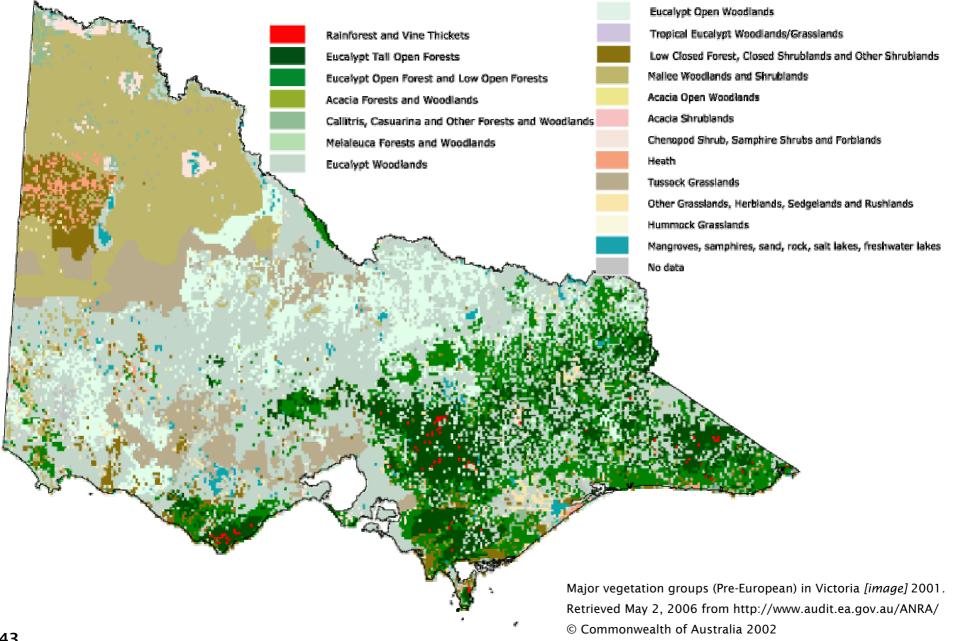
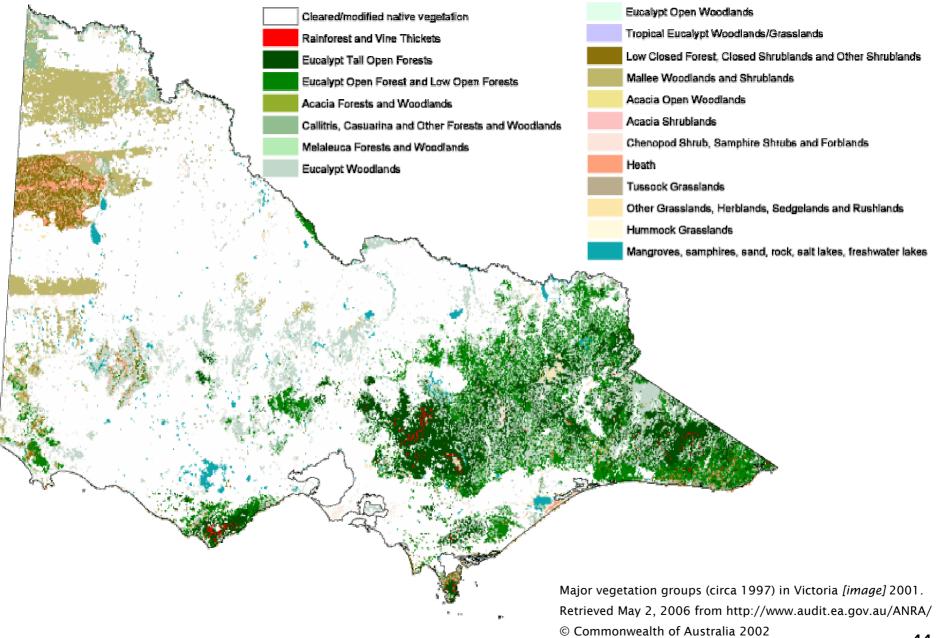
Pre-European Major Vegetation Groups



Circa 1997 Major Vegetation Groups



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Best Management Practice

Funding Opportunities

Best practise of native vegetation is often about being aware of the needs of the vegetation.

Example 1: If you graze your land, then manage grazing as a tool to benefit native vegetation. For example:

- > Graze when weeds are flowering, not during the flowering times of native ground covers or shrubs.
- > Never graze when the ground is wet, or pugging and soil degradation may result.
- > Seek advice for the best times to graze.

Example 2: If you have native terrestrial plants that don't like getting their feet wet, such as Grey Box, then minimise the amount of irrigation water run-off that reaches the native vegetation. This can be done through efficient irrigation and use of drains to remove irrigation tailwater. This leads to more efficient water use (and hopefully lower water bills) and reduces salinity.

Example 3: Manage weeds. Native plants have a competitive advantage over most weeds in poorer soils. In areas where nitrogen and phosphorus are enhanced through drift from fertilisers, weeds are more likely to out-compete local species. By having a buffer that minimises fertiliser drift, native plants will be much more competitive. Where possible, control weeds already present to give native vegetation a head start.

Monitor the effects of your management plan and revise what you do accordingly.

Tree growing/Environmental incentives

The aim of these incentives is to help landowners protect and enhance native vegetation in the Shepparton Irrigation Region. A percentage of the total cost of fencing, and revegetation or direct seeding can be offered to those land holders that qualify. The incentive rate is calculated against 10 criteria (For example properties with covenants may be eligible for higher incentives). A whole farm plan is required to be eligible for Tree Growing incentives. For more information, call DPI Tatura on (03) 5833 5222.

Bush Returns

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The key feature of Bush returns is providing land holders with ongoing financial returns for land management activities that allows native vegetation to return naturally. A tendering approach is used to award contractors with the best sites and proposals. For more information, contact the Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority on Phone: (03) 5820 1100 or (03) 5797 2001 Email: bushreturns@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Other funding exists for environmental management. For further information visit: http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/

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