

From: Mary-Ann van Ballekom <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Saturday, 15 August 2020 4:27 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: Submission into the Inquiry into Ecosystems Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Dear committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Inquiry into Ecosystems Decline in Victoria.

I am a lawyer who also has current experience in planning and planning enforcement at local council level. I have a clear understanding of the importance of strong compliance and enforcement provisions in environmental laws, and also firsthand experience of the consequences of not properly supporting, actioning and resourcing compliance and enforcement processes in relation to environmental protection across our community.

I fully support the call for an independent conservation regulator with a clear legislative foundation and all the legal powers and resourcing needed to ensure Victoria's conservation laws are complied with.

Strong laws to protect and preserve our biodiversity and fragile ecosystems, coupled with a commitment to supporting their application and enforcement, brings immediate as well as long term benefits for our environment, our society and YES even our economy - they are not mutual exclusive but rather inextricably linked and interdependent.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,

Mary-Ann van Ballekom

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