

Labor senators' additional comments

1.1 Labor notes that the Hawke review identified a weakness in the EPBC Act in regard to emergency listings and that the Hawke review recommended amendments to the Act.

1.2 Labor recommends that the Government urgently review relevant parts of the EPBC Act to provide for emergency listings of threatened species and ecological communities, and to consider addressing the effect of section 158A of the EPBC Act which currently prevents consideration of threatened species or ecological communities which are listed after the time a referral is made. Referrals, assessments, approvals as well as the listing process can be complex and time consuming. A review of emergency listings of threatened species and ecological communities in the EPBC Act would need to take in to account this complexity and must include consultation to give certainty to communities and stakeholders. Labor supports sensible policy based on solid consultation.

Senator Louise Pratt
Senator for Western Australia

Senator Sue Lines
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