

**From:** Hulls Redgum  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 October 2009 9:48 AM  
**To:** Avtar Singh  
**Subject:** NRC Interim Report Riverina Red gum Forests

I would like to put my submission to the NRC as a user of the red gum forest in the Koondrook State forest both commercially and recreationally.

With both my own and family using the forest over 50 years I acknowledge that the forest needs a regular water supply to keep it in pristine condition. Equally as important is the need to manage the tree population to ensure the survival of the forest.

Without proper management and cultivation the forest will become overgrown and a fire hazard (in line with the Dandenong's) and trees will die at a rapid rate.

We have been experiencing the worst drought this area has ever experienced but with the current management practice the trees have survived in reasonable shape.

Not like the trees in the Yanga forest which was "locked up" as a National Park in 2005. Following a number of visit to the forest with family in Balranald the forest is dying with the increasing number of small redgum trees competing with the little water supply provided. In some parts the forest is overstocked by more than 500 per cent. All this has happened in the last 5 years.

What will it be like in 20 years if a fire does not destroy the surplus dying timber.

The good management of the forest also provides employment to the local community. In the case of Barham over one third of the local work force is directly and indirectly dependant on the Redgum Forest and if this was closed local families living here for over 100 years would need to relocate to find employment.

So common since needs to be shown with the future of the forest and we should not be influenced by a small Green minority who not only does not live in the area but does not know the forest.

Yours  
Gary Hull