

Extinction Crisis in Victoria

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To: ecosystems <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>

To The Victorian Government

Action must be taken to stem this confronting reality.

I grew up in Gippsland and remember so many insects....a few scary ones like the blue bottle ant and huge bull ants and many butterflies, caterpillars to name just a tiny few.

Skinks were everywhere. But when I go walking now, either around the coast where we live or in the bush land not far away, it seems just to be a flora environment of native and introduced species.

If we see a skink or some other insect or small creature, it seems a really big deal.

Few insects end up in the house these days which may seem a good thing but it's very different from decades ago and I don't use any insect repellants. I remember the seasonal insects like the beautiful Christmas beetle.

I can't remember the last time I have seen one. The flocks of birds are often only 6 to 8 'strong' now too.

I have a friend in Cambodia who is setting up a small fish farm so I said to him to make sure the wild birds don't steal the fish. He replied that it's no problem as they don't have any birds!

I thought how incredibly sad. Now that country has had an extremely troubled history but we are losing many of our creatures too but really just for financial gain, not to survive.

Our creatures are so unique they absolutely must be considered worth preserving.

Our children and theirs also deserve to have these incredible creatures as a part of their lives, not just to see in zoos and nature parks. To have more than trees and plants in our bush land.

You have the power and responsibility to preserve the irreplaceable natural diversity of our creatures in our beautiful Australia that will not be the same without them. And nor will we be.

Yours sincerely,

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Sent from my iPad