

To
Forests Assessment of River Red Gums:
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 4206, Sydney, 2001.

The Regional Assessment of River Red Gums and Woodland Forests conducted by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) is inadequate for the following reasons:

- * The NRC has not conducted a scientific assessment of the conservation values of River Red Gum forests in the study area.
- * There is no consideration of the national reserve criteria or how they will be met.
- * The impact of logging on ecosystems has not been considered.
- * CSIRO findings that large protected areas are vital to the survival of species in a warming world have been ignored.
- * Refugia, corridors and linking habitats in the region have not been identified
- * The report fails to address the legal requirements of that EPBC Act 1999

The new report should recommend:

1. Extensive new Red Gum National Parks because:

- * Red Gum is a vulnerable ecosystem that needs a 60% reservation target
- * Red Gum forests are vital refuges for plants and animals in a rapidly warming world
- * National Parks are crucial to ecosystem resilience

2. Aboriginal ownership of new National Parks wherever sought by Traditional Owners

3. Much improved environmental water flows to ensure the health of Red Gum into the future

4. A fair restructure package for individuals and businesses affected by the changes.

These are critical issues which must be addressed to ensure the survival of woodlands and in this case the River Red Gums. Basically logging should not be allowed. It's a small price to pay to put the lumber industry out of business. These are not plantation trees!

Yours sincerely
DORA Koops