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By Authority L. V. North, Government Printer Melbourne

SPECIAL

Subordinate Legislation Act 1962 FORESTS (THOMSON RIVER RESERVE) REGULATIONS 1994

Regulatory Impact Statement

Notice is given that a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared in relation to the Forests (Thomson River Reserve) Regulations 1994. The Regulations are required to replace the Forests (Thomson River Reserve) Regulations 1984 which sunsetted on 20 June 1994.

The objective of the Regulations is to protect land and water quality values within the Thomson River Forest Reserve, which forms a large part of the catchment area for the Thomson River Dam.

The RIS examined two alternatives to the proposed Regulations:

- (a) to use a voluntary compliance approach relying on the co-operation of the public to observe and undertake measures for the protection of soil and water; and
- (b) to re-introduce a permit system for specified activities that a person wishes to engage in and fix conditions for that use.

The RIS rejected the first alternative due to the high costs associated with providing the necessary public education program and for additional resources required for monitoring and surveillance, to ensure the public's cooperation. The RIS rejected the second alternative because of the costs associated with establishing and maintaining a permit system, together with the lack of accessibility for acquisition of permits. The RIS concluded that the proposed Regulations were the most cost-effective means of achieving the stated objectives.

Public comments are invited on the RIS and accompanying Regulations. Copies may be obtained by contacting Ken Ashton, Manager, Catchment and Land Management, Gippsland Area on (051) 722 188 or Janine Rossely, Portfolio Coordination Branch on (03) 412 4862.

Written submissions will be received at the following address up to and including 3 August 1994: Ken Ashton, Manager, Catchment and Land Management, Gippsland Area, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 71 Hotham Street, Traralgon 3844.

All submissions will be treated as public documents.

ALAN THOMPSON
Secretary to the Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Gazette Services

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