

## Wildlife Act Review

### Submission Comment 145:

Contributor: Individual

#### Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Management and control of wildlife causing problems or damage
- Eco-tourism involving wildlife

#### Comment

COVID has seen an increased interest in environmental activities and involvement in visiting natural areas of victoria numbers in one such park have more than doubled with more attending every day If only we could harness these interested people into our friends' groups.

The issue this has caused is the need for more facilities including hard concrete paths and rubbish bins with impacts on the wildlife (most of the rubbish ends on the ground) and ongoing maintenance tasks for ranger staff in most land agencies It brings other wildlife including foxes and feral cats into areas as well.

This impacts significantly on the habitat and its preservation values, needs to be enjoyed for future as well as present generations. Do not bring your phone, and view the native animals (in their home environment) without the sounds of the modern world. Enjoy nature as it was meant to be enjoyed. The expansion of freeways and transport options leads to more damage in terms of facilities - paths, car parks and rubbish bins and other options. The best way to protect the habitat is by take home your rubbish and your technology and respect the environment.

eco tourism needs to be better managed and the areas patrolled to ensure this - we do not need cafes in every park and a native area needs to be left alone in some areas even fenced off for its own protection I remember in the 1960's visiting the Tower Hill State Game reserve now a busy tourist venue beauty at it best - please ride your bicycles carefully and respect the work of environmental groups and park rangers to maintain the environment an education issue - walking in nature needs to be preserved at its best with all the wildlife safe and treasured.

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