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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 15 June 2020 2:40 PM  
**To:** ecosystems  
**Subject:** Extinction Inquiry - Public Submission - Ecosystem Decline

**Categories:** Submissions

To whom it may concern,  
I am writing to you regarding the extinction crisis enquiry in Victoria.

I have lived in Victoria all of my life, as a 53 year old woman and have spent much of my time horse riding, on farms and bushwalking. I am also a keen gardener with an interest in birds and like to plant trees and shrubs that encourage native bird life.

It is impossible not to have noticed the loss of habitat and decline in wildlife, birds and insects in my lifetime. I find this rate of loss very alarming and am afraid my children will live to a time where so much of Victoria's amazing old growth forests are lost to logging and the 70 threatened species that live in them now will be gone forever. The forests of Eastern Victoria, in particular Toolangi and Gippsland, are places of wonder that I hope our government will recognise as needing to be preserved, not exploited.

I am so proud to be Australian and am glad to call Victoria home, but I worry that without ambitious environmental protections and programs to revive threatened species, and permanent moves away from coal and gas as energy sources, we will lose much of what makes our state so wonderful.

Please pay attention to what the people want our state to be and be leaders in finding solutions to these massive environmental problems.

I give consent to make my submission public.

Joanne Gray-Viggiano  
Ph: [REDACTED]