

# Gap trees on register

**HALLS GAP** - Halls Gap can now lay claim to the biggest recorded River Gum in Victoria.

The tree has been featured on the National Register of Big Trees after being discovered last month.

Register creator and coordinator Derek McIntosh said he was delighted with the find.

"It's the biggest River Gum in Victoria to my knowledge," he said.

"It's a terrific looking tree."

All trees listed on the register are rated on a points system which factors in circumference, height and crown spread measurement.

The massive River Gum was located at Halls Gap Log Cabins and measured 9.96 metres in circumference and 35 metres in height.

Its crown was recorded at 25 metres, giving it a combined total of 527 points.

During his visit to Halls Gap, Mr McIntosh was also able to add a large Manna Gum to the register. The impressive tree, also known as a Ribbon Gum, is located on Mt Zero Road.

It measured 7.90 metres in girth, 40 metres in height and 23 metres across the crown to received a score of 461.

"They were two stunning trees. Some trees are very big at the base but are lacking in height," Mr McIntosh said.

"This register takes into account circumference, height and crown spread.

"We are trying to find the National Champions in every species so we are comparing apples with apples and mangos with mangos."

The National Register for Big Trees was set up last year and includes an integrated list of Australian native and exotic species.

The register list is constantly changing as new trees are discovered by Mr McIntosh or nominated by others.

Each individual tree is photographed with a person in picture to provide a demonstration of scale. While Mr McIntosh has no specific botanical knowledge, he has taken an interest in trees since his teenage years.

He also has access to a team of experts that can advise on the botanical aspects of the nominated species.

Mr McIntosh said the public could nominate candidates for the National Register of Big Trees by visiting [www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au](http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au) and clicking on 'tree nomination.'



**The 35 metre high river gum tree at Halls Gap Log Cabins has been listed in the National Register of Big Trees.**