

# Fact sheet 13: Heritage and Recreation

Understanding what we value is important in managing Victorian forests

## Key points

- Many of us enjoy walks, drives, picnics and scenery. We also have expectations of the kind of experience we have there—safe trails and lookouts, facilities and educational material, for example.
- Our choices of recreation, our expectations about amenity and setting, and our appreciation of historic heritage values all reflect our social values.
- Research will be undertaken to confirm that we have up-to-date information on our social values for forest and fire management planning.

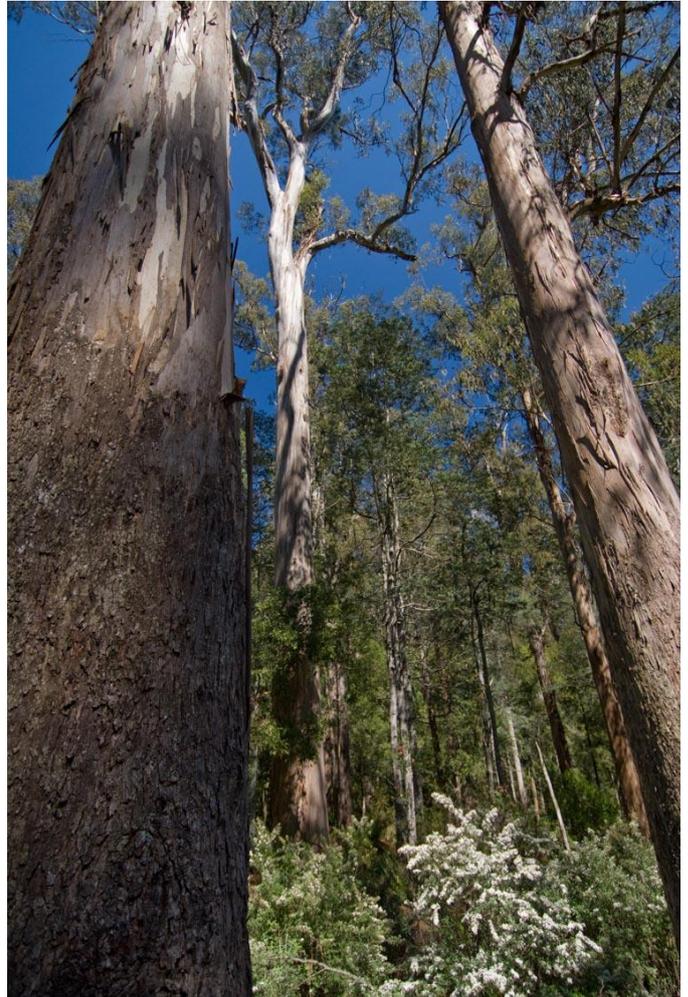
## Recreation, amenity and setting

DELWP researchers will examine two broad attributes of the forest. One will be its natural attributes—plants, animals, scenery and waterways, and, the other, its experiential attributes—aesthetic, spiritual, recreational.

The team will use surveys to gauge what the community expects from their experiences in Victoria's forests, and what kind of other uses of the forest the community will support; for example, the types of industries that rely on the economic value of forests.

The researchers will also assess the current data and seek new geographical data on a range of social values to inform forest and fire management planning into the future.

The research team will give advice on the information needed to guide the development of the Regional Forest Agreements.



East Gippsland forest

## Research activities

Review and report on previous research into social values and their implications

## Who is doing this work?

Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

## Historic heritage forest values

The project team will seek to update historic heritage data in our forests. Reliable data of this type will inform threat abatement and maintenance of heritage sites, and strategic planning for the Regional Forest Agreements.

The team will:

- carry out a stocktake of the information already available on heritage lists and registers, ranging from

the World Heritage List to the Victorian Heritage Register and planning scheme heritage overlays

- update data about historic heritage in a publicly accessible map of resources and land use in Victoria
- ensure that the data relied on for the regional forest agreements reflects our present day understanding of our social values.

### How will these projects help us manage Victoria's forests?

Society has changed since the last Regional Forest Agreements were written. Not only do we have new science, the reasons why we value the forests have changed. These new values must be reflected in the modernised agreements so that forest management in the future achieves the outcomes that we want and expect.

### More information

Future of our Forests

<https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/futureforests>

This series of fact sheets

<https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/futureforests/forest-values-assessment/forest-values-assessment-fact-sheets>

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