

The Ambassador

N° 2022-0149170

Canberra, the 29 March 2022

To the Huon Valley Council,

I write to request Council's support for the Leprena Trust proposed Blackswan Lagoon Scenic Protection Area, and inclusion under Local Provisions Schedule C8.0 Scenic Protection Area.

We will be encouraging the Tasmanian State Government to also support this proposal through an endorsement from the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service. The Leprena Trust has informed us that all private landholders within the proposed Blackswan Lagoon Scenic Protection Area are supportive of the proposal as drafted.

We request that Planning Commission directs the local planning authority, under section 35K(1)(a) of Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (the Act), to modify the Huon Valley Council draft Local Provisions Schedules in accordance with Leprena Trusts Blackswan Lagoon Scenic Protection Area request and enable readvertising and exhibition.

This area is of outstanding historical significance to Tasmania, Australia and France, as it marks the location of the first landing place of French explorers in 1792-93 and friendly encounters with local populations.

Recherche Bay is the first contact events between the Lylyquonny (Tasmanian Aboriginal peoples) and the French (friendly running races and spear throwing competitions in 1793), and is the place of great cultural significance with numerous Aboriginal heritage living and burial sites.

Recherche Bay is the first contact events between the Lyluquonny (Tasmanian Aboriginal peoples) and the French (friendly running races and spear throwing competitions in 1793), and is the place of great cultural significance with numerous Aboriginal heritage living and burial sites.

The area also held central European scientific endeavour (astronomical observatories, and scientific collections of animals and plants in 1792-93, including the first type specimen for Eucalyptus) and enterprise (bay whaling and convict coal mining during the early 1800's).

Furthermore, the site holds native wildlife features of acute scenic integrity level, including sea-eagle nests, major local breeding areas and threatened vegetation communities, making its protection of paramount importance.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Pierre THÉBAULT

To the Huon Valley Council
Tasmania