

From: Mark Graham

Sent: Tuesday, 13 October 2009 2:36 PM

To: Felicity Calvert

Subject: Submission on River Red Gum Conservation in the Riverina.

To Whom it May Concern,

I write in relation to the future of River Red Gum forests in the Riverina region of New South Wales. There is an urgent need to protect these areas from unsustainable logging and over-extraction of water. The best means of accomplishing this is the protection of all public landholdings containing River Red Gum forest in the formal conservation reserve system and the allocation of water to environmental needs. With up to 90% of River Red Gums in the Riverina showing major signs of stress this is a major national priority.

The future of many threatened fauna species reliant upon River Red Gums is at stake, as is the viability of these nationally iconic forests.

I urge the Natural Resources Commission to recommend to the NSW Government the maximum possible protection of River Red Gum Forests within formal conservation reserves and the allocation of water to environmental flows to secure the future of these heavily stressed forests.

Yours Sincerely

Councillor Mark Graham