



**TIMBERLANDS**  
Pacific

# Cultural Heritage Management Plan Taswood Estate



Grinding Stone found in the North West of the  
Taswood Estate in 2006

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*Timberlands Pacific acknowledge the deep history and culture of the people who belonged to the Stoney Creek Nation, the Tyerenoterpanner, Panninher and Leterremairrener clans. These three clans lived on the lands where our business is located for many thousands of generations. The clans hunted and camped above the floodplains at the confluence of three riverways in the heart of the Stoney Creek nation – Kunermurlukeker, Pleepertoommerler and Lakakeller.*

*Timberlands Pacific acknowledge and pay respect to all Tasmanian First Nations people who are the past and present custodians of these lands.*

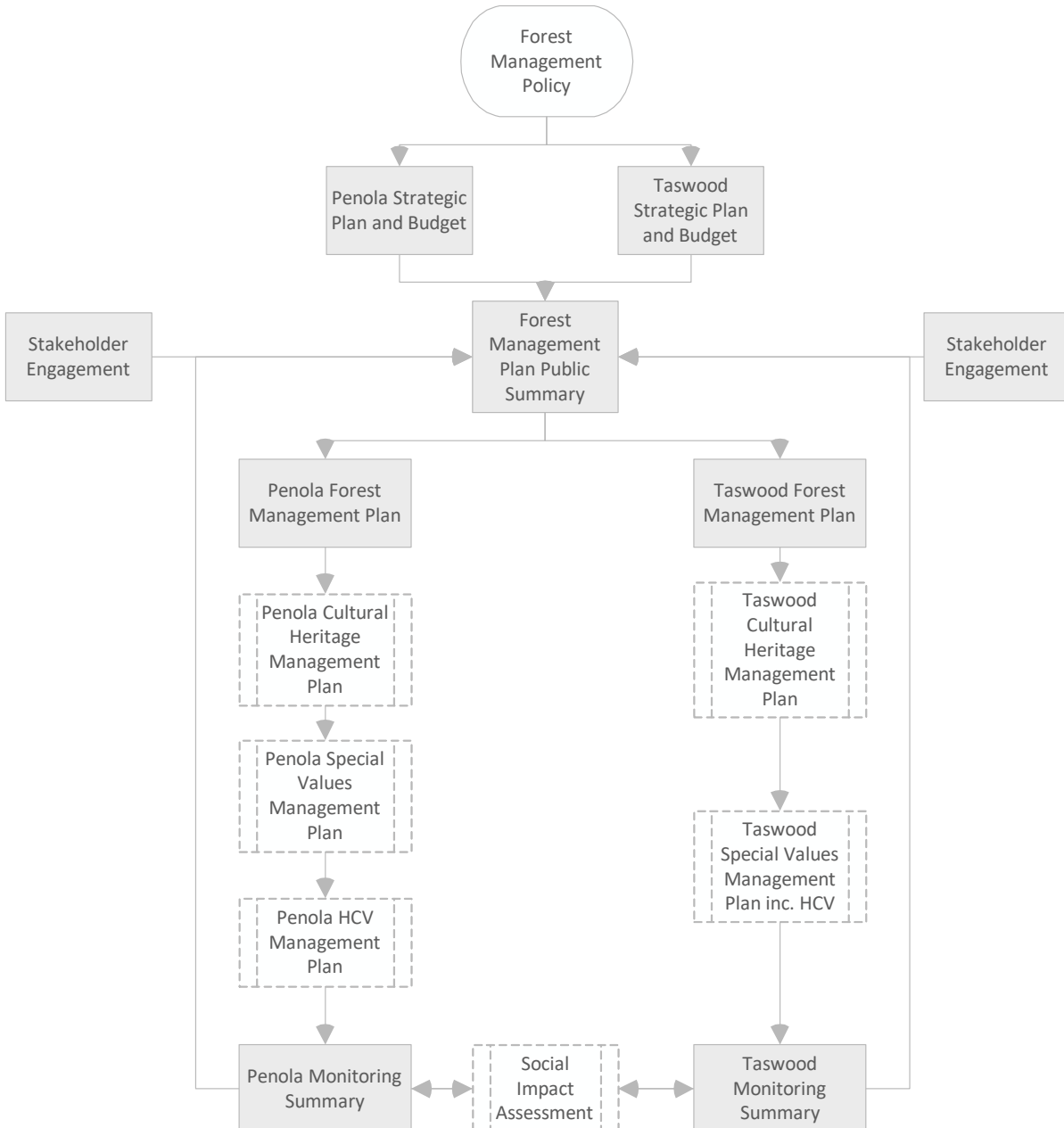
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## Purpose

The purpose of this Cultural Heritage Management Plan is to provide an overview of how cultural heritage sites are protected within the Taswood Estate. Protection of cultural heritage is achieved through identification, recording and assessment of sites of cultural significance to all ethnic groups (e.g. First Nations Peoples and other Australians). Assessment of cultural significance and development of management prescriptions includes engagement of appropriate experts.

This Plan forms part of the Taswood Estate Forest Management Plan. The complete FMP is a collection of documents as identified in the below chart.



## Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Timberlands Pacific Pty Ltd (TPPL) recognises, understands and appreciates the value of Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural heritage. This includes how TPPL operations may impact upon an area, as well as the steps necessary to preserve and protect sites for future generations.

Aboriginal cultural heritage consists of objects, places, artefacts, ideas and beliefs. Examples of cultural heritage that may impact on TPPL operations include but are not limited to: rock art, stone artefacts, stone arrangements, middens, burial sites, and places of spiritual and social significance.

TPPL is continuing to build stronger connections with local groups to better understand the areas and species that are of significance.

### The current identified groups are:

- melythina tiakana warana Aboriginal Corporation (North East)
- Six Rivers (Central North)
- Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation (North west)

*\*TPPL is working to further identify other groups within these areas that may also have interest in the Taswood Estate*

Timberlands Pacific acknowledges and pays respect to the First Nations peoples as the traditional, original owners and continuing custodians of the land we manage.

## Post-Colonial Cultural Heritage

The need to understand, preserve and protect Historic (colonial and post-colonial) Heritage is also important. Tasmania has a rich industrial history in mining and forestry dating back to the earliest colonial settlement. There are areas within the TPPL managed estate that require protection.

These areas include, but are not limited to, bush tramways, mill sites, water races, mine shafts, trapper's huts and other such places.

## Legislation

The following acts of parliament have been enacted to ensure the preservation and protection of cultural heritage. Those that dictate TPPL's legal and other obligations are:

### Commonwealth Legislation

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

### Tasmanian Legislation

- Forest Practices Act 1985
- Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995
- Aboriginal Relics Act 1975



**Photograph 1: Stone scrapper or cutting tool found in a Taswood Forest during a post road construction survey. The location of artefacts is confidential**



**Photograph 2: Trappers hut in Nicholas Forest, Fingal Valley. This hut was found during a Forest Practices Plan field assessment**

Each of these acts set out provisions relating to Aboriginal and Historic cultural heritage and detail specific offences for damaging or interfering with cultural heritage sites. Both individuals and corporations are required to abide by these acts.

The specific legal and other obligations contained within the legislation are detailed in the publication, Procedures for managing historic cultural heritage when preparing FPPs (PHCH) & Procedures for managing Aboriginal cultural heritage when preparing FPPs (PAHC). These documents, written by the Forest Practices Authority (FPA), are a field-based guide on appropriate management, operational prescriptions and their implementation. The instructions are binding and must be used by all forestry companies as part of their operational planning and management in Tasmania.

## Burra Charter

Another important source of information and guidance for the management of places of cultural significance is the [Burra Charter \(2013 version\)](#). The Burra Charter (2013) was updated by the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites in 2013, to “reflect developing understanding of the theory and practice of cultural heritage management”.

The Burra Charter is a series of definitions and processes (with explanatory notes) that outline how to conserve places of significance.

TPPL does not directly reference the Burra Charter in its day to day management of Cultural Heritage Values. However, it is one of the principle documents influencing the FPA Procedures for managing Aboriginal cultural heritage when preparing FPPs. The philosophies, principles and processes outlined in the Burra Charter guide TPPL management decisions when dealing with culturally significant places and sites that are not covered directly by the FPA PAHCs. The Burra Charter acts as a benchmark to ensure it fulfils its social and legal responsibilities.



**Photograph 3: Aboriginal stone artefacts located after land preparation disturbance. Photo taken from the FPA Resource guide for managing cultural heritage in production forests**

## TPPL Policy

TPPL acknowledges that the land and traditional sites are of significance to local First Nations Peoples and Communities.

TPPL will facilitate access (other than for health and safety reasons) to areas of the Taswood Estate if the Indigenous community requests access for traditional use. These activities may include ceremonies, gathering, hunting, access to important sites or as part of teaching law and customs to future generations and other socially important events.

TPPL recognise the importance of First Nations land practices in the historical context of the estate and significance to the First Nations community. Opportunities to express these land practices will be sought by TPPL and accommodated when approached following the defined Operational Planning and Management procedure (page 7).

There are no known claims relating to land tenure or Native Title within the Taswood Estate. The Commonwealth [Native Title Act 1993](#) provides a means by which Native Title rights can be negotiated and recognised under Australian law. Through Native Title, the right for ‘exclusive possession’ can only be recognised over unallocated or vacant Crown Land and some areas already held by, or for indigenous Australians. The Taswood Estate is located on land designated as a ‘Permanent Timber Production Zone’ (previously known as State Forest) and the resource growing on it is wholly privately owned.

## Preparation of Forest Practices Plans

Sites of cultural heritage are present in the Taswood Estate. These sites are passively managed by TPPL and management prescriptions have been put in place to protect them during forestry operations. Ongoing protection of cultural heritage will be achieved through identification, assessment, recording and implementation of approved prescriptions.

### Aboriginal heritage assessments

During the preparation of a Forest Practices Plan (FPP), an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment **must** be conducted by a Forest Practice Officer (FPO). The FPO is endorsed by the FPA in Aboriginal heritage management, to determine if any cultural heritage site are known, or likely to be present, on the land within the FPP boundary.

Aboriginal heritage assessments consist of three phases<sup>1</sup>.

#### Phase 1: Preparation of the FPP

A desktop assessment for **known sites within the operational area**, is conducted by FPO's as part of the initial planning process. The Conserve Database, administered by Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT), stores information about known sites located within the Permanent Timber Production Zone (PTPZ), previously known as State Forest. All Conserve Aboriginal site data is also listed in the Tasmanian Aboriginal Site Index (TASI Database) administered by Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania (AHT). This is the main information source used by forestry companies for known sites within the PTPZ. It is the responsibility of the Forest Practices Authority to ensure that new sites are added to Conserve as they are found and forwarded to AHT for TASI listing.

Under the Forest Practices Act 1985, planning processes must consider **potential sites** as well as known sites. The potential for sites to be present is assessed using 'predictive statements' that describe the types of landscapes where sites are likely to occur. These are listed under Table 2. Criteria for conducting Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments (site surveys) in the FPAs PAHC documents

#### Phase 2: Assessing the need for an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment

The efficacy of an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment is highly dependent on ground visibility. To ensure that surveys are carried out appropriately and effectively surveys will only be carried out if visibility criteria are met as required under Table 2. Criteria for conducting Aboriginal cultural heritage assessments (site surveys) in the FPAs PAHC documents.

Where a formal survey is not required due to the criteria not being met an informal survey will be conducted in areas of higher disturbance (around main snig and landings etc) and recorded on file.

The PAHC considers that unless all the above criteria are met, there is a very low likelihood of identifying artefacts. If stands should have an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment (i.e. meet Phase 1 criteria) but do not meet Phase 2, an informal survey will be conducted in areas of higher disturbance (i.e. main extraction tracks and landings etc) and recorded on file.

**Note: The Resource Guide requires that all known Aboriginal Heritage sites at risk of damage within or adjacent to the operational area, should have an Aboriginal Heritage assessment regardless of whether they meet the four visibility criteria above.**

#### Phase 3: Aboriginal heritage assessment

If a stand is identified under Phase 2 or has known sites within it, the requirement for an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment by a recognised Aboriginal Heritage Officer or specialist will be prescribed in the FPP.

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<sup>1</sup> the information below is taken from the [FPA Resource guide for managing Cultural Heritage in wood production forests](#), 2.1.1 Acquiring knowledge (pg 17) and 3.5 The evaluation process for Aboriginal cultural heritage during preparation of a forest practices plan (pg 39).

FPP's are legally enforceable documents and all management prescriptions detailed in them must be adhered to by forestry contactors and forestry companies.

It is the responsibility of TPPL to arrange for assessments to be conducted. All survey documentation is retained by TPPL and provided to the FPA on request.

New site locations and details are forwarded on to the FPA by the relevant FPO.

The FPA's Cultural Heritage Manager on receipt of new information, must ensure that all new information is added to the TASI and Conserve Databases in a timely manner.

## Historic Heritage Assessment

Known sites of European cultural heritage are also recorded in the Conserve Database. If 'new' sites are discovered during field surveys, the site details must be recorded and sent to the FPA for listing on Conserve.

## Result of Cultural Heritage Assessments

### Heritage values identified.

If an assessment identifies specific cultural heritage, the following occurs:

1. A TPPL FPO inspects the site and makes any recordings as necessary and prepares a draft management prescription.
2. The FPO refers to the PAHC of the PHCH for management prescriptions and applies these in the FPP, if these cannot be applied, they liaise with the FPA Cultural Heritage Officer for advice.
3. Upon endorsement, a management plan for the specific cultural heritage site is developed.
4. The management plan is implemented as part of the FPP, to ensure the cultural heritage site is protected from logging and reforestation operations.
5. The FPP will state clearly if there are any cultural heritage values within the stand and will detail the management prescriptions to be applied. The FPP map will also clearly locate any reserves or exclusion zones, how the reserves are to be marked in the field and any survey requirements (e.g. post disturbance surveys, post roading surveys etc).

It is a legislative requirement that cultural heritage sites located be reported to the appropriate authority. In the case of forestry operations this is the FPA. The FPO shall ensure that this report is made. (*See Appendix "B" for details in relation to reporting*).

1. Advice shall be sought from the relevant authority and if appropriate;
  - a. A suitably qualified archaeologist or other person shall be employed to carry out an assessment of the cultural heritage.
2. A management plan for the specific cultural heritage shall be developed.
3. The management plan shall be implemented to ensure full protection of the cultural heritage site.

Management plans generally entail such actions as:

- Exclusion of the site from the operational area with a 10+ metre (depending on the significance of the site) machinery exclusion zone surrounding it. If the site is a scatter of Aboriginal artefacts the area is treated as one site and a buffer applies from the outermost artefacts.
- Reforestation of the area with native eucalypt species to distinguish and exclude it from the pine plantation area in perpetuity.

### **No heritage values identified.**

If the cultural heritage search does not identify specific cultural heritage values, it is still possible that cultural heritage may be present on the site and identified during operations. To ensure full protection of any possible cultural heritage not yet identified, the following shall apply:

1. TPPL field staff have attended the Forest Practices Authority Aboriginal and Cultural Heritage Training Program.
2. If previously unknown, Aboriginal or European Cultural Heritage is identified or unearthed during an operation, all works must cease immediately and the TPPL Emergency Response Plan for Cultural, Historic and Archaeological Sites: Accidental Discovery is enacted:
  - a. The area is isolated from further intervention or damage;
  - b. TPPL supervisor or FPO is notified immediately and if possible, photos are sent;
  - c. FPA is notified as soon as possible, using the standard form for site description; and
  - d. No work will re-commence in the surrounding area until it is judged no further discoveries are likely. Restart of the operation can only be approved by either an FPO or by the FPA.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Tasmanian Forest Industry, through the FPA, has agreed with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community that the location of any artefacts will not be publicly disclosed. Operational Supervisors and Managers are instructed to ensure contractors are aware of this agreement.

### **FPO training**

Much responsibility is placed on FPO's to ensure that culturally sensitive and important sites are accurately identified and appropriately managed. To ensure that FPO's have the background knowledge and skill to undertake this task the FPA provide training both as part of the standard FPO course and ongoing advanced training.

### **First Nations Land Management practices**

Through engagement with First Nations and representative Aboriginal Corporations, TPPL may be approached to incorporate traditional land management practices at reserve sites, or may reach out to those representatives to collaborate on multi-faceted reserve projects.

This may include traditional land practices such as, but not limited to, cool/cultural burning, canoe and Coolamon creation, fish trapping and seed collection and sowing.

Requests approaches should be managed following the below criteria:

1. Consider appropriate engagement has been made with all of the relevant stakeholders, and are there opportunities for further engagement
2. Does the practice align with the management of that reserve – HCV status, Special Values present
3. Are permissions needed by relevant authorities or the Client
4. Consider the need for a Cultural Heritage Assessment prior to the practice
5. What involvement can TPPL have, and is it appropriate
6. The practice will be covered by an operational plan and operational map or site induction (dependent on impact), so to convey the aims and expectations of the practice and any associated safety and environmental risks to both the persons on site and the site itself
7. A debrief with the relevant stakeholders should be held so to assess if expectations were met, learnings from the practice and any further directions the involved parties would like to take

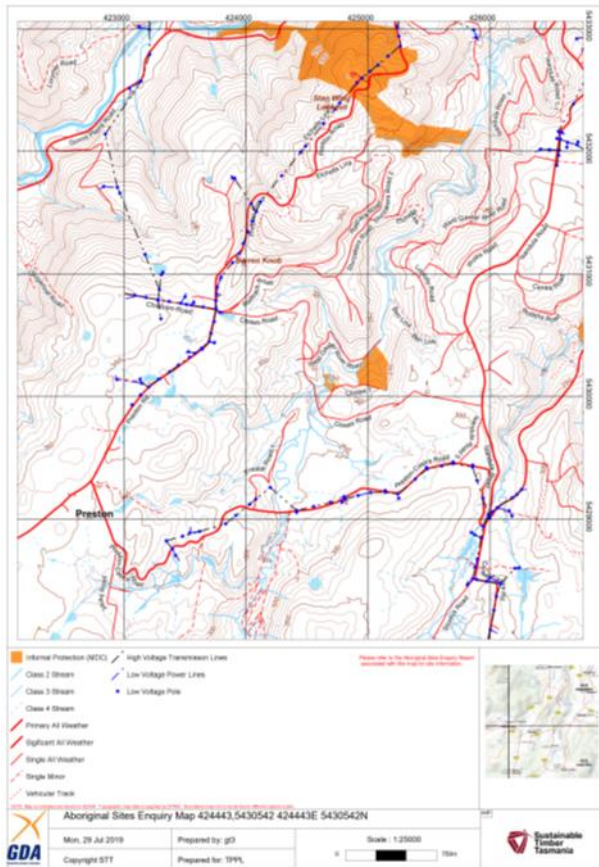


# Appendix 1

## Cultural Heritage Assessments

The Conserve Database is administered by Sustainable Timber Tasmania and only registered users are permitted access.

To access the Cultural Heritage section, planners need to attend a Cultural Heritage Course run by the FPA. Aboriginal sites are treated as confidential, hence the limit on persons having access. The example below was chosen as no sites were recorded in the area.



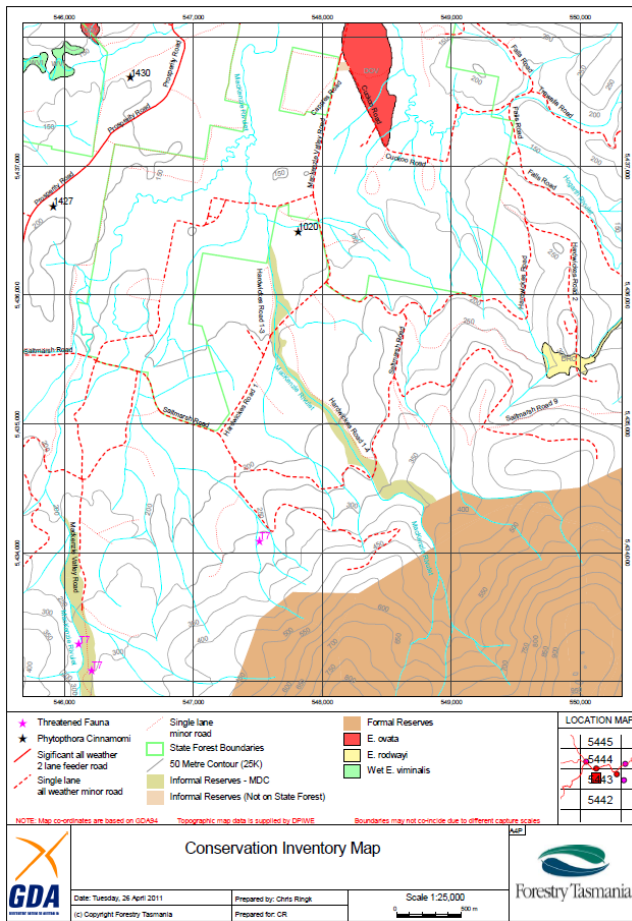
### Aboriginal Sites Enquiry Report

Target Location	424443,5430542	Generated	Monday 29 July, 2019 - 13:10
Grid Coords:	E: 424443.0, N: 5430542.0	Generated By	Gareth Tempest

#### Cultural Values

MDC All SMZ						
PRIZONE		ALLSMZ			HA	
Aboriginal Site Details						
FTID	TASI	EASTING	NORTHING	SITETYPE 1	SITETYPE 2	SITETYPE 3

Figure 1: Conserve Report for Castra 806124A. No sites of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage were identified.



**Conservation Enquiry Report**

Location: 548000mE, 5435500mN

Generated Tuesday, 26th of April 2011 - 16:51:58

**Please Note:**

1. Conservation Enquiry Maps & Reports are to be used for forest planning purposes only and are not for publication.
2. While based on the best available information, this inventory may not be comprehensive.
3. The absence of recorded sites is not evidence that such sites do not exist in this area.
4. The significance of recorded sites should be interpreted by an appropriate expert.
5. Positional accuracy generally not better than 100 metres.
6. Geoconservation sensitivity scores are ranked from 1 to 10, 1 being the most sensitive to disturbance, 10 being the least sensitive.
7. Priority communities identified on Conservation Enquiry Maps are those communities identified in the RFA as a priority for protection on Public Land.
8. The location of PC Management Areas can be identified via MDC or PC Management map compositions.
9. This report does not query Aboriginal data.

Geoconservation Points				
GIS CODE	NAME	EASTING	NORTHING	OVERALL VULNERABILITY
There are no records for this theme within this area.				

Historical Sites					
SITE ID	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	EASTING	NORTHING	ACCURACY
There are no records for this theme within this area.					

Historical Line Features		
FEATURE ID	FEATURE TYPE	DESCRIPTION
There are no records for this theme within this area.		

**Figure 2: Conserve report of the same coupe 828130C, covering approximately the same areas as Figure 1. No records of known Historic sites were identified. However, the field assessment identified approximately 2 km of water race.**



**Photograph 4: Previously unidentified water race found during the Cultural Heritage field assessment**

## Appendix B

### Forms and templates

For reporting the locations of cultural heritage go to the following site:

- [http://www.fpa.tas.gov.au/fpa\\_services/planning\\_assistance/heritage\\_and\\_landscape](http://www.fpa.tas.gov.au/fpa_services/planning_assistance/heritage_and_landscape)

Further information is also available at:

- [http://www.fpa.tas.gov.au/fpa\\_services/planning\\_assistance/heritage\\_and\\_landscape](http://www.fpa.tas.gov.au/fpa_services/planning_assistance/heritage_and_landscape)

### Examples of likely prescriptions to manage sites during harvesting

1. Complete site avoidance.

This is the preferred method of treatment for three reasons:

- No impact to the resource
  - No determination of site significance is necessary. This saves landowner costs, and expedites the approval process by eliminating delays caused by an archaeological study
  - Review of the adequacy of written protection measures is simplified and expedited. Sites can be recorded by staff trained in cultural heritage and decisions can be made on the basis of this paper work.
2. Machinery exclusion zones (MEZ).
  3. Directional falling of adjacent trees away from site area.
  4. Directional falling of planted trees within site areas towards site perimeter.
  5. Directional falling and skidding of trees onto existing roads or snig tracks.
  6. Reuse of existing facilities such as roads, landings and snig tracks in existing condition- no grading or widening.
  7. Use of designated snig tracks only.
  8. Use of rubber tyre equipment only.
  9. No piling or burning of slash on site.
  10. Marking of site with flagging tape to delineate from operational area.

### Examples of likely Protection measures

1. Monitoring of operations on or near site by Forest Practices Officer.
2. Monitoring of operations on or near site by an archaeologist.
3. Marking of trees to be harvested within site area with the assistance of an archaeologist.
4. No collection of artefacts by project personnel.
5. Cut logs into lengths that can be carried by a forwarder, no skidding.
6. Placement of barricades to prohibit vehicle entry.
7. Use existing crossings wherever possible and limit number of new crossing points.
8. Accurate mapping of site locality for future reference.