

**From:** Jim Morris  
**Sent:** Thursday, 22 October 2009 8:14 PM  
**To:** Avtar Singh  
**Subject:** Recommendations for the future of River Redgums in the Riverina  
Natural Resources Commission.

Dear Commissioners,

Re. Recommendations for the future of River Redgums in the Riverina.

I travelled through the Riverina in January 2008 and absolutely loved the River Redgum forests where we enjoyed swims at Balranald Hay and Narrandera. These forests are the best aspect of the region for me and are of far greater value to NSW as forests than as timber sources. Clearly more job opportunities are to be found in the maintenance of these oases than in cutting into them for poor financial returns.

Benefits from Victoria's recent declaration of new reserves plus readjustments for the timber industry are a convincing case for following suit.

Without any doubt, visits to those forests are my best memories from that holiday trip last year. They are a huge tourism asset for a much beleagued region. Water problems are shared by the River Redgum and the people. The forests and the people have a common destiny, for better or worse. The forests are ecosystems comprising scores of endangered plants and animals.

Please declare threatened forests as national parks. Please improve prospects of a bright future for the Riverina's people and environment by all making all River Redgum forests national parks.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Morris