Taking Account of Special Values in the Planning Process

an example from the Southern Forests

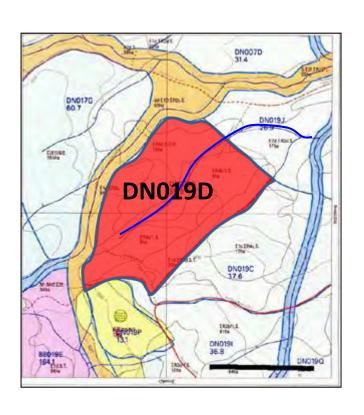


Terry Ware¹ and Peter McIntosh²

¹T.J. Ware Forest Consultants

²Forest Practices Authority

Denison 019D – initial planning



- The coupe is located in the Huon River catchment
- Initial survey showed one stream and soils formed in dolerite (low erodibility)
- It appeared to be a straightforward regrowth coupe with few issues

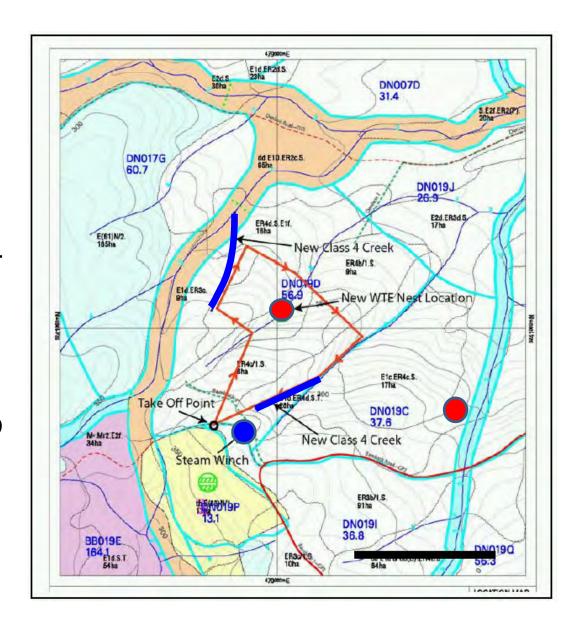
Field checks

January 2005:

- Sandstone and siltstone were dominant, not dolerite
- 2 eagle nests present
- Two additional class 4 streams
- Steam winch

April 2005: another visit with FPA Ecologist, to check nest activity

Plus a later visit to formulate special values prescriptions



Summary of special value issues requiring attention

Fauna

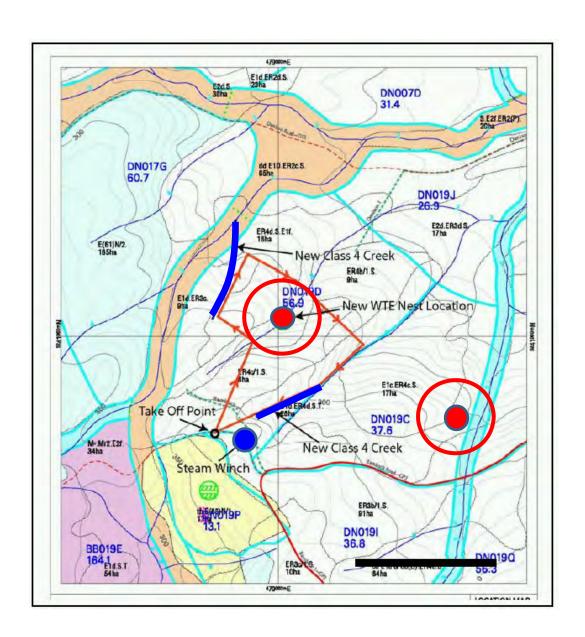
- Wedge-tailed eagles
- Mt Mangana Stag Beetle
- Ombrastacoides denisoni (little Denison crayfish)





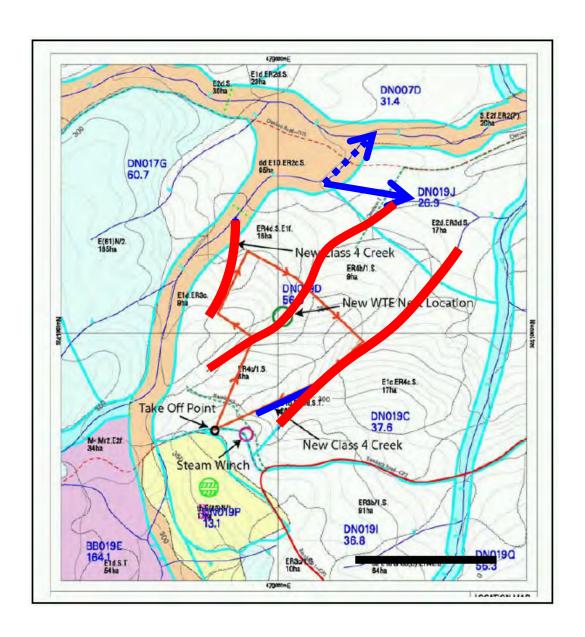


Eagle nests required a minimum of 10 ha reserves



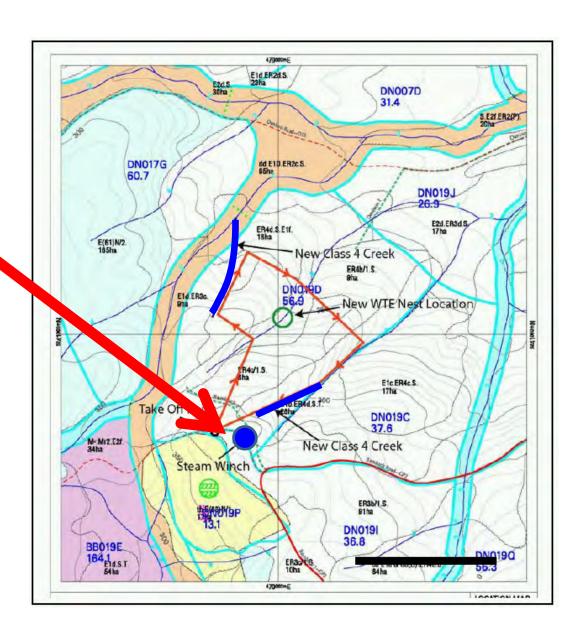
Soil and Water

- Soil erodibility was moderate, not low (dolerite had limited extent)
- Erosion in streams required extra streamside reserves
- Snowy River Trout
 Farm downstream –
 needed extra
 protection for water
 quality
- Daves Creek not mapped in right position



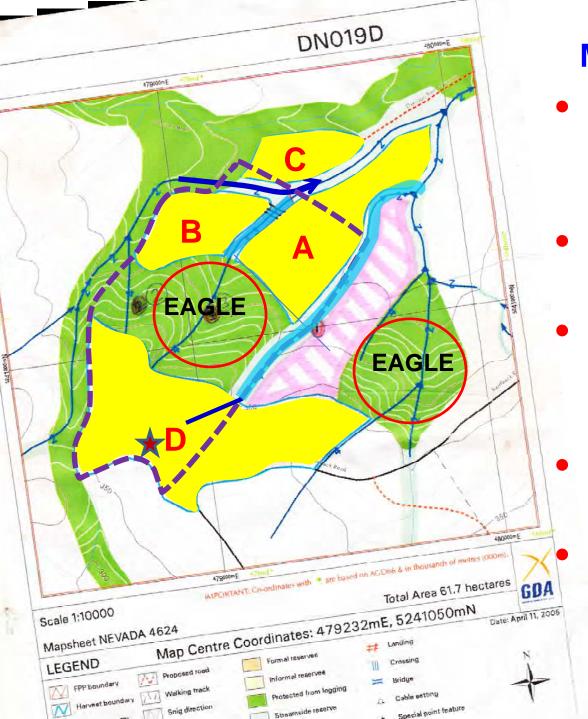
Cultural heritage

 Steam winch site required protection



Decisions

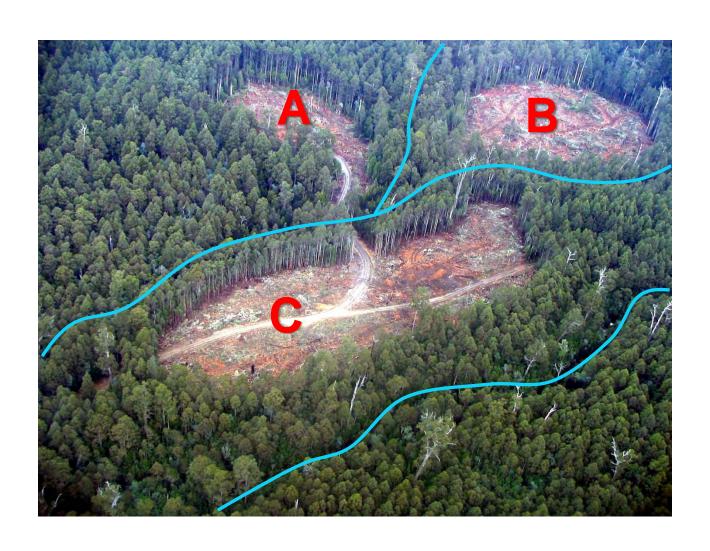
- Plan changed from conversion to plantation to native forest regeneration, to reduce risks on water quality for salmon farm
- Sectional harvest planned leaving reserves around streams and the eagle nest and the steam winch
- Correct course of Daves Creek mapped on ground with new streamside reserve on it
- Revised plan send to FPA specialists for endorsement



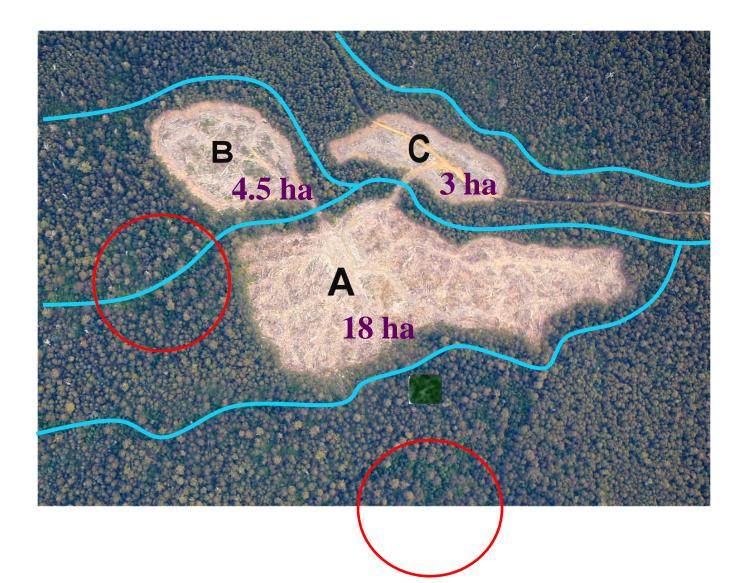
Modified plan

- Extra streamside reserves on eroding streams
- Harvest in 3 sections A, B, C
 - New section added to make harvest viable (D)
 - Eagle nest reserves defined Regeneration burning to be in stages

During harvest



After harvest



Discussion

- Harvest of section D was deferred
- The four-month development of the Forest Practices
 Plan demonstrates how biological and physical values constrain final coupe shape
- The value of consultation with specialists and interested parties was highlighted
- Final harvest area was 58 ha (smallest section 3 ha, largest 32 ha)
- Coupe management (particularly fire management) was made more difficult and expensive because of sectional harvest (perimeter of coupe doubled)

These people helped to put together this presentation:

- FPA Specialists
 - Mark Wapstra (Biodiversity)
 - Denise Gaughwin (Cultural Heritage)
 - Karen Richards (photos)
 - Chris Spencer (photos)
- FT Huon District Planning
- Snowy Range Trout Farm

Dominic O'Brien



This presentation was produced by the FPA.