Australia's wildlife in crisis.

The Australian government admits that most groups of plants, animals and other forms of life in Australia face an increasing risk that their numbers will collapse. In the face of an acknowledged extinction crisis, the government is continuing to implement a policy of environmental regulation that will see it fail to meet its international biodiversity commitments. The Australian government is responsible for aspects of the environment covered by international treaties including threatened species, World Heritage, wetlands of international importance and migratory species.

In 1997, the Australian government handed State governments responsibility for logging in native forests on condition that the forests were managed sustainably to protect threatened species and biodiversity. State governments have no obligations under international treaties.

Detailed analysis shows that standards of wildlife protection in State-managed native forests are lower than if the Australian government was directly responsible.

Despite this, the Australian government plans to make the States responsible for decisions covering almost all ecosystems, activities and developments such as mining.

This will put Australia's precious wildlife, wetlands and World Heritage in even greater jeopardy and break Australia's commitments under the international Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Australian government needs to conduct a detailed audit of its compliance with the Convention before taking any action to renew State government powers to regulate native forest logging, and before transferring national environment assessment and approval responsibilities to State governments.



Petition to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Environment groups representing hundreds of thousands of Australians have banded together to petition the Convention on Biodiversity. They are requesting an audit of Australia's compliance with its commitments under the Convention.

The full text of the petition is available at

http://envirojustice.org.au/



Spot-tailed Quoll

(Dasyurus maculatus)

Largest remaining mainland marsupial carnivore; nationally threatened by habitat destruction.

Photo - Don Butcher



Numbat

(Myrmecobius fasciatus)

Last two wild populations facing extinction from predation, land clearing, logging and burning.

Photo - Panda Broad



Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo

(Calyptorhynchus banksii naso)

Mature trees with hollows for nesting are being lost owing to logging and competition with feral bees.

Photo - Kim Redman



Leadbeater's Possum

(Gymnobelideus leadbeateri)

Critically endangered and declining rapidly due to logging and fire.

Photo - Steve Kuiter

Supported by

AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

ACF stands for ecological sustainability. We work for lasting social and economic change so all Australians can enjoy a healthy environment.

Environment East Gippsland inc

Environment East Gippsland is a community group working solely forthe protection of Victoria's last and largest area of ancient forest, surrounding natural environment and wildlife.

The Green Insititute is a green-minded think tank.

PROTECT THE LAWS THAT PROTECT THE PLACES YOU LOVE

Places You Love is an alliance of 42 environment organisations and groups dedicated to protecting the laws that protect nature.

Environmental Justice Australia

Environmental Justice Australia are nature's lawyers, using the law to protect and restore Australia's environment.

LAWYERS for FORESTS

Lawyers for Forests are legal professionals working to protect and conserve Australia's remaining native forests.

WAFA Western Australian Forest Alliance

Western Australian Forest Alliance is an alliance of 20 groups dedicated to the protection of Western Australia's native forests and woodlands.

my environment

My Environment brings people and ideas together for the conservation of Australia's natural places through science, law, design and the community

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Forest Red-tail Black Cockatoo
(Calyptorhynchus banksii naso)
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Numbat
(Myrmecobius fasciatus)
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Leadbeater's Possum 1
(Gymnobelideus leadbeateri)
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Leadbeater's Possum 2
(Gymnobelideus leadbeateri)
Photo credits - Steve Kuiter

Spot-tailed Quoll
(Dasyurus maculatus)
Photo. Don Butcher

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