

Cruisin' Without Bruisin'



Information Note Sheet and Code of Practice for Recreational Vehicle Users



The National 4WD Code of Ethics

This code is valuable only if you observe it:

- 1 Obey the laws and regulations for Recreational Vehicles that apply to public lands.
- 2 Respect the cultural, heritage and environmental values of public/private land, ...by obeying restrictions that may apply.
- 3 Respect our flora and fauna. Stop and look, but never disturb
- 4 Keep to formed vehicle tracks.
- 5 Keep the environment clean. Carry your own, and any other, rubbish out.
- 6 Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and clean to reduce the environmental impact.
- 7 Adopt minimal impact camping and driving practices.
- 8 Seek permission before driving on private land. Do not disturb livestock or watering points, leave gates as found.
- 9 Take adequate water, food, fuel, basic spares and a first aid kit on trips. ...In remote areas travel with another vehicle and have Royal Flying Doctor Service, ...or equivalent, ...radio contact
- 10 Enjoy your recreation and respect the rights of others.
- 11 Plan ahead and lodge trip details with a responsible person.
- 12 Support four-wheel drive touring as a responsible and legitimate family recreational activity. ...Consider joining an affiliated four-wheel drive Club.



Cruisin'

This brochure was a co-operative effort of:



This brochure has been produced for those people who love driving for recreation. It sets out a code of practice and complements the Policy for Recreational Vehicles on State-Owned Lands in Tasmania, which was jointly developed by the Tasmanian Recreational Vehicle Association, the Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Tasmania, Hydro-Electric Corporation, Tourism Tasmania and Sport and Recreation Tasmania.

Information is included on some of the easier, and a few of the harder, tracks in the state. The details include track standard, the relevant map, grid references, features of the trip and a contact number for further information. Guidelines are included on how recreational vehicle users can minimise their impact on the environment. If followed, this will lessen the need for restrictions and track closures. If you enjoy using these tracks, think about joining a recreational vehicle club. Contact details are on the back page.

All State land management agencies support the responsible use of recreational vehicles, but you should know that most areas of Crown land have to meet other management objectives as well as recreation.

B4UGO

Before you go, you should do the following things. These will help make the trip safer, protect the environment and ensure that you avoid the disappointment of starting only to find that the track is closed. Remember that you must hold a current drivers licence and your vehicle must be registered and display registration plates unless you are on private land.

- Obtain a current map of the area you are about to visit. In 2003 Tasmania started changing the co-ordinate system used for all maps from AGD 66 to GDA 94. All new and revised maps will be issued in the new format. Users should note that all co-ordinates given in this brochure are in the old AGD 66 format. To convert from AGD 66 to GDA 94 add 112m to the easting and add 183m to the northing coordinate.
- Check with the local land manager for the latest information on the area or track you propose to use. Ask about authorities (permits) for reserves managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service, *Phytophthora* (root rot fungus), track conditions and fire restrictions.
- Roads, tracks and beaches can be closed on a temporary or permanent basis for a number of reasons including a bridge that's down, adverse seasonal conditions, extreme fire danger or logging operations. Notices will be placed in the regional daily newspapers and signs will be erected at appropriate places when tracks are to be closed.
- Steep slopes and water are responsible for much of the erosion evident on tracks. Minimise damage by avoiding steep tracks (especially greater than 30 degrees) on erodible soils in winter and during wet weather.
- Leave trip details with someone trustworthy so that they can contact Police Search and Rescue if your party is overdue. Make sure you notify this person when you return!

PHYTOPHTHORA

This is a fungus, which travels in soil, and can attack the root systems of plants and wipe out susceptible

species. The transfer of soil on vehicles, footwear, tent pegs, etc spreads it.

To reduce the chance of spreading *Phytophthora* always start your trip with clean gear and a clean vehicle. Remove all dirt from the vehicle, including the undercarriage and mudguards. Where possible undertake trips when conditions are dry.

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

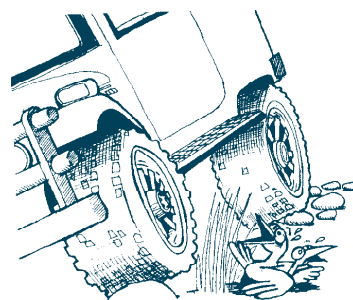
Most coastal and dune areas contain evidence of Aboriginal use and occupation for at least the last few thousand years. These include campsites where stone tools have been made and used (stone artefact scatters) and where shellfish have been collected and eaten (shell middens). All these sites are important to the present day Aboriginal community, as they are an important link with their ancestors and their way of life. All Aboriginal heritage is protected under the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*, and we're all responsible for helping to protect these places.

These sites are vulnerable to erosion, and once they're gone, they're gone. So treat these sites with care, and follow the guidelines for beach driving.

DUNES AND BEACHES

Dunes and beaches are especially fragile. These points will help you enjoy your driving without 'bruising' the beach'.

- Drive on and off beaches at designated points only.
- Drive on dunes only in designated vehicle recreation areas and do not drive on vegetated dunes and shore facing dune fronts. Vehicles can easily remove dune vegetation, which in turn can lead to severe erosion.
- Drive on damp firm sand below the high tide mark. Above this mark, birds such as Oystercatchers and Plovers lay eggs in small scrapes on the soft sand. These are almost impossible to see while driving. Chicks tend to hide in the cast seaweed and they are also extremely difficult to see. So, especially between October and March, keep to the hard, clean wet sand.



PRIVATE LAND

Private landholders are not obliged to let you cross their land. If they do allow access, please don't abuse their trust. Future use depends on you and how you behave:

- Always obtain permission to cross private land.
- Leave all gates as you found them and avoid disturbing stock.
- Thank the property owner for allowing access.

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Minimising track degradation is not just the job of land managers. Everyone who uses tracks can help by observing the following guidelines:

- Stick to existing tracks.
- Use existing entry and exit points when crossing streams and creeks where bridges and culverts are not provided.
- Obey track closures and regulatory signs.
- Where possible, winch between vehicles, but if you have to winch from a tree, use tree protecting padding or webbing.
- Use wheel chains only as a last resort.

CAMPING

The key here is to leave the camping area as you would want to find it. Some tips are:

- Camp at established campsites, avoid creating new sites.
- Use a modern tent so that you do not need to cut vegetation for tent poles or bedding.
- Wash at least 50 m away from creeks. Use of soaps and detergents should be minimised as they can affect water quality. Spread your dirty water rather than tipping it in one spot.
- Use toilets where provided, otherwise dispose of faecal waste at least 100 m from campsites and watercourses. Faecal waste and toilet paper should be buried in a hole at least 15 cm deep.
- Respect the rights of others particularly at campsites.
- Take your rubbish out with you. Do the bush a favour by taking out other people's rubbish as well as your own. Dispose of rubbish and litter at home or at authorised waste disposal sites.

FIRES

By following the advice set out below, you can minimise the fire danger to both your party and the environment.

- Use fuel stoves for cooking. They don't damage the local environment and they greatly reduce the risk of a fire escaping and becoming a bushfire.
- If you do have a fire, use constructed fireplaces. Under no circumstances leave a campfire unattended. Light fires only on sites where there is no flammable material within a radius of three metres of the fire. Use only fallen wood as dead standing trees can provide homes for wildlife and thousands of insects. Keep cooking fires small and make sure they are fully extinguished before you leave.
- On days of total fire ban any naked flame, even a gas stove, is **illegal**.
- The lighting of fires on peat soil (dark brown organic soils found over much of western Tasmania) is **illegal**. The fires are extremely hard to put out (they can burn underground for weeks).
- Forestry Tasmania may prohibit access to areas of State forest on days of extreme fire danger.



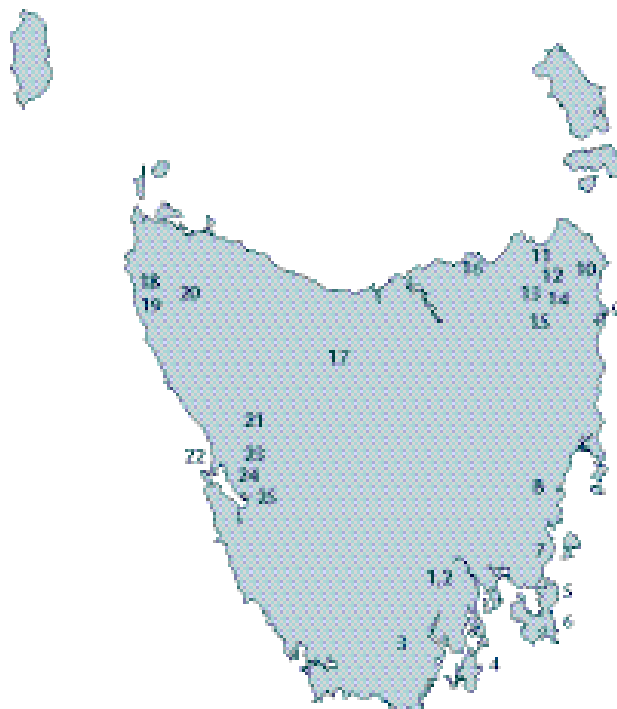
OTHER USERS

Many tracks are used not only by other recreational vehicle users but also by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. Please be courteous when you come across these people. Slow down, or even stop, say *G'day*, wait until they are well past you and then drive on as normal.

VEHICLE TRACKS

The following list of roads, tracks and beaches has been compiled to assist visitors in the selection of places to go when touring Tasmania with recreational vehicles. The tracks are rated according to the following system:

- **Easy** - Most are unsealed roads able to be traversed by a two-wheel drive vehicle if enough care is taken. However, if going in a two-wheel drive, it is recommended that you contact the land management agency to check road conditions before you start.
- **Medium** - These tracks are suitable for four wheel drive vehicles / trail bikes only, with some areas of boggy soil, rocks or sand to be traversed. Some off-road driving experience is recommended.
- **Hard** - These tracks are for experienced four-wheel drive or trail bike users only. Deep bogs, steep slopes, and soft sand will test your driving skills. Travelling in company is the only way to traverse these tracks safely.



SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST

1. Jefferys Track - Medium

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Derwent

Grid Refs: Start 029560 (Lachlan)

Finish 037470 (Crabtree)

Contact: Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS)

Derwent Office (03) 6233 6560

Beautiful bush scenery is encountered all along this drive with great views from higher ground. The track runs across the Wellington Range from Lachlan (near New Norfolk) to Crabtree and provides a through route from the Derwent Valley to the Huon Valley. The track joins the Crabtree Road northwest of Crabtree, 8 kms from the Huon Highway at Grove. It is 14 kms long, and there may be some snow cover during winter. Look out for other users on this track, including cyclists and walkers. Users should be aware that Jefferys Track is a key strategic fire fighting and land management trail and attempt to minimise damage to the trail surface.

2. Wellington Park Fire Trails - Medium/Hard

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Derwent

Grid Refs: See below

Contact: PWS Derwent Office (03) 6233 6560

These trails provide some challenging driving close to Hobart and on clear days the views are spectacular. Access to Wellington Park trails is subject to the discretion of the Wellington Park Management Trust and track and weather conditions. There are several entry and exit points, access is limited to specific tracks and they are one way.

The most popular routes are the East West trail via Montrose Road (*Grid Ref 197573*) and either out via Collins Cap trail or Jefferys Track. Another traverse is the East West Trail via Jefferys Track (*Grid Ref 038501*) and out via the Collins Cap trail.

No camping is permitted if you are driving in Wellington Park. No fires, pets or firearms are permitted. Weather conditions can change suddenly so be prepared!

All fire trails on the mountain range are rated medium/hard 4WD because of the steep, rocky and sometimes difficult terrain. All access points are gated and an authority and key must be obtained from the Parks & Wildlife Service. Please phone the above contact number for details of track conditions and possible closures due to weather, and where to obtain an authority and key. Please return the key and authority (with relevant comments) after the trip.

3. Arve Rd to Hartz Mtns National Park and Tahune Forest Reserve - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Huon

Grid Refs: See below

Contact: PWS Huonville (03) 6264 8460

Forestry Tasmania, Geeveston (03) 6297 0012

Esperance Forest and Heritage Centre (03) 6297 1836

Hartz Mountains and the Southern Forests provide a fantastic day's driving from Hobart, with all roads accessible by 2WD vehicles with care. To get to Hartz Mountains National Park, turn west (right) from the Huon Highway at Geeveston and travel 13 kms west along the Arve Road to the Hartz Rd junction. The Waratah Lookout is approximately 10 kms along the Hartz Road and further on are walking tracks to Hartz Peak and other

scenic areas. Park entry fees apply, and these can be paid at the Geeveston Forest and Heritage Centre, Huonville Parks and Wildlife Service office or Service Tasmania outlets.

The Tahune Forest Reserve is approximately 21 kms beyond the Hartz Rd junction on the Arve Rd. Enjoy the stops at Keoghs Creek, The Big Tree and West Creek Lookout before arriving at the Tahune Forest Reserve for the Tahune Forest AirWalk and Huon Pine Walk, picnic facilities, camping spots, and fishing in the Huon River.

4. Bruny Island - Easy

Tasmap 1:100 000 - D'Entrecasteaux

Grid Refs: See below

Contact: PWS Bruny Island (03) 6293 1419

Forestry Tasmania, Geeveston (03) 6297 0012

Bruny Island's attractions include magnificent coastlines, sheer cliffs and long white beaches that are excellent for swimming, boating and fishing. There are also beautiful forest drives, walks and historic areas to visit.

A passenger and vehicle ferry departs from Kettering, 40 kms south of Hobart, at regular intervals, and arrives at Roberts Point (*Grid Ref 230230*) on Bruny Island. Although roads are for the most part 2WD standard, there are large unsealed sections and care should be exercised. A range of private accommodation is available on the island including caravan parks and units.

Camping areas are located at Neck Beach, Cloudy Bay and Jetty Beach. A campsite behind the beach at Cloudy Corner (at the southern end of Cloudy Beach) is accessible by 4WD after 3 kms of beach driving. Driving on the beach is best at low tide and is only permitted for access to the camping area and for boat launching and retrieval. A 40 km speed limit applies. All drivers are to stay below the high tide mark so as not to disturb shorebird nesting sites or destroy other wildlife and vegetation. These areas are part of the South Bruny National Park and park entry fees apply. Passes are available from the D'Entrecasteaux Visitor Centre at Kettering. All camping areas have pit toilets, limited water and fireplaces. Firewood is not supplied so bring your own or use a fuel stove. Campgrounds have no rubbish collection so please take your rubbish with you.

A drive of some 9 kms through State forest along the Coolangatta Rd from Adventure Bay to Lunawanna provides excellent bush scenery and access to a walking track to the Trig station on Mt Mangana (*Grid Ref 231994*). Another magnificent 18 km drive is from Adventure Bay via Lockleys and Staffords Rds to the Cloudy Bay Rd north of the beach. There is also a rainforest walk beside a stream to the Mavista Picnic Area (*Grid Ref 245972*) off Resolution Road behind Adventure Bay.

Other attractions include the Cape Bruny Lighthouse (*Grid Ref 114844*), and the Labillardiere Peninsula Walking Track (*Grid Ref 123880*). These areas are also part of the South Bruny National Park and entry fees apply.

5. Fortescue Bay - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Storm Bay

Contact: PWS Southeast District Office (03) 6214 8100

Campsite bookings: (03) 6250 2433

It is a scenic 12 km drive through one of the State's oldest working forest areas to Fortescue Bay. Walking tracks, camping areas, picnic facilities and fishing are

available. This area is part of the Tasman National Park. Park entry and camping fees apply, and dogs are not permitted. The turn-off to Fortescue Bay, Joiners Link Road, leaves the Arthur Highway at approximately 3km south from the Nubeena Road turn-off. Joiners Link Road turns into Coronation Road and then into Fortescue Bay Road.

6. Tasman Peninsula - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Storm Bay, Nugent

Contact: PWS Southeast District Office (03) 6214 8100

Grid Refs: See Below

Port Arthur on the Tasman Peninsula is one of Tasmania's most popular tourist attractions. Trips to this historic site can be enhanced by visits to other interesting areas on the peninsula. The Blowhole, Tasman Arch, Devils Kitchen and Waterfall Bay are popular and accessible by 2WD. These areas are part of the Tasman National Park and park entry fees apply. All are accessed by the Blowhole Road that leaves the Arthur Highway at the southern end of Eaglehawk Neck (*Grid Ref 752365*).

For an interesting diversion from the bitumen, when heading towards Port Arthur turn left just out of Eaglehawk Neck (*Grid Ref 727361*) onto Pirates Road for the Taranna Forest Drive which rejoins the highway just south of the Taranna township.

Safety Cove is 6 kms south of Port Arthur and 1 km further on is Basket Bay and the Remarkable Cave (*Grid Ref 685178*).

Roaring Beach Conservation Area (*Grid Ref 547288*) is a popular surf spot. However there are no facilities for camping and campfires are not permitted. Saltwater River (*Grid Ref 589365*), Coal Mines Historic Site and Lime Bay, (*Grid Ref 575446*) a further 4 kms north are worth a visit. Basic camping facilities are available at Lime Bay.

7. Wielangta Forest Drive - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Nugent

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Head Office (03) 6233 8140

This is a scenic 2WD road through the Wielangta Forest from Rheban (*Grid Ref 737782*) to Kellevie (*Grid Ref 672635*). The Sandspit Forest Reserve has picnic facilities, forest interpretation and scenic forest walks. The road also provides access to the Thumbs picnic area and lookout near Orford. Returning via the Tasman Highway from Orford completes an enjoyable round trip from Sorell. Though the recently built Wielangta Road doesn't yet appear on all maps, it is signposted at both ends.

EAST AND NORTH EAST

8. East Coast Forest Roads - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Little Swanport, Break O'Day, St Pauls

Grid Refs: 779133 - Tasman Hwy, 708478 - Cross Lake Leake Road, 845648 - Cross Old Coach Road, 007929 - Exit Tasman Hwy

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Head Office (03) 6233 8140

Highlights of this 118 km trip are the coastal and forest scenery together with access to Lost Falls (turn off at *Grid Ref: 714453*), Meetus Falls (turn off at *Grid Ref: 732562*) and Hardings Falls (turn off at *Grid Ref: 902673*). Access from the Tasman Highway is 0.8 km north of the Little Swanport Bridge via Bresnehans Road and then McKays

Road. The route extends to the Tasman Highway about 4 kms south of St Marys, crossing Lake Leake Road and Old Coach Road en route.

9. Peron Dunes (St Helens Pt Road) - Hard

Tasmap 1: 100 000 Georges Bay

Grid Ref: 100257

Contact: PWS St Helens (03) 6376 1550

This is classified as a vehicle recreation area and care is necessary because it is often used by all types of recreational vehicles, including dune buggies and all terrain vehicles. All vehicles must stay within boundary limits marked by signs about 1 km north-east and 3 km south from the entry point onto the beach. To get there, travel south-east from St Helens on the A3 for about 2 kms and turn left onto St Helens Point Road C851. The dunes are reached after a further 6 kms. Access is difficult for 4WD vehicles because of steep loose sand at the entry point and deflation of tyres is necessary on the dunes due to the soft sand. Only licensed drivers with registered vehicles are permitted. Coastal camping is available at Humbug Point and Dianas Basin.

10. Mt William National Park - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Swan Island

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: PWS Bridport (03) 6356 1173

This park provides an excellent opportunity to see some of Tasmania's wildlife (especially at night by torchlight) and it is worth camping overnight to do so. Signs from Gladstone are easy to follow. Take Browns Bridge / Eddystone Rd and turn north onto Musselroe Rd at *Grid Ref 916676* (shortly after crossing Browns Bridge 8 kms from Gladstone). It is approximately 9 kms to the park entrance. Pay park entry fees and pick up an information brochure either in town or at the self-registration booth. The booth is adjacent to the Ranger's house at the entrance to the northern end of the park, just off Musselroe Bay Rd. Pets and firearms are not permitted in the park.

A road loop provides access to Stumpys Bay for camping, fishing and boating. The loop rejoins Musselroe Rd (*Grid Ref 991759*). Musselroe Rd also provides access to the Musselroe Bay Conservation Area. The access road to the coast (*Grid Ref 992784*) provides excellent coastal views and free campsites on Crown Land where dogs are permitted.

11. Waterhouse and other roads - Easy

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Cape Portland

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: PWS Bridport (03) 6356 1173

Waterhouse Road is an alternative route of about 60 kms between Bridport and Gladstone. It provides access to the beautiful Waterhouse Conservation Area via Homestead Rd (*Grid Ref 693549*) and Blackmans Lagoon Rd (*Grid Ref 690519*). Under the Waterhouse Conservation Area Management Plan 2003 all off-road use of vehicles in the reserve must have a written authority from the PWS. Under this authority, beach driving is permitted on West Tomahawk Beach (sometimes called East Ransons Beach) east of the boat launching site at the end of Homestead Road. Good trout fishing is to be had at Blackmans Lagoon, where there is a track from the lagoon through to Waterhouse Beach

and beach driving is permitted to the southern limit of the reserve. There is bush camping available at various sites within Waterhouse Conservation Area along the Homestead Road. The nearby township of Tomahawk has a shop and caravan park and can be reached by Tomahawk Road (*Grid Ref 702651*).

12. Old Port Road - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Forester, Cape Portland

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: PWS Bridport (03) 6356 1173

Features of this drive include old mine workings and water catchment dams. Exit the Tasman Highway onto Gladstone Rd (*Grid Ref 731482*). Old Port Rd can be accessed from Herrick (*Grid Ref 740497*) or Pioneer via Racecourse Rd. The road runs north for approximately 22 kms to Waterhouse Rd (*Grid Ref 769701*). Boobyalla is 7 kms north (via Boobyalla Rd) and Gladstone is 8 kms east on Waterhouse Rd.

The bridge on the Old Port Road at Boser Creek has collapsed and the bridges on the road between South Mt Cameron and the Old Port road have been burnt. Neither road is safe to use as a through route.

13. Cascade Dam Road - Easy

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Forester

Grid Refs: 666450 - Derby

685415 - Cascade Dam

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Scottsdale (03) 6352 6466

This all-weather 2WD road leaves the Tasman Highway at Derby Town Hall, climbs into the hills and terminates at the lakes edge after about 4 kms (*Grid Ref 685418*). The dam was built to supplement the Briesis Mine at Derby. It burst in April 1929 sending millions of litres of water and hundreds of tons of debris down the valley. A 30 m wall of mud hit the town of Derby killing 14 people and demolishing everything in its path. The dam is now used for irrigation purposes. A feature of the dam today is a long suspension bridge over the water.

14. Mt Paris Dam Road - Easy

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Forester

Grid Refs: 633422 - Road junction (Braxholm).

717364 - Mt Paris Dam, 756391 - Weldborough

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Scottsdale (03) 6352 6466

An interesting feature of this drive is the old Mt Paris dam which is a concrete structure of unusual design. The road runs south-east from the Tasman Highway 1 km east of Braxholm and passes for the most part through State forest. A further 11 kms on is the Mt Paris Dam and the road continues eastwards for a further 6 kms to Weldborough, also on the Tasman Highway. The road is good gravel 2WD standard and provides an alternative route to travelling along the Tasman Highway between Braxholm and Weldborough. It also provides access to a number of other roads and tracks detailed on the Forester Tasmap.

15. Mt Victoria Link Road

Tasmap 1:100 000 Forester

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Scottsdale (03) 6352 6466

This is an alternative route to the highway for travel between Pyengana and Ringarooma. Leaving Ringarooma heading east, continue on the New River Road (*Grid Ref 630331*) instead of turning off onto the Mathinna Plains Road (C423). Follow the signs to Mt Victoria Forest. This is a narrow winding road and there is a 5-ton load limit, so no caravans, trailers, trucks or buses are permitted on this road. Ralphs Falls car park (*Grid Ref 704262*) is a good place for a rest stop, there is a picnic shelter, toilets and a 'Great Short Walk' to the lookouts of Ralphs Falls and the Cashes Gorge Circuit. From here the track continues through buttongrass plains, rainforest, plantations and farmlands to the St Columba Falls Road (*Grid Refs 782260*).

16. St Albans Bay - Hard

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Ninth Island & St Patricks

Grid Refs: 296646 - on Sandy Points Road

149583 - junction with Bellingham Road

Contact: PWS Bridport (03) 6356 1173

This track offers a challenging and scenic coastal drive. From Bridport, take the Sandy Points Road to Lades Beach. Follow the marked track 22 km through the sand dunes and along the beaches to Bellingham. There are several reasonably sheltered, marked unserviced campsites along the track (near the dune area). The area also offers bird watching and surf fishing. Do not drive around either points as they are bird breeding areas.

NORTH & NORTH WEST

17. Patons Rd - Medium

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Mersey

Grid Refs: 281937 - Lemonthyme Power Station,

192745 - Old Wolfram Mine,

199755 - Oakleigh Creek

Contact: PWS Mole Creek (03) 6363 5133

Patons Road is partly in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area and runs from Lemonthyme Power Station along the Forth River valley to an old Wolfram Mine around 20 kms upstream. Forest and river views are excellent. The road is used by walkers, fishers, picnickers and those wishing to canoe or raft the Forth River. The road is closed at Oakleigh Creek, 1 km from the former mine site. It is subject to flooding and blockage by fallen trees. Under the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan 1999, no maintenance will be undertaken on the road. Fires are not permitted in the World Heritage Area.

18. Arthur River to Sandy Cape - Hard

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Nelson Bay

Grid Ref: 038528 - Arthur R Bridge, 065329 - Temma,

114219 - Greenes Creek, 115118 - Sandy Cape

Contact: PWS Arthur River (03) 6457 1225

Forestry Tasmania, Smithton (03) 6452 4905

This drive provides fantastic coastal scenery and beautiful camping spots. Arthur River is 16 kms south of Marrawah via the Arthur River Road. Temma is a further 22 kms south along the Temma Road, which is easy 4WD standard. From Temma to Greenes Creek (12 km) the track is medium 4WD standard, however it can increase

in difficulty after rainfall with deep-water sections. Off-road authorities (permits) are required from PWS for any off-road driving/riding in the APCA. The beach drive from Greenes Creek to Sandy Cape (12 km) is rated hard 4WD standard and multiple vehicle groups are recommended because of the frequent occurrence of quicksand. Under the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2002, travel south of Greenes Creek is restricted to group travel with a minimum of two vehicles. An alternative to the Sandy Cape beach run is to stop at Greenes Creek and return to the Balfour / Greenes Creek Road junction (*Grid Ref 094288*) and take the Balfour Track (see below).

Access and authority details may change as a result of the Arthur-Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2002. Therefore you should check with the local ranger for up-to-date information on available tracks and their current condition. Vehicles with restricted registration and all off-road vehicles must get a written authority from the Parks and Wildlife Service. Driving in areas other than those shown on authorities is not permitted.

The whole Arthur River - Sandy Cape area is an Aboriginal landscape with heritage places found throughout the area, and we're all responsible for helping to protect these places. If you think you recognise Aboriginal heritage leave it alone. Walking on shell middens can cause their erosion. Leave all stone, bone, shell and plants where they are and admire them where they belong.

19. Balfour Track - Hard

Tasmap: 1:100 000 - Nelson Bay, Arthur River

Grid Refs: See Below

Contact: PWS Arthur River (03) 6457 1225

The Balfour Track/Greenes Creek Road junction (*Grid Ref 094288*) is about 5 km south of Temma (*Grid Ref 065329*) and Balfour is 16 kms in an easterly direction from the junction. The Balfour Track is rated 'hard' because of a 70 metre long canal-like stretch of water along one section; otherwise the track is rated medium 4WD standard.

Under the Arthur-Pieman Conservation Area Management Plan 2002, all vehicles using the Balfour Track require a written authority from the Parks and Wildlife Service. Visitors are strongly advised to report to the PWS office at Arthur River to obtain advice on local conditions before starting their trip. Interesting features at Balfour are the unique settlement, historic cemetery and old mine sites.

Rather than exiting the area by the same route, there are two easy grade alternatives. Return along the Balfour Track to the Western Explorer Road junction and proceed north approximately 9 kms to the junction with Blackwater Rd (*Grid Ref 206375*). Take the left route to return to Arthur River via Temma Road (16 kms to Temma Road junction). Alternatively, turn right and travel 17 kms along Blackwater Road to Kanunnah Bridge. From here return up the sealed road to Smithton or take the alternate Forest Drive (track 20) to Roger River.

20. South Arthur Forest Drive - Easy

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Nelson Bay, Arthur River

Grid Refs: see below

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Smithton (03) 6452 1317

The South Arthur Forest Drive is from Kunnannah Bridge (*Grid Ref 306464*) to Roger River, travelling through forest reserves and working forests. Picnic facilities and forest walks are provided at both the Julius and Milkshakes Forest Reserves, while other places include the Sumac Lookout and the picturesque walk through Lake Chisholm Forest Reserve to a beautiful sinkhole lake. This well-signed drive offers a variety of opportunities from river fishing, canoeing, and camping to walking and barbeques.

WEST

21. Montezuma Falls via Melba Flats - Medium

Tasmap 1:100 000 - Pieman

Grid Refs: 674663 - Start of Track

Contact: Forestry Tasmania, Strahan (03) 6471 7176

This track follows the old North East Dundas Tramway (closed in 1932) through rainforest to the spectacular Montezuma Falls, at 104m one of the highest waterfalls in Tasmania. From Zeehan, take the B27 for approximately 5 km to the Murchison Highway and turn left (north). Another 5 km on is the Melba Flats railway siding turn right here onto the 4WD track. It is approximately 14 kms to the carpark (*Grid Ref 733699*) and a few hundred metres walk to the falls. A footbridge has been constructed across the falls to link up with the walking track and viewing platform on the Williamsford side of the track. Be prepared for the weather with a waterproof jacket, sturdy shoes and drinking water. Maintenance of this track is a combined effort between Forestry Tasmania and the TRVA. There is also an alternate route out through the Ring River track that comes out near Renison Bell. This track is graded hard and should not be attempted when there is a high rainfall.

22. Ocean Beach - Medium

Tasmap1: 100 000 - Cape Sorell

Grid refs: 579324 - Access to beach - 536241 - Macquarie Heads Road end

Contact: PWS Strahan (03) 6471 7122

Access to this 15km beach run is via Ocean Beach Road from Strahan. All vehicles should stay below the high tide mark to avoid destroying shorebird nesting sites. An alternative to the long beach run is to turn left when driving onto the beach and travel around the headland and exit along the Macquarie Heads Road to the airfield and Strahan. Some excellent camping is available. Beware of the quicksand around the mouth of the Henty River.

23. Mt Huxley - Hard

Tasmap 1: 100 000 Franklin

Grid Refs: 794377 - Exit Mt Jukes Rd - 850325 - End of Track

Contact: PWS Queenstown (03) 6471 2511

This drive provides views of Queenstown, Lake Burbury and the surrounding mountains. The return trip from Queenstown takes about two and a half hours. The track leaves Mt Jukes Road opposite the golf links and runs in a south-easterly direction for 12 kms, skirting the northern and eastern slopes of Mt Huxley. Five kms along the track a gravel road, which services power lines, is worth

exploring. The Mt Huxley track is rated hard 4WD because of the steep, rocky terrain at the summit end. A short spur to the right at the 9.6km mark leads to a point from which you can walk to the summit.

24. Bird River Track - Easy

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Franklin

Grid Refs: 858147 - Jnct Bird River/Mt McCall Tracks, 839111 - Bird River Bridge

Contact: PWS Queenstown (03) 6471 2511

A drive through spectacular rainforest is a feature of this track, which is in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. An authority is not required, but park entry fees apply and can be paid at Parks and Wildlife Service offices at Queenstown or Strahan. Access from Queenstown is via Mt Jukes Road then Kelly Basin Road to the Bird River Bridge and carpark, a distance of 42 kms. Walking tracks continue from the bridge to Kelly Basin and other areas.

25. Mt McCall Track - Medium

Tasmap 1: 100 000 - Franklin

Grid Refs: 858147 - Mt McCall/Bird River Tracks Junction, 976076 - End of track

Contact: PWS Queenstown (03) 6471 2511

The scenery on this 22 km drive is superb. The Mt McCall Track is in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. An authority must be obtained from, as well as park entry fees paid to, the Parks and Wildlife Service Office at Queenstown or Strahan. Access from Queenstown is via Mt Jukes Road, then Kelly Basin Road to where the Franklin River Road (Mt McCall track) branches off, 37 kms from Queenstown. The track ends abruptly at the top of an old haulage way with a drop of over 300 metres down to the Franklin River.

ATV & Trailbikes

For those of you interested in other forms of recreational vehicles we suggest you get yourself a copy of the 'Ride Around Tasmania'(RAT) booklet. It has information on recreational registration, maps and grid references leading you to some great rides as well as tips on how you can ride safely and minimise your impact. Available at Service Tasmania outlets and some bike shops for approximately \$10.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Driver Training:

You can get a lot more out of your 4WD by attending a Nationally Accredited Driver Training Course. Call the TRVA Driver Training Unit on 0408 131 894.

To get more information contact any of the Recreational Working Group members:

Tourism Tasmania

Call (03) 6230 8250 or, if calling from interstate, find the number of your local Tasmanian Travel Centre in the white pages. <http://www.tourism.tas.gov.au>

Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania

1300 135 513 <http://www.parks.tas.gov.au>

Forestry Tasmania

(03) 6233 8203. <http://www.forestrytas.com.au>

Tasmanian Recreational Vehicle Association Inc.

P.O. Box 662 Glenorchy 7010

Phone (03) 6424 7565 or 6244 5290

Website: www.4WDTasmania.org.au

Recreational Vehicle Clubs

All the following clubs are affiliated with the TRVA
Southern Tasmania

Cascade Offroaders 4WD Club (03) 6239 1366

Huon Valley 4WD Club (03) 6264 1815

Derwent Valley 4 Wheel Drive Club Inc 6273 9719

*Independent 4X4 Club (03) 6275 0060

Land Rover Owners Club of Tas (03) 6273 4666

Nissan 4WD Club (03) 6248 5932

Rockmoor 4WD Social Club (03) 6268 1441

Suzuki 4WD Club of Tasmania (03) 6224 8013

*Tasmanian Offroaders 4WD Club (03) 6248 7657

Toyota 4WD club of Tas Inc (03) 6244 1780

Trekka 4WD Club 0419 506 149

Northern Tasmania

Braddon 4WD Club Inc (03) 6435 7939

Devonport 4WD Club 0417 180 910

Northern Explorers' 4WD Group Inc (03) 6344 6019

Tamar Valley 4WD Club (03) 6343 0318

The Rover Four Wheel Drives Club of Northern Tas (03) 6393 6305

Ulverstone Four Wheel Drive Club Inc (03) 6424 7565

* Club membership by invitation only.

Land Transport Safety

13 1105 For all details on licences and registration of vehicles.

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BUSH WATCH