



Submission to Extinction Inquiry

Dear Members

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this very important inquiry. Following the terrible toll taken by the bushfires this Summer having this inquiry is not just timely but also essential.

Although I live in NSW, as a member of The Friends of Errinundra I have a deep interest in many threatened species that dwell within and outside the park where I spend much of my time. Sadly some of the park was badly fire effected and much has been lost so it is vital that protections are put in place to protect and rehabilitate not just the park but also the habitat outside the park that will be essential to the continuing survival of many species.

A dedicated program to remove weeds and feral species from remaining bushland will be essential to enable species of flora and fauna to recover.

More protections for wildlife are essential, it is deeply disturbing that crimes commited against threated and protected species are not taken seriously and actually encourage people to treat wildlife with disdain. Clearing habitat should be treated as a crime, it leaves species with no shelter and they ultimately die.

Logging is having a terrible impact on many species, numbers have plummeted for species such as the Greater Glider, Sooty Owl, Powerful Owl and Leadbeaters Possum. These animals urgently need protection and the best protection would be to protect the habitat from logging.

Given so much vegetation has been destroyed we urgently need a program to begin to rehabilitate burnt areas through planting to begin the long process of recovery for the benefit of all.

I am very pleased to be able to make this submission, I dearly hope that my grandchildren will have the same opportunities as I to see our unique species and our majestic forests thriving far into the future. It is unthinkable that we could act to stop species heading toward extinction and we fail to act.

Respectfully yours

Robynne Burchell

