

Wildlife Act Review

Submission Comment 244:

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Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Wildlife welfare
- Offences and penalties relating to wildlife

Comment

Habitat loss, and the inevitable loss of struggling and fragmented ecosystems, deeply concerns me. Living in the Wyndham area in the west of Melbourne, the destruction of grasslands and wildflower meadows that are essentially forests of the west is so rapid and unstoppable, that very soon, there will be nothing left of an ecosystem that is millions of years old. Initially, via farming and now the urban sprawl, has directly contributed to the loss of invaluable and irreplaceable habitat. The urban heat island effect is increasing, and while there is a "plan" to plant hundreds of trees (often without ecological consultation), there is no plan to create habitat corridors that reflect the Ecological Vegetation classes that are found in this area. Sadly, human apathy and ignorance are destroying ecosystems that will impact human health, and decimate native species. A drive through the newer estates will highlight the horrendous urban planning design that has houses squashed next to each other with no room for vegetation, and to add even more "insult to injury", the rise of plastic grass as "landscaping" is creating mega-urban heat islands as the heat generated by the plastic is increasing the heat around the suburbs.

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