

Forests Assessment
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 4206
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: River Red Gum Assessment

The protection of River Red Gum Forests is critical to conserve their well-recognised environmental values, including large areas that are listed as internationally significant under the Ramsar Convention.


Water stress has led up to 75% of trees to become stressed or die . Therefore they must be recognised as vulnerable vegetation.

Nationally recognised criteria require 60% of remaining vegetation in vulnerable communities be protected – the most sensible way of achieving this is the creation of new National Parks across the entire River Red Gum State Forest estate.

I urge you to make new National Parks the central recommendation from your assessment of these forests.

Economic modelling and the Victorian experience have already shown that this will also be the best possible outcome for the regional economy and could create many more jobs than are currently supported by the timber industry. The preservation of forests is also critical to water preservation.

Sincerely,


Samantha Kent