

The Editor
Snowy River Mail
122 Nicholson St
Orbost Vic. 3888

18/11/2010

Dear Sir,

Jill Redwood (letters 17/11) tells your readers that a new animal lurks in our forest now but does not readily identify it.

My investigations reveal it to be the 100 percentaphile, a demanding creature obsessed with percentages that contain three digits.

According to figures released by the NSW and Victorian Governments, 90% of the State owned native forests in those States are unavailable for any future timber harvesting.

I believe the Victorian figure to be around 92% State native forest unavailable.

If the 100 percentaphile were to embrace M/s Redwood's cherished Christian charity values it would probably settle for a 90% plus forest reservation outcome in Victoria and not generate further regional conflict or force the relocation of 600 plus local workers and their families to Western Victoria which already has its own existing timber industry workforce.

We would also not have to listen to the 100% delusion of East Gippsland as the new heart of nature based tourism.

Despite the same sort of predictions, setting up the 90% plus regime has simply not delivered jobs and investment in forest based eco tourism. Major wildfires have trashed vast tracts of those reserves in the past 8 years in both States..

The Greens forest policies in Australia simply shift production, investment and employment in the forest industry offshore and push the 59% increase in imports of printing and writing papers (now 1.2 million tonnes per year) experienced in the past decade in Australia towards 100%. To a percentaphile that's almost a win win.

Yours

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