



From: POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>
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Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Mr Dale Stohr



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Far Eastern Curlew (East Asian Australasian Flyway) -

The flyway used by the Far Eastern Curlew is referred to as the 'East Asian-Australasian Flyway' (EAAF).

Its northern end (where migratory shorebird species breed) includes parts of Russia, China, Mongolia and Alaska, and its southern end (non-breeding habitat) includes parts of south-east Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

The Far Eastern Curlew is endemic to the EAAF. That means it occurs nowhere else on Earth.

During the non-breeding season, the birds congregate largely in Australia, with up to about three quarters of them waiting out the northern winter here.

They are facing significant threats in Australia during the non-breeding season. The most extensive is disturbance. Far eastern curlews occur almost exclusively in Australia's coastal strip, and therefore have to compete with human and canine recreational use.

Coastal development also results in the loss of critical 'roosting' habitat, the places that curlews rest in during high tide periods when their mudflat feeding grounds are covered with seawater.

The Far Eastern Curlew is experiencing rapid and dramatic population declines.

Research is under way in Australia to better understand the species use of non-breeding habitat.

Like all migratory shorebirds, effective conservation requires coordination and cooperation all along its migratory path.

(Credit to Micha Jackson - UQ)

All areas of the East Asian Australasian Flyway used by the Eastern Curlew must be protected including Western Port Bay in Victoria.

Western Port Bay is a Ramsar wetland of international importance and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

The Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) for Western Port Bay has not been updated since 1998.

As part of the recent Parliamentary Inquiry in Ramsar Wetlands (2019), the Victorian Government must take action to study and protect all Ramsar wetlands in Victoria but particularly Western Port Bay due to the threat of new industrial developments such as the proposed AGL Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline Project at Crib Point.

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File1:

File2:

File3: