

EAST GIPPSLAND'S



EMERALD LINK

— MAKE A CONNECTION —

Our vision is to protect the last unbroken forest wilderness area on mainland Australia which connects alpine forests to the rugged coastline.

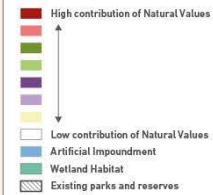


MAP 1: EMERALD LINK—EAST GIPPSLAND'S UNBROKEN FOREST WILDERNESS

- Existing parks and reserves
- Unprotected forests
- Private land, non-state forest, or outside region
- Connecting the Emerald Link



MAP 5: STRATEGIC NATURAL VALUES



Map 5 shows the extent of biodiversity values across Victoria. The areas with more intact ecosystems, and richer biodiversity are darkest red. As you can see, East Gippsland is coloured almost entirely red. The Emerald Link proposes to protect and connect some of Victoria's places of most significant natural value.

ALBURY

BENDIGO

BALLARAT

MELBOURNE

GEELONG

TRARALGON



Mainland Australia's last intact alpine to coastal forest



East Gippsland's Emerald Link: Victoria's biodiversity hotspot





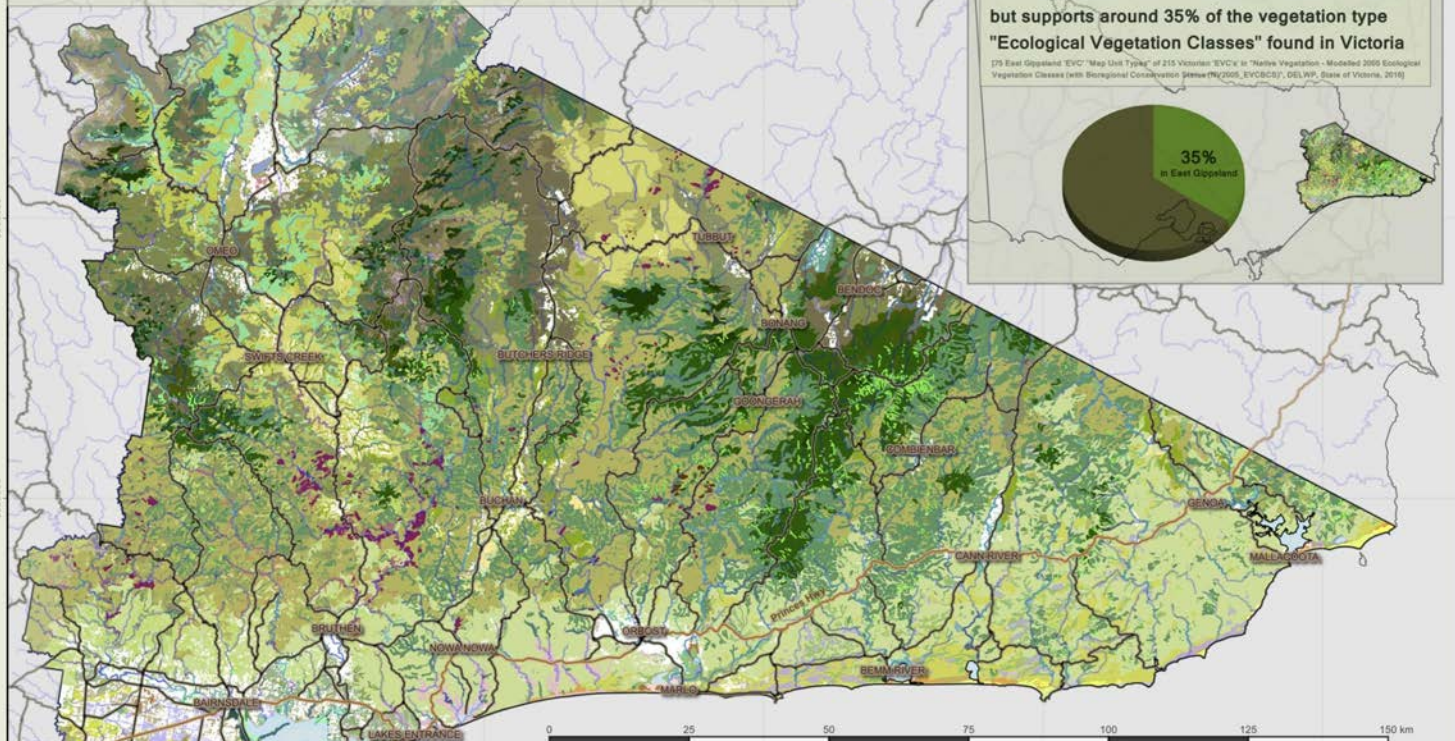
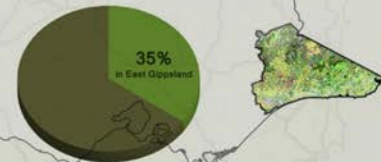
East Gippsland's **709** listed threatened species comprise **34%** of all listed threatened species in Victoria.



East Gippsland's Ecological Vegetation Classes

East Gippsland covers only 9% of Victoria's area but supports around 35% of the vegetation type "Ecological Vegetation Classes" found in Victoria

[7] East Gippsland EVC 'Map Unit Tools' of 1:15 Victorian EVC's in 'Native Vegetation - Modelled 2005 Ecological Vegetation Classes with Ecological Conservation Plans (N/2005_EVC/CS)', DELWP, State of Victoria, 2016

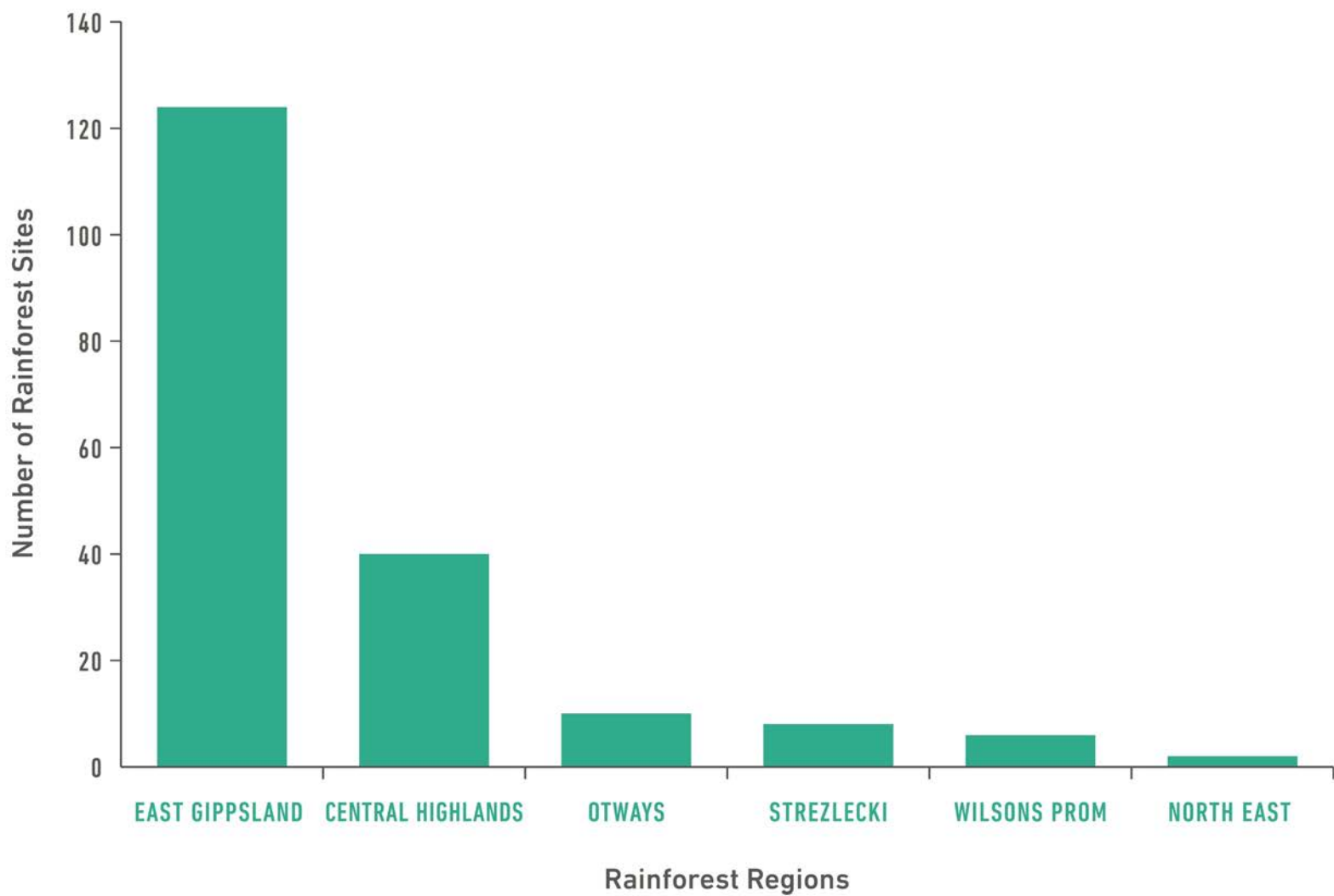


Ecological Vegetation Classes (N/2005_EVC/CS)		Coastal Saltmarsh		Grassy Woodland		Montane Grassy Shrubland		Riparian Shrubland		Sub-alpine Wet Heathland	
Alpine Coniferous Shrubland	Coastal Vine-rich Forest	Healthy Dry Forest	Coastal Sedge Wetland	Healthy Woodland	Montane Grassy Woodland	Riverine Escarpment Scrub	Sub-alpine Woodland	Swampy Riparian Woodland	Sub-alpine Wet Heathland	Swampy Riparian Woodland	Sub-alpine Woodland
Alpine Damp Grassland	Cool Temperate Rainforest	Herb-rich Foothill Forest	Clay Heathland	Herb-rich Foothill Forest	Montane Herb-rich Woodland	Rocky Outcrop Shrubland	Swamp Scrub	Tableland Damp Forest	Swamp Scrub	Swampy Riparian Woodland	Swamp Scrub
Alpine Fen	Damp Forest	Lake Bed Heathland	Damp Forest	Lake Bed Heathland	Montane Riparian Thicket	Sand Heathland	Sandy Flood Scrub	Valley Grassy Forest	Dry Rainforest	Sandy Flood Scrub	Valley Grassy Forest
Alpine Grassland	Dry Rainforest	Lake-lying Snowpatch Heathland	Dry Rainforest	Lake-lying Snowpatch Heathland	Montane Riparian Woodland	Sedge Wetland	Shrubby Damp Forest	Valley Healthy Forest	Alpine Grassy Heathland	Shrubby Damp Forest	Valley Healthy Forest
Alpine Grassy Heathland	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland	Limestone Box Forest	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland	Limestone Box Forest	Montane Rocky Shrubland	Shrubby Dry Forest	Shrubby Dry Forest	Valley Slopes Dry Forest	Banksia Woodland	Shrubby Dry Forest	Valley Slopes Dry Forest
Brackish Sedge Wetland	Dry Valley Forest	Limestone Pomadenis Shrubland	Dry Valley Forest	Limestone Pomadenis Shrubland	Montane Swamp	Shrubby Foothill Forest	Shrubby Foothill Forest	Warm Temperate Rainforest	Blackthorn Scrub	Montane Wet Forest	Warm Temperate Rainforest
Blackthorn Scrub	Estuarine Wetland	Lowland Forest	Estuarine Wetland	Lowland Forest	Montane Wet Forest	Shrubby Well Forest	Shrubby Well Forest	Wet Forest	Floodplain Reedbed	Plains Grassy Forest	Wet Forest
Coast Banksia Woodland	Floodplain Reedbed	Lowland Herb-rich Forest	Floodplain Reedbed	Lowland Herb-rich Forest	Plains Grassy Wetland	Shrubby Well Forest	Shrubby Well Forest	Wet Heathland	Foothill Box-torotank Forest	Plains Grassy Wetland	Wet Heathland
Coastal Lagoon Wetland	Foothill Box-torotank Forest	Montane Damp Forest	Foothill Box-torotank Forest	Montane Damp Forest	Riparian Forest	Sub-alpine Grassland	Sub-alpine Grassland	Wet Swale Heathland	Gallery Rainforest	Riparian Forest	Sub-alpine Grassland
Coastal Sand Heathland	Gallery Rainforest	Montane Grassland	Gallery Rainforest	Montane Grassland	Riparian Scrub	Sub-alpine Shrubland	Sub-alpine Shrubland		Coastal Sand Heathland	Riparian Scrub	Sub-alpine Shrubland

1:650,000
GDA94
MGA Zone 55

East Gippsland's Emerald Link: Victoria's rainforest stronghold





East Gippsland's Emerald Link:
Victoria's
old forest refuge







Introducing the icons of the Emerald Link





Nunniong Plateau: alpine wonderland & botanical site of major significance







Errinundra Plateau

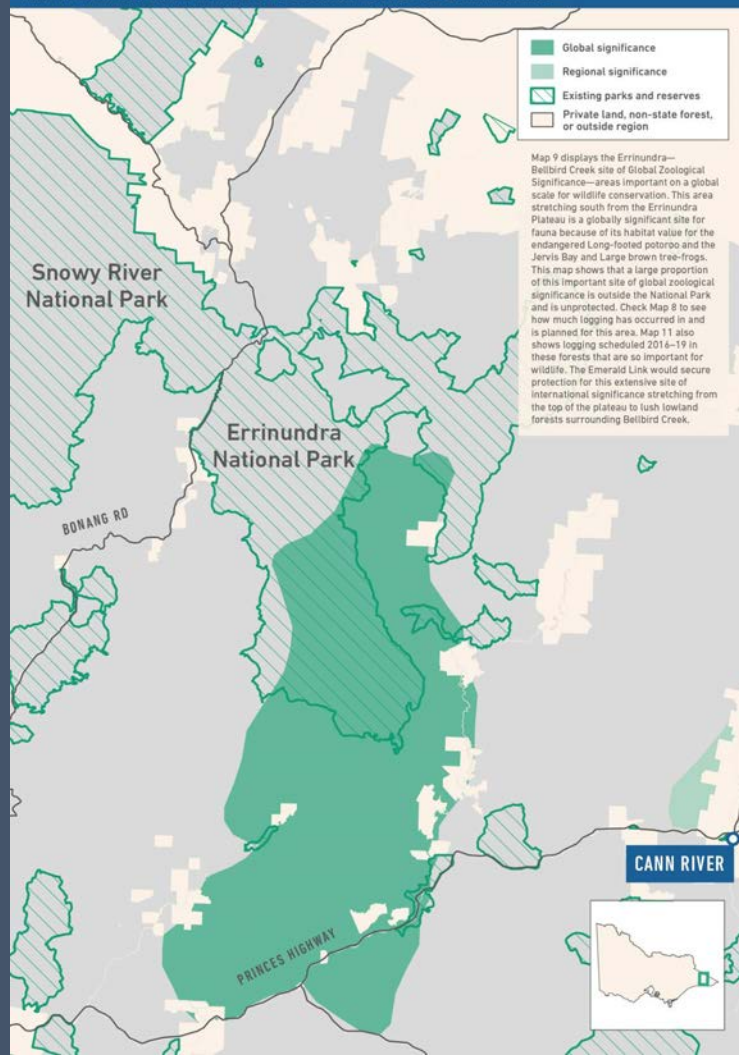
Ancient rainforest, old
growth trees

Largest cool temperate
rainforest on mainland
Australia

Gondwanan forests



MAP 9: ERRINUNDRA PLATEAU'S ZOOLOGICAL SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE





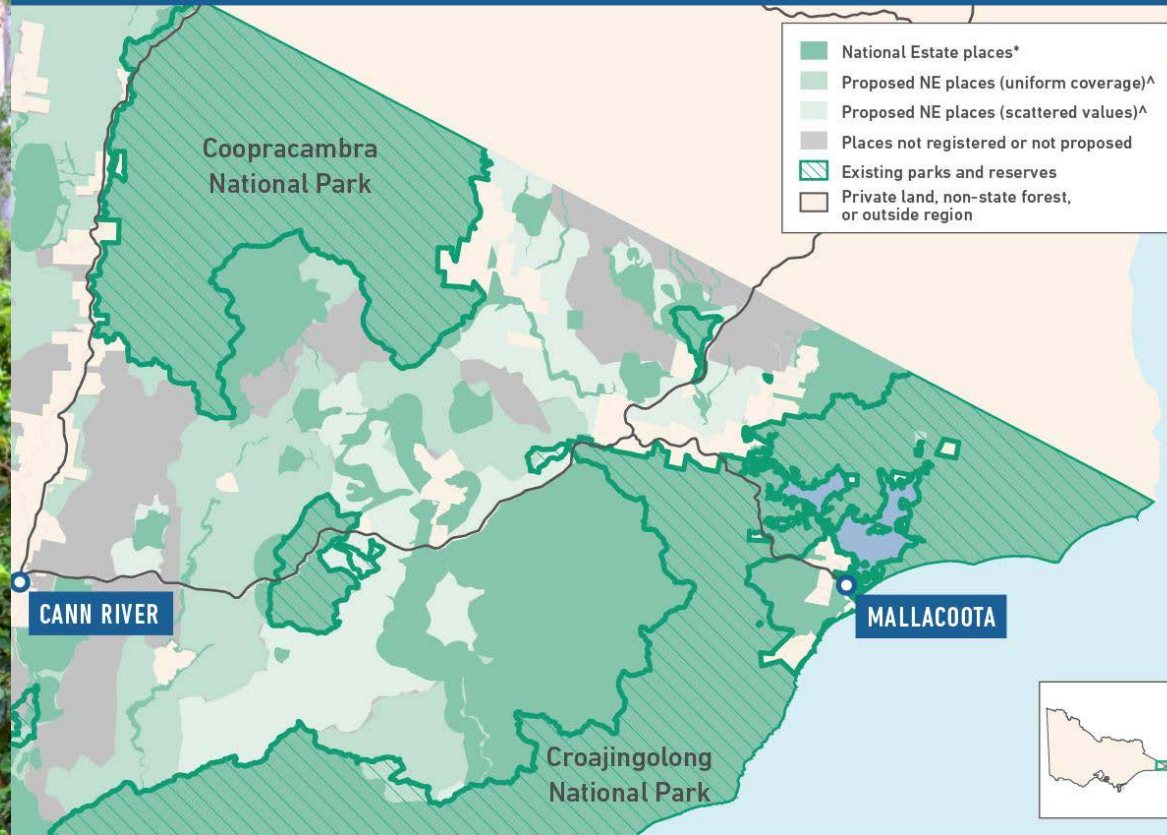






Coopracambra to Coast

MAP 12: NATIONAL ESTATE OF COOPRACAMBRA TO COAST

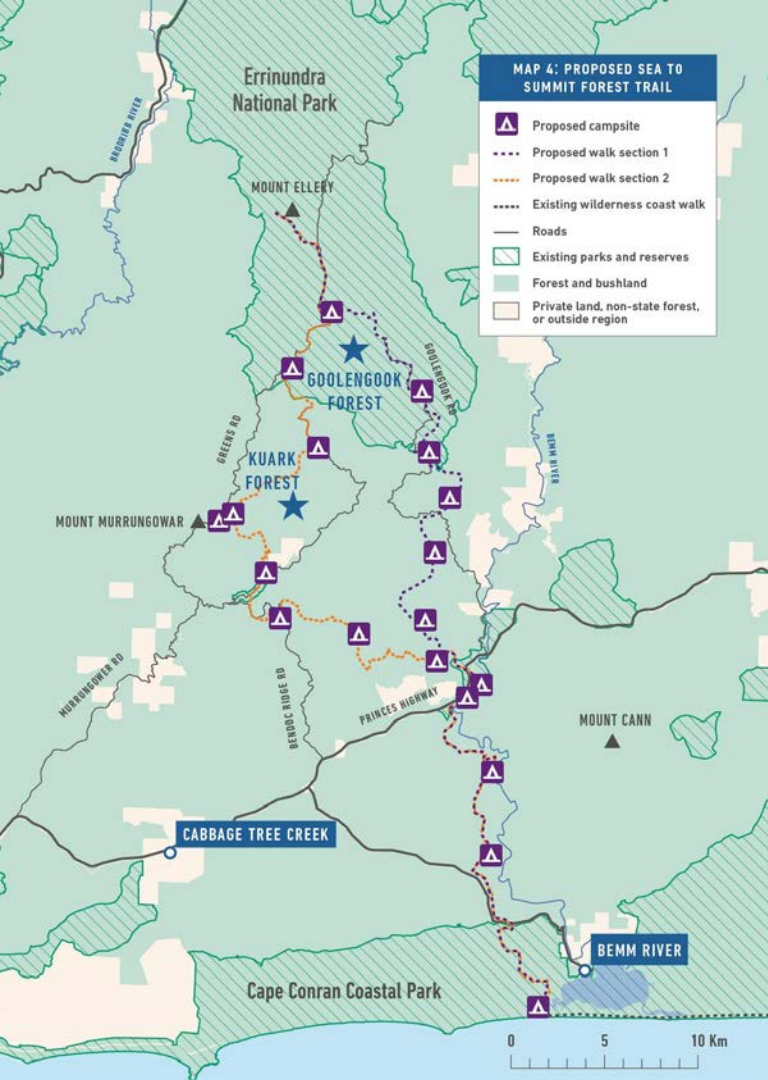




Sea to Summit Forest Trail

MAP 4: PROPOSED SEA TO SUMMIT FOREST TRAIL

- ▲ Proposed campsite
- Proposed walk section 1
- Proposed walk section 2
- Existing wilderness coast walk
- Roads
- ▭ Existing parks and reserves
- ▭ Forest and bushland
- ▭ Private land, non-state forest, or outside region



120km trail linking mountains to sea

70km on existing roads and tracks

50km new track construction

Loops through the iconic Kuark and Goolengook forests

Walked in either direction. Hikers walk entire route in 10-12 days

Smaller sections can be walked, plus car and bike touring options

Major drawcard to attract visitors to the region

Showcase the special connectivity of environments, unique for the region—and for Australia

Grampians Peaks Trail



144km trail

35 full time jobs

Generates 86,000 visitor nights

Boost local economy by \$6.4m
a year

Benefits could be replicated in
East Gippsland's Emerald Link

It's happened before

2005: The Age editorial: *Otways parks and tourism grow together*

“The state is right to invest heavily in the region's transition from logging so it can tap into a booming industry...”

“the logging industry cannot compete with tourism in terms of scale or growth...”

“logging was seen as incompatible with the goal of tapping the forest's full tourism potential...”

From 2005, to 2018:

6,500 people attended SoupFest,
Forrest is home to world-renowned
mountain biking trails, pure trail
running, local brewery...

***"It's made a happy community...
it's stopped the town from dying."***

Sam Evans, local earthmover who
built some of the mountain bike
trails

Communities in East
Gippsland are ready for
this—tourism is constantly
growing, and logging
continues to fail to grow.

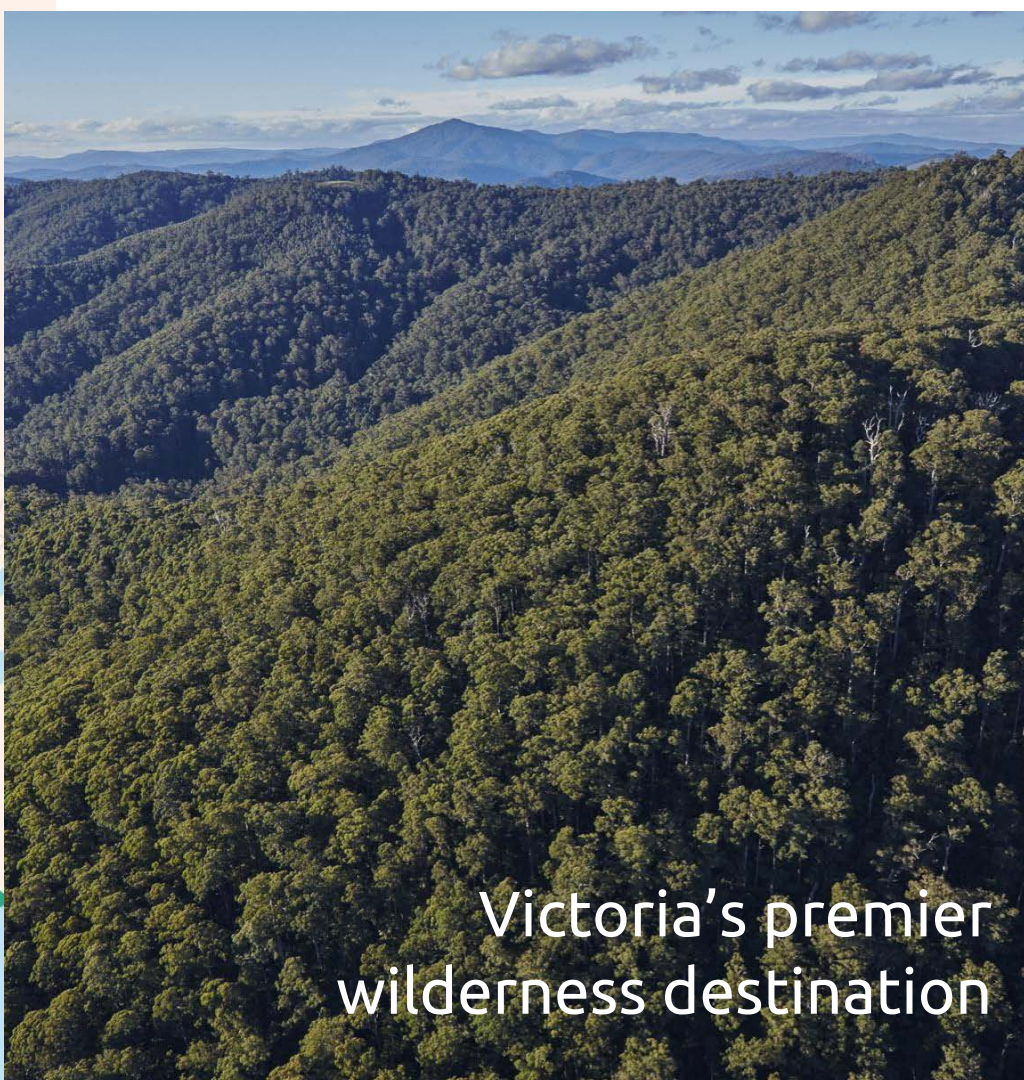


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Victoria's premier wilderness destination

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Thank you

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