

From: Scarlett Pearce
Sent: Friday, 8 May 2020 9:02 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: Extinction Inquiry

I am really pleased to hear that there will be a Parliamentary Inquiry into the extinction crisis, and I really hope it will lead to strong, concrete action being taken to help protect our native animals. I'm a nature-lover and volunteer fire-fighter, and I'm absolutely devastated by the recent loss of our bush-life. The terrible bushfires were only one part of the crisis our animals are facing. Irresponsible logging and land-clearing are practices which are threatening ecosystems and putting native animals at risk. We have already seen such an awful loss of life, now is the time to take action in order to protect our wildlife.

As an avid hiker and camper, one of my greatest pleasures is seeing our native animals safe in their own habitat. I'd love to share this experience with my own children one day, but with 120 of our animals, birds, plants, insects and fish already at the brink of extinction, I fear that the next generation will not experience the natural beauty our country offers.

This inquiry is a good step in the right direction, but we need solutions. There are jobs to be made in the clearing of invasive weeds, and in replanting native vegetation. I know there's a 'Save our Species' program in NSW that hopes to restore the populations of native animals. A similar program could be developed in our state. It's high time Victoria spent some time and money on stopping extinction and protecting our animals!

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Scarlett Pearce