



New submission for investigation "Central West Investigation"

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## Submission for the investigation "Central West Investigation"

Submitted on **09-12-2018**

Information provided by the author:

Title: **Mrs**

First Name: **Melissa**

Last Name: **Abel**

Description:

Dear VEAC, I would like to commend you on the efforts so far undertaken in protecting the area of the Wellsford State Forest, and would encourage you to go even further. Our forests are integral to our health and the health of the ecosystems around us which we are dependent upon - and are also an important carbon sink. As such, I believe they need the highest protection possible. I am concerned about certain sections in the draft proposal, such as the somewhat vague sentence about mountain biking being "allowed on other roads and tracks as specified by the land manager." I cannot imagine current staff with their limited time and resources could possibly monitor and enforce such restrictions. I would also like to note that the Wellsford forest contains significant large ironbarks, which are well-deserving of the highest level of protection in their own right. I believe that the Wellsford State forest should be incorporated into the Greater Bendigo National Park, in order to preserve it for our health and our future generations. Yours sincerely, Melissa Abel

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