
 REHABILITATION OF ABANDONED MINING LANDS TRUST FUND

STORYS CREEK
North East Tasmania
TAILINGS REPOSITORY REVEGETATION
PROGRESS REPORT JUNE 2006

Background/Summary

Tailings from Storys Creek were relocated during 2002 to an obsolete precipitate dam west of the creek and encapsulated in clay (Map 1). Trees cleared from the relocation area at that time were stockpiled for redistribution as ground cover. Native grasses (*Poa sp.*) planted on the site during 2003 are progressing well in the north east corner of the repository site but failed to establish to the same degree on the repository proper.

The 2005/06 campaign involved:

- Spreading stockpiled logs and associated vegetation onto the repository.
- Sowing the repository area with local provenance native seed (Table 1).
- Weed management on and in the surrounds of the repository (Table 2).

Three red mud trial plots at nearby Rossarden were given follow up seeding while resources were available in the area (Map 2; Table 3).

Aims

The objectives of work undertaken in the 2005/06 period were to:

1. Revegetate the tailings repository site with local provenance native species.
2. Spreading logs and vegetation debris aims to:
 - Inhibit erosion by interrupting wind and surface water flow.
 - Create shelter, microclimates and ground surface complexes to assist and protect emergent plants.
 - Inhibit browsing of emergent vegetation by herbivores.
 - Provide organic material and habitat to accelerate colonisation by soil invertebrates.



Figure 1. Log stockpile.



Figure 2. Work in progress - spreading of logs onto repository.

Species Name	Common Name
<i>Eucalyptus delegatensis</i>	Gum-topped Stringybark
<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i>	Black Peppermint
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Dusty Daisy Bush
<i>Olearia viscosa</i>	Viscid Daisy Bush
<i>Bedfordia salicina</i>	Tasmanian Blanket Leaf
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	Woolly Tea-tree
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Manuka
<i>Oxylobium sp.</i>	Oxylobium
<i>Gahnia sp.</i>	Sedge
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle
<i>Hakea lissosperma</i>	Needle Bush
<i>Dianella sp.</i>	Flax-lily
<i>Cassinia acculeata</i>	Daisy Bush

Table 1. Native species collected and sown on tailings repository during autumn 2006.

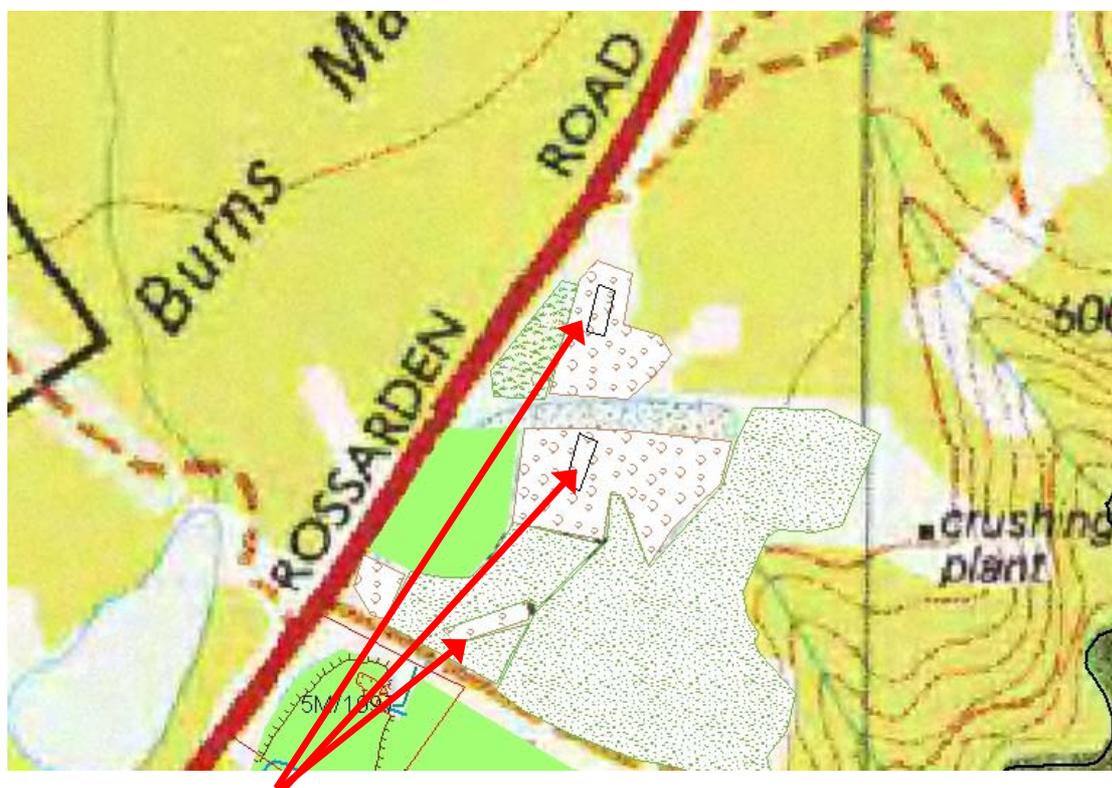
Species Name	Common Name
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Onopordum sp.</i>	Thistles
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry
<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	Cotoneaster

Table 2. Invasive weed species removed January 2006.

[M. J. Reid]

Red Mud Trials

Follow up seeding of three trial plots was undertaken in late April 2006 using seed collected locally for the nearby tailings repository revegetation and approximately 0.5 kg of local provenance *Acacia dealbata* supplied by Wildseed Tasmania (Map 2; Table 3).



Map 2. Red Mud trial plots.

Species Name	Common Name
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Manuka/Tea-tree
<i>Gahnia sp.</i>	Sedge
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle
<i>Hakea lissosperma</i>	Needle Bush
<i>Poa sp.</i>	Tussock Grass

Table 3. Native seed sown onto trial plots April 2006. **A. dealbata* seed was supplied by Wildseed Tasmania.