

From: [Ms. Sha Curry](#)
To: [ecosystems](#)
Subject: Submission to a 1 amerta y Inqui y n o Ecosys em Decline in Victo a
Date: Sunday, 30 August 2020 9:34:19 AM

Dear Committee Members

I live in beautiful Ocean Grove on the Bellarine Peninsula. Not quite as local as I have only been here for 20 years. And in that time I have noticed the disappearance of many birds, especially the smaller birds. Many more noisy in areas and less diversity of species. I used to watch huge flocks of ibis and cockatoos but now they are much diminished. The removal of trees in established and new streets is also a great concern with the loss of habitat for the birds that make Ocean Grove such a special place. Many homeowners are reluctant to plant trees that are native to the area as they are too messy.

The Ocean Grove Nature Reserve is often targeted as fire hazard in that it is also too messy. The undergrowth is a much needed habitat for the smaller birds.

I believe that every Australian should have an education on the uniqueness of our landscape and its flora and fauna. There needs to be more community engagement and appreciation for the wonders of the region. Appointing a community gardener who could help steer homeowners into planting that encourages wildlife and protects the native plants would be a great addition.

And we really need to start young with children. More funding for bush kinders more opportunities for schools and families to take part in bush camping are initiatives I would gladly fund. Love and care for the environment are the starting point for any change.

I am happy for my submission to be made public.

Yours sincerely
Martha Curry

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