



From: POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 7:57 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Miss Tilliah Brooks



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My name is Tilliah Brooks and I am a young Australian who is environmentally conscious and incredibly concerned about the future of our states environment. Our government as a whole needs to wake up and realise we are in a crisis, and we should be acting like our world is on fire, because it is. Our government needs to be the guiding hand towards a world that is protects our environment and our native animals, encourages businesses to make more eco friendly choices, and enforce tougher regulations for those who don't. We need our government to step up and push for change, so that we can live in a better world.

I was absolutely devastated by the recent bushfire season, to see so many homes destroyed, human lives lost, billions of our native animals killed and communities torn apart. I felt so helpless, and like there was nothing I could do to help. I tried my best to educate myself about what caused this bushfire season to be worse than before, and a lot of the information suggested the same concerns, climate change, ineffective bushfire management, lack of bushfire resources and a complete lack of Indigenous input. We need to listen to our Indigenous Australian's and put forward their knowledge and expertise when developing effective plans to manage the land they know so well. We need to prioritise minimising the impact of climate change, by educating our society, instead of denying that climate change exists. Our firefighters need more resources, more support from our government, and their voices need to be taken seriously when making recommendations to government.

Secondly, the complete and utter disregard for native animals is appalling. Our native animals do nothing to us, they just want to live alongside us. Unfortunately our government see native animals as "pests" and problems that need to be eradicated. These animals are sentient beings who are deserving of safety, consistent food sources, and to have access to adequate bushland. We are such a selfish society that we take and take their homes from them, ripping g down bushland for developments, and shooting any animal that dares return to what was once their home. Wildlife rescue groups need to have a role in making decisions in government, our native animals need a voice and they need to be represented. Furthermore, wildlife groups should not have to fight with government to provide food, safety and medical attention to animals impacted by natural disasters, like what happened in the recent bushfires. Myself and many other concerned animals lovers, emailed our local MPs demanding that food drops be allowed because there were politicians arguing against that, which is completely inhumane.

Thirdly, our government lacks any sense of direction with how to manage this climate emergency. Our government continues to prioritise profit over our environment and it is alarming to know we have people in positions of power who think this way. Our government needs to focus on renewable power sources, stop burning coal, stop oil drilling, creates initiatives and incentives for businesses who are meeting targets for being climate conscious and offsetting their carbon footprints, as well as punishing businesses who are doing the wrong thing and exploiting our planet. We need to educate our children, make climate change a compulsory subject in all schools, educate our children about biodiversity loss, loss of habitats and what the reality is for a world with no animals, no wildlife and dead oceans.

Enough is enough. We need to wake up and start fighting with a vengeance. To conclude, we need to start listening to our Indigenous Australian's to better educate us about managing the land, we need to treat our native animals with kindness and respect like the sentient beings they are, we need more education around climate changes, and incentives for businesses being eco friendly and meeting targets to reduce their carbon emissions. We as a society need to focus on the world we are creating, we need to slow down, look around and realise how incredibly lucky we are to live in such a beautiful country who have the most diverse native animals. We need to be present, be conscious and be aware that every decision we make has a ripple effect on our environment.

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File1:

File2:

File3: