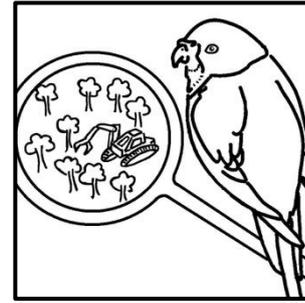


# Forestry Watch Survey Report

Coupe Number: TN034G

Location: Styx Rd, Near Maydena



Date: 20/02/2020

## Coupe Snapshot:

<b>Size:</b>	<b>23.9 ha</b>	<b>Year to be logged*:</b>	<b>2019 (unlogged as of April 2020) Rooding into coupe recently begun.</b>
<b>Harvest method:</b>	<b>Clearfell</b>		
<b>Natural Values:</b>	Old-growth, masked owl habitat, numerous hollow-bearing trees, high carbon storage capacity, waterways present.		

## Introduction

Forestry Watch conducted a citizen science survey of coupe TN034G on the 20th of February, 2020. This coupe was selected by the team due to its high percentage of old-growth and the potential for good quality habitat.

## Location

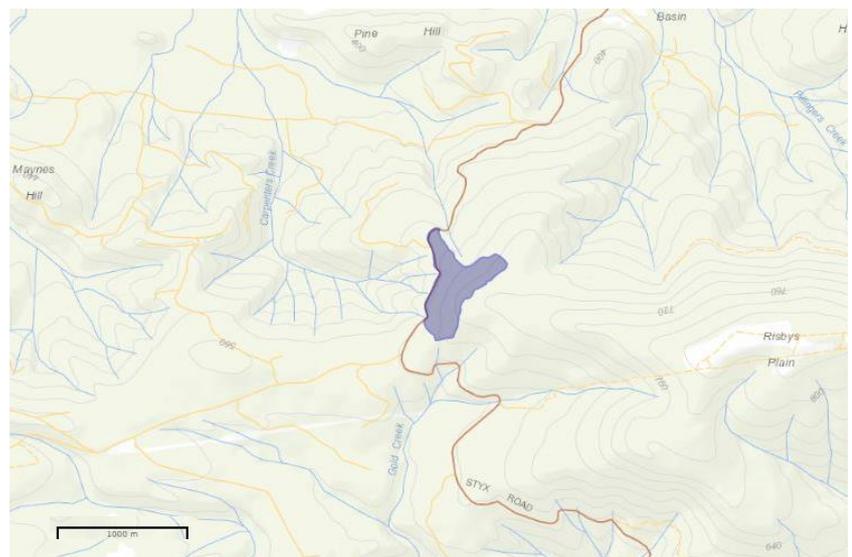


Figure 1. Maps display location forestry coupe TN034G in southern Tasmania. Polygon sourced from Sustainable Timbers Tasmania.

\*According to Sustainable Timbers Tasmania's three year plan

## Vegetation

TN34G is listed as *Eucalyptus regnans* wet forest, with *Nothofagus-Phyllocladus* rainforest in the northwest corner by TASVEG 3.0. This was confirmed by the survey team.

The coupe/part of the coupe has no evidence of past human disturbance, indicating old growth forest.

### Survey findings:

- Old growth forests, with high carbon storage potential
- High quality masked owl habitat
- High quality habitat present for a variety of other threatened and non-threatened species
- High density of fallen trees providing habitat and stored carbon
- Habitat for the rare Tyenna River freshwater snail

### Density of Large Habitat Trees

Density of Large Habitat Trees >150cm diameter	Density of Medium Habitat Trees >100cm diameter	Density of Large Logs >100cm diameter
47 per ha	20 per ha	17 per ha

### Conclusion:

Our survey shows that the forests within this coupe contains excellent habitat. This is due to the presence of large old-growth trees, which contained numerous hollows. These large old-growth trees are also of very low economic value. TN034G also provides habitat for the rare Tyenna River freshwater snail. Forestry Watch recommends that these forests are protected in order to protect wildlife and the large volume of stored carbon within this forest.

### Previous findings:

- A search of the Natural Values Atlas, a state government database which records threatened species information, has found the following threatened species to occur near the coupe:
  - The rare Tyenna River Freshwater Snail (*Phrantela pupiformis*) has been located within 500m
  - Within 5km, there are verified records of threatened species
    - grey goshawk
    - azure kingfisher
    - Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle
    - spotted tail quoll
    - eastern quoll
    - eastern barred bandicoot
    - Tasmanian devil

### Threatened Species Information:

*Tyenna River freshwater snail (Phrantela pupiformis)*, **Rare** (DPIPWE 2009)

The Tyenna River freshwater snail is endemic and has a distribution limited to a tributary of the Tyenna River. The primary threats to this rare species are habitat degradation and sedimentation and is therefore highly vulnerable to proximate forestry operations.

*Masked owl (Tyto novaehollandiae subsp. Castanops)*, **Vulnerable** (EPBC 1999)

The Tasmanian Masked owl is estimated to have only 500 breeding pairs remaining. Masked owls require large hollows only found in mature forests. The main threat to the masked owl is the clearing of nesting and foraging habitat. High quality masked owl habitat is considered to have more than eight trees over 150cm dbh per hectare.

*Spotted tailed quoll (Dasyurus maculatus)*, **Vulnerable** (EPBC 1999)

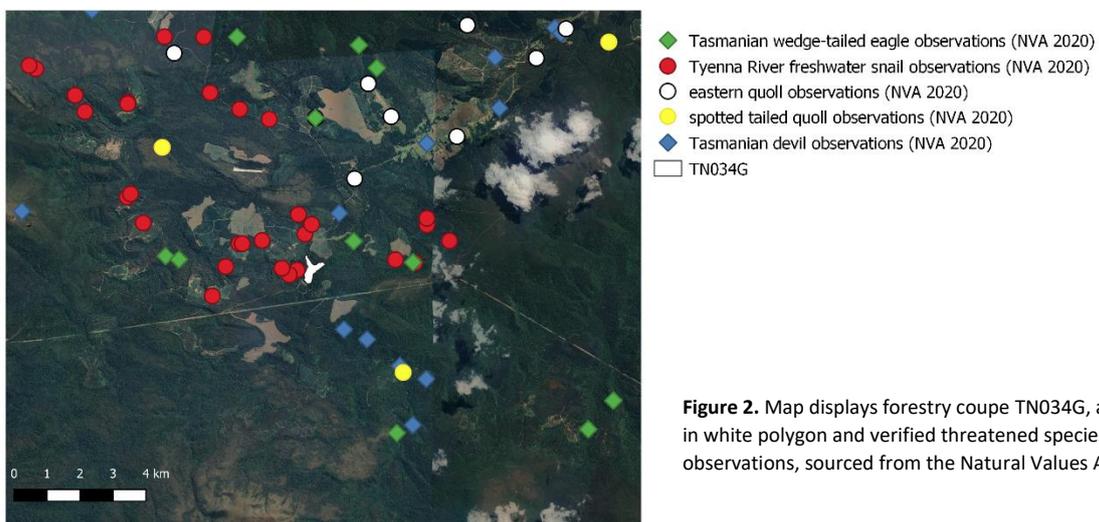
The spotted tailed quoll requires large tracts of forest with potential den sites. Den sights and hollows required by prey are removed by intensive forestry practices, especially when logging is followed by burning, rendering the area unsuitable habitat.

*Tasmanian Devil (Sarcophilus harrisii)*, **Endangered** (Threatened Species Act 1995)

The Tasmanian Devil have large ranges which span over several square kilometres. Old-growth forests provide important habitat for denning, which includes hollow logs and dense vegetation. Logging native forests can destroy dens or potential denning habitat.

*Mt Mangana stag beetle (Lissotes menalcas)*, **Vulnerable** (Threatened Species Act 1995)

The Mount Mangana stag beetle is endemic to the wet forests of southern Tasmania. It lives in logs rotting on the forest floor. The greatest threat to the beetle is the removal of these logs by forest clearing and burning.



**Figure 2.** Map displays forestry coupe TN034G, as shown in white polygon and verified threatened species observations, sourced from the Natural Values Atlas.

### Old growth and carbon storage

Old growth is defined as 'Ecologically mature forest where the effects of disturbances are now negligible'. Old-growth *Eucalypts regnans* forests are the most carbon dense forests in the world. Large, old trees still grow in width and draw down more carbon than younger trees. Logging of old

growth followed by intensive harvesting cycles causes the release of carbon stored in forest soils in a process that continues centuries after initial logging.

If you would like more information about the methodology used in this survey, would like to use the data, or have any general questions, please contact us. If you would like to join one of our surveys, please send us an email or keep an eye out for events on our facebook page.

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