

VICTORIAN REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENTS
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2002

East Gippsland

Central Highlands

North East Victoria

West Victoria

Gippsland

VICTORIAN REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2002

This report covers all five Victorian Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs):

- East Gippsland – signed February 1997
- Central Highlands – signed March 1998
- North East Victoria – signed August 1999
- West Victoria – signed March 2000
- Gippsland – signed March 2000

It fulfils the obligations under clause 25 of the East Gippsland RFA, clause 35 of the Central Highlands and North East Victoria RFAs, and clause 36 of the West Victoria and Gippsland RFAs whereby the parties to the Agreements are to report annually on the milestones set out in those Agreements. The milestones are set out in Attachments 3 (East Gippsland) and 4 (Central Highlands, North East Victoria, West Victoria and Gippsland) of the RFAs, and are outlined in Tables 1 - 5 of this report.

The parties have agreed to provide the annual reports on milestones for all completed RFAs simultaneously.

While the main focus of this report is on milestones due for completion by the end of 2002, detail on significant action towards other milestones is also provided. Some milestone dates in the East Gippsland, Central Highlands and North East Victoria RFAs were amended in the West Victoria and Gippsland RFAs in March 2000. The amended dates are reflected in this Annual Report.

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Table 1. Milestone Implementation - East Gippsland

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
20	Australian Government to seek passage of amendments to woodchip export regulations under the <i>Export Control Act 1982</i> .	June 1997	Milestone completed in April 1997.
29	Victoria to implement an on-going quality assurance programme.	2002 ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commenced forest management reforms as part of the <i>Our Forests Our Future</i> policy statement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Independent audits of public land to ensure compliance with the <i>Code of Forest Practices for Timber Production</i> has been established and overseen by the Environment Protection Authority. – Commenced the development of an Environmental Management System for key activities in State forests. – Commenced a review of the Forests Act. – Commenced an Industry Transition Program. – A Discussion Paper was finalised on options for community management of the Wombat Forest. – Continued the development of a new licensing and pricing system for timber resource allocation. ▪ As part of the cyclic review process, the Auditor General undertook a review of Victorian fire prevention and preparedness. ▪ Consistent with the <i>Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land</i>, Victoria continued to implement a continuous improvement program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continued implementing

¹ Original milestone date (2000) amended in clause 44 of the North East Victoria RFA.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
			<p>the recommendations from the Linton Coronal Inquiry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Real time and retrospective auditing of the use of prescribed fire and wildfire suppression operations were conducted. – Continued development and refinement of business practice processes and procedures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Victorian Pest Management - A Framework for Action</i> was released.
34	Victoria to complete and publish regional prescriptions for timber production.	December 1998 ²	Milestone completed by December 1998.
34	Victoria to use its best endeavours to complete and publish management plans for all National and State Parks.	December 1998	All but three park plans were completed and published by the end of 1998. The National Park Act requires a management plan to be prepared for each national and State park.
34	Victoria to implement the Integrated Forest Planning System and the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory for East Gippsland.	31 December 2005 ³	Development of the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory (SFRI) for East Gippsland is in progress. The mapping component of the SFRI has been completed. The inventory of the mature forest has been completed and is in progress for the regrowth forest.
38	Victoria and the Australian Government to assess the outcomes of the Montreal Process Implementation Group (MIG) process.	December 1997	Milestone completed in December 1997 through Victoria's input and agreement to the "Framework of Regional (Sub-National) Level Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in Australia".
40	Victoria and the Australian Government to develop sustainability indicators.	2002	A framework to develop sustainability indicators has been agreed to by the State and Australian Government. Victoria completed data collection for Montreal Process Category A indicators and national State of

² Original milestone date (December 1997) amended in clause 45 of the Central Highlands RFA.

³ Original milestone date (2001) amended in Attachment 10 (Table 1) of the Gippsland and West Victoria RFAs.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
			Forest Reporting at the Statewide level and progressed data collection at the regional level.
45	Victoria and the Australian Government to undertake and where relevant complete threatened species work as detailed in Attachment 4 (of the East Gippsland RFA).	2002	<p>Work is well advanced on the preparation of Action Statements and Recovery Plans for 10 species and communities.</p> <p>Action Statements have been completed for the Powerful Owl, Brush-tailed Phascogale, Eastern Bristlebird, Yellow Hyacinth Orchid (<i>Dipodium hamiltonianum</i>), Silurian Limestone <i>Pomaderris</i> Shrubland, Orbost Spiny Crayfish, Alpine Water Skink, Diamond Python, Masked Owl Sooty Owl, <i>Prasophyllum morganii</i>, Swift Parrot and Spot-tailed Quoll.</p> <p>Recovery Plans have been completed for Long-footed Potoroo (<i>Potorous longipes</i>) and Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>).</p> <p>Nomination for the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listing has been completed for Cobungra Leek-Orchid (<i>Prasophyllum morganii</i>) and Bonnet Orchid (<i>Cryptostylis erecta</i>).</p> <p>Whilst the above outlines progress on those species detailed in the East Gippsland RFA, across Victoria 58 items were listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and 47 Action Statements were completed in 2002.</p>
46	Victoria to develop programs for pest plant and pest animal control.	2002	In June 2002 Victoria released a Victorian Pest Management Framework that provides for the development of more detailed strategies or programs within each region. Victoria has allocated resources to step up pest management on public land. In 2003/04 these will be directed to the pest management component of the bushfire recovery program in the Victorian Alps.
49	Victoria to implement agreed tenure changes to establish the CAR Reserve System.	February 1998	Completed. The tenure changes were legislated in November 1998 and proclaimed in April 1999.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
51	Victoria to publish an amendment to the East Gippsland Forest Management Area Plan.	June 1997	Milestone completed in June 1997.
56	Australian Government to seek to remove export controls for timber sourced from all Victorian plantations.	March 1997	Milestone completed in March 1997.
61	Victoria to complete a review in accordance with the Competition Principles Agreement.	1999	Milestone completed in May 1999.
64	Victoria to publish its rainforest research.	1998 ⁴	Milestone completed in December 1998.
67	Victoria and the Australian Government develop a Data Agreement and lodge archival copies of data	Data schedule by 30 June 2000; lodge archived data by 31 March 2001 ⁵	State-wide data agreement signed on 28 March 2000. The data schedule is complete. Archival copies of data have been lodged.

⁴ Original milestone date (December 1997) amended in Attachment 1 of the Central Highlands RFA.

⁵ Original milestone date (June 1997) amended in clause 84 of the North East RFA to allow the development of both a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement, and the lodgement of archival copies of data, by 31 March 2000. These dates were further amended in clause 92 of both the West Victoria and Gippsland RFAs, committing Victoria and the Australian Government to develop a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement by 30 June 2000, and to lodge archival copies of data by 31 March 2001.

Table 2. Milestone Implementation - Central Highlands

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
44	Victoria to implement an ongoing Quality Assurance Program.	2002 ⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commenced forest management reforms as part of the <i>Our Forests Our Future</i> policy statement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Independent audits of public land to ensure compliance with the <i>Code of Forest Practices for Timber Production</i> has been established and overseen by the Environment Protection Authority. – Commenced the development of an Environmental Management System for key activities in State forests. – Commenced a review of the Forests Act. – Commenced an Industry Transition Program. – A Discussion Paper was finalised on options for community management of the Wombat Forest. – Continued the development of a new licensing and pricing system for timber resource allocation. ▪ As part of the cyclic review process, the Auditor General undertook a review of Victorian fire prevention and preparedness. ▪ Consistent with the <i>Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land</i>, Victoria continued to implement a continuous improvement program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continued implementing the recommendations from the Linton Coronal Inquiry. – Real time and retrospective auditing of the use of prescribed fire and wildfire

⁶ Original milestone date (2000) amended in clause 44 of the North East Victoria RFA.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
			<p>suppression operations were conducted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continued development and refinement of business practice processes and procedures. ▪ <i>Victorian Pest Management - A Framework for Action</i> was released.
45	Victoria to complete and publish regional prescriptions for timber production.	December 1998	Milestone completed by December 1998.
45	Victoria to use its best endeavours to complete and publish management plans for all National and State Parks.	December 1998	All but three park plans were completed and published by the end of 1998. The National Park Act requires a management plan to be prepared for each national and State park.
45	Victoria to implement the Integrated Forest Planning System and the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory for the Central Highlands.	Central Gippsland (part) FMA by 31/12/2002; Central and Dandenong FMAs by 31/12/2004. ⁷	<p>Development of the SFRI is in progress. The mapping and the inventory components of the SFRI are complete. Analysis of the ash forest data in the Central Highlands is complete and in progress for the mixed species forests.</p> <p>Implementation of the Integrated Forest Planning System (IFPS) for the ash forests is in progress. It is expected that the IFPS for the Central Highlands will be completed in 2004.</p>
50	Victoria and the Australian Government to develop sustainability indicators.	2002	A framework to develop sustainability indicators has been agreed to by the State and Australian Government. Victoria completed data collection for Montreal Process Category A indicators and national State of Forest Reporting at the Statewide level and progressed data collection at the regional level.
57	Victoria and the Australian Government to undertake and where relevant complete threatened species work as detailed in Attachment 2 (of the	2002	<p>Work is well advanced on the preparation of Action Statements and Recovery Plans for 8 species and 2 threatening processes.</p> <p>Action Statements have been completed for the Warragul</p>

⁷ Original milestone date (2001) amended in Attachment 10 (Table 1) of the Gippsland and West Victoria RFAs.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
	Central Highlands RFA).		<p>Burrowing Crayfish, Narracan Burrowing Crayfish, Mt Donna Buang Wingless Stonefly, Amphipod (<i>Austrogammarus haasei</i>), Curly Sedge (<i>Carex tasmanica</i>), Shiny Phebalium (<i>Phebalium willsonii</i>), Gully Grevillea (<i>Grevillea barklyana</i> ssp. <i>barklyana</i>), Swollen Swamp Wallaby-grass (<i>Amphibromus pithogastrus</i>), Rosella Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia rosella</i>), Crimson Spider Orchid (<i>Caladenia concolor</i>) and Increase in sediment input into Victorian rivers and streams due to human activities.</p> <p>Recovery Plans have been completed for Spotted Tree Frog (<i>Litoria spenceri</i>) and Baw Baw Frog (<i>Philoria frosti</i>).</p> <p>A Threat Abatement Plan has been completed for <i>Phytophthora</i> spp.</p> <p>Nomination for the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listing has been completed for Plains Grassy Woodland (or floristic communities thereof), Valley Grassy Forest (or floristic communities thereof), Smoky Mouse (<i>Pseudomys fumeus</i>) and Tree Geebung (<i>Persoonia arborea</i>).</p> <p>Whilst the above outlines progress on those species detailed in the Central Highlands RFA, across Victoria 58 items were listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and 47 Action Statements were completed in 2002.</p>
59	Victoria to develop programs for pest plant and pest animal control.	2003	<p>In June 2002 Victoria released a Victorian Pest Management Framework that will provide for the development of more detailed strategies or programs within each region. Victoria has allocated resources to step up pest management on public land. In 2003/04 these will be directed to the pest management component of the bushfire recovery program in the Victorian Alps.</p>

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
65	Victoria to publish a Central Highlands Forest Management Plan.	30 June 1998	Milestone completed in May 1998.
81	Victoria will report on progress toward development of a long term timber harvesting and water production strategy for the Thomson Reservoir catchment.	2002	<p>Milestone completed in 2002.</p> <p>The final stage of the Macaque model to generate water yield curves for use in the Integrated Forest Planning System (IFPS) has been completed.</p> <p>Timber resource data for the development of the strategy is currently being finalised.</p> <p>Development of the IFPS model for the Central Highlands is in progress. The long term timber harvesting and water production strategy for the Thomson catchment will be incorporated into the IFPS model for the Central Highlands. This modelling will compare the results from the Macaque model with previous water yield curves.</p>
82	Victoria to complete a review in accordance with the Competition Principles Agreement.	1999	Milestone completed in May 1999.
86	Victoria and the Australian Government will develop a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement and lodge archival copies of data. (relevant to the Central Highlands).	Data schedule by 30 June 2000; lodge archived data by 31 March 2001 ⁸	State-wide data agreement signed on 28 March 2000. The data schedule is complete. Work towards lodging archival copies of data is progressing. This is expected to be completed by 30 June 2003.
Attach. 1	Victoria to assess endangered, vulnerable or rare Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) on Melbourne Water Corporation lands (in the Central Highlands).	2002	Assessment of Ecological Vegetation Classes at the Beaconsfield Reservoir is complete.
Attach. 1	Victoria to prepare Regional Vegetation Plans covering the Central Highlands which provide for the protection of endangered, vulnerable or	2001	<i>Victoria's Native Vegetation Management A Framework for Action</i> was released in August 2002. Draft Native Vegetation Plans have been released for public consultation. The Regional

⁸ Original milestone date (September 1998) amended in clause 84 of the North East RFA to allow the development of both a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement, and the lodgement of archival copies of data, by 31 March 2000. These dates were further amended in clause 92 of both the Gippsland and West Victoria RFAs, committing Victoria and the Australian Government to develop a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement by 30 June 2000, and to lodge archival copies of data by 31 March 2001.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
	rare EVCs on private land.		Vegetation Plans covering the Central Highlands are expected to be completed in 2003.
Attach. 1	Victoria to publish a Technical Report on Rainforest.	1998	Milestone completed in December 1998.
Attach. 3 cl. 5	Victoria and the Australian Government to prepare Statewide Cultural Heritage Guidelines.	30 June 2000 ⁹	Preparation of the Guidelines has been rescheduled to co-ordinate with the development of the state-wide Aboriginal Heritage Management System (AHMS) following extensive community consultation with indigenous groups. The development of the AHMS was completed in December 2002. The Statewide Guidelines are expected to be completed in 2003.

⁹ Original milestone (December 1999) amended in Attachment 3 of the North East Victoria RFA.

Table 3. Milestone Implementation – North East Victoria

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
35	Parties to report annually on achievement for first five years, and then as part of the 5 yearly review.	Commencing 2000	This is an annual report within the first five years.
44	Victoria to implement an on-going quality assurance program.	2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commenced forest management reforms as part of the <i>Our Forests Our Future</i> policy statement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Independent audits of public land to ensure compliance with the <i>Code of Forest Practices for Timber Production</i> has been established and overseen by the Environment Protection Authority. – Commenced the development of an Environmental Management System for key activities in State forests. – Commenced a review of the Forests Act. – Commenced an Industry Transition Program. – A Discussion Paper was finalised on options for community management of the Wombat Forest. – Continued the development of a new licensing and pricing system for timber resource allocation. ▪ As part of the cyclic review process, the Auditor General undertook a review of Victorian fire prevention and preparedness. ▪ Consistent with the <i>Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land</i>, Victoria continued to implement a continuous improvement program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continued implementing the recommendations from the Linton Coronal Inquiry.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Real time and retrospective auditing of the use of prescribed fire and wildfire suppression operations were conducted. – Continued development and refinement of business practice processes and procedures. ▪ <i>Victorian Pest Management - A Framework for Action</i> was released.
45	Victoria to implement the Integrated Forest Planning System and the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory in the North East region in time for the next review of sustainable yield.	Benalla/ Mansfield FMA by 30/6/2001; Wangaratta and Wodonga FMAs by 31/12/2001 ¹⁰	Collection and analysis of additional SFRI data for the North East is complete, consistent with the recommendation of the Expert Data Reference Group established during the Victorian sawlog licensing project. Implementation of the Integrated Forest Planning System for the review of sustainable yield in the Benalla/Mansfield, Wangaratta and Wodonga FMAs is in progress for completion in June 2003.
48 and 50	Victoria and the Australian Government to develop sustainability indicators.	In time for the first review of this Agreement (2004)	A framework to develop sustainability indicators has been agreed to by the State and Australian Government. Victoria completed data collection for Montreal Process Category A indicators and national State of Forest Reporting at the Statewide level and progressed data collection at the regional level.
55-57	Victoria and the Australian Government to undertake and, where relevant, complete threatened species work as detailed in Attachment 2 (of the North East RFA).	2004	Work is well advanced on the preparation of Action Statements and Recovery Plans for 9 species and one threatening process. Nomination for the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listing has been completed for Bandy Bandy (<i>Vermicella annulata</i>), Apostlebird (<i>Struthidea cinerea</i>), Square-tailed Kite (<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>), Euroa Guinea-flower (<i>Hibbertia humifusa ssp. erigens</i>) and Golden Perch (<i>Macquaria ambigua</i>).

¹⁰ Original milestone date (2001) amended in Attachment 10 (Table 1) of the Gippsland and West Victoria RFAs.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
			An Action Statement has been completed for Barking Owl and Squirrel Glider. Whilst the above outlines progress on those species detailed in the North East RFA, across Victoria 58 items were listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and 47 Action Statements were completed in 2002.
59	Victoria to develop programs for pest plant and animal control.	2004	In June 2002 Victoria released a Victorian Pest Management Framework that will provide for the development of more detailed strategies or programs within each region. Victoria has allocated resources to step up pest management on public land. In 2003/04 these will be directed to the pest management component of the bushfire recovery program in the Victorian Alps.
62 - Attach. 1	Victoria agrees to implement the agreed land tenure change.	2001	Milestone complete. The legislation was passed in June 2000 and came into effect on 1 February 2001.
65	Victoria to produce and publish the North East Forest Management Plan.	30 June 2000	Milestone completed in January 2001.
84	Victoria and the Australian Government to use best endeavours to develop a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement and lodge archival copies of data.	Data schedule by 30 June 2000; lodge archived data by 31 March 2001 ¹¹	State-wide data agreement signed on 28 March 2000. Work towards finalising data schedules and lodging archival copies of data is progressing. This is expected to be completed by 30 June 2003.
Attach. 1	Victoria to develop and implement burning strategies that maintain or promote the ecological characteristics of Heathy Dry Forest through fire operations plans.	2004	Milestone completed in 2002. Vital attribute and key response species data have been gathered for Heathy Dry Forest. Ecological burning strategies have been completed for a number of areas in Eastern Victoria (including Buffalo Valley and East Gippsland).
Attach. 1	Victoria to prepare Regional Vegetation Plans covering the North East which provide for the protection of endangered,	2001	<i>Victoria's Native Vegetation Management A Framework for Action</i> was released in August 2002. Draft Native Vegetation Plans have been released for public

¹¹ Original milestone date (31/03/2000) amended in clause 92 of the Gippsland and West Victoria RFAs, committing Victoria and the Australian Government to develop a schedule to the Statewide Data Agreement by 30 June 2000, and to lodge archival copies of data by 31 March 2001.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation action
	vulnerable or rare EVCs on private land.		consultation. The Regional Vegetation Plans covering the North East are expected to be completed in 2003.
Attach. 3	Parties to prepare Statewide Guidelines for the Management of Cultural Heritage Values in the Forests, Parks and Reserves of Victoria, based on those prepared for East Gippsland.	by 30 June 2000	Preparation of the Guidelines has been rescheduled to co-ordinate with the development of the state-wide Aboriginal Heritage Management System (AHMS) following extensive community consultation with indigenous groups. The development of the AHMS was completed in December 2002. The Statewide Guidelines are expected to be completed in 2003.

Table 4. Milestone Implementation – West Victoria

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
26	Australian Government to use its best endeavours to introduce legislation into the Parliament to insert into the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwth) definitions of 'Forestry Operations', 'RFA Forestry Operations' and 'RFA or Regional Forest Agreement' identical to those contained in the Regional Forest Agreements Bill (Cwth).	30 June 2000	Milestone completed. The Australian Government enacted the <i>Regional Forest Agreements Act 2002</i> in May 2002. The Act defines forestry operations, and Regional Forest Agreement and amended the relevant sections (38, 40 and 42) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act to reflect these definitions.
36, 39 Attach. 1	Parties to report annually on achievement of milestones for first five years, and then as part of the 5 yearly review	Commencing 2001	This is an annual report within the first five years.
46(c) Attach. 10	Victoria to implement the Integrated Forest Planning System and the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory in the West Victoria region.	Midlands FMA by 31/12/ 2003; Otway FMA by 30/6/2005; Portland FMA by 30/6/2006.	Development of the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory in the Midlands FMA is complete. The mapping component is complete in the Otway and Portland FMAs.
49 and 51	Victoria and the Australian Government to develop Sustainability Indicators.	2005	A framework to develop sustainability indicators has been agreed to by the State and Australian Government. Victoria completed data collection for Montreal Process Category A indicators and national State of Forest Reporting at the Statewide level and progressed data collection at the regional level.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
56, 57, 58	Victoria and the Australian Government to undertake and, where relevant, complete threatened species work as detailed in Attachment 2 (of the West Victoria RFA).	2005	<p>Work is well advanced on the preparation of Action Statements and Recovery Plans for 6 species.</p> <p>Recovery Plans have been completed for Elegant Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia formosa</i>), Mellblom's Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia hastata</i>), Rigid Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia tensa</i>), Yellow-lip Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia xanthochila</i>), Mt. William Grevillea (<i>Grevillea williamsonii</i>), Gorae Leek-orchid (<i>Prasophyllum diversiflorum</i>) and Button Wrinklewort (<i>Rutidosia leptorynchoides</i>).</p> <p>Action Statements have been completed for Elegant Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia formosa</i>), Mellblom's Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia hastata</i>), Yellow-lip Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia xanthochila</i>), Yarra Pygmy Perch (<i>Edelia obscura</i>), Australian Mudfish (<i>Neochanna cleaveri</i>), Tawny Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia fulva</i>), Gorae Leek-orchid (<i>Prasophyllum diversiflorum</i>), Pomonal Leek-orchid (<i>Prasophyllum subbisectum</i>), Merran's Sun-orchid (<i>Thelymitra merraniae</i>) and Spot-tailed Quoll.</p> <p>Nomination for the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listing has been completed for Striped Worm-lizard (<i>Aprasia striolata</i>), Flat-headed Galaxias (<i>Galaxias rostratus</i>), caddisfly (<i>Taskiria otwayensis</i>) and Brilliant Sun-orchid (<i>Thelymitra mackibbinii</i>).</p> <p>Whilst the above outlines progress on those species detailed in the West Victoria RFA, across Victoria 58 items were listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and 47 Action Statements were completed in 2002.</p>

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
60	Victoria to develop programs for pest plant and animal control.	2005	In June 2002 Victoria released a Victorian Pest Management Framework that will provide for the development of more detailed strategies or programs within each region.
64 Attach. 1	Victoria agrees to use its best endeavours to implement the agreed land tenure change.	31 December 2002	Legislation is to be prepared for the changes in land tenure, as these have not been finalised due to other legislative priorities. Until these tenure changes are effected, these areas are managed as part of the CAR reserve system as required by the RFA.
67	Victoria to produce and publish a Forest Management Plan for the Portland and Horsham FMAs.	30 June 2002	A Proposed Forest Management Plan is currently being prepared in consultation with the community. It is expected that that plan will be completed in 2004.
78 Attach. 3	Parties to prepare Statewide Guidelines for the Management of Cultural Heritage Values in the Forests, Parks and Reserves of Victoria, based on those prepared for East Gippsland.	30 June 2000	Preparation of the Guidelines has been rescheduled to co-ordinate with the development of the state-wide Aboriginal Heritage Management System (AHMS) following extensive community consultation with indigenous groups. The development of the AHMS was completed in December 2002. The Statewide Guidelines are expected to be completed in 2003.
87	Victoria to phase out harvesting firewood, posts and poles within the CAR reserve system.	2003	Milestone completed in 2002.
92	Victoria and the Australian Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a schedule to the Statewide Data agreement • lodge archival copies of data 	30 June 2000 31 March 2001	State-wide data agreement signed on 28 March 2000. Work towards finalising data schedules and lodging archival copies of data is progressing. This is expected to be completed by 30 June 2003.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
Attach. 1	Victoria to prepare Regional Vegetation Plans covering the West Victoria region which provide for the protection of endangered, vulnerable or rare EVCs on private land.	2001	<i>Victoria's Native Vegetation Management A Framework for Action</i> was released in August 2002. Draft Native Vegetation Plans have been released for public consultation. The Regional Vegetation Plans covering Western Victoria are expected to be completed in 2003.

Table 5. Milestone Implementation – Gippsland

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
26	Australian Government to use its best endeavours to introduce legislation into the Parliament to insert into the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwth) definitions of 'Forestry Operations', 'RFA Forestry Operations' and 'RFA or Regional Forest Agreement' identical to those contained in the Regional Forest Agreements Bill (Cwth).	30 June 2000	Milestone completed. The Australian Government enacted the <i>Regional Forest Agreements Act 2002</i> in May 2002. The Act defines forestry operations, and Regional Forest Agreement and amended the relevant sections (38, 40 and 42) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act to reflect these definitions.
36, 39 Attach. 1	Parties to report annually on achievement of milestones for the first five years, and then as part of the 5 yearly review.	Commencing 2001	This is an annual report within the first five years.
46(c) Attach. 10	Victoria to implement the Integrated Forest Planning System and the Statewide Forest Resource Inventory in the Gippsland region.	31 December 2002	Development of the SFRI for Gippsland is in progress. The mapping and the inventory component of the SFRI are complete. The analysis of the ash forests is complete and has commenced for the mixed species forests. It is expected that the IFPS for the Gippsland region will be completed in 2004.
49 and 51	Victoria and the Australian Government to develop Sustainability Indicators.	2005	A framework to develop sustainability indicators has been agreed to by the State and Australian Government. Victoria completed data collection for Montreal Process Category A indicators and national State of Forest Reporting at the Statewide level and progressed data collection at the regional level.

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
56, 58	Victoria and the Australian Government to undertake and, where relevant, complete threatened species work as detailed in Attachment 2 (of the Gippsland RFA).	2005	<p>Work is well advanced on the preparation of a Recovery Plan for one species.</p> <p>Recovery Plans have been completed for Cream Spider-orchid (<i>Caladenia fragrantissima ssp. orientalis</i>) and Gaping Leek-orchid (<i>Prasophyllum correctum</i>).</p> <p>Action Statements have been completed for Spiny Pepper-cress (<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>), Dwarf Kerrawang (<i>Rulingia prostrata</i>) and Strzelecki Burrowing Crayfish.</p> <p>Nomination for the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listing has been completed for Lilly Pilly Burrowing Cray (<i>Engaeus australis</i>), Alpine Spiny Cray (<i>Euastacus crassus</i>), South Gippsland Spiny Cray (<i>Euastacus neodiversus</i>) and Alpine Tree Frog (<i>Litoria verreauxii alpina</i>).</p> <p>Whilst the above outlines progress on those species detailed in the Gippsland RFA, across Victoria 58 items were listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and 47 Action Statements were completed in 2002.</p>
60	Victoria to develop programs for pest plant and animal control.	2005	<p>In June 2002 Victoria released a Victorian Pest Management Framework that will provide for the development of more detailed strategies or programs within each region. Victoria has allocated resources to step up pest management on public land. In 2003/04 these will be directed to the pest management component of the bushfire recovery program in the Victorian Alps.</p>

Clause	Milestone	Timeline	Implementation Action
64 Attach. 1	Victoria agrees to use its best endeavours to implement the agreed land tenure change.	31 December 2002	Legislation to add the Wongungarra area to the Alpine National Park was passed in June 2000 and came into effect on 1 February 2001. Legislation is to be prepared for the other changes in land tenure, as these have not been finalised due to other legislative priorities. Until these tenure changes are effected, these areas are managed as part of the CAR reserve system as required by the RFA.
67	Victoria to produce and publish the Gippsland Forest Management Plan.	31 December 2001	The <i>Proposed Forest Management Plan for Gippsland</i> was released for public comment in August 2001. The forest management plan is being finalised and is expected to be released in mid 2003.
78 Attach. 3	Parties to prepare Statewide Guidelines for the Management of Cultural Heritage Values in the Forests, Parks and Reserves of Victoria, based on those prepared for East Gippsland.	30 June 2000	Preparation of the Guidelines has been rescheduled to co-ordinate with the development of the state-wide Aboriginal Heritage Management System (AHMS) following extensive community consultation with indigenous groups. The development of the AHMS was completed in December 2002. The Statewide Guidelines are expected to be completed in 2003.
87	Victoria to phase out harvesting of firewood, posts and poles within the CAR reserve system.	2003	Milestone completed in 2001.
92	Victoria and the Australian Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a schedule to the Statewide Data agreement; • lodge archival copies of data 	30 June 2000 31 March 2001	State-wide data agreement signed on 28 March 2000. Work towards finalising data schedules and lodging archival copies of data is progressing. This is expected to be completed by 30 June 2003.
Attach. 1	Victoria to prepare Regional Vegetation Plans covering the Gippsland region which provide for the protection of endangered, vulnerable or rare EVCs on private land.	2001	<i>Victoria's Native Vegetation Management A Framework for Action</i> was released in August 2002. Draft Native Vegetation Plans have been released for public consultation. The Regional Vegetation Plans covering Gippsland are expected to be completed in 2003.