

To the Committee

I would like to submit that these amendments are being pushed through without reasonable time for public consultation, this is not appropriate and should not occur.

The amendments have the potential to wipe 500 threatened ecological communities from the current waiting list for protection under the EPBC Act and remove the mandatory requirement to develop a Recovery Plan for a listed threatened species or ecological community and their 'critical habitat'.

They may also give the Minister arbitrary discretion to remove a publicly nominated species or ecological communities from the annual list of species, and to refuse to assess a threatened species previously rejected for protection even if its conservation status has worsened.

Also these amendments contain no provisions for addressing climate change.

All of these potentially damaging outcomes need serious consideration and I hope that you will recommend against them or at the very least insist on more time for public input.

Thank you
Susan Ambler