

ONLINE SUBMISSION DETAILS

Date Received	27/03/2017
Organisation	Individual
Postcode	
Written submission provided or EV submission?	<p>I live on the fringe of Melbourne on 12 acres. I see daily the effects that new housing estates and infrastructure are having on the native fauna and flora. The beautiful river redgums are constantly under threat by development, native vegetation is being cleared and I have noticed a decline in the number of wombats in the area. There needs to be stronger 'stop and protect' laws so the Minister can intervene when important species or habitats are under threat, with no exemptions or special treatment for government departments or certain industries. An understanding of the importance of protecting critical habitat with the use of strong enforcement, real penalties, and proper monitoring. What's happening in the logging coupes in the Toolangi State Forest at the moment is farcical. Government departments are ignoring their own guidelines and refusing to take into account video proof of threatened Leadbeater's possum habitats within the coupes. How can an area that has already been decimated by bushfires possibly have a chance to recover with continued logging. Mountain Ash and Leadbeater's possums need protection and the community should have the right to initiate legal action to protect those species.</p>