

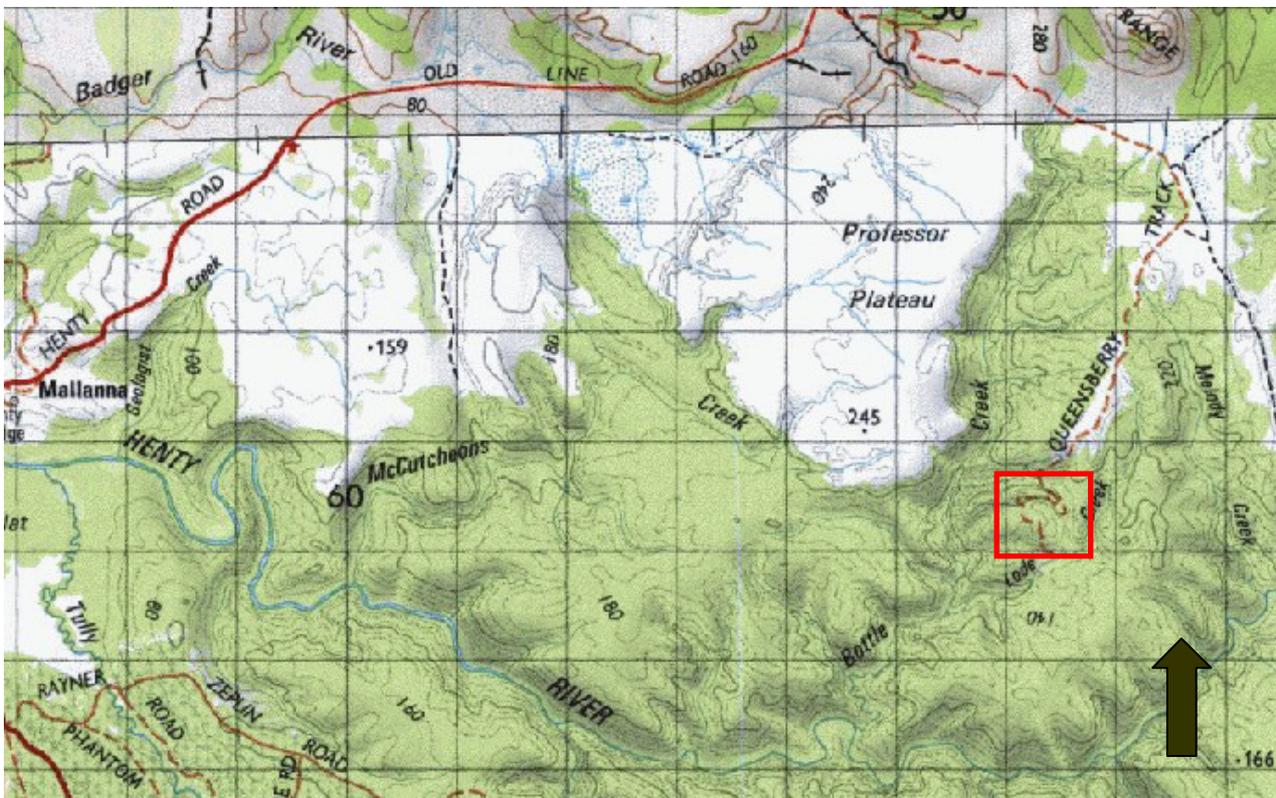
## Mount Dundas Regional Reserve

### Gorse control program for the Queensberry Track - 2003/2004

#### Queensberry Track

The Queensberry Track is located in Mount Dundas Regional Reserve, a reserve declared in 1999 as part of the Regional Forest Agreement. The track commences on the southern side of the Henty Road approximately ten kilometres from Zeehan (Fig 1).

At the end of the Queensberry Track is the Queensberry Mine, which has a long history of mining, with adits and old mining equipment still evident at the site. Further evidence of the mining history of the site is the gorse growing along the track and at the mine site.



**Fig 1:** Location of the Queensberry Track with the main gorse infestation indicated by a red box

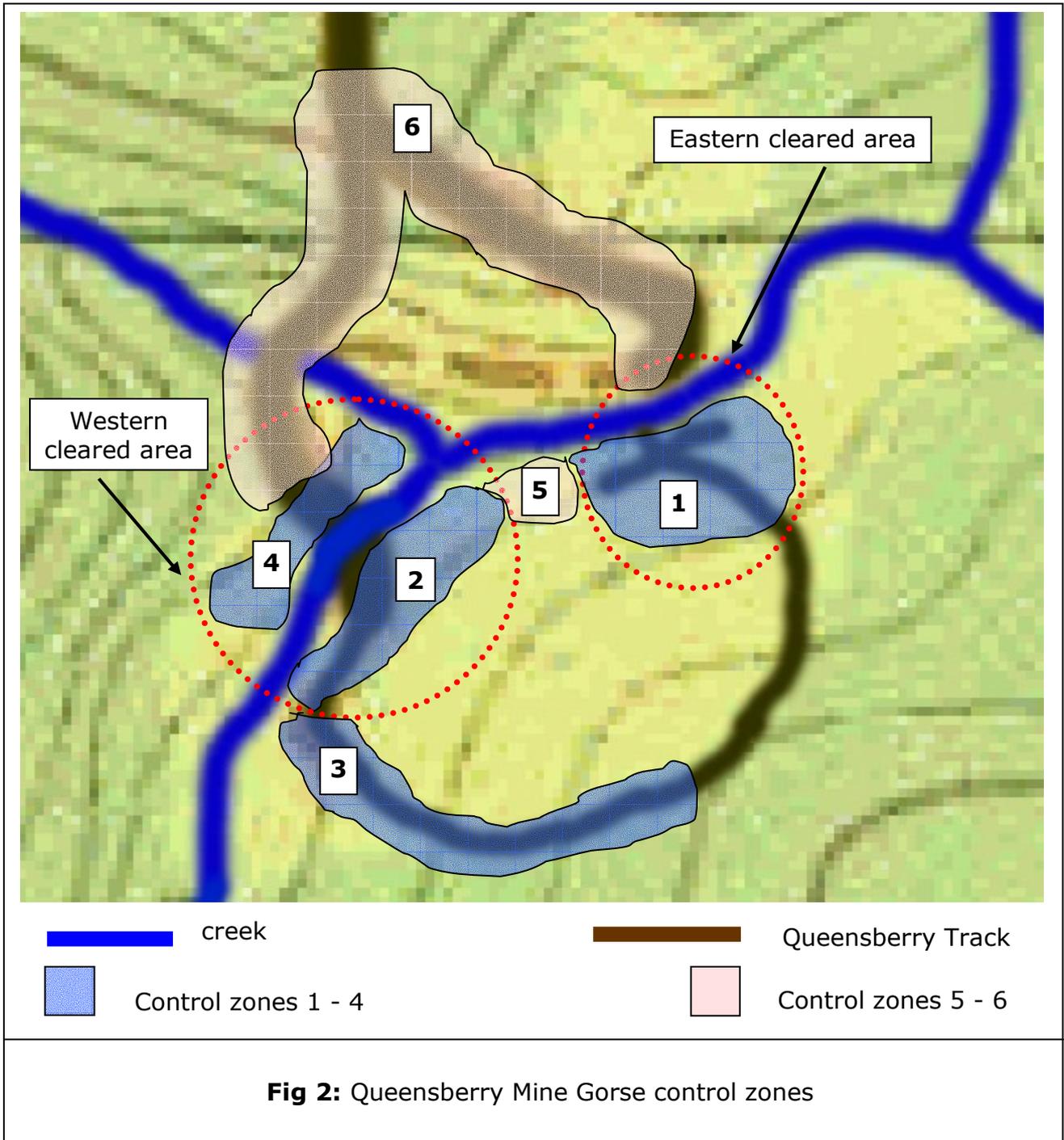
#### Gorse

Gorse, *Ulex europaeus*, is a perennial evergreen shrub endemic to western Europe. Gorse was introduced to Australia 150 years ago. It is now a very common plant in Tasmania, growing in most environmental conditions from dry coastal heath to damp sclerophyll forest. It is especially invasive in areas of disturbed and/or infertile ground.

Gorse is designated as a weed of National Significance in the National Weed Strategy, and is declared a "Secondary Weed" under the Noxious Weeds Act 1964.

### Gorse Infestation at the Queensberry Mine Site

Following the previous few years' gorse control, the gorse infestation has diminished and has been re-divided into several new zones based on location and previous control measures (Fig 2).



Zone	Description	Past Control ( <sup>1</sup> yrs)				Next control
		00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	
1	Area of land on the southern side of the river in the eastern block cleared for mining that extends from the river up to the rainforest. The cleared land occurs on two distinct contours. An old mining track extends to the east and west.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2006/07
2	Area of land on the southern side of the river between the river and the rainforest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2006/07
3	Old mining track on the southern side of the river approximately 15m wide extending into the rainforest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2006/07
4	Area of raised land at the end of the track leading to the western cleared area plus the land between the track and the creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2006/07
5	Small stretch of thick vegetation between the eastern and western cleared areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2004/05
6	Track side vegetation between the eastern and western cleared areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2004/05
7	Queensberry Track from the mine to Henty-Zeehan Rd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2004/05

<sup>1</sup> Years are 2000, 2001, etc

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## **2003/2004 Gorse Control Program**

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This years gorse control program can be divided into two key areas:

### ***Cut and painting of mature plants***

- Conducted by Earth Support Services, a bush regeneration firm based in Hobart.
- They cleared the mature gorse plants from zones 2 and 3 and deposited them in an excavated trench for burning at a later date

### ***Spot and broad spraying of emergent seedlings***

- Conducted by the PWS weed control officers using back-pack and car mounted units.
- Sprayed the emergent gorse seedlings in zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6



**Fig 3:** Queensberry Mine gorse zones 4 and 2 post 2004 weed control work



**Fig 3 - 4:** Queensberry Mine gorse control zone 3 post 2004 weed control work

## 2004/2005 Planned Gorse Control Program

1. Cut and paint mature gorse in zone 5
2. Spray surviving mature and seedling gorse in zones 6 and 7



**Fig 5:** Queensberry Mine gorse control zone 6 – mature gorse plant



**Fig 6:** Queensberry Mine gorse control zone 6 – seedling gorse plants