

## Wildlife Act Review

### Submission Comment 316:

Contributor: Individual

#### Primary interests:

- Protection and conservation of wildlife and habitat
- Wildlife welfare
- Protections for marine mammals

#### Comment

I hold grave concerns for our wildlife - right now! In my area trees are vanishing, koalas virtually all gone, bats can no longer be seen flying in the night sky- nor owls. Development and convenience come first. In my area - nothing has been actioned on since the 'koala plan' over a decade ago. citizen science concludes we have one koala left! We have a few kangaroos - who's plight in survival is as dire. Our wildlife must be meaningfully protected. the more I have learnt the more dismayed and distressed I've become, on a daily basis!

There are so many exemptions and 'loopholes' and lack of meaningful measures that truly protect. There needs to be an independent overseer of wildlife welfare. for example a koala is protected but habitat is not. This makes a mockery of 'protection' in reality. DELWP issues culling permits as well as hold responsibility of protection and care is an obvious conflict of interest.

We need to utilise the expertise and experience of wildlife carers and rescuers. It is backward that shooting is protected and the shooters and people who inflict cruelty face little consequence.

We are in an extinction crisis!!

We hear grand announcements of native forest protection only to find they were scaled back drastically and quietly a few days later. We need sanctuaries and safe wetland spaces.

Rescuers should absolutely have access to the wetlands.

Shooting needs to be of the past , it is a sick remnant, ie killing and bloodshed and cruelty for fun but if it is to continue for now law breakers need to be dealt with by an independent body. We are clever enough to come up with humane, ethical and responsible solutions. If killing is the answer to wildlife 'management' we are in trouble!

Please help set the trend for a positive future - we need healthy environment and biodiversity. We are a part of the whole. It is our job/ our place to truly do our best.

Thankyou

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