

# Polling commissioned by Goongerah Environment Centre with the support of the Victorian National Parks Association and the Wilderness Society, conducted by ReachTel, Thursday 25 October

Prahran n=510

## Highlights:

1. Only 4% of Prahran voters think forests should be used for logging and woodchipping
2. 86% of Labor voters in Prahran think the next government should expand existing and create new national parks, and 72% of undecided Prahran voters agree
3. 76% of all Prahran voters, and the same number of undecided voters, support the creation of new national parks in regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
4. 92% of Labor voters in Prahran support the Emerald Link for East Gippsland
5. 72% of undecided Prahran voters support a well-funded transition package for workers in the native forest woodchipping and logging industries, where employment changes arise

## Summary Overview:

### The vote

- Undecided vote is at 8.8%
- 50% of undecided female voters are leaning towards the Liberals; and 77% of female voters think forests should be protected for wildlife and trees

### What should forests be used for?

- 96% of voters think forests should be utilised for a range of uses and reasons OTHER than logging and woodchipping; this shows that voters overwhelmingly think forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees, with recreation coming second (well ahead of all other uses)
- 75% of Labor voters, and 53% of undecided voters, think forests should be protected for wildlife and trees (less than 1% of undecided voters think forests should be used for logging and woodchipping)
- Just 0.3% of Labor voters think forests should be used for logging and woodchipping

### Is the government doing enough?

- Only 1 in 4 voters think the government is doing enough to protect wildlife from logging and woodchipping

Should woodchipping have to comply with environment laws?

- 83% of voters think woodchipping should have to comply with national environment laws; 94% of Labor voters agree; and 77% of undecided voters agree

#### Creating new parks

- 74% of all voters think the next state government should expand and create national parks; 86% of Labor voters think this; and 72% of undecided voters think this
- 76% of all voters support new national parks in regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed; 89% of Labor voters support these; 82% of female voters do; and 76% of undecided voters do
- 72% of all voters support the Emerald Link for East Gippsland; 92% of Labor voters support it, and 74% of undecided voters do

#### Likelihood of voting for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

- 62% of undecided voters are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests; 81% of Greens voters say they would be more likely to do so
- Overall 59% of voters are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

#### Supporting workers

- 69% of all voters support a well-funded transition package for workers in the native forest woodchipping and logging industries, where employment changes arise
- Support across party lines is as follows: Labor 64%, Liberals 63%, Greens 81%; with 93% of undecided voters supporting this

**Richmond** n= 473

**Highlights:**

1. 81% of all Richmond voters think forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees, and for recreation; 83% of Labor voters agree
2. In Richmond, no undecided voters support the use of forests for logging and woodchipping
3. 82% of undecided Richmond voters support the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
4. No undecided voters oppose the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
5. 52% of voters aged 18-34, and 70% of voters aged 35-50, are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

**Summary Overview:**

What should forests be used for?

- 81% of all Richmond voters think forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees, and for recreation; 83% of Labor voters agree
- Undecided voters say forests should only be used for protecting wildlife and trees, recreation, and storing carbon - no undecided voters think forests should be used for commercial tourism or for logging or woodchipping

Is the government doing enough?

- In Richmond, less than 1 in 4 voters think the current government is doing enough to protect wildlife from logging and woodchipping

Should woodchipping have to comply with environment laws?

- 81% of all Richmond voters say logging and woodchipping industries should have to comply with national environment laws; 79% of Labor voters agree, and 71% of undecided voters also agree

Creating new parks

- 76% of all voters, and 79% of Labor voters, think the next state government should expand existing and create new national parks to protect forests
- 85% of all Richmond voters support the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
- Only 1.5% of Labor voters oppose the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
- 87% of all voters support the Emerald Link for East Gippsland; 89% of female voters do; 92% of Labor voters do

Likelihood of voting for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

- 61% of voters are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests
- 52% of voters aged 18-34, and 71% of voters aged 35-50 are more likely to do so

Supporting workers

- 76% of voters in Richmond support a well-funded transition package for workers in the native forest woodchipping and logging industries, where employment changes arise

## **Bentleigh n=531**

### **Highlights:**

1. 81% of voters in Bentleigh think forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees and for recreation
2. Almost 1 in 10 voters aged 51-65 are undecided; 64% of voters in this age bracket say forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees
3. Three out of four Bentleigh voters say logging and woodchipping should have to comply with national environment laws; 83% of these voters aged 51-65 agree
4. 2% of undecided voters in Bentleigh oppose the expansion of national parks in the regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
5. 89% of Labor voters in Bentleigh support the expansion of national parks in the regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed

### **Summary Overview:**

#### The vote

- This poll shows Labor attracting 43% of the first preference vote, and the Liberals 33%; 5% of Bentleigh voters say they are undecided; 7% of voters aged 51-65 are undecided

#### What should forests be used for?

- 81% of voters in Bentleigh think forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees and for recreation
- Voters aged 51-65 show the strongest support, with 64% of saying forests should be used to protect wildlife and trees
- Less than 1% of Labor voters in Bentleigh think forests should be used for logging and woodchipping

#### Is the government doing enough?

- Almost 1 in 2 (46%) of Bentleigh voters aged 51-65 think the government is not doing enough to protect wildlife from logging and woodchipping
- 54% of undecided Bentleigh voters think the government is not doing enough to protect wildlife from logging and woodchipping

#### Should woodchipping have to comply with environment laws?

- 75% of Bentleigh voters say woodchipping should have to comply with national environment laws; 83% of Bentleigh voters aged 51-65 agree

#### Creating new parks

- 78% of voters in Bentleigh support the expansion of national parks in the regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed

- 75% of Bentleigh voters aged 51-65 say the next Victorian government should expand existing and create new national parks to protect forests; 81% of Labor voters agree; 60% of undecided Bentleigh voters agree
- 83% of Bentleigh voters aged 51-65 support the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
- 2% of undecided voters in Bentleigh oppose the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed
- Less than 1% of Labor voters in Bentleigh oppose the expansion of national parks in the regions where where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed, with 89% of Labor voters supporting these
- 70% of undecided Bentleigh voters support the Emerald Link for East Gippsland

Likelihood of voting for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

- 60% of voters aged 51-65 say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests
- 61% of undecided voters say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests

Supporting workers

- Only 5% of undecided voters oppose a well-funded transition package for workers in the native forest woodchipping and logging industries, where employment changes arise, with 78% of these voters in support of this support for workers

## Overview

	<b>Prahran</b>	<b>Richmond</b>	<b>Bentleigh</b>
Voters say forests should be utilised for uses for reasons <i>other</i> than logging and woodchipping	96%	93%	93%
Undecided voters say the next government should expand existing and create new national parks	72%	82%	60%
Undecided voters say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports creation of new national parks to protect forests	62%	54%	61%
Labor voters overwhelmingly say logging and woodchipping should have to comply with national environment laws (NB these industries are currently exempted under the Regional Forest Agreements)	94%	79%	82%
Support amongst Labor voters for new national parks in regions where the Great Forest National Park and Emerald Link are proposed	89%	84%	89%