

**From:** Craig Hinton  
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The time is long past to stop and reverse the destruction of our natural environment.

The current COVID-19 crisis has clearly demonstrated that all of human life and society, including the economy, is subservient to the environment. If we continue to degrade our environment, the economy and our society will inevitably follow.

Preserving what we still have is the first priority, especially in Victoria, the most cleared state in Australia.

- Stop native forest logging immediately and transition to plantations.
- Stop land clearing and urban expansion.
- Control weeds and feral animals, including wild dogs and deer.
- Establish more national parks including the Great Forest National Park.
- Transition to 100% renewable energy.
- Targeted species and habitat restoration for species already on the brink of extinction.

Then it is time to restore some of what has been lost. Forests, grasslands, wetlands all need to be restored and increased.

Only a healthy and diverse ecosystem will be resilient and adaptable as we face the inevitable impacts of a warming climate. Without it, all life and every society will suffer and struggle in the times ahead.

There is no time to waste.

Be leaders.

Act now!

Craig Hinton

Frankston, Vic



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