



Alice Holeywell-Jones
General Manager Operations
Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
Level 7, 134 Macquarie St Hobart TAS | GPO Box 1751 Hobart TAS
7001
T: s36
E: alice.holeywell-jones@parks.tas.gov.au
W: nre.tas.gov.au

Delivering a sustainable Tasmania.

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the land.

Please note: I often work irregular hours and if you receive an email from me outside of normal hours please do not feel obliged to respond until the start of your next normal workday.

From: Cooper, Jayne <Jayne.Cooper@parks.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 4:30 PM
To: Holeywell-Jones, Alice <Alice.Holeywell-Jones@parks.tas.gov.au>
Cc: Towner, Steve <Steve.Towner@parks.tas.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Constituent question - Ms Badger

Hi Alice

Key points to assist as requested.

- The Tasmanian Off-Road Car Club has been holding events at the St Helens Conservation Area – Peron Dunes since 1972. The event precedes the establishment of the site as a Conservation Area (proclaimed on the 28th of September 2011). It is also likely this event precedes any type of formal assessment, even the precursor to the contemporary RAA process. However, a retrospective RAA process is now underway within the Region.
- 16 January 2025 - the region was notified by PS – Tourism unit that the agreement between PWS and the Tasmanian Off-Road Car Club had expired 3 November 2024, and subsequently seeking comments as to support the renewal by 6 Feb, as the first event for the program was scheduled for March 2025.
- The Region held concern that the Clubs main event is held in November which historically occurs during shorebird season.
- Given time pressures for comment, RM direction for a way forward was to potentially approve the new agreement and have the Nov event subject to an RAA process. The plan being, if it was approved, the new agreement had an appropriate/sufficient clause to allow us to potentially amend the licence (cancel or change conditions around the 3rd program event/November event), based on the findings of the RAA assessment. Further to this, the PRM East Coast and RIC St Helens were to meet with the Club onsite to raise and discuss the shorebird concern, specifically pertaining to the Nov event.
- 4 February 2025 – PRM EC and RIC St Helens met with four representatives from the Club. Discussions included:
 - General environmental concerns

- The negative perception of the race with some community members – environmental harm, encouraging unauthorised uses, etc
 - Timing of the November event and issues with a direct conflict with shorebird breeding season
 - Ways the club could potentially assist with positive environmental messaging and responsible driving messages.
- The club responded to the points above and outlined their positive stewardship of the area and their existing mitigation measures for the event including notifying the local Police, meeting with ranger staff prior to the event to ensure good environmental management, doing 2 x full sweeps of the beach to check for nesting shorebirds and other fauna prior to racing, cleaning up not only their own but other people's rubbish prior to departing the area. They acknowledged there were recreational vehicle related use issues in and around the St Helens Conservation Area – Peron Dunes during times leading up to and particularly after their event but that it was, locals, mostly young males to blame and that they did not support such behaviour.
 - PWS strongly requested that the club either change the date or the location for their November event, but this was refused. Their justification being, this is their longest running 'Premier Event', it is the recreation day long weekend for the North east of Tasmania and attracts a high participation rate. They argued that this event, location and date is so important to them and that they would likely fold as a club without it and advised their political stance should this be denied.
 - All other points of discussion and requests tabled by the PWS were agreed to, including: using positive messaging and social media to dissuade irresponsible vehicle uses by locals, improved security around the event, with assistance from local rangers, and forming a volunteer group to do ecological restoration and cleanup works in the St Helens Conservation Area.
 - Regional comments provided back to PS were reflective of both the RMs direction of a way forward regarding RAA assessment and the meeting discussion/outcomes.

If you need any further info over the next few days whilst I am offline. Steve Towner is all across this one and happy to assist in answering any queries.


Cheers, Jayne



Jayne Cooper | A/Regional Manager - North
Northern Region
Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
GPO Box 46 Kingsmeadows TAS 7249
M: s36
E: Jayne.Cooper@parks.tas.gov.au
W: www.nre.tas.gov.au

Note: I often work irregular hours and if you receive an email from me outside of normal hours please do not feel obliged to respond until the start of your next normal workday.

Delivering a **sustainable Tasmania**

 In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the land.