



Conservation Statement

Tom Hay Reserve, Bruny Island



www.tasland.org.au

Tom Hay Reserve Scorecard

Target and Indicator	Description	2015	2016	Status
Conservation Values				
Dry forest and woodland (DAS)	Condition of vegetation community	Very Good	Very Good	Condition Maintained
Floristic diversity	Number of species	Good	Good	Condition Maintained
Structural complexity	Presence of different strata/ age classes/ deadwood	Good	Good	Condition Maintained
Condition of grasstrees	Health and abundance of grasstrees	Good	Good	Condition Maintained
Fauna Activity	Evidence of diggings, scats or tracks; birds activity	Activity noted	Activity noted	Fauna using site
Mammal Diversity	Motion sensor camera deployed 2016	Not recorded	5 species detected	Species richness = 5
Potential Threats	Indicators	Status	Status	Status
Weed invasion	Evidence of weeds, especially pine wildlings	No evidence	No evidence	No weeds detected
Disease	Evidence of <i>Phytophthora</i> in banksia, grasstrees or heath species	No evidence	No evidence	No disease detected
Wood collection	Evidence of tree removal or wood gathering	No evidence	No evidence	No evidence
Other vegetation disturbance	Any other disturbance to vegetation or habitat	4 white gum seedlings staked and bagged	Seedlings established	Seedlings established
Other site activities	New tracks cut or evidence of other activities	No other activities noted	No other activities noted	No other activities noted
Sensitive site	Evidence of disturbance to sensitive site	Intact	Intact	Intact
Fire	Evidence of fire since last assessment	No evidence	No evidence	No evidence
Litter or rubbish dumping	Any evidence of illegal dumping, litter or rubbish	No evidence	No evidence	No evidence
Context	Description	2015	2016	Status
Property Intactness	Intactness of site to adjoining property	Intact	Intact	Intact
Neighbour Liaison	Description	2015	2016	Status
Communication	Communications maintained with adjacent property owners	Yes	Yes	Good communication
Reserve Assessment		2015	2016	Status
Reserve assessed by	Initial reserve assessment undertaken by Jim Mulcahy and Matt Taylor. Annual reserve assessment undertaken by	Sally Bryant	Sally Bryant	Intact

Introduction

The Tom Hay Reserve was gifted to the Tasmanian Land Conservancy in 2015 after its subdivision from the larger adjacent property was approved. The adjacent property was protected by a perpetual covenant under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* in 2011 and this covenant transferred with the title of the Tom Hay Reserve during subdivision. The Tom Hay Reserve is small in size but it adjoins the Rat Bay Conservation Area and several other private conservation reserves in the vicinity therefore providing a pivotal corridor. This network of private and public conservation reserves provide habitat for endangered species such as the forty spotted pardalote, swift parrot and eastern quoll and critical refugia for a host of other native wildlife on Bruny Island.

Location and Boundary

The Tom Hay Reserve (the Reserve) is located adjacent to 520 Killora Road, about 5km south of Dennes Point on North Bruny Island (see Figure 1 and 2). It occurs in the Southeast Bioregion. The Reserve is approx. 0.3ha in size and its boundaries are the Killora Road to the east and the adjoining coastal Reserve to the north and west, marked by a steel peg and wooden survey peg in each corner.

Natural Values

The native vegetation on the Reserve is some of the last that remains on the western side of north Bruny Island. The Reserve is lightly forested, with scattered black peppermint (*Eucalyptus amygdalina*) being the dominant tree to 18m tall. The woodland and heathy understorey is in excellent condition and contains a diverse number of native species with little evidence of introduced species. Very little active management of the vegetation is required at this time.

Black peppermint (*Eucalyptus amygdalina*) dry forest and woodland (DAS)

Open forest dominated by black peppermint (*E. amygdalina*) is present on the Reserve, with white gum (*E. viminalis*) and white peppermint (*E. pulchella*) as occasional sub-dominant canopy species. Understorey trees and tall shrubs include bull-oak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), native hop (*Dodonaea viscosa*), she-oak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*), banksia (*Banksia marginata*), drupe bush (*Leptomeria drupacea*), native cherry (*Exocarpos cupressiformis*) and coast beard heath (*Leucopogon parviflorus*). The ground layer is diverse and dominated by shrubs and sedges, including grasstrees (*Xanthorrhoea australis*), bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*), sword sedges (*Lepidosperma* sp.), saggs (*Lomandra longifolia*), spreading flax lily (*Dianella revoluta*), twiggy beard heath (*Leucopogon virgatus*), pink beard heath (*Leucopogon ericoides*), matted bush pea (*Pultenaea pedunculata*), ploughshare wattle (*Acacia gunnii*), sweet wattle (*Acacia suaveolens*), native cranberry (*Astroloma humifusum*), peachberry heath (*Lissanthe strigose*) and common raspwort (*Gonocarpus tetragynus*).

The vegetation is floristically and structurally diverse. No weeds were located on the Reserve and the native vegetation is in excellent condition. DAS is listed as vulnerable under the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002*

Fauna

The forty spotted pardalote (*Pardalotus quadragintus*) is listed as endangered under State and Federal legislation, and the main foraging habitat of this species – *Eucalyptus viminalis* – occurs on the Reserve and surrounding landscape. A motion sensor camera was deployed on site in November 2015 and the following species were detected: Bennetts wallaby *Macropus rufogriseus*, brush-tailed possum *Trichosurus vulpecula*, long nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus* and the threatened eastern

quoll *Dasyurus viverrinus*. In addition short-beaked echidna *Tachyglossus aculeatus* regularly occur on the Reserve and their diggings are widespread.



Fauna captured on the Reserve 2015/16 : Bennett's wallaby, long nosed potoroo and eastern quoll (arrow)

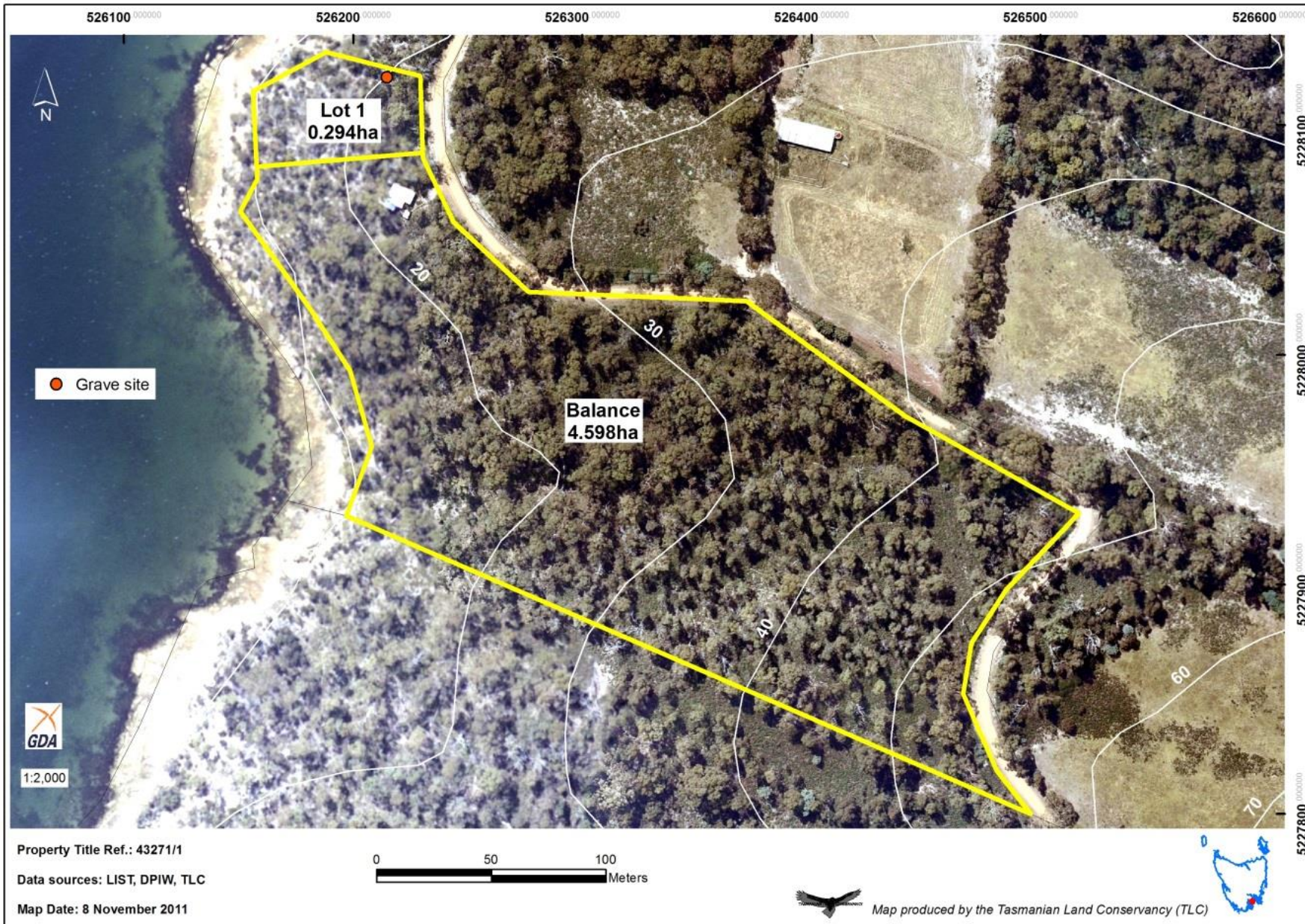


Figure 1 Location of the Tom Hay Reserve Killora Road, Bruny Island

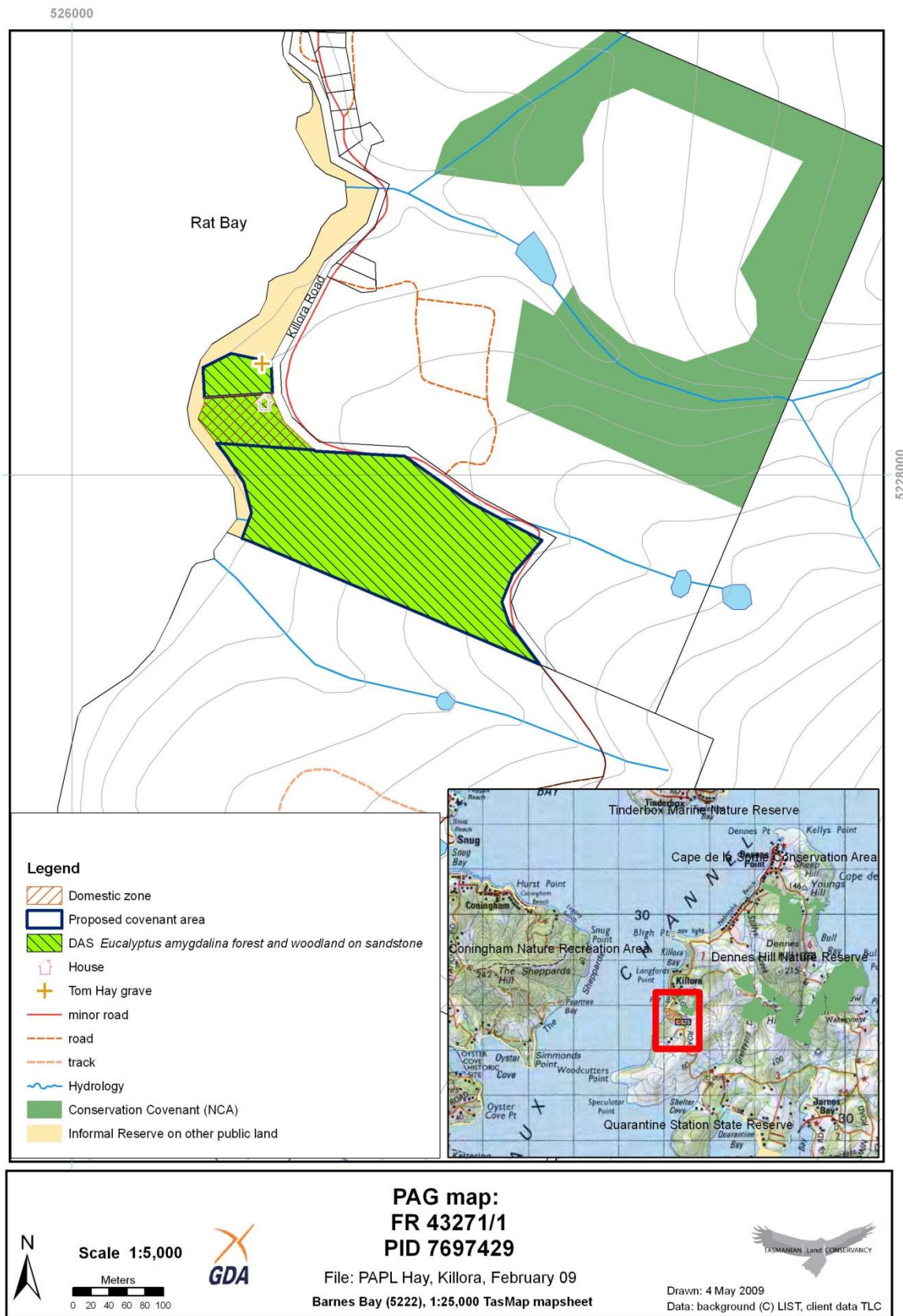


Figure 2 Attributes of the Tom Hay Reserve in the Killora landscape, Bruny Island.

Sensitive Site

The Tom Hay Reserve contains a memorial site which has been gently and discretely placed in the landscape and is clearly defined by rocks and a memorial plaque. This is an important component of the Reserve and requires lasting respect and sensitive care.

Assessment of the Reserve

Due to its small size, annual assessment of the Reserve will be to ensure its integrity is being maintained in a wider landscape context and to detect any potential threats to its natural and sensitive values. Reserve assessment involves assessing a check list of potential threats and taking a series of site photos. A baseline monitoring photo was taken in 2015 from the steel peg at the southern corner boundary of the Reserve showing the roofline of the adjoining shack. Other photos featuring the general health and condition of vegetation especially *Xanthorrhoea australis* and other species sensitive to phytophthora should also be taken. A series of photos obtained in 2009 will be used as the baseline. One monitoring camera was installed on 28/11/2015 and collected 3/1/2016 to obtain a baseline list of fauna and should be repeated every three years. This report should be kept up-to-date to form the annual reserve assessment report and key communication tool.

Key Recommendations

- Annual Reserve assessment is required to determine Reserve status and detect potential threats.
- Maintain good communication with the donors and adjacent landholders.
- No TLC signage or fencing is to be erected.
- A boundary photo is required every three years, from the steel boundary peg.
- A database of site photos and other notes recorded are to be maintained on the TLC Server.
- The Reserve Scorecard needs to be kept current and available on TLC's web site.

Acknowledgment

This Reserve has been created through the generous donation of Tom Hay as administered by his parents Anna Williams and Peter Hay. It reflects their passion to preserve this special piece of earth and all it holds and the TLC has made a commitment to protect these values. Sincere thanks to Tom Hay, Peter Hay and Anna Williams.

Assessing Reserve Condition

The Tom Hay Reserve was assessed as being in 'good condition' at the time of preparing the covenant in 2009 and its later excision from the adjacent block . Its ongoing integrity and viability is linked with the adjacent covenanted private reserve and the wider Killora landscape. Activities such as retaining fallen timber, early detection and elimination of weeds, rubbish or other disturbances and maintaining good communications with adjacent landholders are critical to maintaining the integrity of this site. No boundary fencing or signage is recommended to ensure the site does not attract attention or restrict the flow of species.

2009



2015



Sensitive Site 2009 and 2016

Key Recommendations

- Annual Reserve assessment is required to determine Reserve status and detect potential threats.
- Maintain good communication with adjacent landholders.
- No TLC signage or fencing to be erected.
- Motion sensor camera to be deployed in 2016

2009 Vegetation condition - arrow shows shack roof



2015 Vegetation condition – arrow shows shack roof



Natural Condition and Intactness

The photos contrasting similar views in 2009 to 2015 demonstrate the floristic complexity and good natural condition of the Tom Hay Reserve. Photos show continued growth and regeneration of the native vegetation on the Reserve particularly after the wider area has suffered from a long period of drought.

2009



2015



Key Recommendations

- A boundary photo is required every three years, using the steel boundary peg (see LH below).
- The Reserve scorecard must be kept up-to-date.
- The reserve must be checked annually



Reviewed and updated: 25 January 2017 By: Sally Bryant