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**Crown Land Assessment and Classification  
Project**

**Consultation Report  
and  
Recommendations**

**Reservation of 20 parcels on King Island**

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CLAC Project Team

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENT

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**March 2005**

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# **1 INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 Background**

In early July 2004, the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment invited comment on proposals to recommend the reservation, under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*, of a number of parcels of Crown land on King Island. A list of parcels and their proposed reservation status was released for information and comment.

The reservation proposals were based principally on a study conducted by the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment and published as “The Native Vegetation of King Island, Bass Strait” (R.W.Barnes, F.Duncan & C.S Todd, 2002).

## **1.2 Consultation Process**

Key stakeholders were notified of the proposals, including adjacent landholders. Staff of the Department visited King Island with representatives from the Parks and Wildlife Service on 22 July 2004. Meetings were held with the Council and with the King Island Natural Resource Management Group. Initially, comment was requested to be submitted by 20 August 2004, but the comment period was extended to 30 September 2004.

A report on that consultation and recommendations for reservation was prepared and published in October 2004. Subsequently, the consultation period on the 20 parcels was extended and concluded on 21 January 2005. During that period, two meetings were held on King Island with local representatives of the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA). As a result, a revised report and recommendations on those 20 properties has been prepared. This is the revised report.

# **2 RESERVE PROPOSALS**

## **2.1 Introduction**

This report summarises the comment received on the reserve proposals, including comment received from the TFGA during the extended comment period, and the response to that comment. All comments received have been considered in developing the final proposals. A brief overview on the general comments received is provided. Then, final proposals are listed in turn for each reserve. These final proposals will be considered by the Crown Land Assessment and Classification Project Steering Committee before being submitted to the Minister and Cabinet for approval.

## **2.2 Overview of Comments**

Comments specific to a particular parcel proposed for reservation are discussed under the specific heading for that land parcel. However, a number of comments canvassed issues broader than the reservation process, generally concerning management issues rather than reservation of the land. These are discussed below.

Suggestions were given about the management planning process, and management practices and resourcing, including fire management. These matters are addressed through the provisions of the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*, which covers management planning. The Parks and Wildlife Service undertake this. Management plans are prepared according to that Act and must include public consultation in their formulation. All the land proposed for reservation is already the management responsibility of the Crown. Once reserved, this will be undertaken by the Parks and Wildlife Service.

A number of respondents raised concerns about fencing. The Crown is exempt in law from fencing and as a matter of practice does not fence Crown land including both unallocated Crown land and reserved land. Fencing of reserved land is not a requirement of the reserve category. Fencing can be one management technique if required to protect natural and cultural values.

Some comments suggested that Conservation Area status would be insufficient to protect values. However, the assessment is that conservation values are sufficiently protected by the reserve categories that are proposed in this report. Other respondents were concerned that the proposed reserve categories would prevent mining. However, all the reserves proposed have been checked for their mining potential and will allow for it where appropriate.

Some concern was expressed about browsing wildlife, but this is a management issue, not directly affected by a change in status of the land through reservation.

Questions were raised about vehicular access and camping. While camping is not usually permitted in a Nature Reserve, it is permitted in the other categories of reserves, subject to management prescriptions to protect values and limit impacts. This is also the case with vehicular access, which is permitted along roads. Access off-road requires an authority from the management authority.

A concern was expressed about entry fees. However, entry fees only apply to national parks. None of the proposed reserves are national parks and entry fees will not apply.

Two respondents requested more time to comment. The comment period was extended by 6 weeks until 30 September 2004. The TFGA requested and was granted a further extension until 21 January 2005, making a total consultation period of 7 months.

### **2.3 Parcel 1 Disappointment Bay**

<b>Location (1:25000 Map sheet)</b>	<b>Grid Reference</b>	<b>Summary of conservation Values</b>	<b>Proposed Class of Reserve</b>
North coast King Is opposite Disappointment Bay (Wickham)	241000E 56118000N	King Island <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland/King Is Eucalyptus forest	State Reserve

Questions were raised about camping and vehicular access over Crown land. The proposed category of State Reserve allows for camping and access on formed roads, subject to management prescriptions. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as State Reserve (no change to proposal)***

## 2.4 Parcel 2 Three Sisters

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
North coast King Island (Wickham)	245200E 5612000N	Sedge/heath/scrub complex & King Island <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland/ King Is Eucalyptus forest and would contribute to forest reserve design.	Extension to Lavinia State Reserve

Concern was expressed about camping. State reserves allow for camping, subject to management prescriptions. One submission suggested that grazing be allowed to continue under licence in the area. However, grazing is not appropriate in a State Reserve with identified conservation values. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as State Reserve extension to Lavinia State Reserve (no change to proposal)*

## 2.5 Parcel 3 Counsel Hill

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land adjacent to Counsel Hill (Saltwater)	248900E 5594100N	Significant areas of heathy coastal <i>E. viminalis</i> mallee woodland which is very unusual and a rare facies of King Is <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland.	Conservation Area

One submission sought clarification about the lease for communication facilities. This will not be impacted upon by the reserve proposal, though the lease will need to be re-issued under the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.6 Parcel 4 Sea Elephant

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land opposite Cowper Point (Sea Elephant)	251600E 5587000N	Sedge/heath/scrub complex	Conservation Area

Additional information was supplied on request. No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.7 Parcel 5 Sea Elephant Bay

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land just north of Naracoopa	252400E 5578800N	Sedge/heath/scrub complex, small areas of King Is Eucalypt forest, <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> swamp forest and King Is <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland of high conservation value.	Conservation Area

Additional information was supplied on request. No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.8 Parcel 6 Eldorado

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land western side of Sea Elephant Road (Sea Elephant)	250900E 5583000N	Sedge/heath/scrub complex, very small patches (<5ha) of <i>E.viminalis-E.brookeriana</i> mallee woodland of very high conservation value.	Conservation Area

Additional information was supplied on request. No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.9 Parcel 7 Gentle Annie

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land off Grassy Road (Grassy)	245700E 5563700N	Remnant eucalypt forest.	Conservation Area

No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.10 Parcel 8 Seal Rock

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	UPI	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown land adjacent to Seal Rock State Res and west of South Rd. (Stokes)	AAG36 (Crown land west of South Rd) Including AAJ72 a	Contains significant areas of stunted <i>E brookeriana-E viminalis</i> woodland, <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> swamp forest, extensive areas of <i>E viminalis</i> open forest and an unusual and uncommon facies of King Is <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland/King Is <i>E globulus</i> forest.	Conservation Area

Additional botanical information was supplied on request. No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.11 Parcel 9 Colliers Swamp

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land east of South Rd (Stokes)	240400E 555700	As above (see Parcel 8)	Conservation Area

Concern was expressed that the proposed reserve category could be insufficient to protect the values. However, the assessment is that the conservation values are sufficiently protected by this reserve category. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.12 Parcel 10 Surprise Point

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land immediately east of Surprise Point (Stokes)	234200E 5554600N	Sedge/heath/scrub complex, small muttonbird rookery.	Conservation Area

Concern was expressed about camping. The proposed category of Conservation Area allows for camping, subject to management prescriptions. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.13 Parcel 11 Stokes Point

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown foreshore Surprise Bay/Seal Bay (Stokes)	Western Block 236500E 5553500N Eastern Block 238000E 5553300N	Sand dune vegetation Tall or dense and wind-pruned coastal scrub.	Conservation Areas

Additional botanical information was supplied on request. Concern was expressed about camping. The proposed category of Conservation Area allows for camping, subject to management prescriptions. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)*

## 2.14 Parcel 12 Muddy Lagoon

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown land west of Yambacoona (New Year)	234300E 5600600N	Fresh water aquatic plant wetland	Nature Reserve

Access to harvest eels under licence was raised as an issue. Provided access is on a road and in conformity to management and licence prescriptions, access to harvest eels will continue to be available. Access for shooting, camping and fishing was raised as an issue. The values of the area as a wetland are best protected by the proposed nature reserve, which will exclude camping, and shooting but not fishing. Fishing is permitted, subject to Inland Fisheries requirements. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

*Reserve as Nature Reserve (no change to proposal, but not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)*

## 2.15 Parcel 13 Seal Rocks Road

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown land immediately southeast of Seal Rocks State Reserve.(Stokes)	235500E 5555200N	King Island <i>E globulus</i> heathy woodland. Listed plant species	Conservation Area

Additional botanical information was supplied on request. No comments were received specific to this proposal. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Conservation Area (no change to proposal)***

## 2.16 Parcel 14 Etterick River

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land southeast of Millers Bay southwest coast. (Pearshape)	235400E 5568000N	<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> swamp forest A number of listed plant species	Nature Reserve

Additional information was supplied on request. Concern was expressed about camping. The proposed boundary of the nature reserve will be moved inland so that the existing camping area at the mouth of the river is not within the nature reserve. Access for shooting and fishing was raised as an issue. The values of the area are best protected by the proposed nature reserve, which will exclude shooting but not fishing. Fishing is permitted, subject to Inland Fisheries requirements. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any other real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Nature Reserve (no change to proposal, but change to boundaries for camping and not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)***

## 2.17 Parcel 15 Bob Lagoon

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land just north of Yambacoona (New Year)	238600E 5602700N	Fresh water aquatic plant wetland Short paperbark swamp	Nature Reserve

Access to harvest eels under licence was raised as an issue. Provided access is on a road and in conformity to management and licence prescriptions, access to harvest eels will continue to be available. Concern was expressed about access for duck shooting, and in the case of this proposal, a change of category to Game Reserve is proposed as the objectives for Game Reserve allow for taking of game. This change will not affect protection of reserve values in this location

as the other objectives for game reserve parallel those of nature reserve. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Game Reserve*** (change to proposal and not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

## 2.18 Parcel 16 Lake Flanagan

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land south of Wickham Lighthouse (New Year/Wickham)	238500E 561000N	Fresh water aquatic plant wetland Support native plant or animal taxa or communities that are considered endangered or vulnerable at the National level.	Nature Reserve

Access of stock to the lagoon was raised, but is not compatible with the conservation values of the proposed reserve. Access to harvest eels under licence was raised as an issue. Provided access is on a road and in conformity to management and licence prescriptions, access to harvest eels will continue to be available. Concern was expressed about access for duck shooting, and in the case of this proposal, a change of category to Game Reserve is recommended as the objectives for Game Reserve allow for taking of game. This change will not affect protection of reserve values in this location as the other objectives for game reserve parallel those of nature reserve. Concern was expressed about camping and recreational activity, as Lake Flanagan is a large lake and a focus for recreation. The revised category of Game Reserve allows for camping, subject to management prescriptions. Concern about fishing was raised. Fishing is permitted, subject to Inland Fisheries requirements. Some concern was expressed about browsing wildlife, but this is a management issue, not affected by a change in status of the land. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Game Reserve*** (change to proposal and not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

## 2.19 Parcel 17 Badger Box Creek

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land 3 kms SE of Currie (Currie)	234000E 55716500N	Sand dune Vegetation Leptospermum lanigerum scrub	Nature Reserve

An offer of support to protect reserve values was submitted. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any other real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Nature Reserve*** (no change to proposal, but not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

## 2.20 Parcel 18 Pearshape Lagoon and Attrills Lagoon

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land 15 kms south of Currie (Pearshape)	237000E 56110000N	Wetland of National Significance Number of listed species	Nature Reserve

Access to harvest eels under licence was raised as an issue. Provided access is on a road and in conformity to management and licence prescriptions, access to harvest eels will continue to be available. Concern was expressed about access for duck shooting, camping and fishing. However the values of the area as a wetland of national significance are best protected by the proposed nature reserve which will exclude camping and shooting but not fishing. Fishing is permitted, subject to Inland Fisheries requirements. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Nature Reserve*** (no change to proposal, but not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

## 2.21 Parcel 19 Pass River

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land 14 kms north of Currie (Currie)	233000E 55895000N	<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i> scrub Listed species - <i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i> (vulnerable)	Nature Reserve

Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any other real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This may require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Nature Reserve*** (no change to proposal, but not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

## 2.22 Parcel 20 Lily Lagoon

Location (1:25000 Map sheet)	Grid Reference	Summary of conservation Values	Proposed Class of Reserve
Crown Land 7kms SE of Currie (Currie)	237500E 55700000N	Fresh water aquatic plant wetland Sedge/heath/scrub complex Listed species – <i>Ranunculus amphitrichus</i>	Nature Reserve

Access for shooting, camping and fishing was raised as an issue. An alternative submission requested that duck shooting not be provided for. The values of the area as a wetland containing a listed species are best protected by the proposed nature reserve, which will exclude camping, and shooting but not fishing. Fishing is permitted, subject to Inland Fisheries requirements. Access to water sources for stock was raised as an issue because of the lack of any real rivers or creeks in the locality and because sandy soils make dams impractical. It is recommended that the reserve not be proclaimed until, where there is no practical alternative, any necessary and suitable access points or arrangements, and impact protection measures to allow for stock watering have been identified. This will require on-site inspection. See also issues discussed in 2.2.

***Reserve as Nature Reserve*** (no change to proposal, but not to be proclaimed until stock watering measures described above are dealt with)

# Appendix 1

## List of Submitters

<b>Submission or Information Request</b>	<b>Name</b>
1	The Cooper Company
2	Paul Jackson
3	Inland Fisheries Service
4	King Island NRM Group
5	Chris Porter
6	Martin Finzel and Dr Eva Finzel
7	Ericsson Australia Pty Ltd
8	Jenny Thorn
9	Judy Payne
10	Eve Woolmore
11	Roger Clemons (TFGA Meat Council)
12	King Island Council
13	David and Cheryl Kerr
14	Donnelly Group P/L
15	Peter Bowling
16	John Salamis
17	Rod Graham
18	L. A. Vivian
19	Tasmanian Conservation Trust
20	Tim Barnes
21	Michael Faltemaier
22	Johana Lambert and Robert Lawlor
23	Duncan Clemons
24	TFGA

## Appendix 2

### Reserve Categories Proposed in This Report

Reserve Class	Values	Purpose	Objectives
State Reserve	An area of land containing any of: a) significant natural landscapes b) natural features c) sites of significance to Aboriginal people	Protection & maintenance of any of: a) natural & cultural values of the land b) sites of significance c) use of area by Aboriginal people	a) to conserve natural biological diversity b) to conserve geological diversity c) to preserve the quality of water and protect catchments d) to conserve sites or areas of cultural significance e) to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the purposes of reservation and the other management objectives f) to encourage education based on the purposes of reservation and the natural or cultural values of the state reserve, or both g) to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purposes of reservation h) to protect the state reserve against, and rehabilitate the state reserve following, adverse impacts such as those of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the state reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the state reserve i) to encourage tourism, recreational use and enjoyment consistent with the conservation of the state reserve's natural and cultural values
Nature Reserve	An area of land containing natural values that: a) contribute to the natural biological &/or geological diversity and b) are unique, important or have representative value	Conservation of the natural biological &/or geological diversity, and Conservation of the natural values of the area that are unique, important, or have representative value	a) to conserve natural biological diversity b) to conserve geological diversity c) to preserve the quality of water and protect catchments d) to conserve sites or areas of cultural significance e) to encourage education based on the purposes of reservation and the natural or cultural values of the nature reserve, or both f) to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purposes of reservation g) to protect the nature reserve against, and rehabilitate the nature reserve following, adverse impacts such as those of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the nature reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the nature reserve h) to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the purposes of reservation and the other management objectives

Game Reserve	An area of land containing natural values that are unique, important, or have representative value with respect to game species	Conservation of the natural values of the area that are unique, important, or have representative value; Conservation of the natural biological &/or geological diversity, and The ecologically sustainable hunting of game species in that area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to conserve natural biological diversity</li> <li>b) to conserve geological diversity</li> <li>c) to preserve the quality of water and protect catchments</li> <li>d) to conserve sites or areas of cultural significance</li> <li>e) to provide for the taking, on an ecologically sustainable basis, of designated game species for commercial or private purposes, or both</li> <li>f) to encourage appropriate tourism, recreational use and enjoyment, particularly sustainable recreational hunting</li> <li>g) to encourage education based on the purposes of reservation and the natural or cultural values of the game reserve, or both</li> <li>h) to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purposes of reservation</li> <li>i) to protect the game reserve against, and rehabilitate the game reserve following, adverse impacts such as those of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the game reserve's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the game reserve</li> <li>j) to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the purposes of reservation and the other management objectives</li> </ul>
Conservation Area	An area of land predominantly in a natural state	Protection & maintenance of the natural and cultural values, and Sustainable use of the natural resources of that area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to conserve natural biological diversity</li> <li>b) to conserve geological diversity</li> <li>c) to preserve the quality of water and protect catchments</li> <li>d) to conserve sites or areas of cultural significance</li> <li>e) to provide for the controlled use of natural resources, including as an adjunct to utilisation of marine resources</li> <li>f) to provide for exploration activities and utilisation of mineral resources</li> <li>g) to provide for the taking, on an ecologically sustainable basis, of designated game species for commercial or private purposes, or both</li> <li>h) to provide for other commercial or industrial uses of coastal areas</li> <li>i) to encourage education based on the purposes of reservation and the natural or cultural values of the conservation area, or both</li> <li>j) to encourage research, particularly that which furthers the purposes of reservation</li> <li>k) to protect the conservation area against, and rehabilitate the conservation area following, adverse impacts such as those of fire, introduced species, diseases and soil erosion on the conservation area's natural and cultural values and on assets within and adjacent to the conservation area</li> <li>l) to encourage appropriate tourism, recreational use and enjoyment (including private uses) consistent with the conservation of the conservation area's natural and cultural values</li> <li>m) to encourage cooperative management programs with Aboriginal people in areas of significance to them in a manner consistent with the purposes of reservation and the other management objectives</li> </ul>