

Secretary VEAC
Level 39, 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000
Victoria

2 December 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) Central West Investigation Draft Proposal report

Please find enclosed my submission in relation to the above-mentioned report.

Wellsford Forest

I support better protection for this area including the proposed new regional park and nature reserve but believe this should be facilitated under the National Parks Act. Wellsford Nature Reserve encompasses most of the highest strategic biodiversity values in this block. The recommendations will help protect habitat for key threatened species including the brush-tailed phascogale, assorted flora including the few remaining large trees in this block plus a range of woodland birds.

I believe a properly resourced ecological restoration plan is required for the Wellsford Forest to deal with the impacts of historical logging and the potential impact of climate change.

The regional park should also have a management plan to manage allowable uses to avoid conflict including a long-term strategy for firewood collection.

Wombat Forest & Macedon Region

I strongly support the creation of a Wombat Lerderderg National Park and new regional parks to protect the Loddon, Coliban, Campaspe, Moorabool, Werribee, Lederderg and Maribyrnong rivers.

This area provides valuable habitat for many species.

Protection of the Wombat forest also fills gaps in the representation of a number of ecological vegetation classes in the formal reserve system. Additionally, the Wombat-Macedon block provides habitat for a great diversity of flora and fauna including rare or threatened species such as the rare or threatened species such as the greater glider & the brush-tailed phascogale.

I approve the protection of Cobaw Conservation Park, Hepburn Conservation Park, and Long Forest Nature Reserve.

I believe a properly resourced restoration plan is required for the Wombat Forest to deal with the impact of historical logging plus the likely impact of climate change.

The regional park should also have a management plan to manage allowable uses to avoid conflict including a long-term strategy for firewood collection.

Mount Cole Forest

I submit that more of Mount Cole should be protected fully in a national park under

the National Parks Act or combined with an adjacent regional park partly because I am particularly fond of the Beeripmo walking track.

I support the addition of 1,406 hectares to Mount Buangor National Park and Ben Nevis Nature Reserve (1,088 hectares)

Pyrenees forest

I definitely support a new Pyrenees National Park of 16,076 hectares and a proposed new Regional Park of 4,160 hectares. This area provides good habitat for threatened bird species such as the painted honeyeater & the swift parrot.

I believe a properly resourced restoration plan is required for the Pyrenees Forest to deal with the impact of climate change. The regional park should also have a management plan to manage allowable uses & to avoid conflict including a long-term strategy for firewood collection.

I also support the proposed Ben Major & Waterloo Nature Conservation Reserves as well as new and expanded bushland reserves.

Yours Faithfully

Len Lock