

ONLINE SUBMISSION DETAILS

Date Received	27/03/2017
Organisation	Individual
Postcode	
How do you think we should improve the FFG Act?	<p>I would like to see the new FFG include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">*recognition of the inherent value and right to exist of threatened species, and that this be upheld over the interests of industrial, governmental or residential expansion.;*greater powers of intervention accorded to the relevant authorities and the Minister, in cases where species/habitats are under threat from the above;*real power given to responsible authorities/their representatives on the ground, to protect threatened areas/species, to enforce laws that protect same, and to be able to issue offenders with real penalties, not just token amounts;*strong policy framework to keep track of where allocated funds, time, and personnel are going, with regards to projects and investment in the protection of threatened species;*valuing the involvement of community members/groups, who are doing their bit outside the political arena. <p>I live in the Western suburbs of Melbourne, an area which has remnant pockets of ancient grassland, which are increasingly under threat from encroaching residential expansion. Here and there are tiny reserves set aside for the protection of various plants and animals, but in proportion they are minute. It's easy to overlook the uniqueness of the basalt plains flora and fauna, as it's not spectacular, showy or large. I'm aware of plans for a lot of residential expansion in the West, especially in the Wyndham area, which will further diminish the availability of land for either reserve or rehabilitation.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>