



**From:** POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 August 2020 8:31 PM  
**To:** ecosystems  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

**Categories:** Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Mr Robert Briggs



**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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The causes of the decline in biodiversity and our ecosystems, and of our disastrous record of species extinctions are many but include: native forest logging and land clearing; the impacts of climate change including the catastrophic 2019/2020 bushfires; inadequate protections for threatened species and their habitat; weak and ineffective state and federal environmental regulation; and lack of funding for National Parks, restoration projects, weed and pest control

In addition there has been no consent from Traditional Owners in regard to logging, no consideration of the cultural and spiritual significance of forests and wildlife to First Nations Peoples, and no consideration or acknowledgement of the impacts of environmental degradation on First Nations Peoples.

**Recommendations:**

- . A rapid transition out of native forest logging to remove one of the key drivers of decline of threatened species in Victoria. Key areas of habitat must be identified and protected.
- . Greater protections for threatened species against extractive industries such as logging, mining, development, and fossil-fuel projects.
- . Climate change and bushfires also have significant and grave impacts on forests and wildlife. So taking strong action on climate change is necessary.
- . Restoration of areas which have been heavily impacted by logging and other extractive industries, as well as areas impacted by the 2019/2020 bushfires.
- . Clear processes and actions to recognise and address the impacts of ecosystem decline on First Nations peoples; and prioritisation of First Nations voices and involvement in management of country and traditional lands, returning custodianship to Traditional Owners.

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File1:

File2:

File3: