

Submission into the Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

1. make critical habitat determination mandatory to allow the Minister for the Environment to use habitat conservation orders in urgent situations;
2. ensure public authorities are aware of their duties to consider biodiversity and The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act when making decisions;
3. strengthen the Act;
4. the Government to deliver on many promises to protect the green wedge and buy land that it said it would buy in order to protect the endangered temperate grasslands of the West;
5. a big increase in funding to manage national parks
6. create statewide ecosystem-based marine spatial plan
7. more surveying of marine life so that we know what we've got and what we stand to lose
8. create new and more National Parks including one at Wombat, Mt Cole and in the Pyrenees area;
9. No racehorses anywhere on beaches;
10. expand and increase funding to combat feral animals in particular in the Alpine National Park.
11. Limit hunting to a few months of the year. It is really disconcerting hiking and hearing gun shots in the distance. I do not feel comfortable hiking any more due to the huge increase in hunting
12. stop subsidizing VicForests.
13. cancel all West Regional Forest Agreements and conduct a review of all Regional Forest Agreements.
14. Fat track transitioning out of old growth forest logging.