

891-516-0036 – Goongerah Forest Block – Bendoc Forest District

Dear VicForests and Department of Sustainability and Environment staff,

Coupe 891-516-0036 (Figure 1.) of the Goongerah Forest Block in the Bendoc Forest District is currently active and been clearfell logged.

The Long Footed Potoroo (*Potorous longipes*) has been detected via remote camera video footage at least twice at two separate locations within this coupe. One location reported by an independent public survey¹, and the other by VicForest (Figure 2.).

Logging has been witnessed at close proximity to the site of these detections. (10/05/2011)

At each of these detection locations of the Long Footed Potoroo at least the Fauna and Flora Guarantee (FFGA) Action Statement prescriptions for the LFP (see APPENDIX A for reference) must be implemented before any logging can proceed in this area.

If these measures have been undertaken, please provide me with the documentation demonstrating compliance with these FFGA requirements, including the relevant maps displaying the implementation of the required SMZ and SPZ's for these detections, information as to who has produced and approved these management procedures and that these management zones have been shown as part of the Forest Mangement Area Zoning Scheme.

However, given recent observation of clear fell logging operations in and around these detection sites, it is difficult to imagine that these measures have been implemented.

If this is indeed the case, this logging operation will need to stop immediately to avoid further breach of VicForests requirements to comply with the regulatory scheme operating within Victorian State Forest.

If your responsibilities within either VicForests or the Department of Sustainability and Environment are raised by this issue please ensure that this occurs immediately and respond to my e-mail address confirming that this has occurred and what further measures pertaining to this issue will be pursued.

I note that there are approximately 30 further publicly submitted Long Footed Potoroo detections within VicForests scheduled logging coupes that I am aware of requiring similar LFP FFGA Action Statement implementation and Forest Management Zone amendments. Where I am responsible for these submissions I expect to be contacted as to the proposed FMZ amendments consequent to the detection.

Thankyou., I await your response.

Andrew Lincoln

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11/05/2011

¹ Submitted to Department of Sustainability and Environment on the 23/02/2010

Figure 1. Approved VF Bendoc TRP centred on coupe 891-516-0036

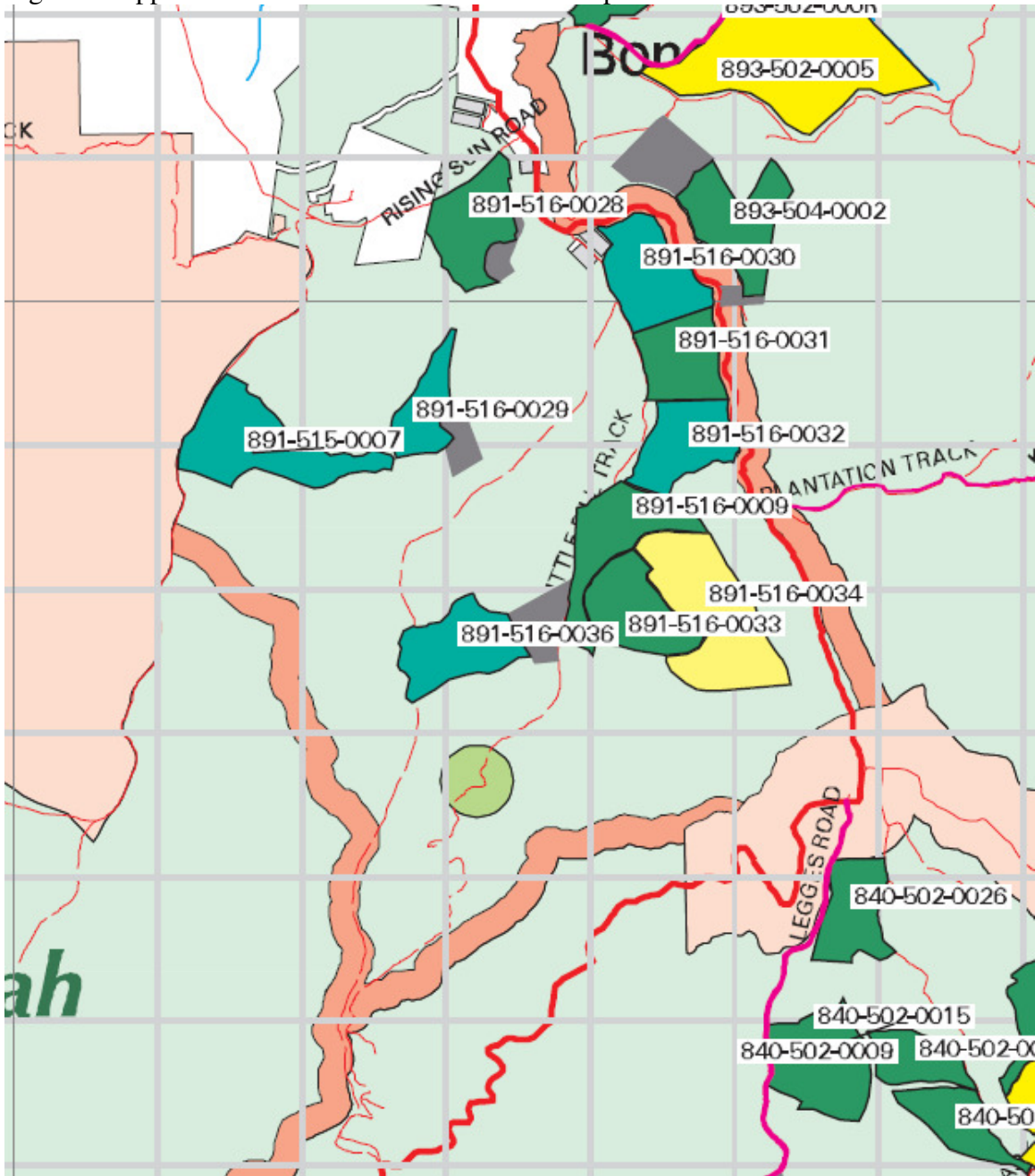
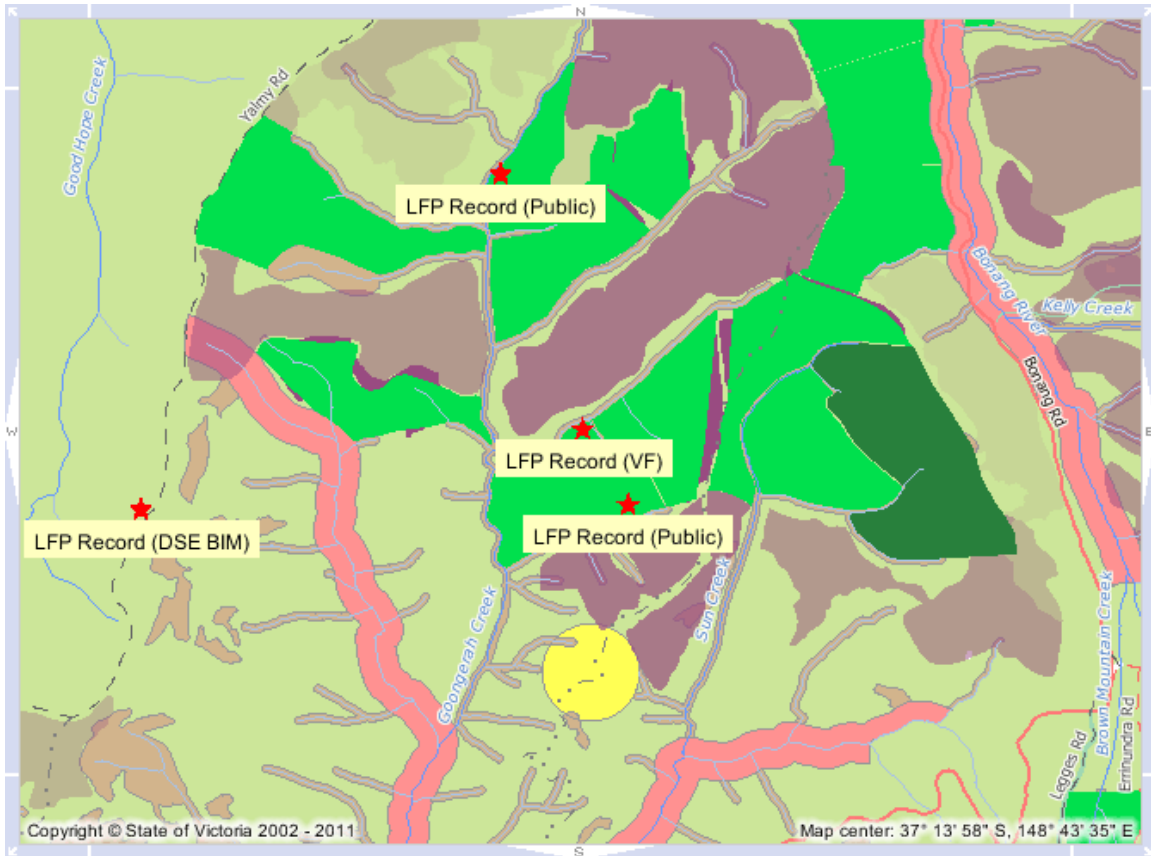


Figure 2. DSE Forest Explorer centered on coupe 891-516-0036 with LFP detection records mapped.

LFP Remote Camera Location Details within coupe 891-516-0036:

Public: 55h 0653382 / 5877537

VF: 653135 // 5877918



Conservation status

The Long-footed Potoroo (*Potorous longipes*) is listed as 'endangered' in Australia under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The Long-footed Potoroo (*Potorous longipes*) is listed as 'threatened' in Victoria under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act).

The Long-footed Potoroo (*Potorous longipes*) is considered 'endangered' in Victoria according to the Department of Sustainability and Environment's (DSE) *Advisory List of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna in Victoria - 2007*.

Conservation Objective

Long term objective

To ensure that the Long-footed Potoroo can survive, flourish and retain its potential for evolutionary development in the wild.

Intended Management Actions

The intended management actions listed below are further elaborated in DSE's *Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) system*. Detailed information about the actions and locations, including priorities, is held in this system and will be provided annually to land managers and other authorities. It is intended that the targets specified below be met within the five year timeframe of this Action Statement.

Objective I To protect populations or habitat from potentially incompatible use

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Action 4 Protect Long-footed Potoroo habitat at detection sites on public land outside the Core Protected Area

Establish additional protected areas where Long-footed Potoroos have been detected in State forest or other public land outside the Core Protected Area. In State forest, apply the protection measures specified in Appendix I. The protection measures will be formally reviewed in 2014.

Responsibility: DSE, VicForests

Appendix I: Prescriptions to be applied in State forest:

1. Each Long-footed Potoroo (LFP) detection site outside the Core Protected Area will generate a Special Management Zone (SMZ) of approximately 150 ha.
2. As far as possible, SMZ boundaries will follow recognisable landscape features such as ridges, spurs and watercourses.
3. Within each SMZ, at least one third (~50 ha) will be protected from timber harvesting and new roading.
4. This will be known as Long-footed Potoroo Retained Habitat.
5. The LFP Retained Habitat will include the best LFP habitat in the SMZ, which will generally be in gullies and on lower, sheltered slopes.
6. The LFP Retained Habitat may include areas otherwise unavailable for timber harvesting due to restrictions under the Code of Practice for Timber Harvesting.
7. The SMZ will also have a general restriction of one third of the total area that can be harvested in any three year period. If more than one coupe is to be harvested in an SMZ in the same year, the coupes must be separated by at least the equivalent of another coupe width.
8. The SMZ, with the LFP Retained Habitat clearly delineated, will be shown as part of the Forest Management Area zoning scheme.
9. The SMZ will be designed by DSE, in consultation with VicForests, and approved by DSE.
10. If the ~150 ha area includes any part of an existing conservation reserve or Special Protection Zone (SPZ), these areas will retain their existing reservation or zoning status but will be considered for inclusion as part of the area of retained habitat. In such cases, the final area designated as SMZ may be correspondingly smaller.

End of Extracts.