



## Socio-economic impacts of land use change in the Green Triangle and Central Victoria

### Public seminars on socio-economic impacts of land use change

8-11th December

Timboon, Mortlake, Hamilton, Casterton, Penola, Horsham

Change in land use can lead to many social and economic changes in rural and regional communities, affecting these communities in many ways.

Over the last two years, the *Land Use Change* research project has examined how land use change impacts rural and regional communities in the Green Triangle and Central Victoria, focusing on the following land use changes:

- Bluegum plantations
- Cropping
- Dairy farming
- Rural residential development
- Sheep and cattle grazing
- Viticulture

**The results of the project will be presented at a series of six public seminars over December 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**, by Dr Jacki Schirmer (Australian National University) and Dr Kathryn Williams (University of Melbourne).

The seminars will discuss the extent of each land use change, how it is perceived and experienced by different people, and what socio-economic changes have accompanied it. More information on the study is provided overleaf.

Anyone with an interest in the social dimensions of land use change is encouraged to attend the seminars.

#### Seminar details

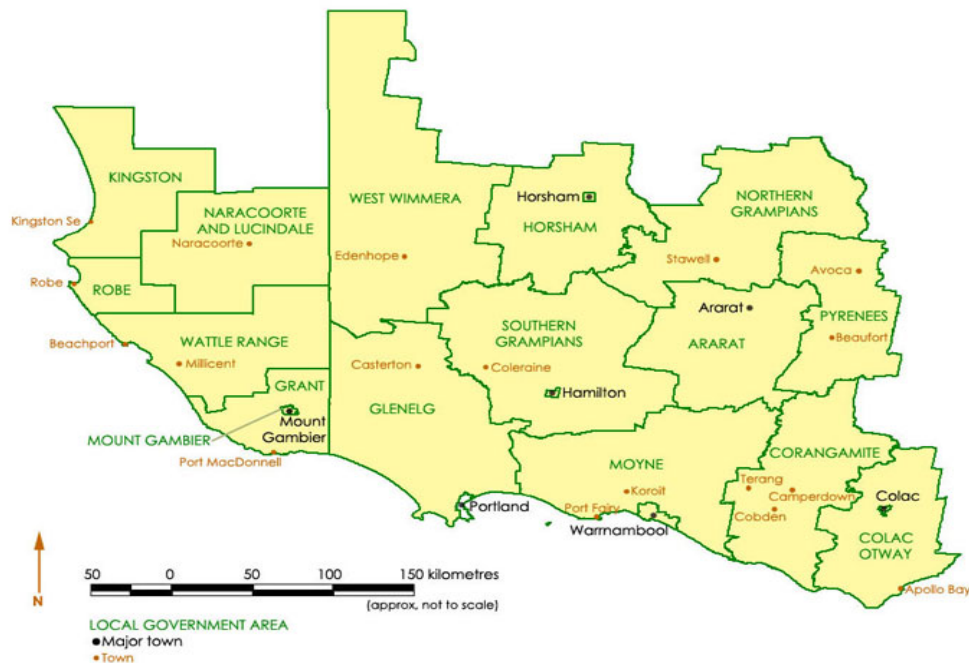
Town	Date	Time	Venue
<b>Timboon</b>	Monday Dec 8th	1-3pm	Timboon District Hall Address: 98 Bailey St, Timboon
<b>Mortlake</b>	Monday Dec 8th	7-9pm	Mortlake Memorial Hall Address: Shaw St, Mortlake
<b>Hamilton</b>	Tuesday Dec 9th	2-4pm	DPI Victoria offices, Theatrette Address: Mount Napier Rd, Hamilton
<b>Casterton</b>	Tuesday Dec 9th	7-9pm	Casterton Town Hall Address: 67 Henty St, Casterton
<b>Penola</b>	Wednesday Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	7-9pm	Chardonnay Lodge Address: Riddoch Highway, Coonawarra
<b>Horsham</b>	Thursday Dec 11th	1-3pm	DPI Victoria, Yellow-gum room Address: 110 Natimuk Rd, Horsham

For more information on the project or the seminars, please go to [www.landusechange.net.au](http://www.landusechange.net.au) or contact Alex Campbell-Wilson on 0431 370 196 or 02 6125 6211.

## The Socio-economic impacts of land use change project

Continuing land use and socio-economic change has occurred across the Green Triangle and Central Victoria over the past 15 years. In 2000, a team of University of Melbourne researchers examined the socio-economic impacts of land use change in south west Victoria, and identified extensive land use change from grazing to cropping, dairy farming and timber plantations. Since 2000, land use changes have continued. For example, the area under plantations in the south west has increased, while cropping and dairy farming have also continued to expand. In addition, increasing numbers of rural residential dwellers have shifted onto rural land in parts of the region.

In 2006, a need was identified for a new project examining the impacts of land use change in the Green Triangle and Central Victoria. The *Socio-economic impacts of land use change* project analyses the social and economic impacts of changes to land use, including changes in sheep and beef grazing, blue gum plantations, dairy farming, rural residential development and viticulture. It also examines the overall social and economic changes occurring in the region. The study region is shown in the map below.



The project results will assist local government, government agencies and different industries in the region in identifying the likely socio-economic impacts of different types of change, and hence assist in planning for future change.

The research is being undertaken by researchers based at the Australian National University, University of Melbourne, and Victorian Department of Primary Industries. The project is funded by the following organisations (in alphabetical order): Central Victorian Farm Plantations, Cooperative Research Centre for Forestry, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, Forest and Wood Products Australia, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, Glenelg Shire Council, Green Triangle Regional Plantation Committee, Moyne Shire Council, Southern Grampians Shire Council, Victorian Department of Primary Industries and Wattle Range Council.

If you would like to find out more about the project and how it is governed, or download our research reports, the project website can be accessed at [www.landusechange.net.au](http://www.landusechange.net.au)