

Dr Keira McKenzie

I would like to enter a brief submission:

The Act needs clarification in regards the conservation and protection of native flora and fauna species, especially in conjunction with threatened ecological communities (TECs).

Specifically:

- clearing should not proceed if it is at variance with any of the stated Clearing Principles;
- clearing in TECs must be disallowed entirely;
- there needs to be maximum protection for Priority Species;
- more funding support is required for taxonomists to formally evaluate and describe the thousands of unpublished taxa;
- establish a right of appeal process to EPA determinations;
- abolish the use of offsets or put major restrictions on their use so any offsets actually are of equivalent ecological value to what is being destroyed - eg: cleared banksia woodland needs to be replaced by already banksia woodland.

Our remaining ecosystems are under a range serious threats with clearing and climate change perhaps the most aggressive.

I believe The Act must be upgraded to afford maximum protection to WA's unique species, communities and ecosystems.

Sincerely

Dr K McKenzie