

Recovery Program

Objectives

- Protect existing populations.
- Locate further populations.

Actions Needed

- Manage, protect and secure remaining habitat.
- Determine the current distribution, abundance and threats.
- Measure population size and trends.

Management Objectives in Production Forest Areas

- To protect all known existing sub-populations and adjacent areas of suitable habitat.

Reading

- Hutchinson, M.N. and Donnellan, S.C. (1992) Taxonomy and genetic variation in the Australian lizards of the genus *Pseudemoia* (Scincidae: Lygosominae). *Journal of Natural History* 26:215-264.
- Hutchinson, M.N. and Donnellan, S.C. (1990) Biochemical and morphological variation in the geographically widespread lizard *Leiolopisma entrecasteauxii* (Lacertilia: Scincidae) *Herpetologica* 46, 149-159.
- Hutchinson, M.N. and Donnellan, S.C. (1988). A new species of scinciid lizard related to the *Leiolopisma entrecasteauxii*, from south eastern Australia. *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia* 112:143-151.
- Hutchinson, M., Swain, R. and Driessen, M. (2001) Snakes and Lizards of Tasmania. *Fauna of Tasmania Handbook no.9*. Nature Conservation Branch, DPIWE, Hobart.
- Kirkpatrick, J.B. (1999) Grassy vegetation and subalpine eucalypt communities. In: *Vegetation of Tasmania* (eds Reid, J.B., Hill, R.S., Brown, M.J. and Hovenden, M.J.). Pp. 265-285. Monotone Art Printers, Tasmania.
- Redburn, K. (1999) Life History and Habitat of the Tussock Skink *Pseudemoia pagenstecheri* in Tasmania. Honours Thesis, University of Tasmania.
- Rousevell, D., Brereton, R. and Hutchinson, M. (1996) The reptiles of northeast Tasmania with new records and a key to the species of grass skinks, genus *Pseudemoia*. *Records of the Queen Victoria Museum*. 103;193-2000.

Specialist

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WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE

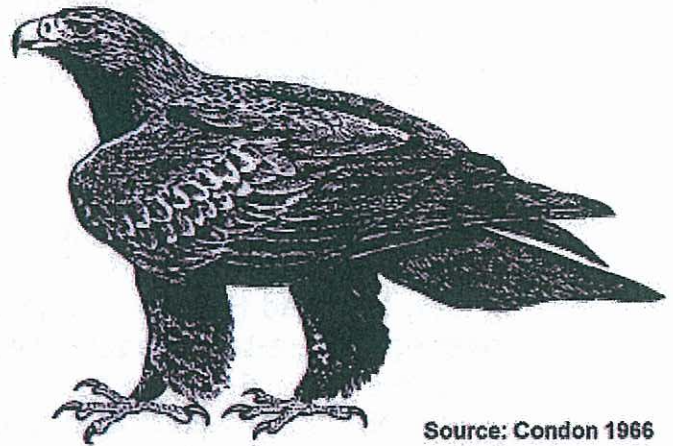
Aquila audax fleayi

Status

VULNERABLE (Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*),
ENDANGERED (Commonwealth *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*), due to a low number of successful breeding pairs (about 95), loss and disturbance of breeding habitat and high mortality due to persecution and human-related accidents.

Description

A large, powerful bird of prey. Almost black when mature, with legs feathered to the feet and a long, wedge-shaped tail. Wingspan is about 2 m. Females are larger than males.



Source: Condon 1966

Distribution and Habitat

This subspecies is found only in Tasmania, and occurs throughout the State including large offshore islands. It hunts over a wide range of habitats, but nests only in old-growth trees in native forests. Densities range from one pair per 400 km² or more to one pair per 60 km², with distances of 5-20 km between active nests in adjacent territories. Densities are highest in areas with mosaics of forest, farmland, grassland, wetlands and rivers. The eagles feed mainly on rabbits, hares, wallabies, possums, birds such as native hens and ravens and carrion.

Nests are usually in tall eucalypt trees in large tracts (more than 10 ha) of old-growth eucalypt or mixed forest. Nest trees are amongst the largest in a locality. They are in sheltered positions on leeward slopes, between the lower and mid slopes and with the top of the tree usually lower than the ground level of the top of the ridge. Nests are not constructed close to sources of disturbance such as quarries or houses. Nests are traditional, with some having been used for at least 50 years. More than one nest may occur within a territory but only one is used in any one year. Breeding failure often promotes a change of nest in the next year.

Wedge-tailed eagles are very timid nesters and are likely to desert a nest if logging or roading occurs nearby. The breeding season occurs between August and January inclusive with eagles being particularly sensitive to disturbance early in this period. If a nest is deserted due to forestry disturbance, the eagles will usually build another nest nearby, adding to management problems. Thus, it is important to keep them where they were first found. With proper conservation disturbed nests may be reused in later years.

Management Objectives for Production Forest Areas

- Identify potential nesting habitat and conduct nest surveys.
- Protect known nest sites, through application of a viable reserve.
- Protect breeding birds from disturbance.

Reading

- Mooney, N.J. (1998). A method for prioritising coupes for searches of wedge-tailed eagle nests. FPB Technical Note No. 1.
- Mooney, N.J. and Holdsworth, M. (1991). The effects of disturbance on nesting wedge-tailed eagles (*Aquila audax fleayi*) in Tasmania. *Tasforests* 3: 15-31.
- Mooney, N.J. and Taylor, R.J. (1996). Value of nest site protection in ameliorating the effects of forestry operations on wedge-tailed eagles in Tasmania. Ch. 26 in D.M. Bird, D.E. Varland and J.J. Negro (eds) *Raptors in Human Landscapes*. Academic Press, London.

Specialist

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WHITE-BELLIED SEA EAGLE

Haliaeetus leucogaster

Status

The white-bellied sea eagle has been listed in the Regional Forest Agreement as a Priority Species Requiring Consideration (Attachment 2 Part B) and has been nominated for listing under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* due to a low number of successful breeding pairs and loss and disturbance of breeding habitat.

Description

Adult white-bellied sea eagles are black and white with a white belly and grey over the wings. Wingspan may exceed 2 m and weight is up to 4.5 kg. Immature birds are mottled pale brown and take five years to reach adult plumage. A juvenile sea eagle can be confused with a wedge-tailed eagle but the sea eagle has a short white tail and strongly patterned underwing.

Distribution and Habitat

The white-bellied sea eagle is widely distributed from India to Australia. Key sites in Tasmania include the Tamar River estuary, Tasman Peninsula and the Bass Strait Islands. They nest and forage mainly near the coast but will also live near large rivers and lakes inland, often moving on a seasonal basis. The nest of the white-bellied sea eagle is similar in construction to the wedge-tailed eagle and when resources are limited, competition for nest sites between the two species can occur.

As with the wedge-tailed eagle, the white-bellied sea eagle nests are traditional. More than one nest may occur within a territory, but only one is used in any one year. They are very timid nesters and are likely to desert a nest if logging or roading occurs nearby. The breeding season occurs between August and January inclusive with eagles being particularly sensitive to disturbance early in this period. If a nest is deserted due to forestry disturbance, the eagles will usually build another nest nearby, adding to management problems. Thus, it is important to keep them where they were first found. With proper conservation disturbed nests may be reused in later years.

Management Objectives for Production Forest Areas

- Identify potential nesting habitat and conduct nest surveys.
- Protect known nest sites, through application of a viable reserve.
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Reading

Green, R.H. (1995). *The Fauna of Tasmania: Birds*. Potoroo Publishing, Tasmania.

Olsen, P. (1998). *Australia's raptors: diurnal birds of prey and owls*. Conservation Statement No. 2. Birds Australia, Hawthorn East, Victoria.

Specialist

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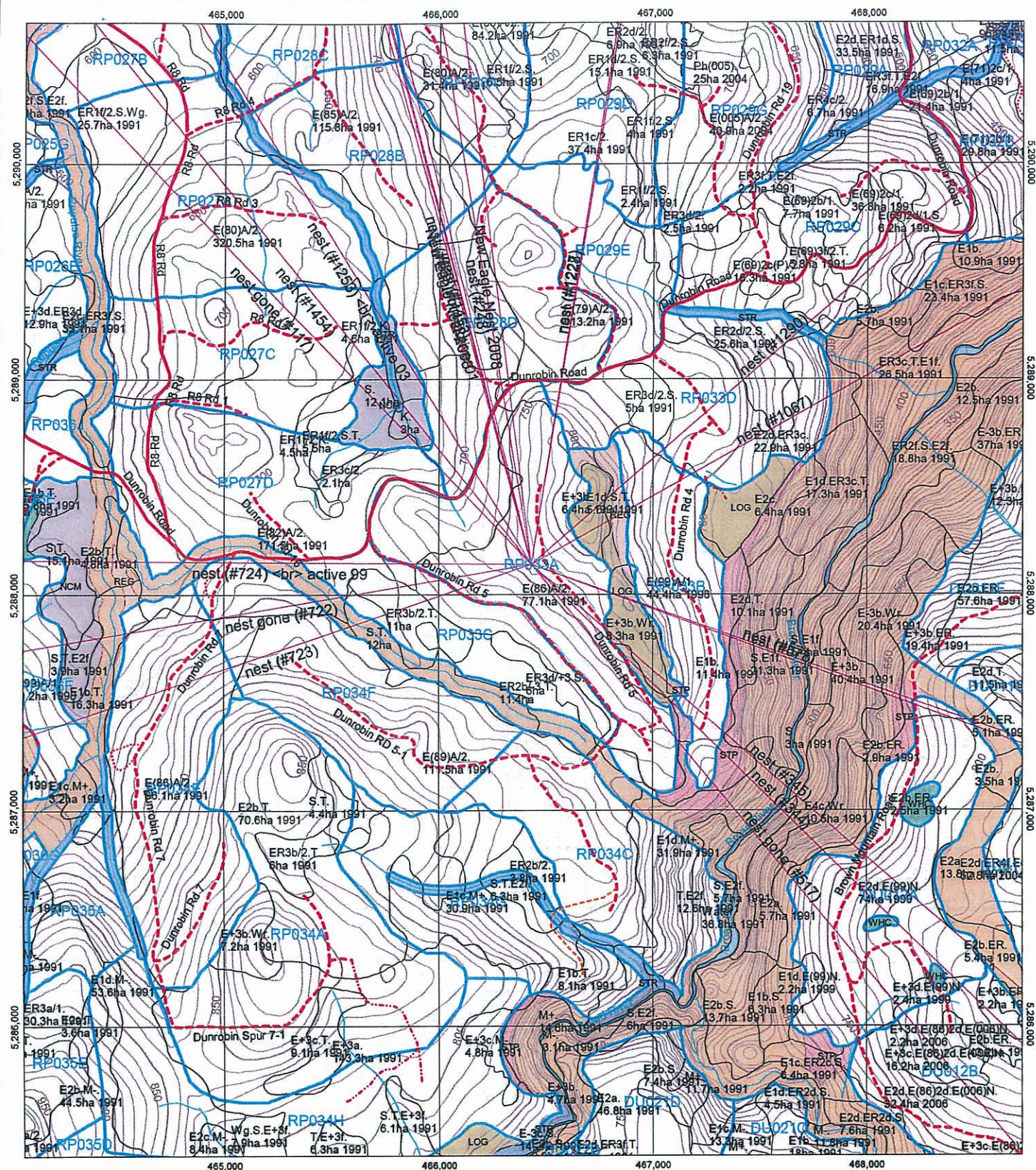
Wedge-tail Eagle Nest Search Results

Location: Provcoupe - RP033A

Generated Monday, 28th of July 2008 - 17:49:00

Coordinates of Origin Point: 466435mE, 5288141mN (Provcoupe Centroid)

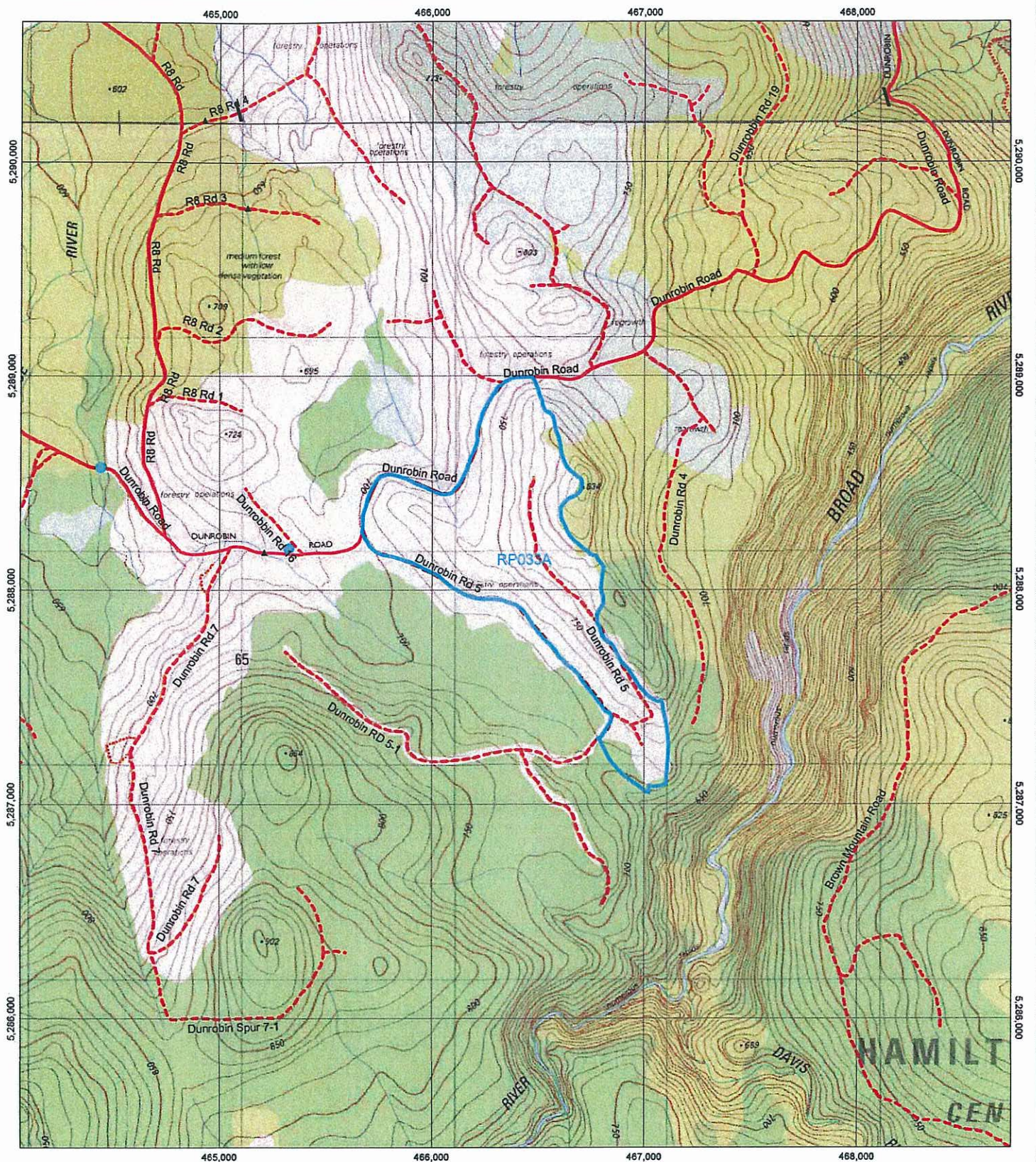
Print Note	Bearing (dms)	Distance (km)	Easting	Northing	Location
nest gone (#517)	140° 09' 34"	12.717	474582	5278377	Mount Field East 4 km E
nest gone (#117)	315° 58' 22"	13.271	457212	5297683	Florentine River 7.5 km E of Wylds Craig
nest (#344)	134° 17' 07"	7.522	471820	5282889	Ironstone Creek
nest (#345)	130° 54' 28"	8.211	472641	5282764	Ironstone Creek
nest gone (#722)	260° 26' 58"	2.761	463712	5287683	Repulse River mid
nest (#724) active 99	270° 24' 57"	3.145	463289	5288164	Repulse River N
nest (#723)	251° 19' 53"	2.661	463913	5287289	Repulse River S
nest (#248)	350° 17' 13"	14.243	464032	5302181	Lake Catagunya
nest (#578)	110° 04' 07"	6.141	472203	5286034	Brown Mountain; Ellendale 2.2km NE
nest (#571)	109° 30' 31"	6.506	472569	5285968	Brown Mountain; Ellendale 2.4km NE
nest (#1067)	60° 45' 43"	3.229	469254	5289719	Broad River
nest (#1453)	345° 52' 56"	12.102	463483	5299879	Gulf Creek NE
nest (# 1452)	344° 57' 55"	12.121	463291	5299847	Gulf Creek NW
nest (#1454)	320° 47' 07"	12.343	458631	5297705	Misery Creek
nest (#1228)	9° 10' 47"	9.326	467923	5297348	Lake Repulse N
nest (#1227)	8° 56' 53"	9.250	467874	5297279	Lake Repulse S
nest (#1253) active 03	328° 15' 29"	14.564	458773	5300527	Florentine River Bridge 640m SW
nest (#1290)	49° 03' 56"	3.580	469140	5290487	Broad River N
nest (#683) active 01	345° 05' 10"	11.571	463457	5299323	Golf Creek
New Eagle Nest 2008	344° 30' 44"	12.762	463027	5300441	RP011G
New Eagle Nest 2008	352° 35' 57"	9.759	465178	5297820	RP014B



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wedge-tail Eagle Nest Lines Located or marked out roads Provisional mapped roads Significant all weather 2 lane feeder road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single lane all weather minor road Single lane minor road Provoupe Live Boundary Pitype (Boundary) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 Metre Contour (25K) 10 Metre Contour (25k) Water Protection Informal Reserve Unloggable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non commercial Regen problems Steep Streamside reserve Uneconomic Wildlife habitat clump 	LOCATION MAP
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NOTE: Map co-ordinates are based on GDA94 Topographic map data is supplied by DPIWE Boundaries may not co-incide due to different capture scales

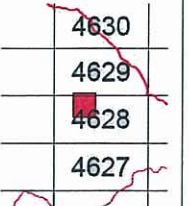
	<h2>Wedge Tail Eagle Habitat Search</h2> <h3>RP033A</h3> <p>For internal Forestry Tasmania use only. Do not distribute.</p>		<p>GROWING OUR FUTURE</p>
	Date: Monday, 28 July 2008 Plot identifier: vntmcbdwte2008.07.28.05.49.080	Prepared by: Vanessa Thompson Prepared for:	



- Bridge
- Log Culvert
- Water point
- Provcoupe & Info (Boundary)
- Significant all weather 2 lane feeder road
- Single lane all weather minor road
- Single lane minor road
- DPIW 25K Topo Map Image

NOTE: Map co-ordinates are based on GDA94 Topographic map data is supplied by DPIWE Boundaries may not co-incide due to different capture scales

LOCATION MAP



TasMap Base by Provcoupe
Coupe id: RP033A
Mapsheet: ELLENDALE 4628

Date: Monday, 28 July 2008

Prepared by: Vanessa Thompson

Plot identifier: vntmcbsemp2008.07.28.05.46.46

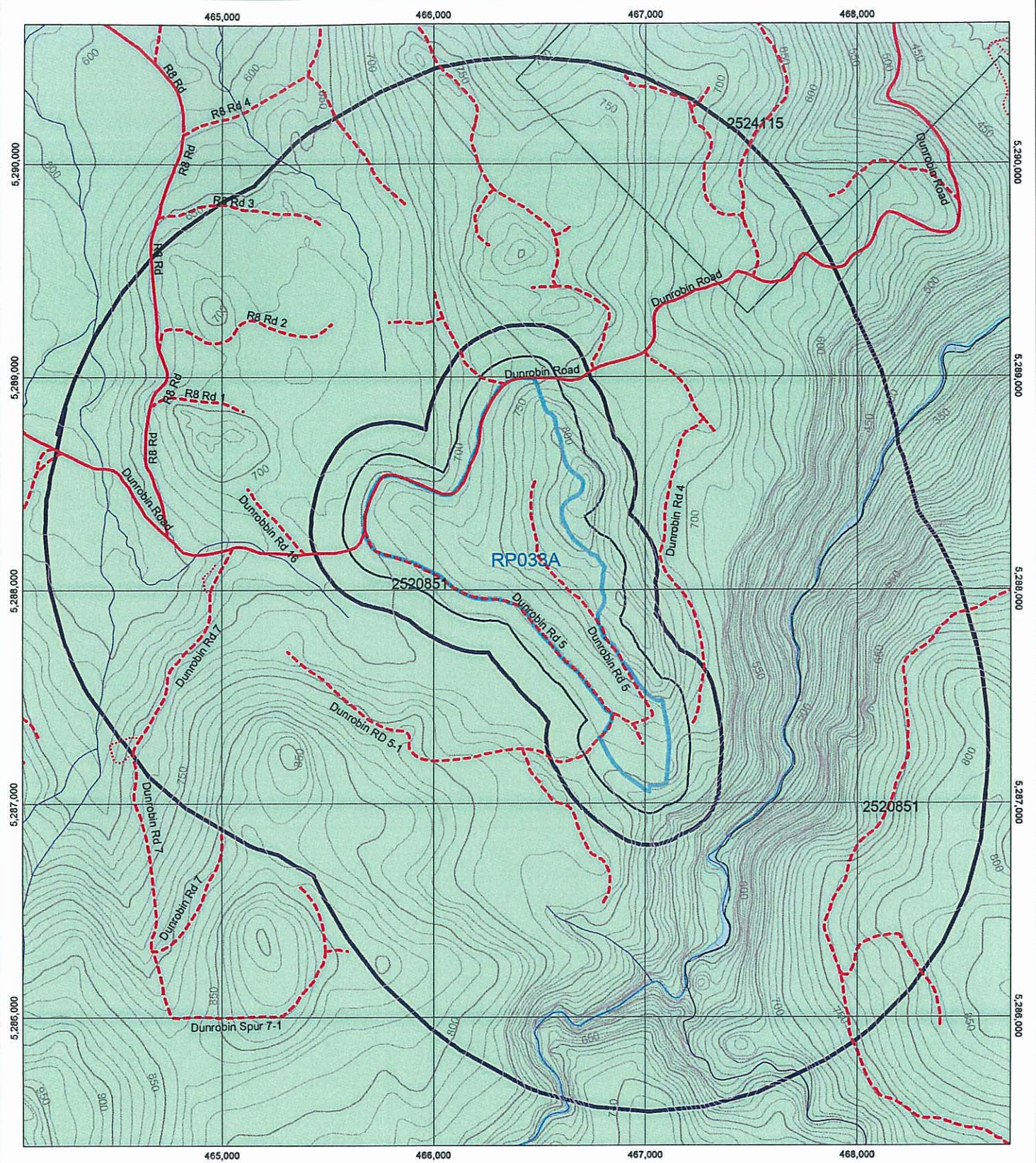
Prepared for:




















Scale 1:25,000



A4P





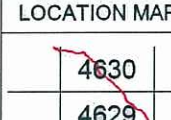
 Transend Transmission Lines	 Rivers (Class 1 and 2)	 Burning (1500m)	 Private Property
 Significant all weather 2 lane feeder road	 50 Metre Contour (25K)	 WHA - Boundary	 State Forest
 Single lane all weather minor road	 10 Metre Contour (25k)	 World Heritage Area	
 Single lane minor road	 Coupe Live (Boundary)	 Water	
	 Cadastre of Tasmania (DPIWE)	 HEC land - Vested or Private	
	 Forest Operations (100m)	 National Park, Historic Site & Nature/State Reserve	
	 Shooting (250m)		

NOTE: Map co-ordinates are based on GDA94

Topographic map data is supplied by DPIWE

Boundaries may not co-incide due to different capture scales

LOCATION MAP



NOTE: Map co-ordinates are based on GDA94

Topographic map data is supplied by DPIWE

Boundaries may not co-incide due to different capture scales



Notification Map RP033A

Date: Monday, 28 July 2008

Prepared by: Vanessa Thompson

Plot identifier: vntmcnot_p2008.07.28.05.46.51

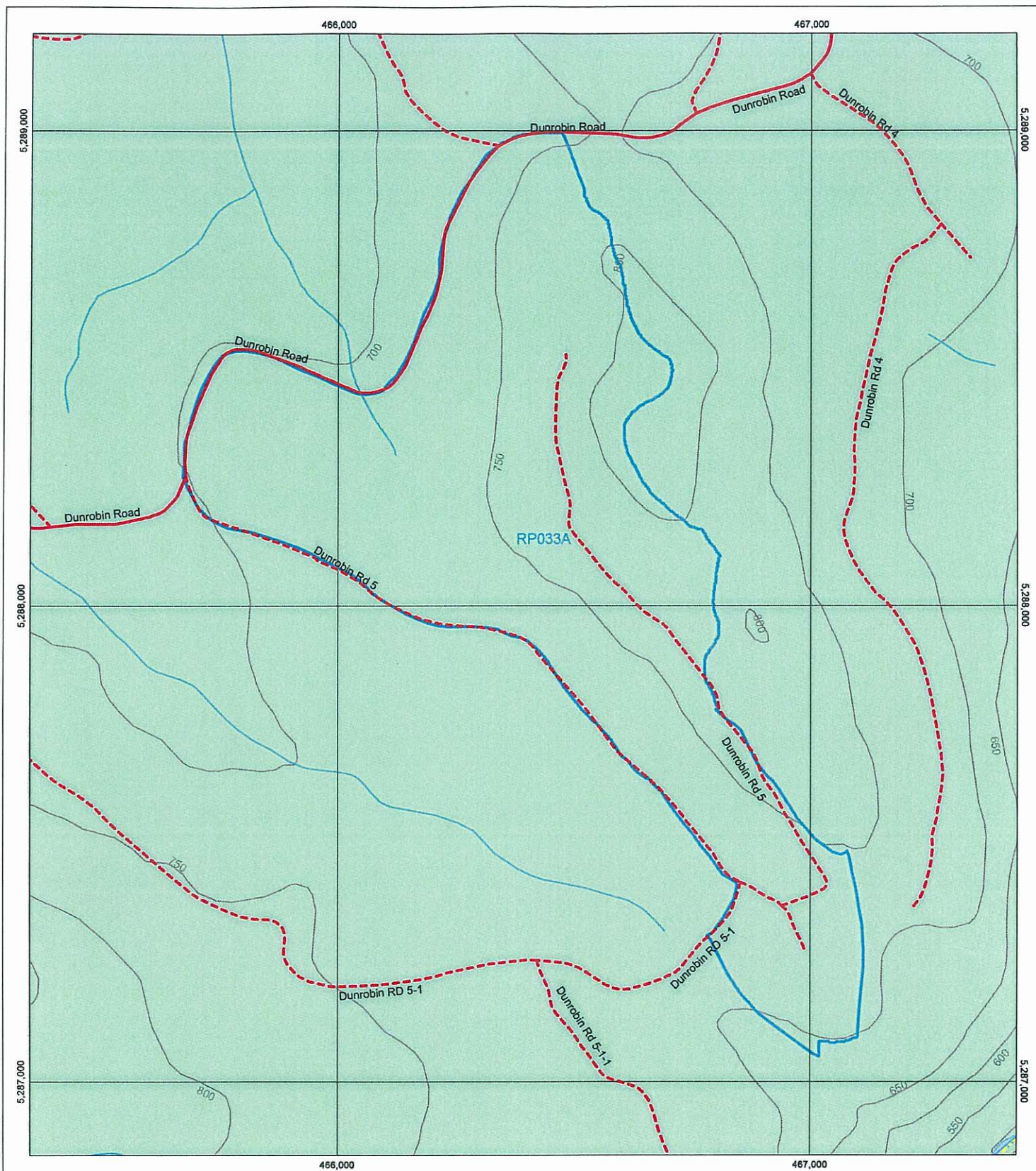
Prepared for:

Scale 1:25,000

0 500 m

A4P





Significant all weather 2 lane feeder road Single lane all weather minor road Plan Coupe Base (Boundary) 50 Metre Contour (25K)	Land owned by the crown Land owned by Forestry Tasmania WHA - Boundary World Heritage Area Water HEC land - Vested or Private	National Park, Historic Site & Nature/State Reserve Private Property State Forest	LOCATION MAP 4629 4628
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NOTE: Map co-ordinates are based on GDA94

Topographic map data is supplied by DPIWE

Boundaries may not co-incide due to different capture scales

	Property Rights RP033A		
	Date: Monday, 28 July 2008 Plot identifier: vntmcp_r_2008.07.28.05.46.45	Prepared by: Vanessa Thompson Prepared for:	

