

From: Kate Weir [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2020 3:44 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: Ecosystem Inquiry - Victorian Parliament

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Dear Committee Members,

I write today to make a submission as I care deeply about the declining state of our native habitat for animals and plants in Victoria.

I know the focus at the moment is concentrating on the Covid-19 virus. The government has stepped up remarkably on this crisis. It shows, with the right approach, so much can be achieved by our leaders. The contrast is terrible in many other countries where leadership is lacking.

The recent fires in our state have caused so much devastation and destruction of our habitat and species, and this is a loss to all of us.

We are at a critical point with our natural environment, and we have to change. We must invest more in alternative forms of energy and stop burning fossil fuels. We have the experts and scientists in these areas that could lead the world. Goodness knows, they have been warning us about it for years. We have to stop logging in native forests and move the timber workers into other areas such as conservation. Ramp up employment of our First Australians into managing bushland continually.

Finally, I live in a local coastal suburb and it has been heartening to see what can be done by community groups. It can be slow at times and frustrating, but there are some good results.

Please give priority to protecting the environment - we need a healthy ecosystem to have a healthy society. We all benefit.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Weir