From: Susan Hauswirth

Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 9:59 AM

To: ecosystems

Subject: Inquiry into the Loss of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Please accept my submission to the Inquiry into the Loss of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Decline in Victoria. I am an Australian resident who is deeply concerned about the Biodiversity Emergency the world is undergoing and the fact that Australia is a major offender in this problem. These threats to nature and decline in biodiversity are also reported in Victoria. The 2018 State of the Environment Report from Victoria's Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability was damning. The status of 60% of the Biodiversity Indicators are rated as "poor" and none are rated as "good"; in terms of trends, 51% of the Biodiversity Indicators are deteriorating and only 1 out of 35 had improved and that is Private Land Conservation. The major factors resulting in this Biodiversity loss are all driven by exploitation, disregard and disrespect of animals and their habitat.

Some solutions that could be considered are legislation, policies, programs, governance and funding to facilitate ecosystem and species protection, restoration and recovery in Victoria, with opportunities to restore Victoria's environment while upholding First Peoples' connection to country, and increasing and diversifying employment opportunities in Victoria.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Jane