caves Monitoring project was funded through the Australian Government's Working on Country program for several years. This covered the three caves in the TWWHA which were handed back to the Aboriginal community in 1995: *Kuti Kina, Ballawinne* and *Wargata Mina*, and the last monitoring trip was in 2010, at which time an excessive increase in visitor (cavers and bushwalkers) activity was reported, especially for *Kuti Kina* and *Wargata Mina*. An important aspect of this package, as with all of packages 1-7, is condition reporting. For any new rock art sites discovered through this program current condition and recommendations for management should be included.

Value of proposed package

This proposed package addresses the need to improve our understanding of rock art within the TWWHA. Specifically, it:

- provides a comprehensive synthesis of known rock art within the TWWHA;
- addresses gaps in the present body of studies via a best-practice, comprehensive and systematic rock art recording and interpretation program;
- provides a synthesis of the known spatial and temporal qualities of the rock art in the TWWHA;
- addresses a specific knowledge gap to address the OUV of this dimension of the TWWHA;
- furnishes a deeper and richer understanding of the broader cultural landscape;
- provides Aboriginal organisations, land managers and site custodians sub-millimeter 3-dimensional digital information that may be incorporated into future monitoring works and management systems and recreations/reconstructions (e.g. '4D' digital frameworks);
- will collect condition data on known sites;
- provides Aboriginal organisations, land managers and site custodians results that will feed directly into existing management systems and site records, GIS survey coverage records etc.;
- enhances the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community and individuals involved in cultural heritage management by providing remote access to their rock art sites (e.g. 3D renderings); and
- provides cultural heritage field training opportunities for Aboriginal people and DPIPWE staff.

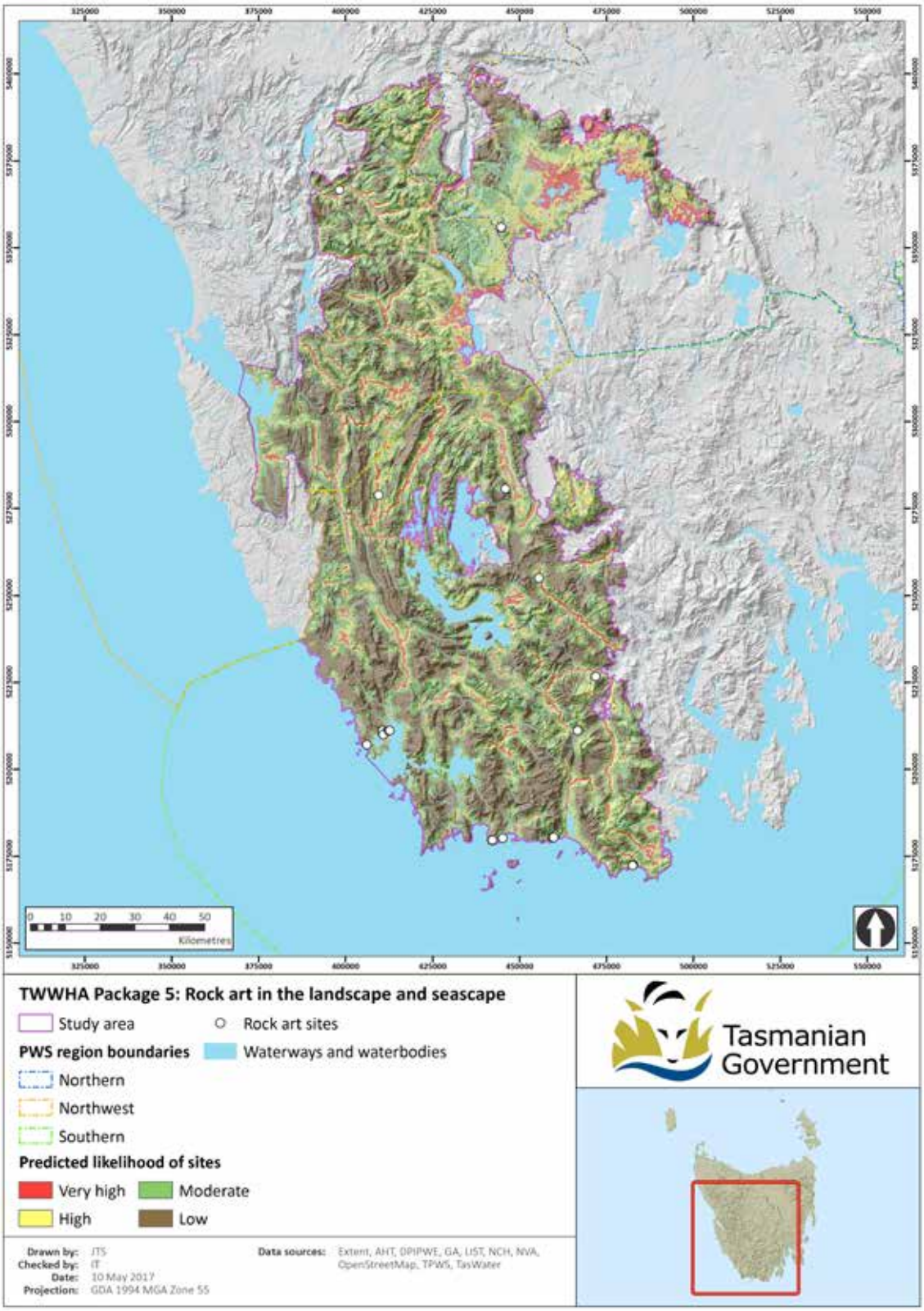


Figure 10. Rock art sites in the TWWHA for Package 5: Rock art in the landscape and seascape.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- package 8 in that it should contribute to and rely on systems operated by PWS, AHT and DPIPWE;
- packages 1-4 in that those packages may identify previously unrecorded rock art sites that should be included in this package;
- packages 1-4 and 6-7 in that information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 1-4 and 6-7 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 1-4 and 6-7; and
- packages 9 and 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal representatives and departmental staff to provide in-field training should be allowed for.

Locations within the TWWHA

All known rock art places within the TWWHA, as well as any newly discovered rock art places identified during the cultural survey works in other field packages. In total, 25 rock marking sites (nine painted sites and 16 engraved sites) are currently known. Except for a cluster of rock marking sites at Deadmans Bay on the south coast and another at Bond Bay within Port Davey, most of the sites are singularly dispersed across the TWWHA possibly due to surveys completed rather than archaeological patterning (Figure 10). The level and quality of the recordings of currently registered sites is highly variable, and some of these may not need to be revisited (e.g. South Coast Cave has been 3D-laser scanned).

Fieldwork to record any newly-identified rock art sites discovered during other fieldwork undertaken as part of the AACV Project may also be necessary. This would be decided in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff, and following a review of the generalised predictive model[14] and the background literature. The work program may be changed following further consultation with the Aboriginal community, which may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered.

Taking into account the intention to build as complete a record as possible of rock art sites in the TWWHA and understanding that new and significant sites may emerge from the initial field seasons of other packages (especially 1, 2 and 3), it is considered best to commence this package later than the others. It will be necessary to consider all known sites and develop a survey plan that prioritises the sites to be recorded, if it is not possible to record all.

2.1.6 Package 6: Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values of the TWWHA

Description

This proposed package examines the post-contact heritage of the TWWHA to determine the extent to which it may reflect continued Aboriginal connections with the area, and whether there are places that have shared significance for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people (Figure 11).

As the report from the 2015 ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission notes: "The cultural heritage of the TWWHA includes the Aboriginal heritage across the property and the more recent European heritage in selected places, such as exploration, whaling, penal settlement, mining, grazing, hydropower development and environmental protests" (Jaeger & Sand 2015, p.23). Any of these places could have significance for

[14] Details of this predictive model are available from AHT on request by contacting 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

Aboriginal people as they are related to their contact with Europeans and dispossession, but also possibly their historic employment, subsistence or even recreation, and especially relating to the more recent history of campaigns relating to the return of cultural and civil rights. The report for the Reactive Monitoring Mission records that some of the Aboriginal representatives consulted "plausibly argued that the coverage of the Aboriginal history of the TWWHA could not possibly ignore the painful recent past following European arrival", and that "it was suggested that eventually the whole Aboriginal chronology should be reflected in the World Heritage documentation and presentation as opposed to a focus on selected periods long before European arrival" (Jaeger & Sand 2015, p.24).

This proposed package will draw insights and direction from similar investigations and initiatives that are progressing elsewhere in Australia, in particular those that are being undertaken by the Heritage Council of Victoria, working with the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council. In addition to identifying the extent and nature of post-contact Aboriginal and shared heritage in the TWWHA, this package will explore ways that this heritage can be acknowledged using legislation and heritage registers. For example, the primary mechanism examined by the Victorian study is through the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), which lists places that have been assessed to be of heritage significance at a State level. The VHR has generally been regarded as a register of 'non-Indigenous' heritage places, but the study recognises that places of cultural significance on the Register may have unrecognised Aboriginal histories, connections and additional values.

It is understood that Heritage Tasmania (under the Tasmanian Heritage Council) is also conducting work in this area. In relation to Shared Heritage Values, Key Strategy 10 of the *Historic Heritage Strategy for the TWWHA* commissioned by the PWS prescribes that "In consultation with Aboriginal representatives a protocol should be established for situations where new sites are noted as possibly having shared Aboriginal and historic heritage values, including when identifying and assessing cultural landscapes" (Knaggs & Maitri 2006, p.8).

Value of proposed package

While it is likely that much is known about the post-contact activities of Aboriginal people in the TWWHA, the more recent history of the area has received relatively little attention, and the continuity of Aboriginal connection to the TWWHA is under-appreciated.

Best practice heritage approaches are recognising the 'shared values' of historical places – that these places can be significant to different groups, and that this significance can transcend individual 'Aboriginal' and 'non-Aboriginal' heritage listings.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package of work is linked to:

- package 8, in that places of shared heritage value will likely need greater recognition in the management framework;
- package 9, in that it will provide experience in the assessment of historic heritage places for members of the Aboriginal community; and
- package 10, in that the principle of involving departmental staff to provide in field training has been allowed for.

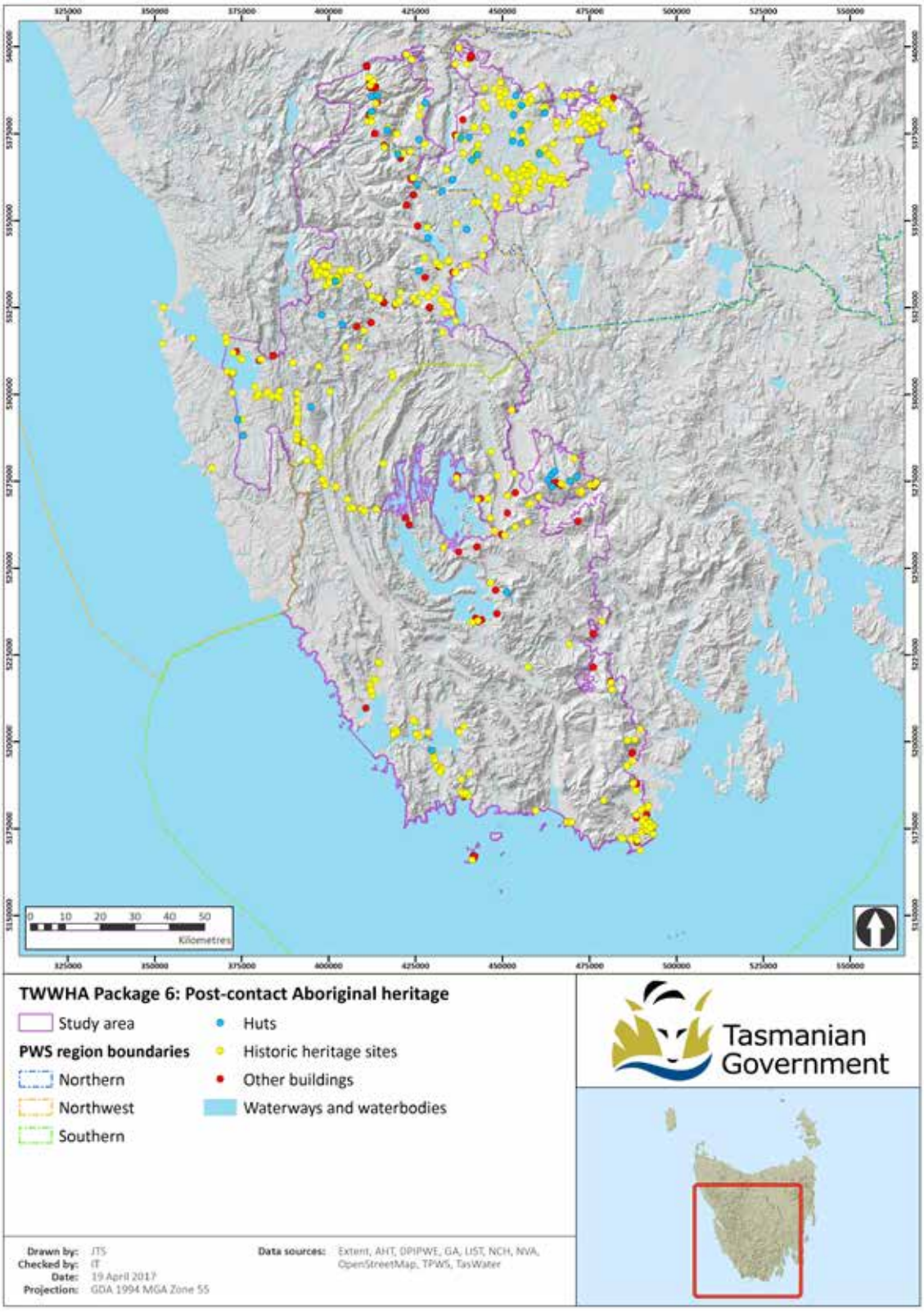


Figure 11. Post-contact and shared values heritage sites in the TWWHA for Package 6: Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values of the TWWHA.

Locations in the TWWHA

Across the TWWHA and in bordering areas that share related historical themes (Figure 11). The fieldwork locations will be decided in consultation with the AHC and DPIPWE staff, and following a review of the generalised predictive model[15] and the background literature. The work program may be changed following consultation with the Aboriginal community, which may, for example, provide important knowledge on areas and sites not previously known or considered.

2.2 Proposed Managing Values Packages

The four proposed 'managing values' packages are intended to supplement and strengthen existing management mechanisms of the TWWHA, it being best practice for a World Heritage property to be supported by a robust management framework. It is expected that they will result in outcomes of benefit to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage across Tasmania more broadly, along with their management and appreciation.

It is recognised that the implementation of the Plan for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment will constitute a relatively major episode of resourcing both in terms of financial and human resources in relation to the TWWHA. There is therefore a corresponding desire to ensure that the works achieve an appropriately beneficial legacy to the long-term management of the TWWHA.

The need for the management-orientated packages was identified through consultation with Aboriginal organisations and Tasmanian Government agencies. This discussion has also indicated that improving Aboriginal input to the management of the TWWHA will enable further discovery and understanding of Aboriginal cultural values in the longer term.

The inclusion of packages which are less directly focused on the assessment of values is supported by the 2015 Reactive Monitoring Mission report that states:

> The overdue integration of indigenous views in the management of the property is a matter of reconciliation and fairness but can also be expected to result in a more holistic understanding of the cultural and natural heritage of the property and Tasmania more broadly (Jaeger & Sand 2015, p.30).

The details of the four proposed 'managing values' packages are provided below.

2.2.1 Package 7: Strategic responses to predictive and unexpected natural disasters and climatic events

Description

This proposed package and theme acknowledge that, with increasingly variable climatic conditions, more unplanned events will occur through time, and it recognises the need for flexible land management responses to events such as bushfire, floods, cave or cliff collapse, storm surges, but also that they present opportunistic windows for research (see **http://www.aboriginalheritage.tas.gov.au/editorials/the-impacts-of-climate-change** and **http://soer.justice.tas.gov.au/2009/ppl/5/issue/39/**). A comprehensive review and gap analysis of research and activities relating to bushfires in the TWWHA has been completed and is directly relevant to this proposed package of work (Press 2016).

[15] Details of this predictive model are available from AHT on request by contacting 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

Value of proposed package

This proposed package addresses the need to manage cultural heritage in disaster situations and to prepare for inevitable change by maximising our ability to exploit and respond to climatic change and natural disasters in the recovery of information and development of better, more robust disaster response systems.

The TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016) recognises the threat to cultural heritage sites due to climate change, natural processes and some anthropogenic activities, and that recording of destroyed, damaged or at-risk sites may be the management priority if more active intervention is not appropriate. Among a series of related management actions, the TWWHA Management Plan notes that a set of agreed protocols is needed for the recording of these sites and the possible relocation of their material, and it includes the following Key Desired Outcomes (KDOs):

- KDO 4.4 – Aboriginal cultural heritage sites at greatest risk are identified, protective measures implemented and their effectiveness monitored; and
- KDO 4.5 – Aboriginal cultural values are adequately accounted for in fire planning in the TWWHA.

Management Actions that have already been identified and which can be incorporated partially into this package are:

- identify at-risk sites – develop and implement a program of prioritised management actions for these sites; and
- develop protocols to guide appropriate responses to the imminent loss of sites to erosion and other processes, and to the exposure of material at these sites.

Specifically, this proposed package will:

- ensure that there are programs ready to roll-out to address urgent managed issues and opportunities for access and visibility;
- integrate with disaster management plans and preparedness;
- integrate disaster management, new discovery and long-term cultural asset management systems;
- contribute to the training of in-house staff in AHT and PWS by providing targeted cultural heritage field opportunities;
- enable opportunistic testing of predictive cultural heritage models for the TWWHA;
- enhance the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community and individuals involved in cultural heritage management by increasing their ability to respond to disaster and manage its consequences; and
- generate results that will:
    - o feed directly into existing management systems and site records, GIS survey coverage records etc.
    - o be integrated into bushfire management plans, which may require working closely with AHT staff to ensure that the results are understood
    - o be integrated into asset management systems so that insurance coverage and remediation works take into account conservation heritage needs of Aboriginal and historic sites and infrastructure

Linkages with other packages

This proposed package of work is linked to:

- package 8 in that it should contribute to and rely on systems operating in PWS, AHT and DPIPWE;
- packages 1-6 in that information that is recovered may contribute to our understanding of the values targeted in 1-6 and/or may require an adjustment in the selection of survey areas in 1-6; and
- package 10 training in that the principle of involving Aboriginal people and departmental staff to provide in-field training has been allowed for in the costing.

Locations in the TWWHA

The locations will vary based on events. However, where prioritisation is required (such as when the area affected is vast) then areas identified by the predictive modelling as having high archaeological potential should be targeted[16].

In years where no major incident occurs the decision may be made to focus the fieldwork on survey/salvage or mitigation works on sites identified as being at risk from climatic change and/or natural processes (currently being developed by AHT) e.g. salvage excavation of sites at risk of loss from storm surge.

2.2.2 Package 8: Reviewing, building and integrating robust systems for the management of cultural values in the TWWHA

Description

This proposed package will focus on strengthening existing management systems, guidelines and protocols that relate to Aboriginal cultural heritage (including evidence of prehistoric activity, historic places of shared value, places of contemporary interest and use and intangible cultural heritage values) in the TWWHA.

This proposed package and theme acknowledge that there are already a range of systems within DPIPWE that relate to the management of the TWWHA into which cultural heritage may be integrated to varying degrees. The intent of this package is not to reinvent or duplicate existing systems where these prove adequate to accommodate heritage values, but it recognises that many of these systems require substantial work to fully integrate the cultural values into the day-to-day management of the TWWHA to achieve long-term and robust management of the values.

In addition to the current systems for recording and assessment of Aboriginal sites and impacts on them (AHT 2017), this project will consider other systems that are central to the day-to-day management of the TWWHA, such as the fire management system and the asset management system.

Value of proposed package

This proposed package would ensure that Aboriginal cultural heritage receives full recognition and robust protection through all of the relevant management systems. Fire management in the TWWHA has been recognised (DPIPWE 2016, p.110, p.113 & p.169) as something that can have a major impact on Aboriginal cultural values and places:

> Fire Management is based upon a well-developed strategic risk-management approach that assesses, identifies, prioritises and manages the risk posed to reserve values. Operational strategies and tactics are implemented that take into account those values for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery at

[16] Details of this predictive model are available from AHT on request by contacting 1300 487 045 or at **aboriginal@heritage.tas.gov.au**.

a regional level. Cultural values are recognised by this framework, but are not currently fully accounted for in operational implementation, as is the case for natural values, as the required cultural values data is currently unavailable for input into the Bushfire Risk Assessment Model (BRAM), a landscape-scale risk assessment tool. The data has been unavailable to date due to cultural sensitivities arising from the release and use of this information. Identifying cultural values for use in the BRAM requires appropriate input from Aboriginal people, so that those values can be properly determined, particularly for landscape scale values that relate to past Aboriginal burning practices, and protocols developed for the use of cultural information. Without this input Aboriginal cultural values may be at risk from planned burn-offs, uncontrolled bush res and some emergency response measures, such as the use of earth-moving machinery during re suppression. Cultural values may also be placed at risk when a lack of controlled burn-offs leads to the alteration of the Aboriginal cultural landscape and a corresponding reduction in access to Country' (DPIPWE 2016, p.100).

This proposed package will contribute to achieving KDO 4.5 – Aboriginal cultural values are adequately accounted for in fire planning in the TWWHA (DPIPWE 2016, p.100 & p.106). The corresponding Management Action that has been identified is to identify and implement measures that will fully incorporate Aboriginal cultural values in the BRAM and produce a resourced implementation plan for those measures (DPIPWE 2016, p.100 & p.106).

There are other systems that are important to the day-to-day operation of the TWWHA and this proposed package would identify and prioritise these to ensure that cultural values are fully integrated into them. This proposed package would provide significant opportunities for capacity building in the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, and could create a market for Aboriginal employees in a potentially diverse range of disciplines.

Specifically, this proposed package could:

- audit the nature and purpose of systems across DPIPWE as they currently relate to Aboriginal cultural values, and develop an agreed work program that prioritises systems to be reviewed (including the following);
- ensure that the Aboriginal Heritage Register (AHR) is up to date;
- establish or add to an existing approved data licensing system that means PWS staff involved in developing and implementing asset management and fire management plans and emergency responses have access to the system and the training required to understand the data;
- review processes and systems for existing and future fire management plans, including reviewing the processes as they extend to outside agencies that have a role in managing fire in the TWWHA (recognising that PWS is one of the three statutory firefighting agencies in the State);
- review the PWS management database to ensure that cultural heritage places are included, particularly in relation to access facilities and infrastructure that relates to cultural places but also to include significant sites in their own right so that they may be managed appropriately into the future;
- review environmental assessment processes so that they are 'best practice' in relation to the assessment of cultural values;
- review staff training needs in relation to cultural heritage to include not only cultural awareness but practical and applied cultural heritage management training;
- review and update the Cultural Heritage Management Manual of PWS; and
- recognise the important potential role of field staff and rangers in the discovery of new cultural places and monitoring of their condition – establish suitable systems, forms etc. for rangers and field staff to

record cultural heritage places and values and report on site condition in the course of their day to day duties – similar to processes around contributions to the wildlife atlas.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- package 7 in that it will relate to systems that guide disaster response and fire planning among others; and
- package 10 in that it will highlight internal departmental training needs.

Locations in the TWWHA

Hobart, with travel and/or placement for set durations in regional PWS offices to be determined.

2.2.3 Package 9: Training for Aboriginal people working in the TWWHA – managing cultural values

Description

There are three components of this proposed package:

- Aboriginal Heritage Officer (AHO) training in cultural heritage management to members of the Aboriginal community (including, in particular, representatives of Aboriginal community organisations) to undertake management activities within and around the TWWHA.
- Identification of pathways and barriers to Tasmanian Aboriginal people who aspire to relevant cultural heritage degrees (i.e. anthropology and archaeology) and recommendations for maximising incentives and opportunities.
- Specialised cultural tourism small business training for Aboriginal individuals and organisations that aspire to establishing micro/small businesses related to cultural or natural tourism in the TWWHA. This could be potentially incorporated into an TWWHA accredited operator system.

Value of proposed packages

This proposed package would focus on training in Aboriginal cultural heritage management within the TWWHA and avenues of employment for Aboriginal people arising from the TWWHA.

Part A – AHO Training: Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management

Currently there is no specific training available for current or aspiring AHOs in Tasmania. The AHC has commenced investigations into the viability of developing a partnership with La Trobe University to deliver this training – La Trobe University is the nearest Registered Training Organisations offering training to a similar level via their Certificate IV (Cert IV) in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management (Course Code: 22222VIC). However, the course is specific to the Victorian Aboriginal situation. It is a ten-month course delivered in nine intensive blocks, each of five days approximately one month apart, at locations in Melbourne and regional Victoria.

The Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management is a nationally accredited qualification that provides training in the skills and knowledge required to work in the cultural heritage industry. It also provides training to enable Registered Aboriginal Parties and other land managers to meet their cultural heritage management obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. La Trobe University, as a Registered Training Organisation (TOID 3899), delivers this course in partnership with Aboriginal Victoria (AV) (La Trobe University 2017).

There is a Cert IV in Conservation and Land Management offered at TasTAFE (Course Code: AHC40910) but this does not focus on cultural heritage. The AHO cultural heritage management training part of this package would focus on developing components/modules and teaching materials that would allow the Cert IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management to be adapted to the Tasmanian context in general, and for specific material relevant to the TWWHA to be developed. These modules would require the input of Tasmanian Aboriginal people and relevant specialists to ensure that the course meets the needs of Aboriginal cultural heritage managers working in the TWWHA, as well as other end users/employers of skilled AHOs. The course would be delivered in partnership with AHT (DPIPWE) and the AHC. If possible, La Trobe University could work with a local provider or campus to deliver the course in Tasmania. This might involve, for instance, flying specialist training staff to Tasmania rather than requiring the students to travel to Victoria.

Part B – Pathways, barriers and opportunities for Aboriginal people to attain degrees in archaeology, anthropology and cultural heritage management

This work could be conducted as a separate project from the remainder of this package. It is aimed at getting a clear understanding of the current and future likely demand for access by Tasmanian Aboriginal people to degrees and higher degrees in the relevant disciplines of archaeology, anthropology, and cross-discipline cultural heritage management. This issue was raised in consultation meetings regarding the draft suite of packages proposed for the Plan. One organisation in particular was concerned that Aboriginal people's aspirations regarding cultural heritage training were varied, and yet they seemed to inevitably be reduced to certificate level qualifications. Anecdotally it was reported that several young Aboriginal people had strong aspirations to university-level qualifications in archaeology and anthropology.

The University of Tasmania does not offer honours-level degrees in archaeology and/or anthropology, and it does not offer a Master of Arts in cultural heritage. The closest universities that offer relevant studies are based in Victoria, with degrees also offered at universities in other mainland states. While some Commonwealth assistance is available for Aboriginal people going on to higher degree study, more information is needed on what other assistance might be beneficial and how useful incentives would be.

The outcomes of this project may be a combination of:

- development of integrated advice or assistance already available for school leavers or other Aboriginal people interested in pursuing degrees in archaeology, anthropology and cultural heritage management;
- development of a pathway to degree scenarios for prospective students to consider; and
- development of recommendations for additional assistance that is needed to overcome barriers.

Part C – Specialised cultural tourism small business training for Aboriginal individuals and organisations that aspire to establishing micro/small businesses related to cultural or natural tourism in the TWWHA

This component of the proposed package relates directly to Aboriginal people's feedback that they are not all looking for government jobs in the TWWHA, but many want to see opportunities for family or community based cultural tourism. A review of training opportunities in Tasmania suggests that this is a new training niche. Cultural tourism courses at TasTAFE do include an optional module on tour guiding (see **https://www.tastafe.tas.edu.au/courses/industry/tourism-hospitality/**), but it is not tailored to Aboriginal cultural heritage and a short course or Cert IV level course combining micro/small business set up and management and cultural tourism is lacking.

It is possible that by developing some specific modules that focus on cultural tourism in the TWWHA and combining these with existing tourism and small business modules a targeted course could be developed. The development of this course could ensure Aboriginal participation in the industry. For example, tour

operators visiting Aboriginal sites might be required to include a trained Aboriginal tour guide employee or, alternatively, partner with an Aboriginal cultural tourism operator. There are existing parallels e.g. cruise operators in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area are required to include an Aboriginal Heritage Officer from Hopevale when visiting Aboriginal sites in the Fitzroy Island group.

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package is linked to:

- packages 1-6 in that those packages might provide training opportunities to complement Part A of the package if their timing overlaps;
- package 8 in that the updating of management systems through that package may identify and perhaps create new roles for Aboriginal people; and
- package 10 in that it addresses an identified gap in training needs to deliver sustainable management of cultural values in the TWWHA.

Locations in the TWWHA

Unspecified.

2.2.4 Package 10: Cultural heritage training reviewing, building and integrating robust systems for the management of cultural values in the TWWHA

Description

There are two components of this proposed package:

a) Part A – development of a Cultural Awareness package and training of those to deliver it in a Train the Trainer model; and

b) Part B – Cultural Heritage Management training for PWS and other relevant staff and/or contractors.

Value of proposed packages

This proposed package would focus on working on Aboriginal cultural heritage management within the TWWHA. It responds to two needs:

- cultural awareness training for all staff of all organisations and contractors with responsibilities that involve the TWWHA; and
- cultural heritage management training for all PWS (and other agencies as appropriate) staff involved in land, facilities or cultural heritage management.

The TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (section 4.3 Cultural Understanding and Protection) recognises that:

> Protection of Aboriginal cultural values requires greater levels of understanding by land managers, scientific staff and other individuals and organisations in the TWWHA. Insufficient understanding increases the risk of adverse outcomes, such as inappropriate intrusion into culturally sensitive areas, or impact on cultural resources. Such outcomes detract from cultural activities and point to the need for better integration and management of natural and cultural values. Therefore, management strategies for natural values need to fully consider cultural perspectives and build on the achievement of the DPIPWE Natural Heritage Strategy 2013-2030 in considering cultural management perspectives. Protection and conservation of cultural and natural values must increasingly be understood as intertwined and complementary activities.

> Greater cultural awareness will underpin more co-operative practices and improve relationships between Aboriginal people and the staff and agencies that help to manage the TWWHA. The progressive rollout of appropriate cultural awareness training for all of these staff and agencies is essential for the successful protection of Aboriginal cultural values. The training package should also be provided to volunteer organisations that conduct activities in the TWWHA, and then extended to other groups such as tourist operators (DPIPWE 2016, p.99).

This proposed package will directly contribute to the realisation of KDO 4.3:

> All DPIPWE staff who have responsibility for and/or undertake regular management activities in the TWWHA have an appropriate level of knowledge and understanding of the area's Aboriginal cultural values (DPIPWE 2016, p.106).

Management Actions identified for this KDO include:

- develop and deliver an Aboriginal cultural awareness training package to all DPIPWE staff who undertake regular management, research or other activities in the TWWHA (DPIPWE 2016, p.106).

However, this proposed package will go beyond this and also develop a cultural heritage management course that will provide specific training to assist land managers and others to effectively manage sites.

Currently there is no internal staff training that focuses on Aboriginal cultural values and sites. PWS staff have been offered cultural awareness training on an irregular basis by an external Aboriginal provider. Anecdotal feedback during the development of this Plan was that this course, which was tailored to the needs of the organisation, varied in effectiveness. Part A of this proposed package responds to this need by developing an agreed course that can be delivered using a Train the Trainer model.

There is currently no cultural heritage management training for staff working in the TWWHA or PWS generally. It is possible that dissatisfaction expressed with past cultural awareness training stems from an expectation that the training would have covered cultural heritage management. However, these are two distinct training needs. Cultural heritage management training will improve the management of cultural values and places within the TWWHA and will lead to a better integration of the management of cultural values and places that embody them in the day-to-day management of the TWWHA. This training module will provide a practical means of introducing and ensuring appropriate use of an upgraded Cultural Heritage Management Manual (see package 8).

Linkages with other proposed packages

This proposed package of work is linked to:

- package 8 with the link to the development or upgrade of a Cultural Heritage Management Manual and the integration of cultural heritage management into existing systems; and
- package 9 in that it addresses an identified gap in training needs to deliver sustainable management of cultural values in the TWWHA.

Locations in the TWWHA

Throughout Tasmania.

PART 3.

STEPS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE PLAN

3.1 Introduction

This Part sets out the steps required to implement the Plan for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA. Included is a discussion on Aboriginal stakeholder engagement and consultation, timing, resourcing and the future project management.

3.2 Aboriginal stakeholder engagement and consultation

A fundamental aspect of the implementation of the Plan is the development and implementation of an appropriate Aboriginal stakeholder engagement and consultation process and strategy. Engagement with Aboriginal people as part of the Plan should recognise that they are traditional owners and also knowledge holders, and that their full involvement is vital in both respects.

Importantly, however, and as previously noted in Part 1, during the development of the Plan the response from Aboriginal community organisations contacted has not been sufficient to confirm how each would wish to be consulted during the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment. As such a detailed methodology for how to consult with each of the organisations and individuals remains to be agreed.

3.3 The TWWHA Management Plan 2016

The TWWHA Management Plan (DPIPWE 2016) provides for a range of opportunities, including through the management of cultural heritage, for Tasmanian Aboriginal people to access the TWWHA, conduct cultural activities and be involved in the area's management. Section 7.2 of the Management Plan – 'Engagement with Tasmanian Aboriginal People', states that facilitation of these opportunities will require effective, ongoing engagement processes that are specifically developed for Aboriginal people.

Importantly, under the TWWHA Management Plan, the CMG will develop a stand-alone Community Engagement Agreement that "will reflect what Aboriginal people have identified as the culturally appropriate way to be engaged with the TWWHA" (DPIPWE 2016, p.161). The agreement is to be developed with reference to relevant ethical guidelines, including the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) *Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies 2012* (AIATSIS 2012). The stand-alone Community Engagement Agreement will provide the basis and guidance for future engagement and consultation on a wide variety of projects in the TWWHA, including the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment. The Community Engagement Agreement will be prepared by the CMG (DPIPWE 2016, p.161)[17] and will align with the wider framework to be followed under the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016).

3.4 Timing and resources

Recommendation 13 of the 2015 ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission Report requires that the proposal for a comprehensive cultural survey of the TWWHA should include a calendar on survey stages over a multi-year period (Jaeger & Sand 2015). This is important considering the level of organisation and resourcing, not least within DPIPWE, which will be necessary to manage the ten packages proposed by this Plan. However, staging will also be desirable to better achieve connectivity between the proposed packages, with some benefiting from the results of others.

[17] The Australian Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) suggested the Wet Tropics Management Authority's *Rainforest Aboriginal Strategic Framework 2016-2018* as a useful model

It is proposed that the delivery of the packages will be carried out, if possible, over the ten-year duration of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016. This delivery is subject to a number of factors including funding and resource availability (including human resources/personnel). Importantly, the aspirations and priorities of the Aboriginal community are a fundamental consideration, with the need for the need for additional engagement and consultation with the community prior to implementation recognised as important to its success.

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments will discuss the resourcing required to implement the Plan and the priorities while the timing and phasing of implementation of the Plan will need to be agreed through further engagement and consultation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community and Tasmanian Government agencies.

While the proposed packages could be delivered in any order, with the possibility of multiple packages being undertaken simultaneously, there are benefits in prioritising particular packages. Table 2 below provides a list of packages and their proposed priority schedule. This is based on the following considerations:

- all of the packages will need to be completed over a number of years – especially those requiring fieldwork;
- package 5: 'Rock art in the landscape and seascape: recording, conservation and management' will particularly benefit from the work undertaken in packages 1-4, especially with regards to identifying other possible rock art sites, and so should be commenced after those packages;
- it is suggested that package 6 start later than the other 'understanding values' packages, to reduce the work level for DPIPWE managers;
- package 8 should begin first, in order to identify and query the systems employed in all of the other packages; and
- packages 9 and 10 (training) would benefit from the opportunity for participants to gain experience in the field (on Country), and so should overlap with the 'understanding values' packages. The degree of overlap should be determined by the amount of opportunity provided by the various field seasons compared to the demand created by the training packages – i.e. if greater demand, more overlap would be advantageous.

Table 2. Understanding and managing values packages and proposed priority schedule

PRIORITY	PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE NAME
1	8	Reviewing, building and integrating robust systems for the management of cultural values in the TWWHA
2	1	The Southern Lacuna – Aboriginal occupation in the southern valleys
	2	Holocene seascapes and coastal settlement
	3	From the Highlands to the Lakes (Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park and the Walls of Jerusalem)
	4	People and the buttongrass
3	9	Training for Aboriginal people working in the TWWHA – managing cultural values
	10	Cultural Heritage training for in-house Government personnel involved in managing the cultural values of the TWWHA
4	5	Rock art in the landscape and seascape – recording, conservation and management
5	6	Post-contact Aboriginal heritage and shared values
	7	Strategic responses to predictive and unexpected natural disasters and climatic events

3.5 Project management for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment

The Plan provides the basis for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment, which will be overseen by the CMG, together with support and guidance from the AHC. The CMG has been established within AHT and DPIPWE as a dedicated body to oversee implementation of the 2016 Management Plan, and its carriage of the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment is consistent with the new Management Plan's goal of establishing ongoing and systematic assessment of cultural values to underpin its cultural management objectives.

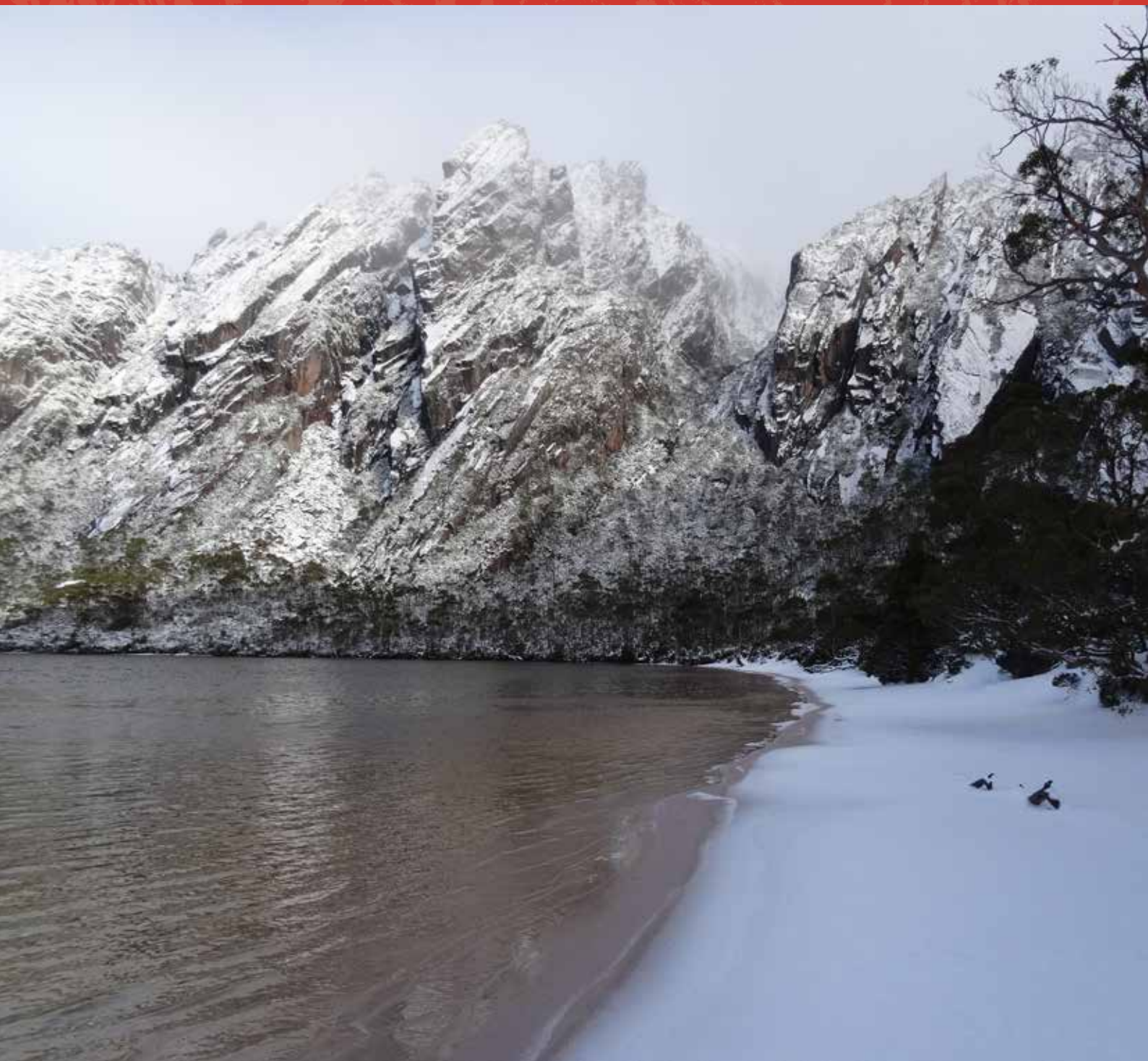
The Management Plan envisages that the role of the CMG will be to establish links between the natural and cultural heritage aspects of Aboriginal interests, provide advice on matters pertaining to Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA, and oversee project and policy development while working closely with Aboriginal people and organisations. In addition, the CMG will have responsibility for facilitating research, monitoring and evaluation in the TWWHA and coordinating and facilitating engagement with Aboriginal people. The Management Plan states that the TWWHA CMG will also establish a governance framework that provides a role for a non-government Aboriginal organisation in the management of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA (KDO 4.1) (DPIPWE 2016, p.97 & p.106).

The AHC was established to provide a consolidated Aboriginal community view to the Tasmanian Government on the preservation and protection of Tasmania's Aboriginal heritage. The AHC is comprised of members from the Tasmanian Aboriginal community who have extensive knowledge and experience in Aboriginal heritage management. The AHC provides advice on the protection and management of Aboriginal heritage on matters including the review and development of policy and procedures, research studies and education and interpretation awareness. The AHC plays a key role in the consultation process with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, with a major aspect of its role being to promote the participation of Aboriginal people in the protection and management of Aboriginal heritage. The Tasmanian Government recently introduced the *Aboriginal Heritage Amendment Bill 1975* (the Act), with the amendment enacted on 16 August 2017. A key element in the Act is the establishment of the AHC as a permanent statutory body.

The role and extent of involvement of these bodies in the proposed packages to be implemented under this Plan is yet to be determined. Further discussions will be undertaken to clarify the roles and responsibilities of these bodies prior to the implementation of the Plan and associated packages.

PART 4.

CONCLUSION



The Plan presented in this document is for a multi-year comprehensive cultural assessment of the TWWHA. The Plan responds to requests from the World Heritage Committee for a detailed plan for a comprehensive cultural survey of the TWWHA to be prepared (UNESCO 2016) and Recommendation 13 of the 2015 ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission report (Jaeger & Sand 2015) for a "detailed proposal for a comprehensive cultural survey, a longer term initiative" in that it sets out a plan for the assessment of Aboriginal cultural values across the whole of the TWWHA.

The implementation of the Plan is proposed to be completed over the ten-year duration of the TWWHA Management Plan (DPIPWE 2016). This delivery schedule is subject to a number of factors including human resources, funding, the timing and complexity of engagement and importantly the aspirations and priorities of the Aboriginal community, with the need for additional engagement and consultation with the community prior to implementation recognised as important to its success. This engagement and consultation will be ongoing throughout the duration of the project with the stand-alone Community Engagement Agreement, a key deliverable of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016, to provide the basis for future engagement and consultation on the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment. Importantly, the stand alone Community Engagement Agreement will align with the wider framework to be followed under the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 (DPIPWE 2016).

The implementation of the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment will contribute to a stronger appreciation and understanding of Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA. Furthermore, work on the proposed 'understanding values' and 'managing values' packages will provide opportunities to forge strong, collaborative partnerships between Tasmanian Aboriginal people and key Tasmanian Government agencies. It is also expected to provide ongoing opportunities for Tasmanian Aboriginal people to benefit from the World Heritage listing of the TWWHA through engagement and consultation, research, fieldwork, training and potential employment.

Acknowledgements

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DPIPWE would also like to acknowledge and sincerely thank all the members of the AHC for their guidance throughout the project and reviewing of the document. Thank you also to John Harkin (DPIPWE Project Manager) who established and managed the initial stages of the project. Thank you also to members of the AHT team who assisted with aspects of the project management, arranged the completion of peer and AHC reviews, and the compilation of the final version of the Plan along with colleagues from the Heritage Branch in the Australian Government DoEE.

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Appendix 1 – List of Aboriginal organisations and individuals contacted during engagement and consultation of the Plan

ORGANISATION	FORM OF CONTACT				COMMENTS
	Letter	Email	Phone Call	Meeting	
Aboriginal Elders Council of Tasmania	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation on 7/12/2017.
Cape Barren Island Aboriginal Association	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation CHAC offices in Smithton 16/03/2017.
Flinders Island Aboriginal Association	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation as part of TRACA presentation – 5/4/2017.
Karadi Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation at Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress offices 17/03/2017
melythina tiakana warrana (Heart of Country) Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation as part of TRACA presentation – 5/4/2017.
Palawa Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Parrdarrama Pungenna Aboriginal Community	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting between consultant and organisation as part of TRACA presentation – 5/4/2017.
South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation (SETAC)	YES	YES	YES	YES	Meeting held at SETAC Offices in Cygnet on 17/3/2017.
Tasmania Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council	YES	YES	YES	NO	

ORGANISATION	FORM OF CONTACT				COMMENTS
	Letter	Email	Phone Call	Meeting	
Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance (TRACA)	YES	YES	YES	YES	Consultants attended TRACA meeting and presented to representatives from the following organisations: - Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation. - Flinders Island Aboriginal Corporation. - *Melythina tiakana warrana* Aboriginal Corporation - *Parrdarrama Pungenna* Aboriginal Corporation - Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation - South East Tasmania Aboriginal Corporation - *Weetapoona* Aboriginal Corporation
Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, Leprena	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Weetapoona Aboriginal Corporation	YES	YES	YES	NO	Meeting between consultant and organisation as part of TRACA presentation – 5/4/2017.
ADDITIONAL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS					
	Letter	**Email**	**Phone Call**	**Meeting**	**Comments**
Fiona Hamilton	NO	YES	YES	NO	
Emma Lee	NO	YES	YES	NO	

Appendix 2 – Written responses on the Plan from Aboriginal organisations

Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc.

16 West Street, Lady Barron,
Tasmania, Australia, 7255.

Phone: (03) 63 593532
Fax: (03) 63 593622
Email: info@fiaai.org.au

20th April 2017

Ian Travers
Senior Associate
Extent Heritage Advisors

Dear Ian ,

I am writing in response to your request for feedback on the **Comprehensive Cultural Assessment Plan for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA)** consultation presentation.

Whilst we are disappointed regarding the inadequate timelines and resources for meaningful engagement and we don't have the time or resources to consider *the benefits and likely limitations of the various approaches* in a meaningful way within your timelines, we do believe the plan heads in the right direction in terms of valuing Aboriginal culture, heritage and expertise.

FIAAI is broadly supportive of the packages and especially keen to ensure that the *Stakeholder Engagement Strategy* and the packages directed at "managing values" are given due (overdue) emphasis.

We look forward to hearing from you about how we can meaningfully participate into the future and about adequate timelines and resourcing to do so.

Yours sincerely

Maxine Roughley
Chief Executive Officer

ICN: 7165

Ms Nannette Shaw,
MTWAC Contact Person
Unit 2/163 Peel Street,
Summerhill, 7250

Ian Travers,
Senior Associate,
Extent Heritage Pty Ltd.

Dear Ian,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your proposed plan for the Cultural Assessment of the TWWHA.

As a small regional organisation relying on the voluntary assistance of a Board of Directors we have found it difficult to meet your timeline for community consultation feedback. MTWAC is extremely interested in the TWWHA Country and all the significant tangible and intangible Aboriginal Heritage values contained within its boundaries. We are supportive of plan and have attached a brief response.

We apologise for the delay.

Kind regards,

Patsy Cameron and Rob Anders

Melythina Tiakana Warrana Aboriginal Corporation (MTWAC) Response to Extent Heritage Pty Ltd.

Melythina Tiakana Warrana (Heart of Country) Aboriginal Corporation (MTWAC) is a small Aboriginal organisation that has a major focus in the northeast of Tasmania. MTWAC operates with a Board of Directors all of whom volunteer their time without the assistance of a secretariat.

Our directors and members are passionate about the revival and maintenance of our cultural practices and precious cultural heritage all over the state, and in particular, have a deep connection to the area known as the TWWHA.

MTWAC is committed to being involved in the future management of the TWWHA Plan to ensure that its unique Tasmanian landscape is preserved for our future generations.

MTWAC identifies the following points to ensure engagement and consultation opportunities are realized for our members.
That the Plan:

- Enables participation by our members in community, historic and scientific research and surveys that will identify and further inform us about the range of significant tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the TWWHA Country.

- Offers further understanding of the cultural values of sites and cultural landmarks located in the area.

- Allows MTWAC members to understand and participate in discussions about threats and management issues related to the TWWHA. For example compatibility economic development

- Provides assistance for capacity building opportunities to enable MTWAC members to participate in the implementation of the Plan.

- Insures a safe environment for MTWAC members to engage, learn and share views and knowledge about the TWWHA.

- Facilitates our involvement in the effective management of the TWWHA

Patsy Cameron and Rob Anders on behalf of the MTWAC Board of Directors
24 April, 2017

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Email board.sixrivers@gmail.com
PO BOX 147 LATROBE 7307
ABN 31 369 253 061 ICN: 1511

18th April 2017

TWWHA Comprehensive Cultural Assessment Plan

Comments on the *Consultation Presentation*
from Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation

This document sets out *'principles'* and a proposed *'direction for a program of works'* that will go some way towards addressing gaps in the TWWHA Management Plan 2016. The implementation of this final Plan will require detailed and ongoing consultation with Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation (SRAC) so that members gain a better understanding of cultural heritage and its management particularly where it applies to this region of the TWWHA.

Whilst the response required to this detailed document is vital, more time for discussions with and input from members should have occurred. Within these constraints, we have given much thought to this document and consider that it does seem to follow a responsible and much deserving emphasis for the identification and understanding of cultural values. The implementation of such a proposed program should be aimed for the long term with suggested time lines included in the final Plan.

Emphasis should be on the need for support to SRAC for involvement towards:

* identification of the cultural heritage found in this part of the TWWHA;
* an understanding of the values of these cultural sites and their place;
* an understanding of threats and management;
* building members capacity for better understanding and the implementation of the Plan;
* members being comfortable to learn and share views and knowledge; and
* assurances for a strong stated commitment by both the State and Federal Governments for adequate funds to implement this Plan and for appropriate legislative direction to protect and manage cultural assets.

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Package 1.
This relates to the karst systems in the river valleys of SW Tasmania and is out of our particular area. However, it is noted that the interaction with the coast during "abandonment" of these inland sites should not be overlooked.

Package 2.
It is noted that archaeological evidence of the western coasts of the TWWHA is "exceptional" and the target area should not overlook that part of the West Coast, north of Port Davey (Elliott Bay to Cape Sorell). Another part of the West Coast in our area that also has similar cultural values has been identified with National Heritage Listing as the *Western Tasmania Aboriginal Cultural Landscape*.
Aboriginal places on the coast from Elliott Bay to Cape Sorell are vulnerable and could add to a better understanding of this cultural seascape. This particular area should not be excluded from its influence on the TWWHA.

Package 3.
This relates to the area that's well known by members of SRAC with lakes and river fishing, camping and visits. As this part of the TWWHA *"has the highest concentration of Aboriginal places"* and *"very little is known"*, SRAC could play an import part in gaining knowledge and understanding of these many river and highland sites. SRAC members could also contribute much towards first-hand local stories and experiences during post-European times.

Package 4.
The adaption by Aboriginal people to the buttongrass and highland moorland grasslands within and adjoining the TWWHA have the potential to provide a better understanding. In addition SRAC members could assist with the advancement of knowledge of cultural values within this local landscape.

Package 5.
Apart from systematic recording of known rock art sites in the TWWHA, it should be noted that only two petroglyph (rock engraving) sites are known to exist and these are at Mary Tarn and Bond Bay (Port Davey). As all of the remaining petroglyph sites exist outside of the TWWHA, these should also be systematically surveyed so as to better understand their symbolic language.

Package 6.
SRAC members can assist with the advancement of knowledge of post-contact cultural values within this local landscape of the TWWHA and its bordering areas.

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Package 7.
SRAC members need to be encouraged to contribute to knowledge about of past events such as fires, floods, storm surges and coastal erosion which could add to this "Reactive Survey".

Package 8.
Perhaps this package should bring about an updated, robust and comprehensive Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation, with suitable funding. Coupled with this basic legislative management tool is the recognition by the Government and the protection of cultural sites within the National Heritage Listed Tarkine Coast, known as the *Western Tasmania Aboriginal Cultural Landscape.*

Package 9.
Suitable training by experienced and knowledgable Aboriginal Heritage Officers as well as upgrading (with appropriate funding) for Government cultural heritage management is necessary to achieving this goal. Funding for Aboriginal people to participate in awareness and management activities is a worthy consideration.

Package 10.
Partnership arrangements for this level of training and support for targeted projects directed at the management of the TWWHA would be welcomed by members of SRAC.

Yours sincerely

Jacinta Vanderfeen
Secretary
Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation

South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation

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The South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation (SETAC) welcome the opportunity to respond to the consultation exercise currently conducted on the TWWHA.

The SETAC was established in 1992 and is an Aboriginal community controlled organisation dedicated to empowering and advancing the health and well-being of Aboriginal people of our community in SE Tasmania; and ensuring its cultural identity is valued. SETAC provides primary health services, aged care, education and culture and heritage programs for Aboriginal people of South East Tasmania.

SETAC has a key role on behalf of the community in the ongoing protection of its culture and heritage. It acknowledges that there are many special places and their associated Aboriginal cultural landscapes in SE Tasmania remain as testimony to the survival of Aboriginal culture. It is our vision that these places are protected and managed in a culturally appropriate way to ensure that they are there for our children and their children's children.

We believe that in order to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive body of work all Aboriginal communities in Tasmania should be involved in the early stages in the development of a plan to the World Heritage Centre for review. SETAC is a member of a state-wide alliance – the Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance and would like to identified here also as part of that alliance that wants to be engaged ongoing. As part of this group it would like implemented a transparent and comprehensive selection criteria to identify a strong stakeholder group whose focus is on the establishment of practices that sustain the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA), that also incorporates cultural values as it would be reflected in the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for Tasmania.

SETAC's values are on respect, meaningful engagement and participation. It also wants all stakeholders who are involved in accessing its lands to be respectful and working collaboratively about knowledge transfer. SETAC wants to exercise its basic human rights as this countries first nations people through the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Human Rights
Human Rights are basic human rights and all people including Aboriginal people have proper access to our culture, to practice, to understand what is happening within the TWWHA.

The UN's Development Group Guidelines highlight the importance of recognising Indigenous peoples' collective rights. International human rights instruments are not enough to guarantee the survival, wellbeing and dignity of Indigenous peoples. Most international human rights instruments protect the rights of the individual. Indigenous peoples need the recognition of specific collective rights for their survival as human groups. These rights include:

- indigenous peoples' rights to their lands, territories and resources
- right to maintain their cultures
- right to recognition of their distinct identities
- right to self-government and self - determination
- right to be asked for their free, prior and informed consent in decisions that may affect them.

© Australian Human Rights Commission 2012.p.20.

Including Aboriginal organisation's across Tasmania in the governance framework will also strengthen the plan and will be responsive to the UN Declaration of Indigenous People, especially Article 19 whereby States should consult in

good faith in order to obtain free, prior and informed consent before implementing any administrative measures, which aids in the self determination of Tasmanian Aboriginal Communities.

In reply to the Extent consultation SETAC request that the Government's plan must involve Aboriginal organisations at an early stage in the development of policy and processes for the Comprehensive Cultural Assessment Plan for the TWWHA to easily access and utilise established key contacts of SETAC and its extensive Aboriginal networks to assist in the delivery of future plans and adopt engagement protocols consistent with Aboriginal communities and organisations views across Tasmania.

The natural, environment has always been regarded as important to Aboriginal peoples and is directly related to our physical and spiritual wellbeing. Traditionally land was managed to ensure sustainability and current generations or caretakers exercised responsibilities in respect to previous and future generations. In contemporary times Aboriginal peoples connection to the land aided in healing and the promotion of traditional ways of doing and being, the ability to practice culture and positive social impacts.

The natural, physical, and spiritual environment has always been regarded as an important Aboriginal resource and traditionally were governed by a set of rules to ensure the current generation or caretakers exercised responsibilities in respect to previous and future generations. The formal recognition in 1982 of the World Heritage property through the World Heritage Convention, on the basis of three cultural heritage and four natural heritage criteria was an important step towards the protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage. This introduced specific obligations for those exercising functions and powers under the convention to provide for the special relationship of Aboriginal peoples, their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, and other spiritual connections.

SETAC wants to ensure that in the development and protection of natural and physical resources, the views and interests of SETAC are fully represented especially when it relates to the TWWHA.

It is important for the right of all Tasmanian Aboriginal communities to maintain an interest in traditional areas and of the tribe/clan/group to maintain its connection or interest in an area formerly occupied for generations, and from which they have moved; and the right to speak at a place on account of ancestral land connections.
Although Tasmania has not obtained Native Title rights it is important to note that this government has acknowledged Aboriginal association/customary rights via the *Apology to Aboriginal People (1997)* and commitments made by organisation's and businesses to acknowledge Reconciliation practices such as Welcomes to Country and RAPs.

It is important that TRACA and the Commonwealth Government Department of Environment reach and implement an understanding of the relationship between the Aboriginal customary/ association rights and the TWWHA.

The integration of Aboriginal views in the management of the area must be from a grass roots perspective and not from a top down approach which currently is listed in the TWWHA Management Plan 2016. From the management plan it was accepted that it would *'establish a group within DPIPWE to oversee the implementation of the Management plan and the cultural management group to establish links between natural and cultural heritage aspects of Aboriginal interests, provide advice on matters pertaining to Aboriginal cultural values in the TWWHA and oversee project and policy development whilst working closely with Aboriginal people and organisations'.*
Accessed 12/042017 www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/TWWHA_Management_Plan_2016.pdf

SETAC can demonstrate continuing connections to the TWWHA region and this is the reason it is important that the people from this area must be fully engaged and also part of the decision-making when it comes to Aboriginal artefacts, culture and knowledge.

With the plans for Extent to undertake a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment Plan it was welcoming to hear that there are considerations to develop a stakeholder register along with a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy; and to put in place consultation agreements. Again it is important to build the capacity of communities to assist and to provide training opportunities in the management of the TWWHA. This must include consultations with local Aboriginal groups to ensure full comprehensive consultation and participation. This plan requires a grass roots approach that is driven by Aboriginal Communities.

The implementation of comprehensive consultation and participation is supported by the following principles:

Stakeholder Engagement

Principle 1: Respect and acknowledge all Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural groups. Acknowledge that Aboriginal people have a unique part to play in all planning, policy, management, decision-making and projects. Establish the will to be effectively engaged in communication and collaborative work.

Principle 2: Identifying the right group of people to work with depends on the nature of the collaborative or consultative work. It is important with resource commitments and consultative work, particularly when responding to specific geographic and cultural issues, that the correct Aboriginal groups, are engaged. Most local and state authorities have dramatically improved the confirmation of Aboriginality processes and the acknowledgement of Aboriginal groups since 2014 – 2016 and most have comprehensive networks and contacts in place and have strengthened those. Identifying the right group requires expert knowledge of Aboriginal history and politics, tribal/clan boundaries, and past and present relationships in defined geographic administrative areas. It also requires an understanding of the Aboriginal constituency (e.g., population, demographics) and legitimate Aboriginal governance in an area. This will determine whether the correct Aboriginal group is being consulted.

Most often, in line with legislative requirements, the AHC/ALCT is contacted; although on specific environmental and cultural issues another Aboriginal group may be appropriate. SETAC believe that they possess many of the characteristics and cultural permissions. SETAC has the ability to understand the legislation and recognise that they can deliver expert or technical advice of a high professional standard, e.g., cultural impact assessments; obtaining information on cultural issues, perspectives on key issues, for planning and policy – sometimes requiring a cross-section of views, e.g., especially liaising with each other for those oral histories, or Aboriginal knowledge.

SETAC must develop an agreement or arrangement between government bodies to define the roles of each party, and the expectations on both sides, to formalise the relationship and help it progress. This must include statements of intent and responsibilities by including a set of protocols, identifying key contacts on both sides, and clarifying the exact nature and purpose of the arrangement in the TWWHA.

Principle 3: SETAC will align Aboriginal issues with other stakeholder issues, and objectives. Identify areas of common interests, agreed goals.

Principle 4: SETAC recognises that government and other stakeholders will take part in research in the TWWHA and don't want this research to be generalised. SETAC want the transfer of knowledge to be meaningful for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people all the while protecting its intellectual property. It also important to build the capacity of local people to strengthen their knowledge transfer.

Principle 5: SETAC will proactively engage other parts of the community with clearly defined and articulated sets of values and goals to address how to relate to and treat Aboriginal issues that impact on the cultural assessments of the TWWHA.

Method:

- Employ a liaison officer to liaise with SETAC to develop the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in conjunction with government.
- SETAC to participate in the recruitment in conjunction with Commonwealth to engage appropriate person.

Consultation Agreement

Principle 6: SETAC expects that collaboratively with the government it will acknowledge and recognise the importance of incorporating an Aboriginal perspective into future TWWHA plans as it relates to Aboriginal matters, along with any policy, management, decision-making and development of new projects. SETAC will expect to collaboratively define outcomes, as well as measure the success of outcomes.

Principle 7: In the consultation agreement it is expected that all parties have an open mind and respect for other forms of knowledge, such as local knowledge, community knowledge in the work, and demonstrate this through incorporation of 'other' knowledge into plans, policy, management, decision-making and the development of new projects, and in the way we might measure the success of outcomes.

Principle 8: SETAC would expect best practice guidelines for stakeholder engagement to be developed jointly.

Principle 9: Identify, define and clarify general and specific issues with SETAC and understanding of Aboriginal values.

Principle 10: Determine areas of common interest with common purpose; determine and articulate benefits back to the wider community; identify strategies, projects and actions that contribute to local, district and national goals (e.g., national biodiversity strategy).

- Determine goals, objectives and outcomes with SETAC.
- Determine goals, objectives and outcomes with community and stakeholder groups.

Method:

- Consultant to be engaged to work closely with SETAC and other Aboriginal groups to draft Consultation Agreement
- Consultant to identify an understanding of Aboriginal values and the protocols for sharing such knowledge
- Consultant to liaise with all stakeholders to define expected outcomes as well as how to measure success

Capacity Building

Principle 11: Identify capacity needs for effective engagement. Support SETAC to strengthen its current skills base, such as skills/expertise, knowledge, and resources to participate and collaborate effectively, and to identify what strategies and actions are needed to be implemented. The following strategies to be resourced:

• development of Aboriginal management plans, and provide assistance to the development of these plans
• development and use of Aboriginal environmental and cultural indicators, and provide assistance for the development of these indicators
• development of Aboriginal state of the environment (SOE) reports, and provide assistance for preparation of these reports
• Assist SETAC to develop high-quality plans, and become involved in all aspects of decision-making

Method:

- Identify a resource allocation for all the activity that is associated with the above principles.
- Field workers to be engaged and trained

Aboriginal staff to assist in the field

Conclusion

SETAC want to ensure that for any short and long term plans relating to Aboriginal engagement and decision-making around the TWWHA there must be an investment to involve local people.

In applying the above principles it is important to involve local communities in order to identify appropriate stakeholders and engagement strategies that maintain, protect and develop intangible heritage. As well as cultural heritage, traditional knowledge with an emphasis on considerations of intellectual property rights principles.

TRACA

Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance

20th April 2017

Ian Travers
Senior Associate
Extent Heritage Advisors

Dear Ian

Feedback from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Communities Alliance (TRACA) regarding the TWWHA Comprehensive Cultural Assessment Plan.

I am writing on behalf of TRACA firstly to strongly object to the rushed timelines for consultation on such a detailed and important document, especially with a number of members reporting not receiving a copy until last week.

However despite this, TRACA does believe it can, and should have a pivotal role in ongoing consultation over the longer term.

TRACA has experience and commitment in ensuring Tasmanian Aboriginal voices are heard and our members have consistently demonstrated their ability to establish relationships with local, state and national bodies. We believe that with adequate timelines and resourcing we can ensure meaningful consultation and engagement with our member communities on the matters that concern them.

Within the constraints of poor timelines and resourcing, we believe the document goes some way to addressing the identified gaps in the TWWHA Management Plan 2016, especially in relation to the emphasis on the tangible and intangible identification and understanding of cultural values and heritage.

TRACA recognises that some of our members have been disadvantaged regarding the TWWHA plan due to the Aboriginal Heritage Council having consistently excluded some members by failing to consult and engage, or acknowledge and respect, our connections to the land and our individual and varied sets of expertise.

TRACA requests that we are involved in the TWWHA and with adequate resourcing for inclusive, meaningful and respectful consultation and engagement we will contribute to aligning mutually beneficial outcomes in the identification and protection of our communities cultural values.

Page **1** of **2**

We look forward to having conversations about how we can actively participate in the next steps.

Yours sincerely
Patsy Cameron
TRACA CoChair on behalf of:

Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation

Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc

Melythina tiakana warrana Aboriginal Corporation

Parrdarrama Pungenna Aboriginal Corporation

Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation

South East Tasmania Aboriginal Corporation

Weetapoona Aboriginal Corporation

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