

b) Special Values Assessment

**APPENDIX 1
NON-FPP AND RESERVE ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT SHEET AND ACTIVITY PLAN (LEVEL A AND B
ACTIVITIES)**

Activity Details:

Project Title:	Great South Land Minerals – Drill Site RP033A		
Reserve Name:	Not applicable		
Contact Officer:	Vanessa Thompson (Planning)		
District:	Derwent District		
Planned Activity:	Clearing of an area of regeneration within State forest coupe RP033A established in 1986 to allow the establishment of a test drill site on behalf of Great South Land Minerals.		
Location (GDA Ref):	467028 mE : 5287423 mN (GDA) The envelope for the site will be approximately 70 metres in depth and 130 metre in width. The site will be located in the top side of the road	Activity Level:	B
Proposed timing of activity:	Operations are likely to commence in early August 2008 and continue through until late October 2008.	Proposed duration of activity:	Estimate three months to complete the required works in this area. It will take between 3 to four weeks to move equipment to and from the site with a further month to undertake the required drilling.
Extent/Area (ha):	Estimated 1.0 to 1.3 hectares	Job Number:	Not applicable No cost attributed to District
JRA Number & Details:	Not applicable		
Other options considered:	Not applicable		
District File Number:		Head Office File Number:	
Information on the works proposed:	The proposal will see the clearing of vegetation to allow the establishment of a drill rig site on approximately 1.3 hectares. Following the completion of drilling activity the drill pad and associated infrastructure will be completely removed from the site. Vegetation debris created as a result of this operation will be heaped adjoining the road edge to allow possible burning of this material post operation. The placement of these debris however will not interfere with the effective use of the road including associated drainage structures. The site will be scarified to allow for the development of a suitable seedbed. Forestry Tasmania will provide seed from the appropriate seed zone to be spread over the operation area.		

<p>Prescriptions required:</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate safety signs will be established by Great South Land Minerals to ensure appropriate notification of activity in this area to the general public during operations. <p><u>General Measures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a measure to reduce the spread of Weeds and or Pathogens in State Forest, all machinery will be washed down before being transported to this operation and washed down again, prior to leaving this operation. Wash down will be carried out in accordance with the "Tasmanian Washdown Guidelines for weed and disease control". • All rubbish will be removed to an approved municipal tip site. • Weed establishment will be monitored and appropriate action taken where necessary. • Great South Land Minerals will notify Forestry Tasmania of the intent to commence operations and prior to the completion of operations to ensure rehabilitation works have been conducted to a satisfactory standard. <p><u>Rehabilitation and Reforestation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the completion of drilling activity the drill pad and associated infrastructure will be completely removed from the site. • Vegetation debris created as a result of this operation will be heaped adjoining the road edge to allow possible burning of this material post operation. The placement of these debris however will not interfere with the effective use of the road including associated drainage structures. • The site will be scarified to allow for the development of a suitable seedbed. • Forestry Tasmania will provide seed from the appropriate seed zone to be spread over the operation area.
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Compliance with Legislation ¹:

Does the activity comply with the following statutes/policies?	Yes (compliant)	Maybe (further assessment reqd)	No (non- compliant)	N/A	Details of compliance/ approvals required
<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> Nationally threatened species, threatening processes.	✓				
<i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> Threatened species.	✓				
<i>Aboriginal Relics Act 1975</i> Aboriginal sites.	✓				
<i>Historical Cultural Heritage Act 1995</i> Heritage listed sites.	✓				
<i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</i> Any non-FPP operation eg. building or track construction. Environmental harm and pollution.				✓	
<i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i> Developments/Structures.				✓	
<i>Water Management Act 1999</i> Protection of water resources.	✓				
<i>Fire Services Act 1979</i> Fuel reduction or ecological burning.	✓				
<i>Forestry Act 1920</i> All activities on State forest.	✓				
<i>RFA, Permanent Native Forest Estate</i>	✓				

Compliance with FT Policy ²:

Does the activity comply with the following statutes/policies?	Yes (compliant)	Maybe (further assessment reqd)	No (non- compliant)	N/A	Details of compliance/ approvals required
<i>Forest Reserve Register/Reserve Management Objectives</i> Permitted activities, reserve values, reserve management objectives (Forestry Act, Sched 3), reserve management plans.	✓				
<i>CAR Reserve Values</i> Protection levels for forest communities at bioregional level.	✓				
<i>Property Rights</i>	✓				
<i>Rainforest Policy</i>				✓	
<i>Giant Tree Policy</i>				✓	
<i>Huon Pine Policy</i>				✓	
<i>King Billy Pine Policy</i>				✓	
<i>Landscape Management Policy</i>	✓				
<i>District Forest Management Plan</i>	✓				
<i>MDC</i>	✓				

Natural and Cultural Values ³:

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
FLORA (vegetation communities present, threatened species, priority communities, critical habitats)	<p>Vegetation communities present are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet <i>E. delegatensis</i> <p><i>Note however as the project area was harvested in 1985 employing clearfell silvicultural techniques and now consists of regeneration artificially sown in 1986 the original floristic composition for this area is unable to be accurately determined.</i></p> <p>No known or identified flora values within planned operation area. The attached conserve map indicated no priority species in this area.</p> <p>No known Phytophthora cinnamomi records in this area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve Report Threatened Flora C/D. 	No known or identified threatened flora species, priority communities or critical habitats within the operation area. No anticipated impact under this proposal.	Not required.

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
FAUNA (threatened species habitats or potential threatened species management agreements)	<p>Threatened species habitat is present for :</p> <p><i>The site evaluated under this proposal occurs on the Ellendale mapsheet. This mapsheet indicates the potential for the following species.</i></p> <p><u>Eastern Barred bandicoot</u> There is no known habitat suitable to support this species within the proposed operation area or immediate vicinity. No specific management actions are recommended for this species.</p> <p><u>Grey Goshawk</u> There is no known habitat suitable to support this species within the proposed operation area or immediate vicinity. While the Broad River system does contain habitat suitable to support this species the distance between this potential habitat and the proposed operation area mean that no specific management actions are recommended in this instance.</p> <p><u>Masked Owl</u> An isolated patch of forest suitable to support the Masked occurs to the north of the proposed operational area. In addition the Broad River system also contains potential habitat suitable to support this species. The nature of the operation proposed however and the lack of suitable within the operation area mean that no specific management actions are recommended in this instance.</p> <p><u>Eastern and Spotted Tailed Quoll</u> Strategic state forest fauna management planning for the Eastern and Spotted Tailed quoll has resulted in the retention of large tracts of high quality habitat necessary to support these species. No specific management actions are recommended in this instance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve Report • Threatened Fauna Mapsheet • Threatened Fauna Adviser • Wedge-tailed Eagle Search History Map 	No known or identified threatened fauna species, critical habitats or areas under management agreement. No anticipated impact under this proposal.	Not required.

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
FAUNA (threatened species habitats or potential threatened species management agreements)	<p>Threatened species habitat is present for :</p> <p><i>The site evaluated under this proposal occurs on the Ellendale mapsheet. This mapsheet indicates the potential for the following species.</i></p> <p><u>Tussock grass skink</u> There is no suitable habitat within or adjoining the proposed operation area to support this species. No specific management actions are recommended in this instance.</p> <p><u>Wedge-tailed Eagle</u> There are no known Wedge-tailed Eagle nest sites located within 500 metres or 1.0 kilometre line of sight of the operation area proposed under this document.</p> <p>In addition there is generally little suitable potential habitat located within 500 metres of the proposed operation area. The attached documentation details search activity conducted within this general locality over time. The majority of suitable habitat in this area has been searched previously. As a result there is no specific requirements for the management of this species in relation to the proposed operation area.</p> <p><u>White Bellied Sea Eagle</u> There is generally little suitable potential habitat located within 500 metres of the proposed operation area. The attached documentation details search activity conducted within this general locality over time. The majority of suitable habitat in this area has been searched previously. As a result there is no specific requirements for the management of this species in relation to the proposed operation area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve Report • Threatened Fauna Mapsheet • Threatened Fauna Adviser • Wedge-tailed Eagle Search History Map 	No known or identified threatened fauna species, critical habitats or areas under management agreement. No anticipated impact under this proposal.	Not required.

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
GEOLOGY/ GEODIVERSITY (Geological substrate, Tas Geocon Dbase, Karst)	<p>The primary geological substrate is :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jurassic Dolerite <p>The project area is not located within any site of level 1 – 8 sensitivity on the Geoconservation Database. In addition the operational area is not within any known or karst boundary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoconservation Map • Geology Map 	No known or potential sites of geological or geodiversity significance within the operation area. No anticipated impact under this proposal.	Not required.
SOILS (Description of soil type present, erosivity)	<p>Primary soil types are :</p> <p>One soil type is known within this area and includes Jurassic origin dolerite soils of moderate erodibility rating. The combination of these soil types and slope across the project area mean that the area is considered to be of moderate erodibility with low erosion hazard potential.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geology Map 	No soil impact anticipated under this proposal.	Not required.
WATER/STREAMS (Water intakes, water quality and quantity)	<p>No identified streams occur within the planned operation area.</p> <p>Two (2) Class four streams however are located approximately four hundred metres to the south of the planned operation area. In regard to the Class 4 The distance of these streams from the planned operation area combined with the proposed operation should not have result in any water quantity or quality changes.</p> <p>There is no registered water intake point in the operation area.</p>	Not applicable	No water quality or quantity impact anticipated under this proposal.	Not applicable

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
LANDSCAPE (visual impact and management)	The skyline area to the north of the proposed drill site is visible from level 1 (Lyell Highway) sensitivity viewpoints. The location of the drill site should however not be evident from identified viewpoints. The duration of the proposed operation combined with the restricted project envelope should manage visual concerns. There is however a possibility depending on the height of the drill rig site that for the duration of the operation this structure may be evident from identified viewpoint. However given the lack of permanence to the use of this equipment on site in the short term this should not unduly impact on the current scenic quality of this area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LMO Map 	No visual impact anticipated under this proposal.	Not required.
WILDERNESS and WILD RIVERS (High Quality Wilderness, Wild River Catchment)	The site is not located within an area of high quality wilderness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilderness Map 	No impact anticipated	Not required
ABORIGINAL VALUES (Relics, Artefacts, Sites, Traditional use, APZ Zone)	No known or identified aboriginal values on site. Site inspection found conditions would not allow visual inspection for any unidentified aboriginal artefacts. The area is zoned as low sensitivity for geology dolerite (GD) and poorly surveyed (PS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Enquiry Map APZ Map 	No known or potential sites of aboriginal significance within the operation area. No anticipated impact under this proposal.	Not required.
HISTORIC VALUES (Relics, Sites, Items)	There are no known historic sites located within or adjoining the planned operation area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve Report 	No impact anticipated	Not required

**SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING NON-FPP AND RESERVE ACTIVITIES**

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
RECREATION (known recreational uses/users eg walking, motorbike riding, fishing, etc)	Limited access is available to this area of state forest to general users. While access to the area is gated this gate is not always closed.	Not applicable	No impact anticipated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate safety signs will be established by Great South Land Minerals to ensure appropriate notification of activity in this area to the general public during operations.
SOCIAL (Traditional uses, as evident in the filed eg grazing, recreation, firewood collection, mining, etc.)	Not applicable	Not applicable	No impact anticipated	Not required
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – AIR, WATER, NOISE (usually good quality prior to activities)	Not applicable	Not applicable	No impact anticipated	Not required

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
GENERAL PROTECTION MEASURES (fire, weeds, PC, soil, rehabilitation, spills)	<p>No known or identified values on site.</p> <p>The area is not within an identified PC management area.</p> <p>Following the completion of drilling activity the drilling pad and associated infrastructure will be completely removed from the site. Debris created as a result of this clearing operation will be heaped adjoining the road edge to allow possible burning of this material post operation. The site will be scarified to allow for the development of a suitable seedbed. Forestry Tasmania will provide seed for the appropriate seed zone to be spread over the operation area.</p>	Not applicable	No impact anticipated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a measure to reduce the spread of Weeds and or Pathogens in State Forest, all machinery will be washed down before being transported to this operation and washed down again, prior to leaving this operation. Wash down will be carried out in accordance with the "Tasmanian Washdown Guidelines for weed and disease control". All rubbish will be removed to an approved municipal tip site. Weed establishment will be monitored and appropriate action taken where necessary. Great South Land Minerals will notify Forestry Tasmania of the intent to commence operations and prior to the completion of operations to ensure rehabilitation works have been conducted to a satisfactory standard. Following the completion of drilling activity the drill pad and associated infrastructure will be completely removed from the site. Vegetation debris created as a result of this operation will be heaped adjoining the road edge to allow possible burning of this material post operation. The placement of these debris however will not interfere with the effective use of the road including associated drainage structures. The site will be scarified to allow for the development of a suitable seedbed. Forestry Tasmania will provide seed from the appropriate seed zone to be spread over the operation area.

Natural and Cultural Values ³: (Continued)

Value	Existing conditions (record all values present on site, N/A if values not present)	Site surveys (who conducted field surveys, specialists involved, references consulted)	Impact of activity on value (including cumulative effects)	Management action to be taken to avoid/mitigate impact (including ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation)
OTHER (property rights issues, access, etc.)	No known or identified values on site.	Not applicable	No impact anticipated	Not required

Community Consultation/Notifications ⁴:

Stakeholders include neighbours, community groups, recreationists, tourists, licensees/leasees (apiarists, agistment, communication towers, research), etc.

Stakeholder	Consulted? (Yes/No)	Interest Level (Low, Med, High)	Concern Level (Low, Med, High)	Details on consultation
Not applicable				

SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING NON-FPP AND RESERVE ACTIVITIES





Documentation Checklist ⁵:

Activity Level	SOP Step	Responsibility (Nominated Officer)	Compilation of information	Date Completed	By Who
A and B	1.1		Identify if proposed activity fits within:		
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Reserve objectives Forest Reserve Register	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Legislative / external approval requirements	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ FT Policies	30/28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B	1.2		Collate existing information (desktop analysis):		
B			♦ Review library/files for relevant Reserve information	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ MDC Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Planning Map (1:10,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Conservation Map and Report (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Aboriginal Site Enquiry Map and Report (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Tasveg Communities Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Wedge-tailed Eagle Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Karst Area/Catchment Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Aboriginal Archaeological Potential Zone Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Landscape Management Objective Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Tasmanian Geoconservation Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Geology Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ High Quality Wilderness and Undisturbed Rivers Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Property Rights Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Giant Trees Map (1:10,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Town Water Intakes check	29/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
			Additional Maps		
		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Apiary Management Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
		Vanessa Thompson	♦ Notification Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
		Vanessa Thompson	♦ RFA Communities Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
		Vanessa Thompson	♦ PC Management Map (1:50,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
			♦ Tas Map (1:25,000)	28/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
			♦ Inventory Map (1:10,000)	29/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
A and B	1.3	Vanessa Thompson	Field Surveys – record and/or confirm site information	Based on previous visits and knowledge of the area	Vanessa Thompson and Bernard Plumpton
A and B	1.4	Vanessa Thompson	Assess impacts of proposed activity and develop management prescriptions	28/07/2008 and 29/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B	1.5	Vanessa Thompson	Consult with relevant parties		Not applicable
B	1.6	Vanessa Thompson	Apply for external approvals		Not applicable
B	2.1	Vanessa Thompson	Obtain FT approvals	30/07/2008	Vanessa Thompson
B	2.2	Vanessa Thompson	Obtain external approvals		Not applicable

NB All printed copies of this document are uncontrolled. Refer to the electronic copy on the Forestry Tasmania Intranet SEMS site for the latest version.

SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING NON-FPP AND RESERVE ACTIVITIES

Approvals ⁶:

Name	Signature	Date	Position
Vanessa Thompson		4/8/2008	Senior Forest Planner
Steve Whiteley Dave Brown		4/8/08	A/ District Forest Manager
Judy Alexander TIM LEAMAN		4/8/08	Senior Forest Planner CONSERVATION PLANNER
John Hickey		4/8/08	Manager, Planning
Not required			External Approvals Received (signed by planner)

APPENDIX 2

NON-FPP AND RESERVE ACTIVITY MONITORING SHEET

Activity Details:

Date of Assessment:		Assessor Name:	
Project Title:	Great South Land Minerals – Test Drill Site (RP033A)		
Reserve Name:	Not Applicable		
District:	Derwent	Activity Type:	Non FPP Activity
Extent/Area (ha):	1.0 to 1.3 hectares	Activity Level:	B
District File Number:		Head Office File Number:	

Monitoring comments: (Comment/record new unidentified impacts or issues and management actions to deal with these and carry these through to the CAR system where appropriate)

[illegible]

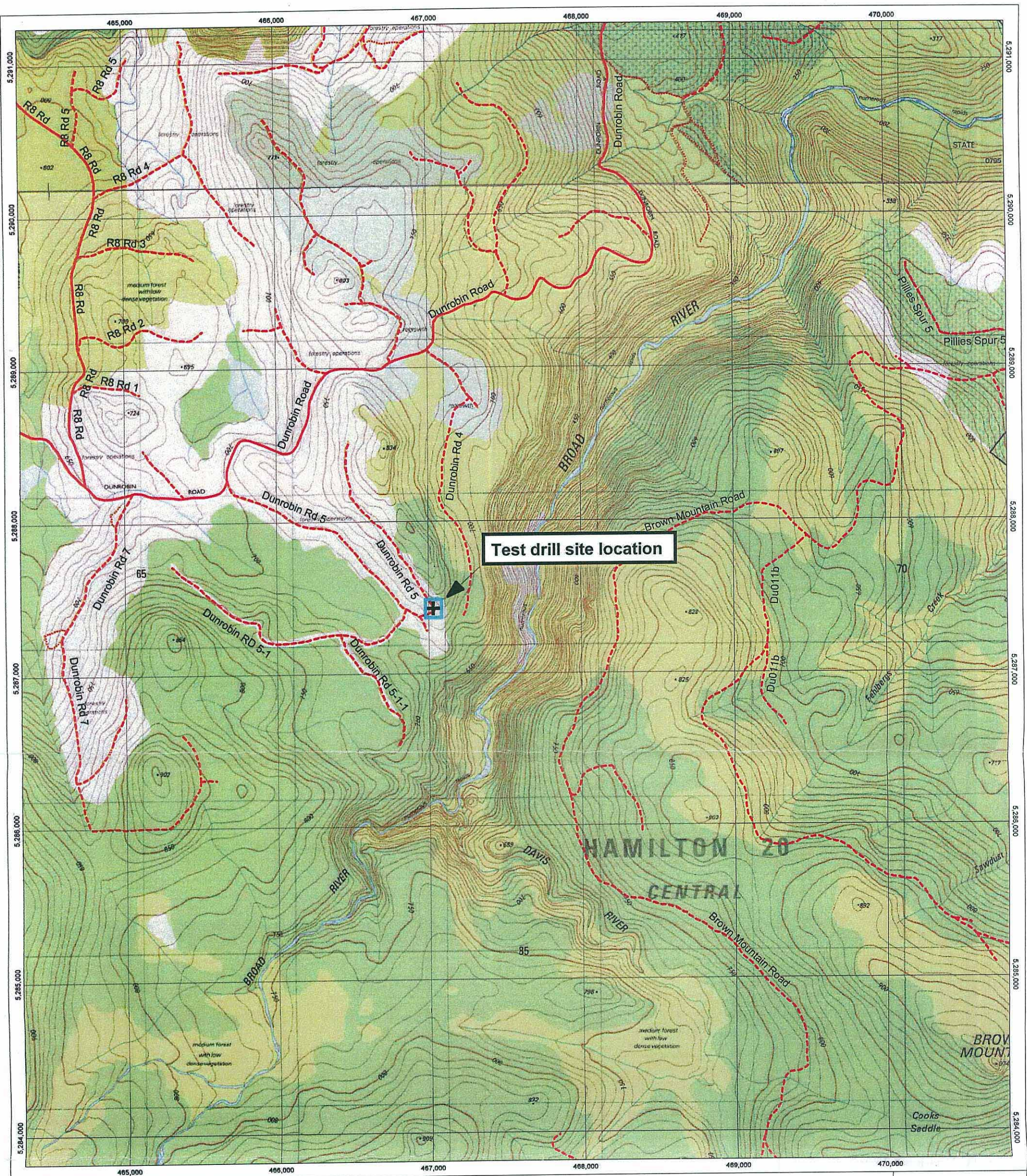
Completion checks:

Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Geodiversity: Have geodiversity values (including karst) been protected and maintained?				
Flora and Fauna: Has the activity ensured protection of flora and fauna values to the greatest possible extent?				
Landscape: Has particular care been taken to protect landscape values?				
Wilderness and Wild Rivers: Has disturbance been minimised to the hydrological, geomorphological and biological processes of wild rivers?				
Cultural Values: Have cultural heritage values been protected?				
Social Values: Has the activity prevented people from exercising their social values associated with the reserve?				
Recreational Values: Have recreational opportunities in the reserve been diminished as a result of the activity?				
Environmental Quality (Air, Water, and Noise): Has the natural quality of air, water and noise been restored?				
Environmental Monitoring (Water): Has water monitoring been carried out?				
Protecting Reserve Values: Has restoration/rehabilitation been undertaken?				
Legislation and Policy: Has activity complied with legislation and policy?				
Legislation and Policy: Have permit conditions been met?				
Impacts on values: Have all decisions about activities been recorded?				
Impacts on values: Have any additional impacts been identified?				
Impacts on values: Have any additional impacts been documented?				
Impacts on values: Have management actions to avoid/mitigate impacts been implemented?				
Impacts on stakeholders: Have there been any complaints about the activity to FT?				
System requirements: Have identified environmental aspects and impacts and associated control measures been addressed?				
System requirements: Have identified safety and health hazards and risks and associated controls been addressed?				

Sign off (for completion):

Completion compliance assessed by: _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____ Copy of completion sign off send to Planning Branch: **Yes/No** Date: _____



Test drill site location

drill text

DPIW 25K Topo Map Image



RP033 Drill Site

Significant all weather
2 lane feeder road

Single lane
all weather minor road

Single lane
minor road

NOTE: Co-ordinates on this map are based on GDA94.

Any topographic data on this map has been supplied by DPIWE.

Data has been captured at 1:25,000 scale & boundaries may not always be visible.

LOCATION MAP

4431	4631	4831
4430	4630	4830
4429	4629	4829
4428	4628	4828
4427	4627	4827
4426	4626	4826

GSLM drill site location



Plot identifier:

Prepared by: bsp

Date: Thursday, 31 July 2008

Prepared for:

Scale 1:25,000

0 0.5 km



Forestry Tasmania
GROWING OUR FUTURE

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Tasmanian

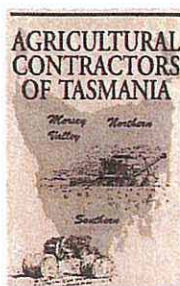
Washdown Guidelines

for Weed and Disease Control



Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment

Edition 1



Tasmanian Washdown Guidelines For Weed and Disease Control

**Edition 1
April 2004**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Queensland Weed Seed Project kindly allowed their washdown procedures to be used as a basis for these guidelines. This document was prepared by Tim Rudman (Department of Primary, Industries Water and Environment), David Tucker (Forestry Tasmania) and Doug French (Agricultural Contractors Association of Tasmania) with the input from councils, industry and State government. Cover photograph David Tucker.

REVIEW OF THE GUIDELINES

The Washdown Guidelines will be reviewed in April 2005. Any comments on the guidelines may be forwarded to:

David Tucker
Forestry Tasmania,
79 Melville St
Hobart Tas. 7000

Doug French
Agricultural Contractors
334 Hazelwoods Lane
Whitemoore Tas. 7303

Tim Rudman
Nature Conservation Branch
GPO box 44
Hobart Tas. 7001

DISCLAIMER

The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Forestry Tasmania and the Agricultural Contractors Association of Tasmania have produced this publication in good faith, as a guide only. It should not be seen as a substitute for;

- (i) the user seeking his/her own professional advice; and
- (ii) any advice or instruction provided in the constructors' manuals for any machinery, vehicles or equipment.

The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Forestry Tasmania and the Agricultural Contractors Association of Tasmania accept no liability (whether for negligence, breach of contract or otherwise) for any damage or loss whatsoever or howsoever arising from any reliance upon any representation or advice referred to in this publication.

Accordingly, all use of information, advice or data contained in this publication is at the user's risk.

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INTRODUCTION

We all have a responsibility not to spread weeds and disease when visiting or working on private or Crown land. In some cases this may be a legal requirement specified under provisions of the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997*, *Animal Health Act 1995* or as detailed in a Weed Management Plan. In other cases industries may have standard operating procedures or codes of practice governing washdown requirements for weed and disease control.

Weed seed, some insects and plant pathogens may travel almost sight unseen in mud or lodged in nooks and crannies on machinery, vehicles and other equipment. It is easy to overlook the risk of carrying weeds and diseases; the consequences however, are not so subtle. Failure to washdown can result in crop losses or permanent environmental damage, often incurring substantial cost to the land owner or manager. For example, crop-destroying diseases such as onion white rot and club root may be spread in soil adhering to farm machinery, while in the bush, the introduction of *Phytophthora* root rot may reduce the biodiversity of heathlands and potentially lead to the extinction of some plants.

These guidelines establish a standard for washdown and provide a guide to prescribing its application where codes of practice or other environmental management plans are not in place.

Always consult the land owner or manager for any specific washdown requirements and approval to proceed with any washdown procedures outlined in these guidelines.

WHEN TO WASHDOWN

Many industries have, or are developing, standard operating procedures for vehicle and machinery washdown. Consult your industry code of practice or environmental management system for determining the washdown requirements that apply.

Major developments are also subject to environmental management plans that will specify washdown requirements applying to the project.

For other situations, as a general guide washdown is advisable after:

- operating in an area affected by a weed or disease that is under containment
- transporting weeds or soil known to be infected with weed seed or a plant pathogen and

or before:

- moving machinery out of a local area of operation
- moving machinery between properties
- moving vehicles or machinery to an island
- using machinery along roadsides or along river banks
- using machinery to transport soil and quarry materials
- using controlled-access vehicle tracks
- visiting remote areas where access is only by boat, helicopter or light plane

EQUIPMENT

Personal and small tool wash equipment

Portable wash baths are recommended for use when travelling in vehicles and helicopters for washing footwear and small tools. Washbaths can be made from a fish box (or other suitably sized plastic box) fitted with an open weave plastic doormat, a scrubbing brush, pair of safety gloves, glasses, detergent or fungicide, and a container of clean water. For backpacking, a 2 litre bottle, scrubbing brush, safety gloves and glasses can be used for small tools and boot washing.

The fungicide Phytoclean TM should be added to washbaths to control the spread of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* if:

- sterilising tools used for *P. cinnamomi* sampling
- entering or washing down within a *Phytophthora cinnamomi* management zone
- entering a population of threatened species that is susceptible to *P. cinnamomi*

Portable vehicle wash equipment

Where field wash down is a regular practice facilities should be obtained and carried for the purpose. Large commercial wash units are available, though in many instances small self-assembled systems will be adequate. In industries that use bushfire slip-on units, these are ideal, allowing more flexible choice of washdown sites. Small fire pumps or portable high pressure wash units are suitable. A shovel, crow bar and stiff brush are also required. Farm workshops should also have suitable wash down equipment. Where a blowdown only is required, compressors or portable blower vacs may be used along with a small brush.

Vehicle wash bays

Purpose built wash bays should be used when ever possible. These washdown facilities include effective effluent management systems to protect the environment. Commercial washdown facilities are available for vehicles and small trucks at most large towns.

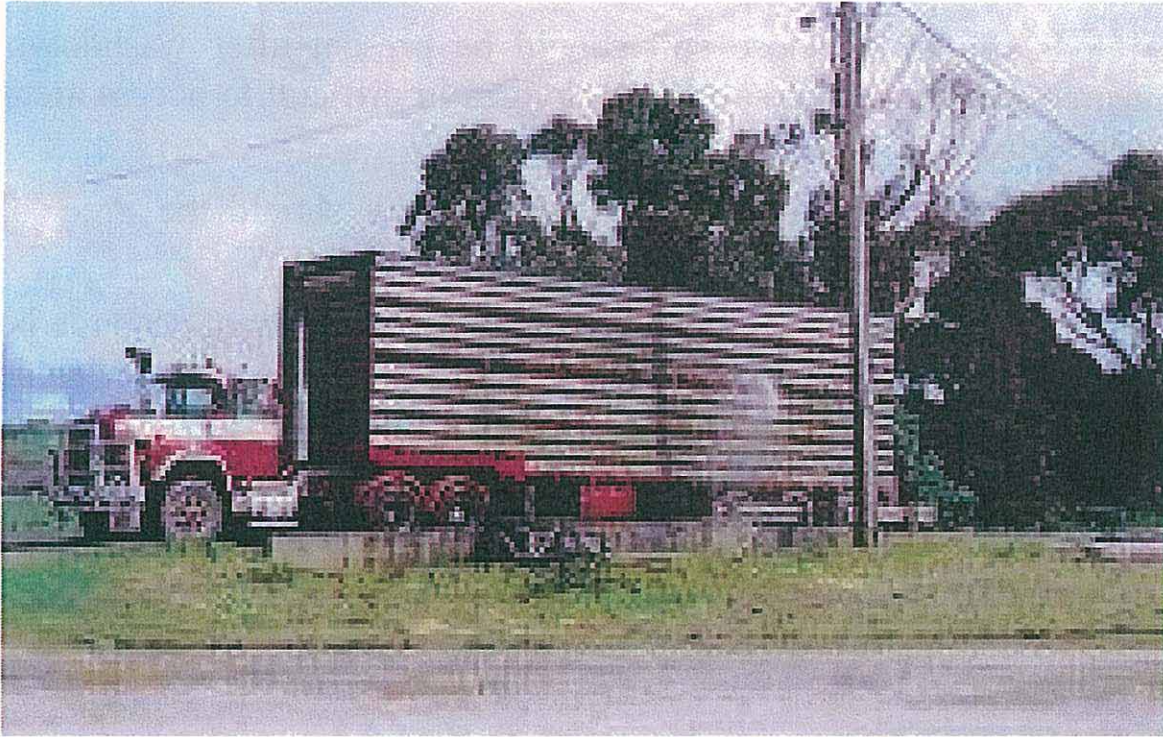


Figure 1 Smithton truckwash in action (Photo: Sue Jennings)

WASHDOWN STANDARDS

General standard

For general cleaning procedures the following standard applies:

- remove only those cover plates etc that can be quickly and easily removed and replaced
- no clods of dirt or loose soil should be present after washdown. Smeared soil stains and soil firmly lodged in difficult to access areas are acceptable
- radiator, grills and the interior of vehicles should be free of accumulations of seed and other plant material

Note that some machinery, such as harvesting equipment, cannot be washed with water because of potential damage to sensitive electronic equipment. Always consult and comply with the manufacturers recommended cleaning method.

Cleaning and inspection should be undertaken in accordance with the general washdown procedure (page 9) and machinery checklists (page 10 on)

Custom standards

Customised washdown standards may be applied under environmental management plans or job specifications where the control of a serious weed or pathogen is required. For instance, particular disinfectants may need to be applied and greater attention to soil accumulations behind protective plates and covers may be specified. Similarly landholders and managers may wish to apply specific washdown requirements.

PROCEDURES

Small tools & portable washbaths

These are used in the management of *Phytophthora* root-rot in native vegetation or can be established as temporary washdown points to contain the spread of soil by foot traffic in other diseased areas.

1. Site the washbath just outside the infected area or at the departure point for the vehicle or aircraft.
2. Remove all loose mud and dirt from the object to be cleaned.
3. Use the recommended safety equipment if washing with a fungicide (safety gloves and glasses).
4. Part fill the washbath with clean water, a depth of about 4 cms is adequate for boot washing. Mix a solution of detergent or fungicide as required (see page 3).
5. Clean boots, gaiters and equipment with the scrubbing brush.
6. Effluent containing registered products such as fungicides must be disposed of in accordance with label recommendations.
7. A final rinse or wipe with fungicide or methylated spirits can be used for sterilisation of scientific equipment.

Selecting a field washdown site.

Field washdown of may be required to contain weeds or plant pathogens to a particular area or where machinery is moved directly between field sites. Always consult the landholder. In selecting a washdown site, consideration should be given to:

- siting the washdown at the edge, or nearby, any areas where weeds or pathogens need to be contained, choose sites where the land slopes back into an infested area or an adjacent area not susceptible to the problem

- ensuring run-off will not enter any watercourse or waterbody, a buffer of at least 30m is desirable
- avoiding sensitive vegetation or wildlife habitat eg remnant native vegetation and threatened species sites.
- selecting mud-free sites (e.g. well grassed, gravel, bark or timber corded) which are gently sloped to drain effluent away from the washdown area
- allow adequate space to move tracked vehicles
- potential hazards, eg powerlines

Note that low loaders are not a suitable platform for washing machinery.

Where there will be large quantities of effluent or there is a risk of extensive run-off, the washdown area should be bunded and a sump constructed to safely dispose of the effluent. Take particular care where the effluent is likely to be contaminated with oils.

Mark or record washdown sites with the landowner or manager for subsequent monitoring and weed control.



Figure 2 Washing down (Photograph: D. Tucker)