



## Find out about the Gippsland RFA

The Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) for the Gippsland region of Victoria is a step closer with the release of a scientific report on the region's native forests.

The Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA) report provides the information base for the final RFA. It looks at the environmental, economic, social and cultural uses and values of the forests.

The Gippsland RFA will decide how the forests are used and managed for the next 20 years. It will aim to:

- protect environmental values in a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System based on nationally agreed criteria;
- encourage job creation and growth in forest-based industries, including wood products, tourism and minerals; and
- manage all native forests in an ecologically sustainable way.

Anyone interested in the region's forests is welcome to attend a public workshop in the region to discuss the CRA Report and the way ahead. The workshops will be at:

### **YARRAM**

7pm, Monday, November 8  
Yarram Community Education Centre  
rear of Wellington Shire Service Centre  
Grant Street

### **BAIRNSDALE**

7pm, Wednesday, November 10  
South East Australian Training Services  
171 Main St

### **OMELO**

7pm, Tuesday, November 9  
Council Chambers, Omeo Business Centre  
Day Street

### **HEYFIELD**

7pm, Thursday, November 11  
School Hall, rear of Heyfield Primary  
School, 22 Temple St

Groups or individuals unable to attend but interested in discussing the report with officials can contact Catharine Masters, Forests Taskforce, on (02) 6271 5077 or Andrew Maclean at the Department of Natural Resources and Environment on (03) 9637 8407.

**Copies of the CRA Report are available from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 8 Nicholson East Melbourne, phone (03) 9637 8325, or from DNRE offices at Bairnsdale (7 Service Street), Yarram (310 Commercial Road), Swifts Creek (McMillan Ave), and Traralgon (71 Hotham Street).**

The Report is also on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.rfa.gov.au>

