

Forests Assessment
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 4206
Sydney
NSW 2001



SUBMISSION RE RIVER RED GUM ASSESSMENT

I am delighted to hear that this assessment is being done.

The River Red Gum is a magnificent tree with a most important role in maintaining the health of our riverine environments, and preserving many threatened and endangered species.

You will encounter a lot of special pleading on behalf of local vested interests. They will be defending their 'right' to continue logging, firewood collection, grazing, off-road driving and the like. They will deny what is obvious to anyone who takes a long and dispassionate view – that what they are doing is helping to destroy a precious resource.

They will also lack the vision to see that their communities have more to gain from preserving the River Red Gum forests in National Parks (from tourism etc) than from their activities.

I hope you will recommend a lot of National Parks.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Colin Smith'.

Colin Smith

20 August 2009