

Red Gum Forest Assessment in the Riverina
Natural Resources Commission

Dear Panel,

I am a self employed timber inspector in the Red Gum Timber industry. In the course of carrying out my duties I meet various individuals dependant on the timber industry. These people treat the forest as if it is their own and such should be herald as the true environmentalist.

I have been enlightened to the fact, that not only do the timber workers depend on the forests – They for the most part perform thinning and selective harvesting, that is required to maintain the health of the forest. They have become so adapt at this, that they can derive an un subsidized income from it that should be welcomed by the tax payer in general.

I have seen red gum forest, that have been left unmanaged (not thinned) and I can assure you that the stands of red gum that have had logging operations through them are much healthier.

It was a pleasure to meet you all last week and I left in the knowledge that the assessment will be carried out in an honest and intelligent manner by knowledgeable people.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P Taggart".

Patrick Taggart