

Submission  
No 27

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially Confidential

The river red gum forests of the southern Riverina are vital to the environmental health of the region. It is very distressing to think that these magnificent trees are regarded as a resource for exploitation rather than for their true value in river health and wildlife habitat, not to mention tourism.

The gains made in conservation should not be lost to exploitation in the form over mining, logging, water exploitation and overdevelopment of tourism. More state forests need protection.

I am not in favour of 'locking up' parks from recreational use provided that the management is appropriate and will not result in degradation of the park environment. As a horse rider, I know that horses bring weeds and erosion, as a walker I know that trail bikes bring damage to trails and unacceptable noise. But why not provide some facilities, such as pit toilets in frequently used areas or better camping and visitor facilities on the periphery of high conservation areas

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