



CENTRAL WEST INVESTIGATION - [Brenda King](#)

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to:

'veac@delwp.vic.gov.au'

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From: [Brenda King](#) <

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To: "'veac@delwp.vic.gov.au'" <veac@delwp.vic.gov.au>,

Dear VEAC team,

I wish to submit the following summary of my use of the Wombat Forest, Cobaw Ranges and the Pyrenees district.

I am a horse rider and bush user, using the gazetted tracks and roads in all of the State Forests within Victoria. My backyard would be the Cobaw's but have just as much time spent in the Wombat Forest. My horse and I use the Forest on a weekly basis (I work 5 days a week otherwise I would be there daily!) and we invite all our house guests to visit, international and interstate – of which there are many.

We host international and interstate horsemanship clinics at our property on a monthly basis. The beauty and diversity of the forest is outstanding and a showcase to outsiders. Camping over with the horses in the forest is a treat for myself and my visitors and would be missed from the agenda should the State Forest be changed to National Park as per your proposals.

I am also the Secretary for Riddells Creek Trail Horse Riding Club and we use all State Forests for our club riding adventures for our 140 members, who are from all over Victoria. We are the largest ATHRA affiliated club in Australia. We abide by all the current permit and regulations set by Parks Victoria etc. and use the local forests for pleasure riding at least once a month. Our riding in the parks have always been kept to the tracks with respect given to the forest flora and fauna, sharing with all other bush users without any problems at all.

Our rides are usually attended by approx. 30 members at any one event. For these rides camping is essential as members may come from all parts of Victoria for the weekend, being too far to return home after riding around 35kms during the day.

It has been history to say the least that once an area is made National Park / Conservation Park access can be restricted by way of gates / locks / land breaks / bollards etc. Management and maintenance is a true concern also, National Parks current management is not what I regard as sufficient and by taking local control away it can only be detrimental to our local forests.

Please consider this personal submission, confirm receipt and recognition.

Kind regards

Brenda King

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