Background to new Moratorium Request

Clearfelling of the accessible leatherwood in the Wedge block near Lake Gordon is following the same pattern as in the Huon district:

- Leatherwood close to hive sites in sheltered, low altitude locations is being clearfelled as a bycatch
- Bees are being driven onto Leatherwood in higher altitudes (eg. around Mt Wedge)

The result is an unreliable and poor nectar yield (or no commercial yield at all in many cases) and an interruption to the wave of Leatherwood flowering that goes up the elevation range as the season progresses.

Since the last moratorium request in May 2004, the number and scale of operations in the Wedge block has approximately doubled.

This area of accessible Leatherwood in the Derwent district is the one that beekeepers came to as a result of similar clearfelling operations which have almost destroyed the accessible Leatherwood resource in the Huon district.

Where does the Minister expect beekeepers to go in order to obtain the nectar crop they need to stay in business and carry out their irreplaceable pollination services for the stone fruit and seed crop industries?

Table of coupes clearfelled after original request for Moratorium dated May 2004

(source: on-site inspection)

Coupe No	Sites Affected	Hives Affected	Beekeeper(s) Affected
WE030F	W1,W4,W5	60	John Duncombe
WE020E	G16	20	David Henry
WE038A	C10	30	John Duncombe
WE008E	C7,C8,C17	30	Alan Headlam, Roland Heese
WE005B	C3,C4	27	John Duncombe, David Henry
WE024B	G12,G13	100	Julian Wolfhagen, David Henry

Table of coupes in the current harvesting plan for clearfelling as at January 2006

Coupe No	Sites Affected	Hives Affected	Beekeeper(s) Affected
WE044A,WE044D	C14,C15,C16	37	John Duncombe
WE002C	C2	10	Julian Wolfhagen
WE001B,WE001C, WE001E	C18,G12,G13,S1	89	Julian Wolfhagen, David Henry, Laurie Cowen
WE038B Note: This coupe has been moved from special timbers to clearfell!	C10	Takes winter stores for 25 hives (WE038A removed commercial nectar yield)	John Duncombe
WE039D	C13	12	John Duncombe
WE003B	C2,C3	10	Julian Wolfhagen
WE034A,WE034B, WE034C, WE031A	\$2,\$3	50 + winter stores for 50 hives	Roland Heese, John Duncombe
WE016E	G19	25	Peter Norris/Roland Heese
WE003D	C3	2	David Henry
WE035C	W3	Takes winter stores for 25 hives (previous logging on the Webster Hall Rd removed commercial nectar yield)	Henry Deridder
WE030E Note: this coupe made these sites accessible but these operations will take away much of the Leatherwood!	W5,W6,A2	30	John Duncombe, Laurie Cowen
WE009E	C8, C17	15	Alan Headlam, Roland Heese

Coupe No	Sites Affected	Hives Affected	Beekeeper(s) Affected
WE024A Note: this coupe made site G28 accessible again but this operation plus WE024B (see above) will take away much of the Leatherwood!	G28	10	David Henry, Julian Wolfhagen
WE023A, WE023B, WE023F	G25,G13	25	Roland Heese, David Henry
WE020B, WE023C, WE023E	G15	20	David Henry
WE019C	G15,G16	10	David Henry