

Maeve Bannister

From: POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 5:15 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

mrs Deborah Webby




SUBMISSION CONTENT:

--

I think the bushfires of this year have highlighted the fragile nature of our environment, how we could lose so much so quickly. The biggest problem as I see it is that what biodiversity we have left is contained in such small areas, as land clearing for agriculture and housing pushes species into smaller areas that are more vulnerable to natural disasters. The only way to prevent this loss is to protect what natural areas are left, to cease logging in old-growth forests and to ban the shooting of native animals within these areas, in other words, create a string of National Parks and wildlife corridors. The Greater Melbourne National Park would be a highlight of this state, as a former Sydney resident I now realize how wonderful the ring of national parks around that city was and the fact that you could get public transport to visit the Royal or Blue Mountains National parks with Ku rin gai and Garigal Parks to the north a short drive, I really miss this, there is a disconnect between Melbourne city and the natural world. I think this preserved much of Sydney's wildlife as it has a sanctuary, the same would benefit Melbourne. I have moved to a semi-rural area just outside Melbourne but I find the lack of wildlife disturbing. Birdlife was more varied on the Northern Beaches of Sydney than here, we often had flocks of Cockatoos, lorikeets, galahs and pelicans but here we mostly see English blackbirds and our iconic kookaburras are almost silent, I love when I hear them but it is rare. Again a loss of habitat even in country areas and the use of poison domestically with the use of rat baits causing secondary poisoning. The continued use of the inhumane 1080 to kill dingoes our only predator is leading to an unbalanced environment, the dingo when left in the wild benefits the land, they also prey on feral cats and foxes this poison also affects non-target species like the wedge-tailed eagles.

With unemployment in Victoria set to skyrocket a major tree-planting workforce could be mobilized, a future in Australia can not be imagined without our Koala, we could be planting now to keep these animals in healthy populations as a lack of food trees is the biggest problem. To finish I must mention the slaughter of our kangaroos, the largest wildlife slaughter in the world, degrades us as humans to hunt our national symbol to turn into pet food and leather for sport shoes for the almighty dollar breaks my heart, millions died in the bushfires but they are still hunted, we will one day lose them as well and what will be left, a feedlot for cows and sheep

--

File1:

File2:

File3: