



From: Lynn Sunderland <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 6:37 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: Submission into the Inquiry into Ecosystems Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Dear Committee members,

As a member of the general public I can bring to this submission no more powerful proof of the desperate state of Victoria's ecosystems decline than my own lived experience over more than sixty years. Species extinction, habitat loss, climate warming - such terms did not exist when I was a child. After six decades of environmental protection laws fatally compromised by developmental lobbying and governmental cynicism, they are now a daily reality.

You don't need further facts, further data, further specialist opinion, further delays, further procrastination, further faint heartedness. Every submission you receive, every report, every study confirms and confirms again that our ecosystems are in a seemingly irresistible and irreversible decline.

There will never be a study that persuades or placates logging, mining, forestry, resources extraction, development, big business. Every one of these stakeholders has a view of their own legitimacy and entitlement that cannot be reversed by environmental facts. Nothing will ever change their mindset.

So stop trying to win them over.

Victorian ecosystems are not flourishing. Endangered species are not returning in abundance. Bushfire risk is not declining. Coastal erosion is not reversing. Threatened habitat is not regenerating.

We know this. The evidence is everywhere. The current laws are not even slowing the pace of loss of habitat and species. The current laws are not enough. The current laws are heartbreakingly inadequate and watered down and compromised. We all know this to be true.

Nothing we do will be enough. But anything we do is better than nothing. How is it possible that we are still collecting bits of data like shells on the seashore while the tsunami of ecosystem decline is ready to sweep away everything we have struggled over decades to put in place?

Have some courage.

Make a difference.

Protect our unique and irreplaceable natural environment NOW.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,
Lynn Sunderland



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Please reply to Lynn Sunderland at 

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