

## **MANAGEMENT OF RIVER RED GUMS FOR WATERBIRD NESTING**

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In order to breed, waterbirds require appropriate sites for their nests. Most nests of waterbirds (families Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes) in River Red Gum wetlands were in clumps of live, mature trees next to open water. Often these Red Gums had branches leaning over the water. Retention of these nest trees is essential for waterbird conservation. The Red Gum wetlands of the Murrumbidgee River, which contain more mature trees than the Millewa and associated Red Gum wetlands of the Murray River, provide extensive and valuable breeding habitat for waterbirds.