

DEFEND WA'S NATURE THROUGH NEW NATIONAL NATURE LAWS

Right now, the Albanese Government is reforming the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. This is our national framework for protecting the environment, including plants, animals, water, and significant places.

But the Act is flawed. Since its creation under the Howard Government over 20 years ago, hundreds of coal, gas, deforestation, and other destructive projects have been approved, and Australia now has the highest rate of mammal extinction in the world.



Here in Western Australia, species at risk of extinction include Numbats, Carnaby's cockatoos, and Baudin's cockatoos. Deforestation is a major issue, as is climate change, which causes heat stress in animals, forests, and reefs. The central to south west coast is at risk of ecosystem collapse.



For the first time in two decades, we have the opportunity to secure strong new nature laws that protect the places we love – the places that sustain life for us all. If we succeed, we could start to turn the tide on the extinction and climate crises.

But we know the Western Australian mining lobby is knocking on the Albanese Government's door, calling on them to weaken our new national nature laws. That's why our Federal Members of Parliament must urgently advocate to strengthen them.



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Here's what we're asking our Federal MPs to call for:

1 Genuinely protect and restore nature:

- End native forest logging
- End habitat destruction of threatened and endangered species
- No new coal and gas approvals
- Nature protection from climate impacts enshrined in National Standards
- Climate impacts must be considered and scope 3 emissions disclosed
- Regional planning that protects ecologically sensitive areas and creates zones for future development

2 Ensure the community has a legal voice in standing up for nature. An independent EPA has:

- An independent board
- Adequate funding for assessment, monitoring, and enforcement
- A requirement to explain how it has taken community feedback into account

3 Truly value and respect the rights, knowledge, and cultures of First Nations Peoples:

- First Nations communities must have a say in the decisions that affect them
- Communities must have the right to challenge decisions
- The EPA must be required to explain how it has taken First Nations communities' feedback into account

