

# GREEN WEDGE PROTECTION GROUP INC.

GWPG Submission to: *Modernising the Victorian RFA's*

2/7/2019

## Introduction

The Green Wedge Protection Group (GWPG) was formally incorporated in 1995, following municipal amalgamations. Less formally, the Group has existed since the early 1970s. The Purposes of the Green Wedge Protection Group include:-

- Working to ensure that residents and public officials of the Shire of Nillumbik act together to protect the environment; develop a high quality urban lifestyle within limited designated areas; and promote a rural lifestyle with sensitive farming and enhanced conservation objectives.
- Ensuring the Green Wedge is the strategic focus of the Shire of Nillumbik.
- Providing input to the Shire of Nillumbik and other decision making bodies on any matter considered relevant to the Green Wedge.

The Green Wedge Protection Group is heavily involved in state and local planning issues, both currently and prior to the group's formal inception, and will continue to provide advice and direction to authorities to ensure the intent of our Green Wedges is upheld at all levels of Government, and the values protected.

Our Group has completed the online survey provided on Engage Victoria website, and are providing this additional document to explain who we are.

The Green Wedge Protection Group thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the "Modernising the Victorian RFA's" review process.



 Green Wedge Protection Group

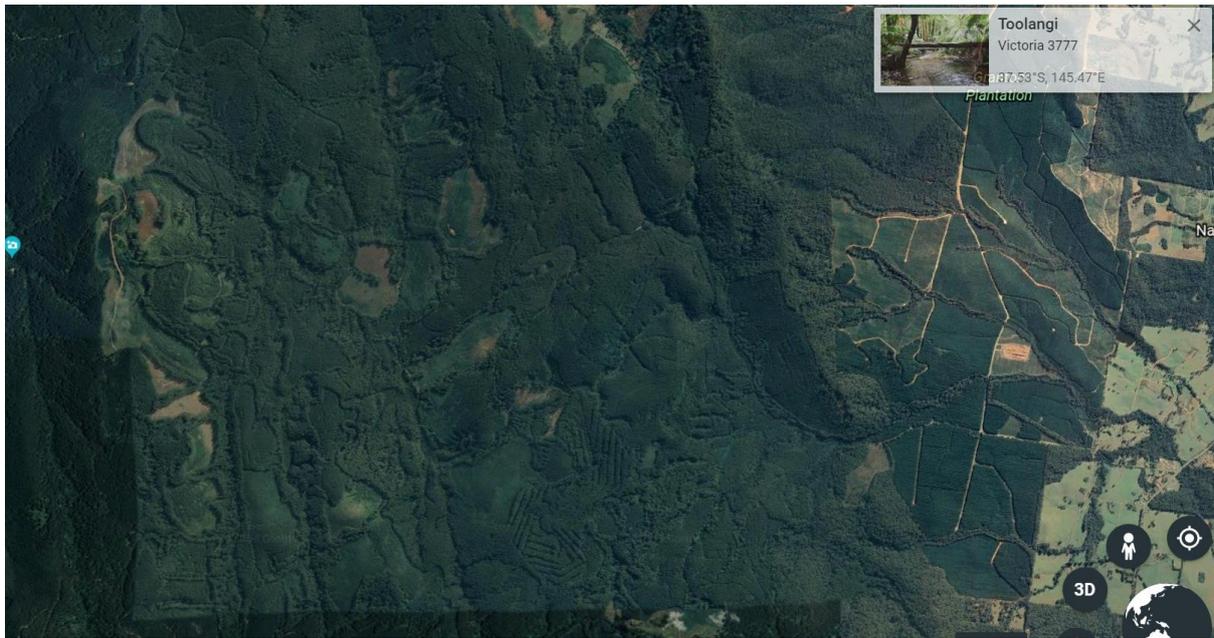


Fig.1 Logging coups- recent and regenerating – through out the Toolangi area. This is prime habitat for Leadbeaters Possum and Greater Glider. Logging is currently impacting these species at an unacceptable level.

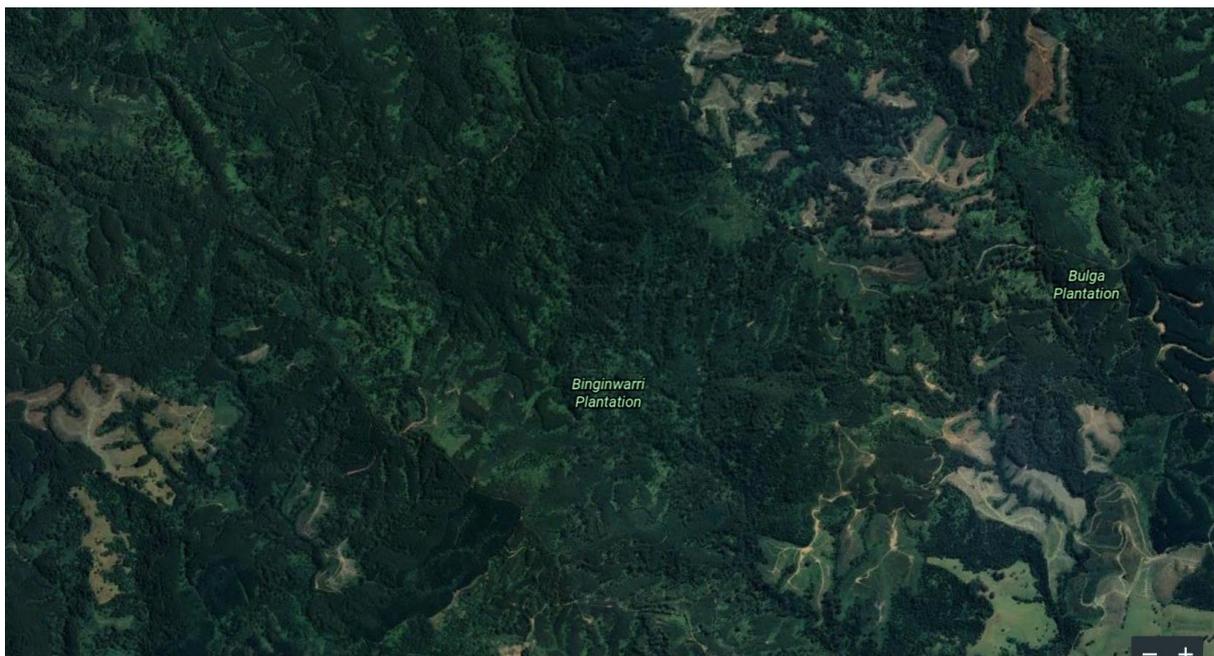


Fig. 2 Logging coups – recent and regenerating – and plantations in the Bulga region. These areas of regeneration result in same-age stands of trees, which reduces habitat complexity and thus habitat value to fauna. These regeneration plots also tend to end up single-species in an otherwise mixed species forest environment, further reducing habitat values. These mosaics act as barriers to fauna dispersal across the landscape, effectively fragmenting faunal habitat and wildlife corridors.

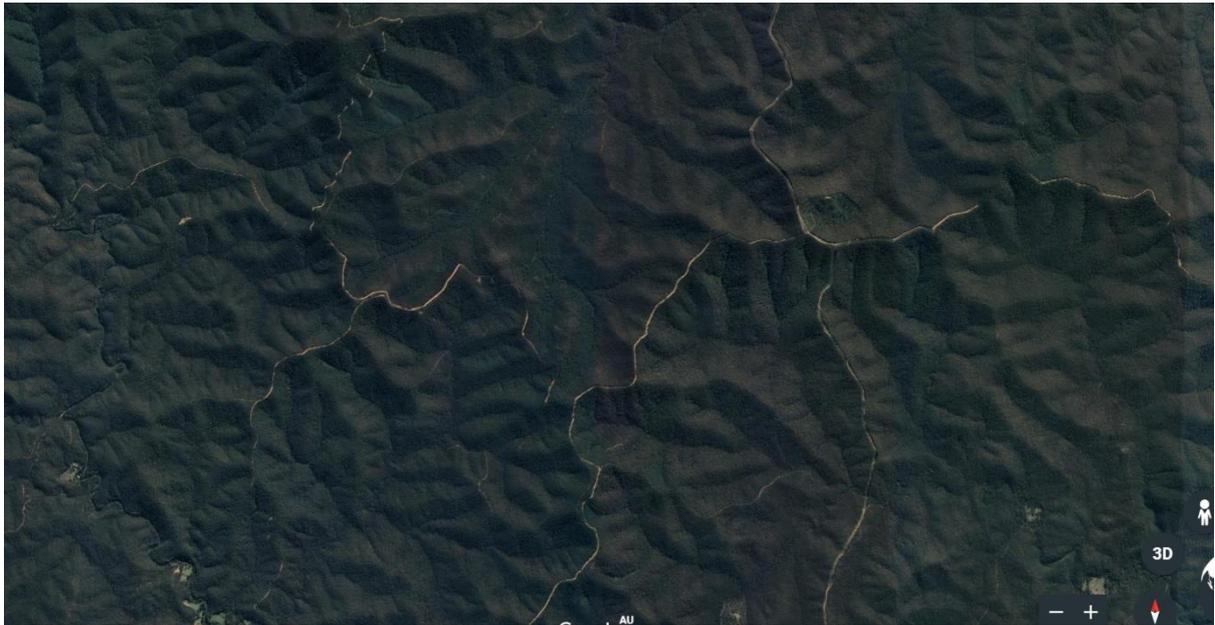


Fig. 3 More intact forest landscapes in the Tambo River area – this type of intact vegetation was difficult to find while scanning aerial imagery. And even this landscape has evidence of some impacts.