

Industrial native forest logging to end in Victoria The Victorian government finally calls time on clearfell logging, bringing forward the planned 2030 exit by six years to 2024

Matt Landolfo—Victorian Campaigns Manager



In the short term it's a tremendous relief that these special.

With one major obstacle out of the way, we can finally focus on the enormous task of managing forests for all of their values: water, carbon, tourism and biodiversity; supporting the workers,

Second phase of Ethical Paper campaign starts

New phase in the campaign after decades of forest mismanagement and large bushfires. Regional groups and citizen scientists ramp up pre-logging surveys and legal avenues, while the Wilderness Society pursues markets and corporate campaigns—highlighting the risks for businesses of being associated with unsustainable and illegal logging practices

Black Saturday bushfires

Significant loss of life, property and forests, the largest fire in Mountain Ash forests since 1939. Yet wood volumes are not reduced for almost a decade



[logging halted]

to 2010

[forest protected!]

River Red Gums

New parks and reserves are created, including management arrangements with Traditional Owners, following a campaign by an alliance of conservation and First Nations groups

Luke Chamberlain—forest campaigner

celebration and loss—that changed my life for the better, none more so than friendships forged along the way. A silent shared nod of the head with the forest sentinel, Sarah Rees, comes beginning—shivering on the pedestrian bridge over the Eastern Freeway at 6am on a freezing cold morning. The giant 'Don't Log the Frog' banner unravelled below, far above the traffic. Richard



2002

[logging halted]

to 2005 [forest protected!]

A new national park is created and the additional area excludes industrial logging, with a package to assist workers' transition to the plantation sector and tourism infrastructure supporting local jobs

[woodchipping ends—sort of]

Wombat Forest

Woodchipping ends, however the forest remains unprotected (because of this, in 2022, logging recommences with so-called "salvage" of storm-impacted forests)



RFA process begins in Victoria

Confusing and bureaucratic, the Regional Forestry Agreement process of forest assessment and ineffective reserve creation exempts logging from national environmental law and removes barriers to Commonwealth approval of woodchip exports





Illegal logging

The Supreme Court rules that VicForests failed to properly survey for and protect two species of gliding possums

2020

Bunnings abandons Vic Forests

Bunnings discontinues sourcing wood from VicForests

2020

Black Summer bushfires

After decades of overlogging, vast areas are burnt

2019

Andrews government announces logging end date The state government declares native forest logging will end in 2030, but we continue to lobby to bring this end date forward

2016

Officeworks moves away from Reflex copy paper Influenced by our long-running Ethical Paper campaign, Officeworks joins a number of corporations that reject Reflex copy paper made from Victoria's native forests

2015

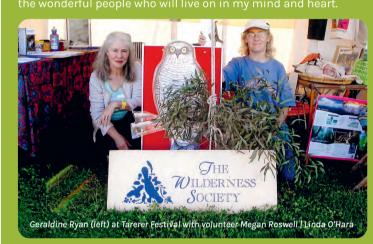
Forest Industry Taskforce begins

Wilderness Society leads conservation groups in engaging with industry and unions, forcing the Victorian government to acknowledge wood supply constraints for the first time

Geraldine Ryan—long-time volunteer

heartbreak that renew your passion. I well remember in Easter Week, 1994 I think, standing beside the ruins of centuries-old

campaign actions. I remember going on one such survey for spotted-tail quolls in East Gippsland. I woke just before sunlight.



2006 [logging halted]

to 2008

[forest protected!] Cobboboonee

A new national park is created with additional woodchipping exclusion area, following a campaign alongside Traditional Owners and local conservationists

2002

[logging halted]

to 2009

[forest protected!]

Goolengook & Yalmy Following Australia's longest-running forest blockade, Goolengook is added to a new national park. Yalmy, one of the most intact forests in East Gippsland, is also protected

Early 2000s

Mass rallies in Naarm / Melbourne

Under Gavan McFadzean's campaign leadership, tens



[forest protected!]

Wongungarra Despite ongoing logging and woodchipping across the state, this important conservation victory is secured. In alpine Victoria, the remote and rugged Wongungarra valley is finally protected from logging

Early 1990s

Campaigning intensifies

We bring national attention to the issue of export woodchipping, while we start working alongside local First Nations people



Late 1980s

Wilderness Society joins the fight

We become a key player in campaigns to protect Victoria's forests, providing grassroots support for the East Gippsland's forest campaign

