



15 December 2023

Our Ref: 17/82
Enquiries to: Rong Zheng

Mr J Ramsay
Delegate (Chair)
Tasmanian Planning Commission
GPO Box 1691
HOBART TAS 7001

Email: tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Ramsay

**RE: DRAFT HUON VALLEY LOCAL PROVISION SCHEDULE (LPS) – LPS-HUO-TPS –
DIRECTION 28**

I write in response to the Commission's directions issued on 9 August 2023.

Direction 28 requested the following information:

Following the hearing of Submission 16 (land at 59 Wilmot Road, Huonville, folios of the Register (132549/1, 184322/2 and 184322/1), the planning authority is to undertake an investigation as to whether the Priority Vegetation Area overlay which applies to the land ought to be modified.

Response

Planning authority policy

The Priority Vegetation Area overlay should only apply to areas of native vegetation.

Priority vegetation, Regional Ecosystem Model (REM) output and context

- TASVEG maps all forest remnants and paddocks containing individual eucalypts as endangered black gum (*E. ovata*) forest and woodland (DOV). Any mature black gums (or blue gums) on the property could provide significant foraging habitat for the critically endangered swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) when in flower.
- Aerial photography indicates that many areas mapped as DOV do not contain established native vegetation, although some areas do contain individual mature trees that are probably black gums.

- The REM picks up DOV forest and associated foraging habitat for the swift parrot, nesting habitat for grey goshawks and white-bellied sea eagles, and general habitat for a whole range of landscape-dependent threatened fauna species.
- The property adjoins a relatively narrow, informal riparian reserve along the Huon River, which provides important habitat and 'ecosystem services' in stabilising the riverbank.

Conclusions

- Unless evidence is provided that no mature black gums or blue gums (*E. globulus*) occur, the Priority Vegetation Area overlay should apply to all patches of remnant vegetation and to those parts of the title that support mature eucalypts.
- In most places the PVA overlay can be trimmed to the vegetation boundary using recent aerial photography, but expansion to capture mature paddock trees is warranted as they are likely to be black gums providing foraging habitat for swift parrots when in flower.
- In the absence of more detailed geospatial information, the boundary of the overlay should be defined by the apparent vegetation boundary and presence of mature eucalypts as informed by the State Aerial Photo Basemap and the Hillshade Basemap (theLIST, 2023) (see Figure 2).

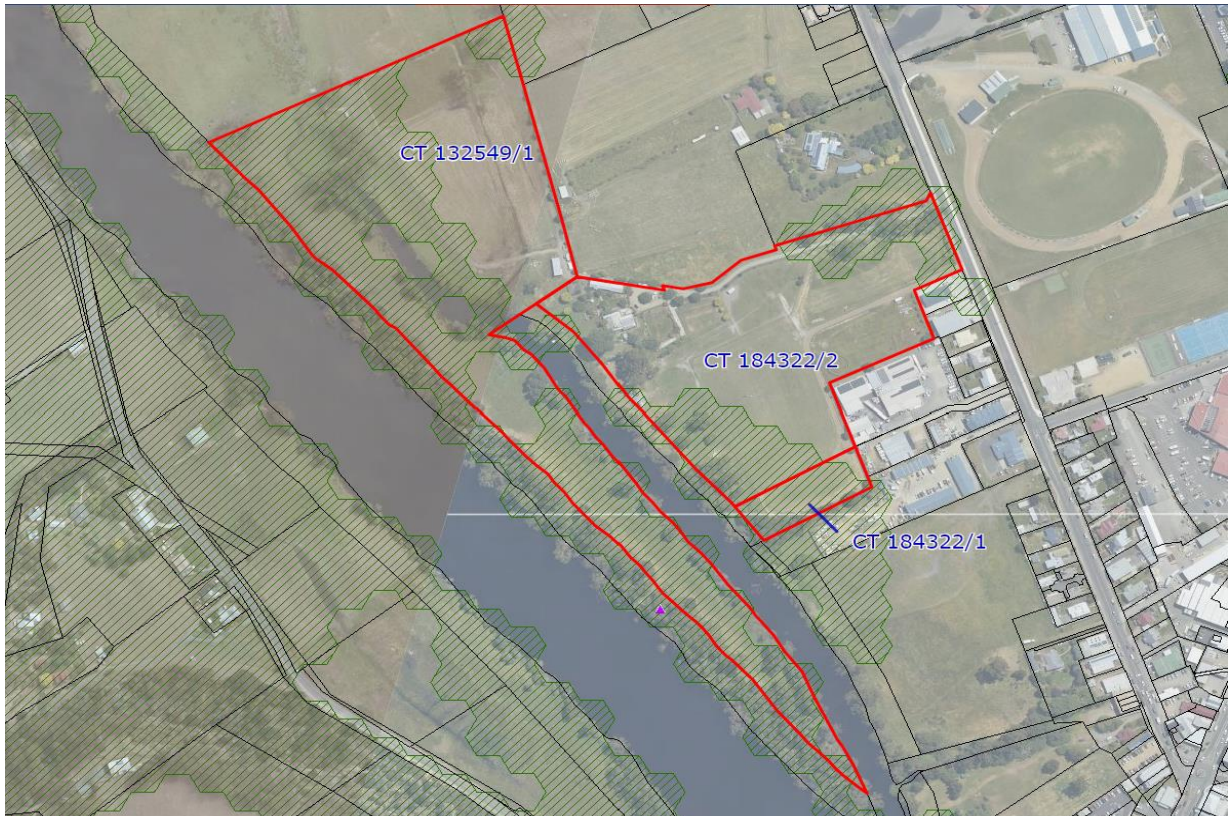


Figure 1 Current vegetation cover and application of the Biodiversity Protection Area overlay (green hatching)

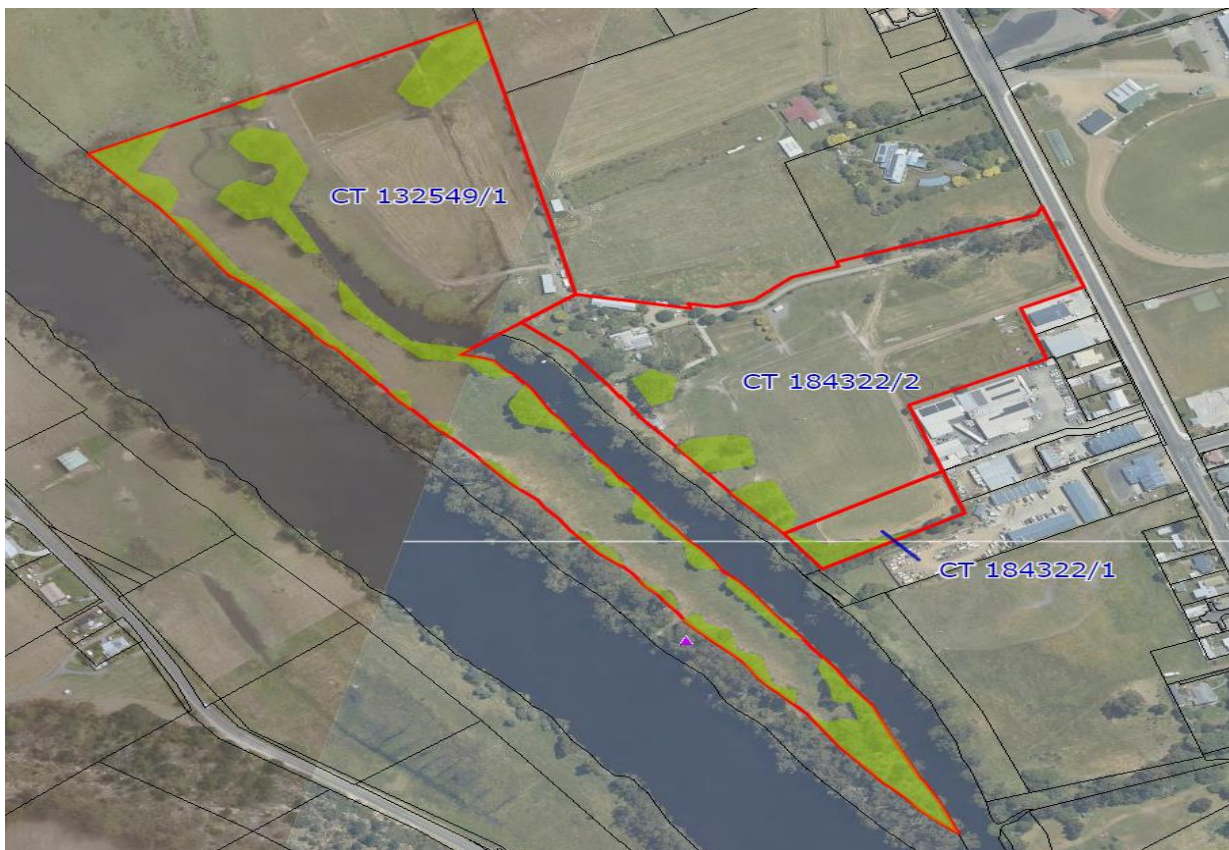


Figure 2 Suggested application of Priority Vegetation Area overlay (green shading)

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Rong Zheng direct on 6264 9467.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rong' followed by a stylized surname.

RONG ZHENG
PROJECT MANAGER – STRATEGIC LAND USE