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| Objective | |
|  | This policy explains how we identify high conservation value areas within our management estate and to ensure they are managed to maintain their special values.  High conservation value areas for this policy are considered to be places which possess one or more of the following:  • significant species diversity or high concentrations of threatened species  • significant landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics  • rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems and habitats  • critical ecosystem services  • forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities  • forest areas critical to local communities’ traditional identity. |
| Management objectives | |
|  | Ents Forestry manage a number of forest management units which have been identified as having high conservation values.  These identified management units are actively managed to protect and enhance these identified values.  The objectives of management are:   * To protect the ecological, heritage and amenity values * Comply with all relevant laws and manage activities to meet or exceed statutory requirements and codes of practice.   Monitoring the impact of our work on the community and the environment is an ongoing priority. |
| Identified species | |
|  | Ents Forestry has identified the following list of species of high conservation value in our forest estate. These have been identified by field inspections and by use of the NatureMap to identify threatened species in the area. |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Conservation priority species | | | Fauna | Flora | | Baudin’s Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus baudinii)  Forest Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii naso)  Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris)  Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus)  Snowy albatross (Diomedea exulans)  Balston’s Pygmy Perch (Nannatherina balstoni)  Mud minnow (Galaxiella munda)  Carter's fresh water mussels (Westralunio carteri)  Sunset Frog (Spicospina flammocaerulea)  Brush-Tailed Phascogale (Phascogale tapoatafa)  Western Ringtail Possum (Pseudocheirus occidentalis)  Woylie (Bettongia penicillata ogilbyi)  Quokka (Setonix brachyurus)  Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) | Eucalyptus drummondi  Banksia goodii  Banksia mimica  Glossy leafed Hammer Orchid (Drakaea elastica)  Roundleaf Honeysuckle (Lambertia orbifolia)  Large flowered short styled Grevillea (Grevillea brachystylis subsp. grandis)  Senecio gilbertii |   All workers on the Ents Forestry estate are made aware of these high conservation species and are trained to identify them and monitor the presence in the forests. | |
| Indigenous heritage engagement | |
|  | Ents Forestry is committed to providing a framework for:   * engagement with recognised Indigenous community representatives in relation to existing legal rights and traditional indigenous uses of forest estate. * effective engagement with Indigenous communities for the identification and management of heritage sites of cultural significance within the forest estate.   Ongoing engagement around management standards and review processes is part of this framework.  Indigenous Heritage sites are identified with the use of Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System and discussions with local indigenous representatives.  Regular updates are made to the Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, so sites are checked for any changes before any major work is conducted in the forest. |
| Cultural values | |
|  | In line with the HCV description “forest areas critical to local communities’ traditional identity,” Ents Forestry acknowledge and support the identification and protection of cultural values.  The Ents philosophy requires these values to be protected in all activities. |
| Water | |
|  | One area that provide clean water catchments – is found on the Ents estate.  The property has been deemed to provide clean water benefits for the catchment. This is due to the property being located within the Collie River Water Resource Recovery Catchment as designated by the Department of Water & Environmental Regulation (DWER). A Salinity Situation Statement for the catchment was prepared by the Water and Rivers Commission (now DWER) and was referred to in preparing this Management Plan. The statement outlines the importance of retaining remnant native vegetation in the area in order to achieve reductions in salinity levels across the catchment.  Ents activities are designed to protect the water on the plantation and ensure the water leaving meets all required standards. |
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| Monitoring | |
|  | The forest estate is continually monitored. Visual inspections for health, growth, infrastructure, possible erosion, water flow issues and unexpected outcomes occur regularly.  Specific monitoring for water quality is completed to look for changes which could result from fertilising or pesticide use.  All identified high conservation values are specifically monitored to ensure negative impacts are not occurring. |
| Review | |
|  | This Procedure will be reviewed from time to time as and when required to adopt standard developments and changing local stakeholder requirements. |

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| Version | Author | Date | Review reasoning |
| 1.0 | S. Bourke | 28/9/21 | Document finalisation |
| 1.1 | S. Bourke | 30/9/22 | Addition of HCV 4.4 |

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