

Contents

Summary	inside front cover of this report
Abbreviations	x
1 Introduction	1
1.1 What's in this chapter?	1
1.2 About this report	2
1.3 About the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area	5
1.4 About this evaluation	8
2 General management and arrangements	15
2.1 What's in this chapter?	15
2.2 Achievement of desired outcomes of management	17
2.3 Balance of management effort across responsibilities	17
2.4 Community acceptance of TWWHA management	19
2.5 Legislation, law enforcement and compliance	20
2.6 Accordance of management with legal instruments and conservation agreements	25
2.7 Management of controversial issues	54
2.8 Land tenure, boundary and adjacent area management	25
2.9 Transmission of knowledge and ability to future generations	30
2.10 Community engagement with the TWWHA	30
2.11 Management arrangements for Aboriginal heritage	35
2.12 Integration of TWWHA management with local and regional planning	36
2.13 Public health and safety in the TWWHA	38
2.14 Management of property and assets	39
2.15 Standard and practice of management	39
2.16 Performance evaluation and adaptive management	42
3 Identification and understanding of the natural and cultural heritage	43
3.1 What's in this chapter?	43
3.2 Identification and definition of the natural and cultural values	45
3.3 Knowledge of the natural and cultural values	51
3.4 Social and cultural values affecting management	52
3.5 Adequacy of knowledge for sound management	53

4 Protection of the natural and cultural heritage 55

4.1	What's in this chapter?	55
4.2	What is the natural and cultural heritage of the TWWHA?	57
4.3	What are the main threats to the natural and cultural heritage?	58
4.4	Management of identified threats and adverse impacts, 1992–1999	61
4.5	Cessation or reduction of damaging activities and practices	61
4.6	Wildfires	62
4.7	Plant diseases and dieback	69
4.8	Weeds and other introduced plants	77
4.9	Introduced animals	85
4.10	Tourism and visitor activities and use	97
4.11	Development of new facilities and other infrastructure	111
4.12	Coastal erosion of Aboriginal heritage sites	115
4.13	Lack of maintenance or active conservation of historic heritage	116
4.14	Regulation of river flows by hydroelectric power generating operations	119

5 Conservation and rehabilitation of the natural and cultural heritage 123

5.1	What's in this chapter?	123
5.2	Condition of natural diversity and processes	125
5.3	Wilderness quality	137
5.4	Environmental quality	142
5.5	Landscape quality	143
5.6	Condition of Aboriginal and historic heritage	145
5.7	Monitored condition of significant values (including degraded values)	147

6 Presentation of the natural and cultural heritage 163

6.1	What's in this chapter?	163
6.2	Community awareness and support for the TWWHA	165
6.3	Popularity and effectiveness of information and education products and services	167
6.4	Visitor facilities, use and sustainability	173
6.5	Visitor satisfaction with facilities, services and their experience of the TWWHA	177

7	Stakeholders' assessments of management performance	187
7.1	What's in this chapter?	187
7.2	How were stakeholders' assessments gathered?	188
7.3	Overall management performance	189
7.4	General management and arrangements	197
7.5	Identification and understanding of values	210
7.6	Protection and conservation of values	212
7.7	Presentation of values	216
8	Conclusions and proposed actions	223
8.1	What's in this chapter?	223
8.2	Practical benefits from this evaluation	224
8.3	Limitations of this evaluation	224
8.4	Overall management effectiveness for the TWWHA	226
8.5	Opportunities and proposed actions for enhancing management performance	227
8.6	How can this report help improve ongoing management?	238
	Appendices	239
1	Responsible Ministers and agencies for the TWWHA, 1992–1999	239
2	Funding and other resources for management	245
3	Implementation of the 1992 management plan	247
4	Summary of offences in the TWWHA, 1992–1999	270
5	World heritage values of the TWWHA	271
6	Fires in the TWWHA, 1992–1999	274
7	Rare and endangered plant species recorded in the TWWHA	275
8	Rare and endangered animal species recorded in the TWWHA	284
	References and further information	289
	Index	313

Figures

1	Locality map, Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area	4
2	The management cycle for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, with integrated evaluation and adaptive management	9
3	Balance of management effort across major responsibilities	18
4	Balance of management expenditure across major project areas	18
5	Changes in boundary, land tenure and conservation status since listing as a World Heritage Area	31
6	Progress in vegetation mapping, 1992–2000	47
7	Major vegetation types in the TWWHA	48
8	Application of vegetation mapping to management	49–50
9	Prescribed management burns and unplanned fires over the 1992–1999 period	68
10	Distribution of <i>Phytophthora</i> root rot disease	71
11	Distribution and abundance of introduced plant species	80
12	Priority weeds for control in the TWWHA	81–82
13	Introduced animals of significance to the TWWHA	92–93, 96
14	Locality map, lower Gordon River	100
15	Walker impacts. Track monitoring case study, Western Arthur Range	107
16	Sheet erosion on the Central Plateau	126
17	Wilderness quality in Tasmania	139–140
18	Physically degraded sites and rehabilitation works in the TWWHA	144
19	Tasmanian public awareness and support for the TWWHA	165
20	Tasmanian public perceptions of the main benefits and costs of World Heritage listing	166
21	Key sources of public's knowledge about the TWWHA	168
22	Monitored use of the Parks and Wildlife Service web site	170
23	Visitor satisfaction with Visitor Centres	171
24	Visitor use of major walking tracks in the TWWHA	174
25	Public accommodation facilities and walking tracks in the TWWHA	178
26	Visitors' personal benefits of visiting the TWWHA	181
27	Visitors' perceptions of change in the TWWHA	183
28	Visitors' expectations of the TWWHA being a wilderness area	184
29	Visitors' satisfaction with their wilderness experience in the TWWHA	184
30	Factors that would spoil visitors' wilderness experience	185

Appendix figures

A2-1	History of World Heritage funding for management	245
A2-2	Levels and sources of funding for management of the TWWHA, 1992–1999	246
A3-1	Extent of implementation of prescribed actions of the 1992 plan	247
A3-2	Reasons why some prescribed actions were not implemented	248