

Forests worthy of protection

PHOTO: DAVID TATNALL

Pyrenees Ranges Forest

The Pyrenees Ranges features 240 species of native plants including the endemic Pyrenees gum. A range of threatened wildlife have been recorded including brush-tailed phascogale and the endangered swift parrot (pictured back cover).

Mount Cole Forest

Mount Cole features one of Victoria's most popular walking tracks, the Beeripmo Walk. Its forest harbours more than 130 native bird species including the powerful owl (pictured page 8). The Mount Cole grevillea is only found here (page 9).

Wellsford Forest

Wellsford Forest is dominated by eucalypts, wattles and wildflowers, and a place to enjoy Victoria's box-iron bark forests as they recover from a long history of logging.

Wombat Forest

Only 60–90 minutes drive for Melbourne growing western suburbs. An important habitat for threatened greater gliders which require very extensive areas of forest to provide an adequate food source. Important headwaters of major rivers – the Loddon, Campaspe, Coliban, Maribyrnong, Moorabool and Werribee-Lerderderg rivers – which provide water supply for large areas of western Victoria to the north and south.

Final Recommendations

Pyrenees Regional Park

New 2016 hectare regional park incorporating areas of most intensive recreation.

Pyrenees State Forest

Retention of 3099 hectares of existing state forest for timber harvesting, domestic firewood and additional recreational uses.

Pyrenees National Park

Large new national park of 15,126 hectares including 4443 hectares of existing nature reserve.

Ben Nevis Nature Reserve

New nature reserve of 1088 hectares on the rocky flanks and peaks of the Mount Cole range.

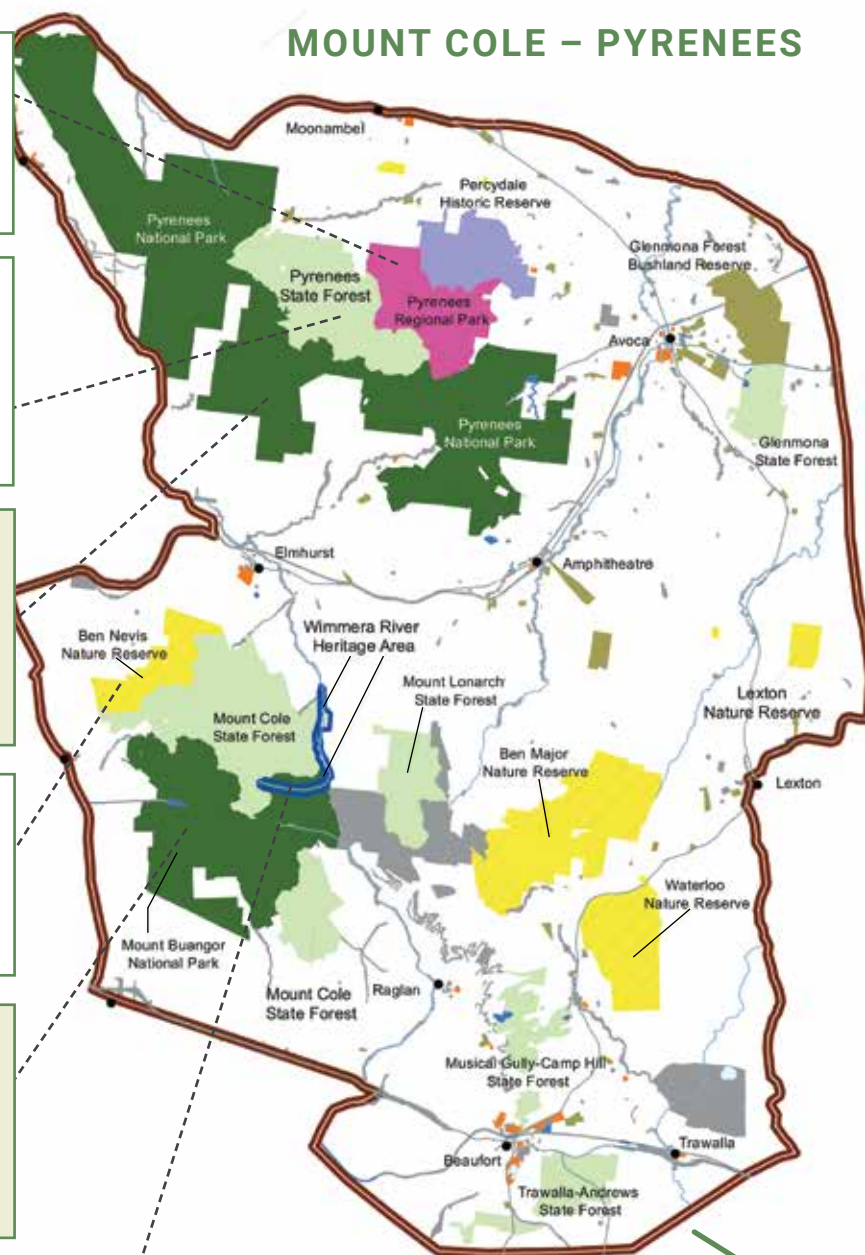
Mount Buangor National Park

Additions to existing 2498 hectare Mount Buangor State Park to create new national park of 5282 hectares.

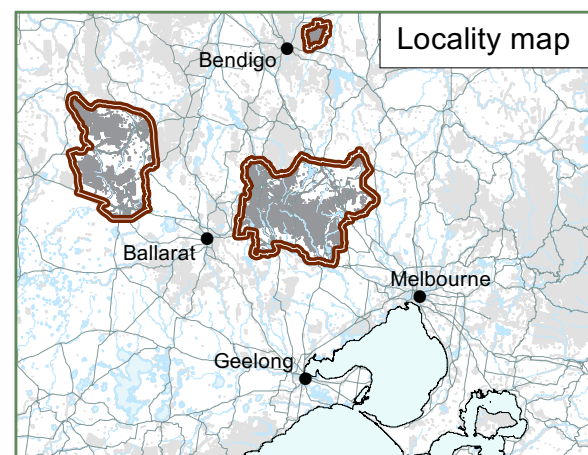
Wimmera River Heritage Area

Addition of 276 hectares to the existing Wimmera River Heritage Area (outside the investigation area) to protect cultural and ecological values of the Wimmera River's headwaters.

MOUNT COLE – PYRENEES



45km
Ballarat



For more detailed map, visit www.veac.vic.gov.au/investigation/central-west-investigation/reports

Greater Bendigo National Park (addition)

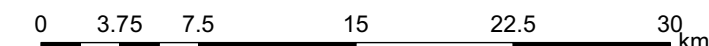
Protection of 3152 hectares of important habitat for many threatened species such as brush-tailed phascogale and swift parrot, and the few remaining large trees in this block. Addition of one of the largest and best condition box-ironbark forests in Victoria, outside of existing parks.

Bendigo Regional Park (addition)

3949 hectares incorporates the areas of the Wellsford forest most intensively used for recreation. Some domestic firewood collection would be allowed over a ten year phase-out period.

WELLSFORD

15km
Bendigo



Public land use category

- National park, State park
- Conservation park
- Regional park
- Nature reserve
- Bushland reserve
- Historic reserve
- State forest
- Water production reserve
- Community use reserve
- Other public land

Public land use overlay

- Heritage River
- Investigation area boundary
- Recommended change in public land use

Hepburn Conservation Park

New park of 2714 hectares containing high natural values and important habitat for rare and threatened species.

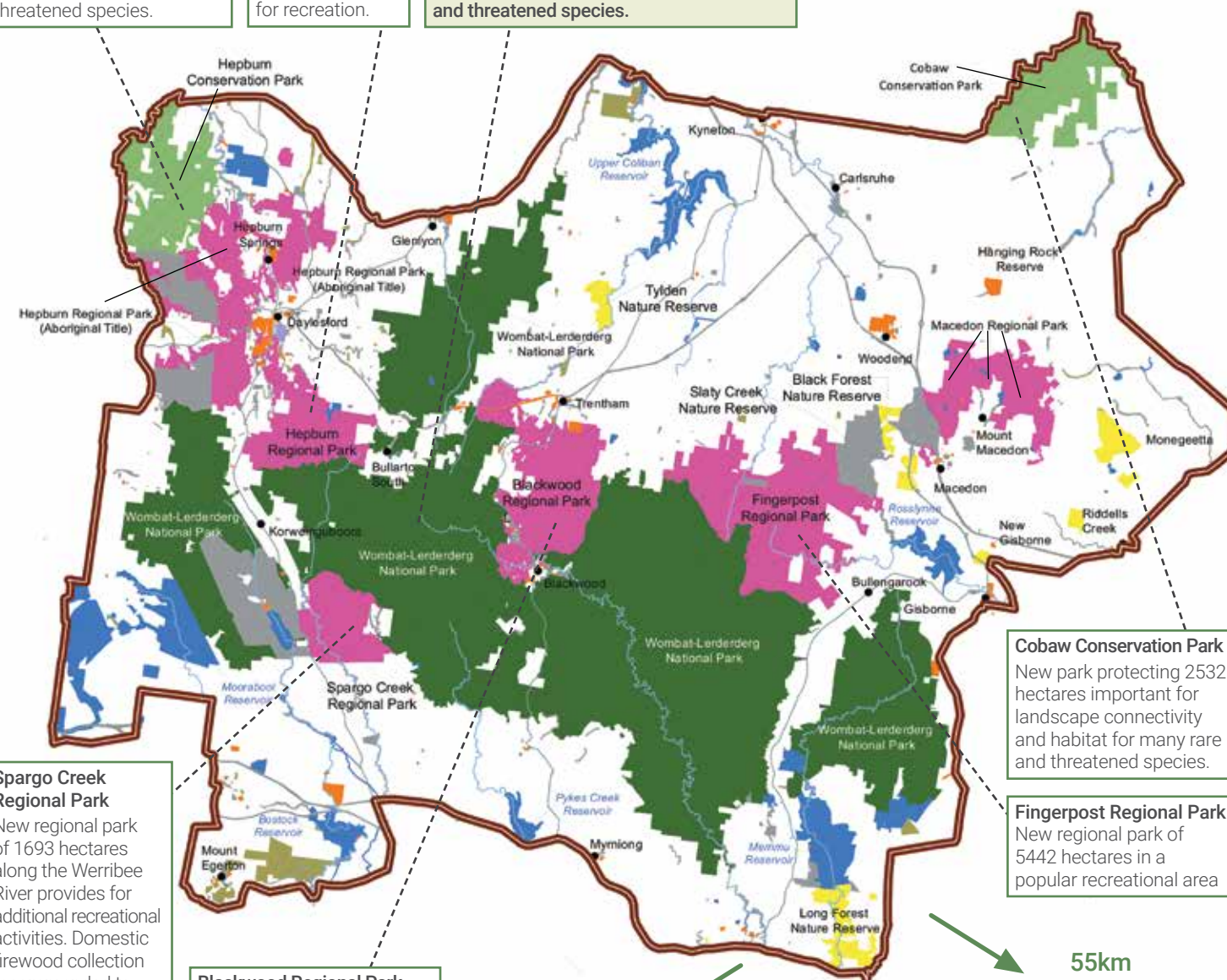
Hepburn Regional Park

Additions of 2947 hectares mostly in a popular area for recreation.

Wombat-Lerderderg National Park

Large new national park of 49,553 hectares (including the existing Lerderderg State Park) to protect water catchments and headwaters, and high value habitat for rare and threatened species.

WOMBAT – MACEDON



55km
Melbourne

30km
Ballarat

Spargo Creek Regional Park

New regional park of 1693 hectares along the Werribee River provides for additional recreational activities. Domestic firewood collection recommended to continue with ten year phase-out.

Blackwood Regional Park
New regional park of 3707 hectares close to townships.

Cobaw Conservation Park
New park protecting 2532 hectares important for landscape connectivity and habitat for many rare and threatened species.

Fingerpost Regional Park
New regional park of 5442 hectares in a popular recreational area