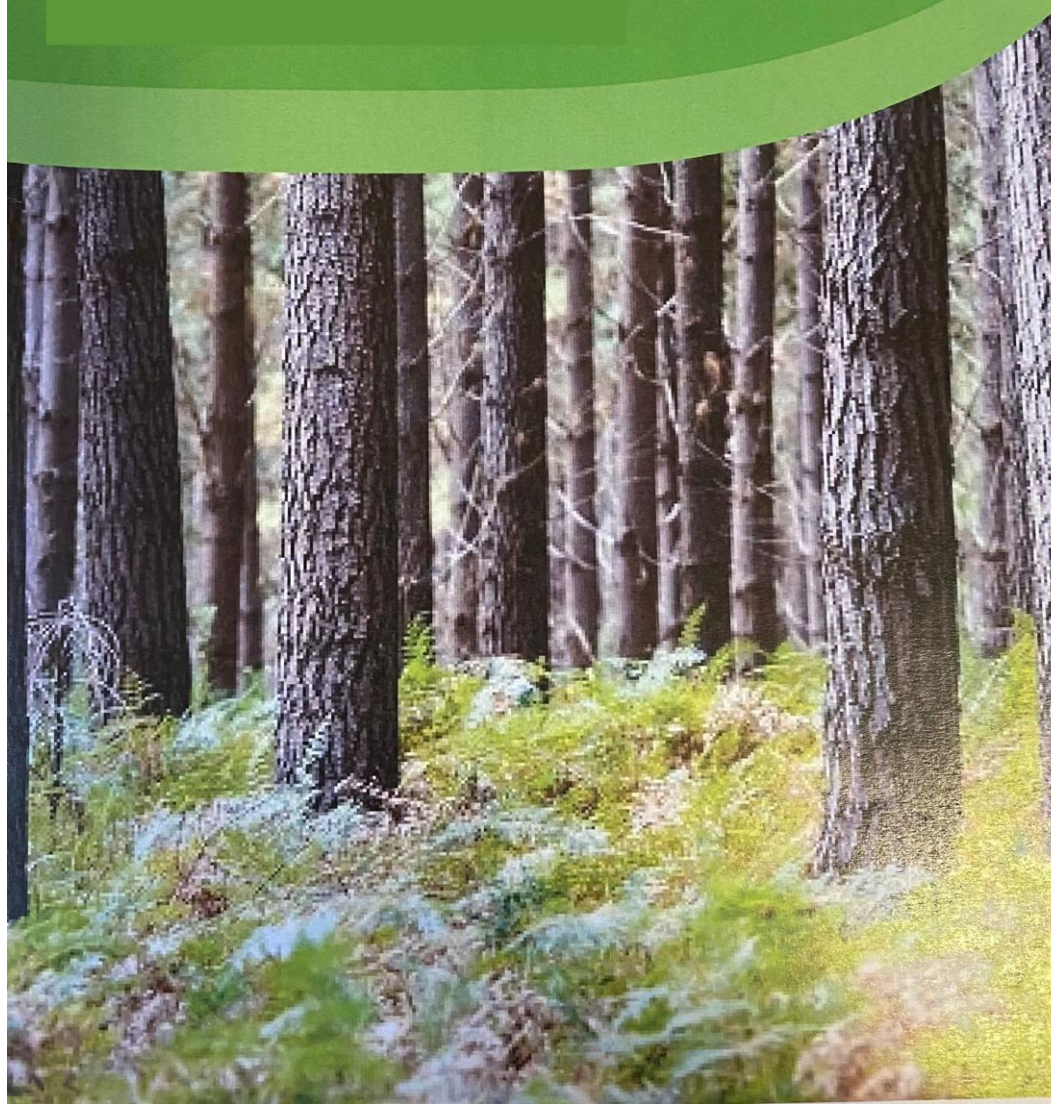


Environmental Forestry dreams v realities



Forest Trees Act

- Modest rainfall, soils and timber
- Pockets of stringybark forest & red gum woodland belts
- Denudation of forest cover, land degradation through wind and water erosion
- *Forest Trees Act 1873 (SA)* ‘encourage the planting of forest trees’

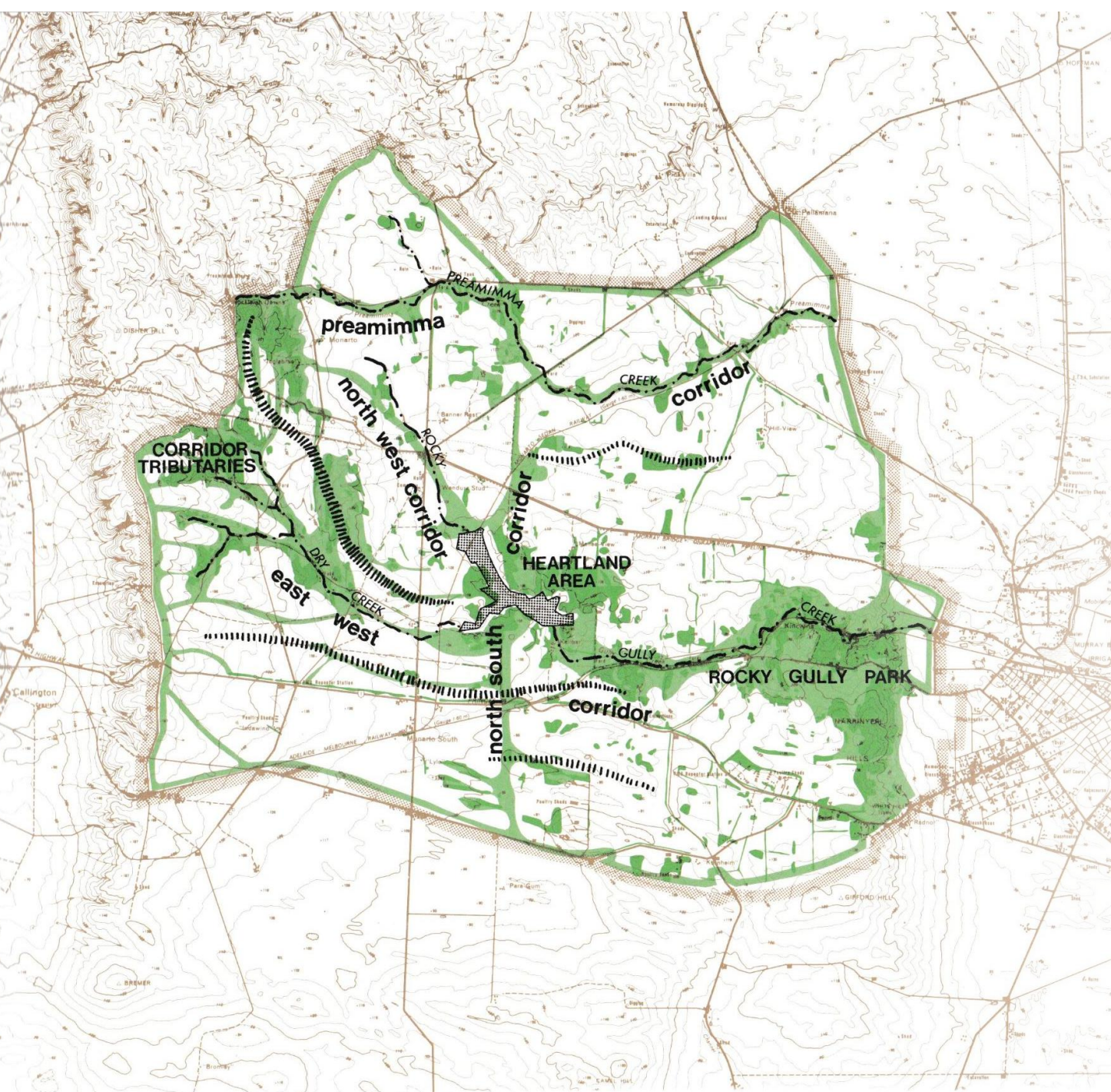
Plantations & nurseries

W&F Bundaleer nursery
1875

Good bad & ugly of free tree schemes:

- sugar gums, **pepper trees** and **Aleppo pines**
- small unmanaged blocks of radiata pine





Monarto parklands project

20,000 ha WNW of
Murray Bridge

Monarto parklands project

W&F

1974 to 1979

2,000 ha

0.6m seedlings





Monarto parklands project

- **Criticised** for low habitat value
- **Woodland birds** under serious threat from **habitat loss**
- **SURPRISING FINDINGS** scale of the habitat more important than quality

Revegetation R & D

Making revegetation
more cost-effective

- Plastic mulch ineffective **weed control**
- Emulating forestry **chemical weed control** practices



DIRECT SEEDING OF TREES AND SHRUBS

- Mechanising & improving the reliability of **direct seeding**
- Interstate regional workshops
- Trees for Life legacy of on-going extensive large-scale revegetation

*A manual for
Australian
conditions*

Greg Dalton



PRIMARY
INDUSTRIES
SUSTAINABLE
RESOURCES
STATE FLORA



Can trees increase the sustainability of farming systems?

National **evaluation of shelter benefits** (legume & cereals)

- **Costs** of shelter & displaced ag. **outweigh** shelter **benefits**

Salinity: rising groundwater & saline seepage

- Broombush, firewood, fodder, landscape-scale integrated products mallee oil/carbon/energy **unviable**

Effluent-irrigated woodlots

- Poor returns & expensive
- Irrigating **lucerne better**

sugar gum



**Genetics: national
seed orchard
program**



flat-topped yate



Farm forestry potential?

Expand forest resource, improve farm environment, diversify farm income?

Challenges

- Free tree and incentive schemes fall short on **scale and management**
- **Firewood** struggling **cottage industry**
- **Lack of market access** even in the South East
- **Pines on sandhills** in USE complement agriculture on flats
- **Opportunistic harvesting** opportunities for export & not replanted
- **Clay spreading** increased agricultural productivity

The reality of environmental forestry improving farming systems?

- **Possible** if very business-like
- **Optimise benefits & displace minimal ag.**
- Local natives restrict benefits
- Otherwise just enjoy the **amenity**



Conclusion

Reflections on an **exciting creative period of well-coordinated local and interstate environmental forestry initiatives** 😊