



**From:** POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 31 August 2020 3:07 PM  
**To:** ecosystems  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

**Categories:** Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Ms Monique Parkes



**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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Ecosystems Extinction Submission

The very obvious reasons for emphatically working towards the conservation of all ecosystems should stand without saying. The devastation of these ecosystems is so evident and irreparable.

Victoria, known as the garden state demonstrates great pride for its pristine green spaces. A pride which extends to a love of all our natural environment and ecosystems. This we know and understand.

In recent times, during the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns, the ability to be outdoors, immersed in nature has provided respite for so many. This has highlighted existing research of the benefits of nature on people's mental health and well-being.

The biologist, Wilson (1984) wrote about humans innate connection with nature and called it Biophilia. The theory discussed the many benefits this deeply rooted relationship has on the provision of optimal health outcomes for humans at all life stages. Further to these findings has been an increase in studying the effects of diminished opportunities for young children in natural outdoor environments (Louv,2005; Buchan, 2017). This research has revealed a need for strong advocacy in support of the multitudinous advantages that nature offers for children's development.

Governments now recognise the urgency to fund mental health. I believe that the dedication to the conservation of our natural environment should be part of this plan as it's proven to have profoundly positive outcomes on mental health.

It is for these reasons and many more that I urge you to make a deliberate and conscientious effort towards conservation of our ecosystems. We do not want to risk the extinction of anymore animals, flora or fauna. They are so important to us and must be respectfully protected.

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File2:

File3: