

[REDACTED]

From: Lori Baker [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2020 8:35 PM
To: Native Vegetation Strategy
Subject: Submission re 2019/2020 Native Vegetation Review

Categories: SUBMISSIONS

To the Minister of the Environment and the Director General of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Dear Mr Stephen Dawson and Mr Rowe,
I would like to make a submission into the Review of the 2019-2020 Native Vegetation in Western Australia Policy and Initiatives Review.

I am deeply concerned about Western Australia's broken system for measuring and monitoring deforestation across our state.

For years I have volunteered on bush reserves in Darlington and more recently, in Sorrento, working to rehabilitate degraded urban bushland. These small areas of remnant bushland support our beautiful and unique flora and fauna.

However, all of our precious native wildlife need vast expanses of native vegetation in order to thrive in healthy populations. It is a travesty that such vast areas have not been protected for future generations, long before now.

I have been a supporter of the Australian Conservancy Foundation for many years. This organisation, with the support of donations, buys large tracts of land and protects unique and threatened species. Our government must step up to protect our wonderful, valuable and fast disappearing bushland.

In 2007, the Environmental Protection Authority declared that bushland clearing was 'one of the biggest threats to Western Australia's biodiversity.'

We need our government to:

- Put an end to clearing old growth forests and high conservation value bushland across Western Australia

- Support an updated native vegetation data and monitoring system, which can transparently track both the quality and extent of our native forests and bushland
- Establish a strategic approach to restoring ecosystems in Western Australia
- Enact new Laws for Nature, which focus on the protection of our threatened species and provide incentives to maintain the health of our biodiverse habitats.

Sincere thanks,
Lori Baker

Sent from my iPad