



A chance to get river management right

The current five-year grazing licences for riparian land in Victoria are being renewed in October 2009. This licence renewal provides us with a unique opportunity to improve the management of our rivers and streams by creating new riparian 'Conservation licences' and supporting programs.

The Victorian National Parks Association's riparian land campaign aims to develop policy and increase community recognition of the unique values, threats and solutions needed to better manage the more than 30,000km of waterways in Victoria.

Victorians value rivers, creeks and streams for a wide range of reasons, including:

- They are valued by many people for fishing, boating, camping and a wide range of recreational activities.
- They provide drinking water and water for stock and domestic use, as well as providing natural waterholes for wildlife.
- Healthy riparian zones are crucial for river health.
- Riparian zones harbour distinctive species. Protecting riparian vegetation in reserves increases the number of species protected regionally.
- Riparian vegetation in good condition supports the resilience of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, allowing recovery from disturbance and maintaining biodiversity.
- Removing riparian vegetation can result in severe erosion that changes the stream ecosystem and aids weed invasion.
- In some landscapes, Crown frontages represent a significant proportion of all remaining remnant vegetation.
- Intact riparian vegetation is a source of wood for in-stream habitat. Many fish and other species need fallen branches as habitat.
- Riparian vegetation provides habitat for platypus, water rats, frogs and water birds, as well as the terrestrial adult stages of macro-invertebrates.
- Well-managed riparian frontages can add significant market value to rural properties.



River conditions at Bridle Bend on East Gippsland's lower Genoa River have drastically improved since cattle were fenced out from the river's edge and native vegetation replanted by the East Gippsland catchment management authority.

The VNPA will lead the charge on riparian land problems, working with other key groups and calling on the State Government for action on this important issue.

If no action is taken we will simply see the continual degradation of these precious public river frontages for another five years until the next renewal of licences.

Your support and help as the campaign unfolds will be invaluable. Visit the VNPA website's riparian section for further updates and information by going to www.riparianland.vnpa.org.au.



Yes! I would like to join the VNPA to enjoy and protect Victoria's unique natural environment and wildlife.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Other _____ First name _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Gender F M _____ Date of birth / / _____

Suburb/Town _____ Postcode _____

Tel (Business Hours) _____ Tel (After Hours) _____ Mobile _____

Email _____ I do **not** wish to receive email bulletins and news from the VNPA.

SELECT MEMBERSHIP

New Member Renewing Member [Member no: _____]

I would like to become a VNPA member in the following category

Individuals	<input type="radio"/> 1 year \$55	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	To save paper and administration costs and further contribute to protecting Victoria's natural heritage, please AUTOMATICALLY RENEW my VNPA membership each year (through my credit card or bank account as provided below).
Concession (Pensioner/Student)	<input type="radio"/> 1 year \$35			
Household/Family	<input type="radio"/> 1 year \$75			
Corporate (Club/Society)	<input type="radio"/> 1 year \$85			

DONATION

I would like to make a **regular financial contribution** in addition to my membership *All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.*

\$20 per month \$50 per month \$_____ per month

Regular Giving donations are managed by credit card or direct debit only, with debit made on the 28th of each month. You will receive a tax receipt at the end of each financial year, and can stop or change your donations at any time.

One-off Donation - I am unable to make a regular giving contribution at this time, but would like to give a **one-off tax-deductible donation** of \$_____.

PAYMENT METHOD

Cheque/Money order payable to 'Victorian National Parks Association' is enclosed.

Credit card Visa Mastercard Card no _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____ Cardholder name _____

Signature _____

Direct Debit from my Account

Financial institution _____

Bank/Branch (BSB#) _____ Account number _____

Account holder(s) name _____ Signature _____

Please post or fax with payment to Victorian National Parks Association, Level 3, 60 Leicester St, Carlton 3053 or Join online at www.vnpa.org.au • F 03 9347 5199 • T 03 9347 5188