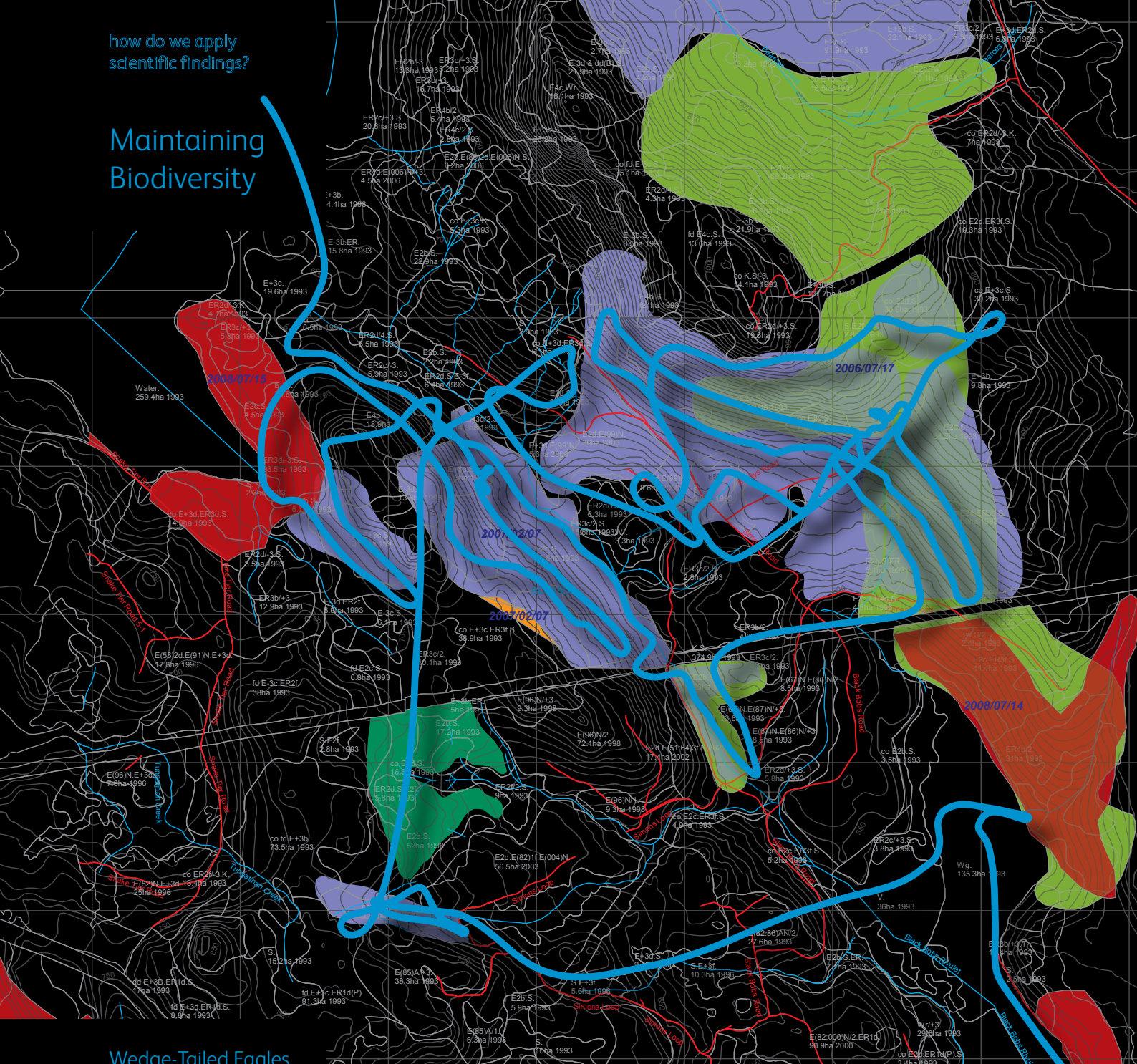


how do we apply scientific findings?

Maintaining Biodiversity



Wedge-Tailed Eagles

Foresters establish reserves where significant environmental issues such as the need to protect habitat for threatened species either limits or excludes timber harvesting operations. A good example of this is the extensive buffer zones around nesting trees of Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagles.

Like most top predators, these magnificent birds are few in number, slow-breeding and long-lived, so the loss of even one breeding pair has an impact on the overall population.

Wedge-tailed eagles range across a variety of different habitats. They prefer to hunt on open areas such as grassland or rural land; but they only nest in tall trees in old native forests, usually choosing the biggest tree in the area, on a sheltered slope away from the strong prevailing westerly winds.

They build massive nests of sticks, adding to them each year. A nest in a good site may be used year after year, sometimes for decades – but the birds are sensitive and will abandon eggs and chicks if human presence disturbs them.

Tasmanian foresters undertake detailed and thorough research to locate nest sites, identify suitable eagle habitat and ensure that forestry activities are kept a safe distance away.

This map depicts how aerial searches are conducted using helicopters to locate wedge-tailed eagle nesting sites. Potential habitat to be searched is represented by the purple area, while the thick blue line is the flight path taken by the helicopter. Orange and red zones represent areas that have been previously covered, but may also overlap with future searches.

Key

- Helicopter Path
- Searched 2006
- Searched 2007
- Searched 2008
- To Be Searched
- Harvested Forest
- Pitype (Boundary)
- Roads

Locality Map



Scale

