

Title	River Red Gum Ecological Thinning
Alternative title(s)	RRG Ecological Thinning Trial
Abstract	<p>The ecological thinning trial aims to learn about the effectiveness of ecological thinning for addressing a range of conservation concerns associated with widespread high stem density stands and canopy dieback in <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) forests.</p> <p>Conservation concerns tend to be highest in forest stands that are experiencing strong competition for water and other resources. This is because competition impacts plant occurrence, growth and health, with negative consequences for fauna habitat. Competition increases with increasing tree density and is greatest in high density stands with lower water availability. Ecological thinning aims to reduce competition by reducing the density of some small trees while retaining and enhancing biodiversity and habitat features.</p> <p>The trial was conducted in the Millewa precinct of Murray Valley National Park in New South Wales. Prior to implementation, potential impacts to threatened entities were evaluated in a Public Environment Report and assessed under the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1995. The experimental design and monitoring plan for the trial was also approved by an independent scientific advisory committee.</p> <p>There were a total of 22 study sites in the trial, located in a range of pre-thinning tree densities and spread between two levels of water availability (Site Quality). Within each study site, there were three 9 ha plots which were allocated to one of three ecological thinning treatments: control (no action), moderate thinning and heavy thinning. Thinning removed some trees &lt;40 cm diameter at breast height. The intensity of thinning is best described by the proportion of trees that were removed, rather than the three thinning treatment categories.</p> <p>Thinning was implemented between April 2016 and August 2017 and a range of ecological indicators were monitored before and after thinning. Baseline pre-thinning data was collected in the 2015-16 survey year and annual post-thinning monitoring was undertaken for five years, from the 2017-18 survey year until the 2021-22 survey year. Monitoring data was collected at a spatial and temporal scale appropriate to each ecological indicator.</p> <p>Further details are provided within the datasets for each type of ecological indicator surveyed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Tree Size and Growth Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Tree Recruitment Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Tree Canopy Cover and Health Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Floristic Composition and Structure Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Fauna Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Litter and Woody Debris Data</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">River Red Gum Fuel Hazard Data</a></li> </ul> <p>Further information about the study design, data collection methods, and findings of the ecological thinning trial can be found within the documents below.</p>

Resource locator	
<a href="#">Data Quality Statement</a>	<p>Name: Data Quality Statement</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Data quality statement for River Red Gum Ecological Thinning.</p> <p>Function: download</p>
<a href="#">RRG Ecological Thinning Publications List</a>	<p>Name: RRG Ecological Thinning Publications List</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p>

Description:

List of publications from the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial as of February 2025.

Function: download

[2022 Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2022 Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial Monitoring report (2022).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2021 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2021 - February 2022).

Function: download

[2021 Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2021 Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial Monitoring report (2021).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2020 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2020 - February 2021).

Function: download

[2020 Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2020 Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial Monitoring report (2020).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2019 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2019 - February 2020).

Function: download

[2019 Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2019 Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial Monitoring report (2019).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2018 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2018 - February 2019).

Function: download

[2018 Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2018 Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Ecological Thinning Trial Monitoring report (2018).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2017 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2017 - February 2018).

Function: download

[2017 Pre Ecological Thinning Monitoring Report](#)

Name: 2017 Pre Ecological Thinning Monitoring Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the River Red Gum Pre Ecological Thinning Monitoring Report (2017).

Data for this monitoring report is based on the 2015 survey year (Monitoring dates: October 2015 - February 2016).

Function: download

[Public Environment Report](#)

Name: Public Environment Report

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of the Public Environment Report: Ecological Thinning Trial in New South Wales River Red Gum Forests. Published in 2014 and revised in 2015.

Function: download

[Public Environment Report Appendix 1.](#)

Name: Public Environment Report Appendix 1.

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

PDF of Appendix 1. from the Public Environment Report: Ecological Thinning Trial in New South Wales River Red Gum Forests. Appendix contains the experimental design and monitoring plan.

Function: download

### Unique resource identifier

Code 211e8eaa-bb00-49d9-aa16-6b82fd8bff94

Presentation form Table digital

Edition Original

Dataset language English

### Metadata standard

Name ISO 19115

Edition 2016

Dataset URI <https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/211e8eaa-bb00-49d9-aa16-6b82fd8bff94>

Purpose Decision support

Status On going

Spatial representation type None

### Spatial reference system

Code identifying the spatial reference system 4283

Additional information source **Data Accuracy** Missing data are coded as NA. Raw data assets are provided. In the reports, data transformations may have been applied, and are indicated where relevant.

### Topic category

<b>Keyword set</b>	
keyword value	FAUNA FLORA ECOLOGY
<b>Originating controlled vocabulary</b>	
Title	ANZLIC Search Words
Reference date	2008-05-16
<b>Geographic location</b>	
West bounding longitude	144.736633
East bounding longitude	145.516663
North bounding latitude	-36.13122
South bounding latitude	-35.597019
NSW Place Name	Millewa Precinct of Murray Valley National Park
<b>Vertical extent information</b>	
Minimum value	-100
Maximum value	2228
<b>Coordinate reference system</b>	
Authority code	urn:ogc:def:cs:EPSG::
Code identifying the coordinate reference system	5711
<b>Temporal extent</b>	
Begin position	2015-01-01
End position	N/A
<b>Dataset reference date</b>	
<b>Resource maintenance</b>	
Maintenance and update frequency	Unknown
<b>Contact info</b>	
Contact position	Data Broker
Organisation name	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
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Responsible party role	pointOfContact

Limitations on public access

## Responsible party

Contact position	Data Broker
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## Metadata point of contact

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Telephone number	131555
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Web address	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dcceew">https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dcceew</a>
Responsible party role	pointOfContact

**Metadata date** 2025-02-17T03:42:20.249815

**Metadata language**