

Greater Glider detection report - 12/1/2016

Coupe 892-508-0006 'Last Minute'

This report has been compiled by Goongerah Environment Centre and details a high density of Greater Gliders within the remaining unlogged section of VicForests logging coupe 892-508-0006 on Hensleigh Ck rd, East Gippsland.

A spotlighting survey was conducted by Ed Hill of GECO between 2:35am and 3:20 am in the early morning hours of January 12th 2016.

Four greater gliders were observed within a 1.79 hectare area at a density of 2.23 Greater Gliders per hectare. Photos of three Greater Gliders were taken, HGGT1, HGGT02, HGGT03 and the location of the tree they were detected in was recorded on a GPS. See the photos below.

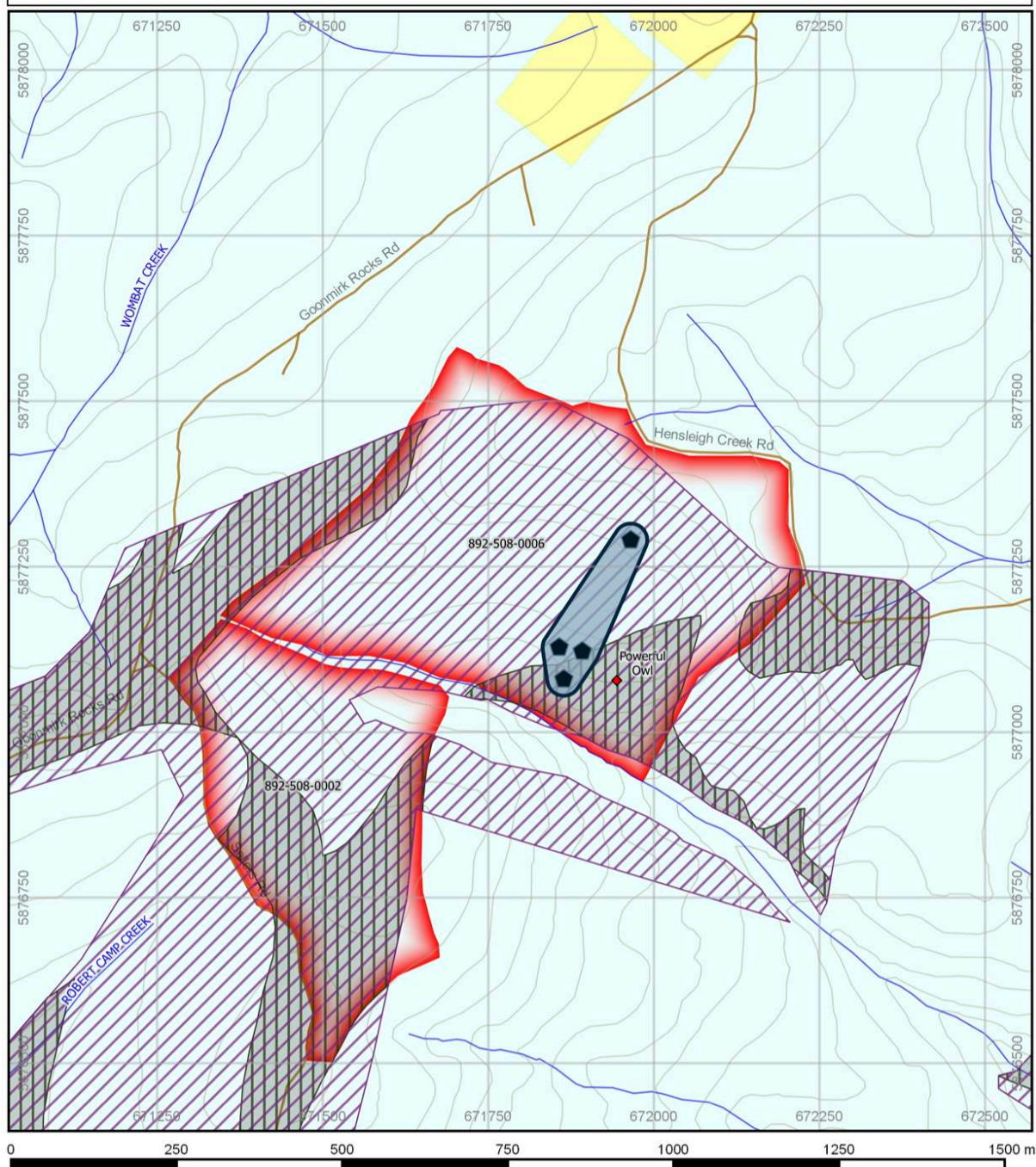
A photo of the fourth Greater Glider (HGGT04) was attempted, however the animal was concealed by foliage by the time the camera was in position. The distinctive long tail of the animal and white underbelly was observed for a brief moment, which was enough to positively identify the animal as a Greater Glider. The GPS waypoint location of HGGT04 was taken from the point it was observed at a bearing of 225° at a distance of approximately 20m.

The high density of Greater Gliders (>2 per hectare) at this location requires regulatory action and the creation of a 100ha Special Protection Zone. This zoning is a requirement of the Planning Standards as set out in Table 4 of the Detection based FMZ rules for fauna on page 43.

The presence of a high density of Greater Gliders in this coupe indicates that protected species are present in the forest subject to VicForests logging operations and that a pre logging fauna survey should have been carried out by VicForests.

See the table of data below and map of the site including the extent of Modelled Old Growth Forest within the coupe.

Date	Time	Species	Waypoint name	Location	Bearing	Approx Distance
12.1.2016	2:43am	GG	HGGT1	55H 0671857 5877128	N/A	
12.1.2016	2:56am	GG	HGGT02	55H 0671892 5877122	N/A	
12.1.2016	3:23am	GG	HGGT03	55H 0671864 5877080	N/A	
12.1.2016	3:49am	GG	HGGT04	55H 0671965 5877290	225°	20m



Legend

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| ◆ Powerful Owl Detection | ■ "OGNET" = 1 [MOG2003] | ■ Special Management Zone |
| ■ Greater Glider Detections | ■ Timber Release Plan (VicForests) [Approved_TRP_August2015] | ■ General Management Zone |
| ■ High Density of Greater Glider Area (4 GG in 1.79ha @ 2.23 GG p/ha) | ■ Forest Management Zoning [FMZ100; DEPI, June, 2014] | ■ Roads |
| ■ "X_OGDESC"="Old Growth Forest" [OG100] | ■ Special Management Zone | ■ Watercourses |
| | | ■ Contours |

Projection: EPSG: 28355
GDA94/MGA Zone 55

Map Scale:
1:7,500





Photo: Greater Glider at GPS location 55H 0671857 5877128 (HGGT1)



Photo: Greater Glider at GPS location 55H 0671892 5877122 (HGGT02)



Photo: Greater Glider at GPS location 55H 0671864 5877080 (HGGT03)

GECO strongly urges the DELWP investigate this report and implement the required zoning actions as set out in the Planning Standards.

As logging has recommenced at the site the evidence of this high density of Greater Gliders is at risk of being destroyed. Therefore we strongly urge the DELWP to suspend logging operations in the coupe so the required regulatory actions can be implemented.

Please inform me as soon as possible as to whether DELWP will investigate this matter and prevent VicForests from continuing to log whilst regulatory action is implemented.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Hill

GECO

geco.media@gmail.com

Ph: 03 515401 09