

## Nicholas Gonsalves

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 10 September 2020 2:11 PM  
**To:** DPE PS Biodiversity Mailbox  
**Subject:** Western Sydney biodiversity

Hi

As a landholder in Greendale and lover of the environment, I welcome the new conservation plan but feel we may be more than just a little late. The horse has well and truly bolted.

I have read through the plan content but see little to manage the current threats to both fauna and flora.

Our land is being overrun with weeds such as African Olive, Aniseed, Thistles and Fireweed.

Invasive animal species such as deer, goats, rabbits, foxes and pigs are displacing native animals whilst starlings, Indian Mynahs and other birds are making it harder for our native birds to thrive.

The new airport has ravaged the eco-scape and it would seem this plan is now placing a burden on landholders to pick up the pieces of this destruction.

The RFS seems very trigger happy and over-keen to back burn koalas and any other wildlife that dares to live in the bush....all in the name of protecting houses.

Will there be incentives for landholders to work hand in hand with the government in order to make conservation a reality and not just a brochure?

Eradication plans are required for both invasive weeds and animals along with proper funding and expertise to do so. Drawing a line on a page serves no one.

We need vacant land to be earmarked and set aside for the future. You can't ask existing landholders to do this all for you. In most cases, conservation is not why they bought their land in the first place and certainly not how it was sold to them. A lot of these plans simply annoy people.

We need the government to be proactive rather than reactive. Rather than wait until you have completely destroyed an area and try to retain the fragments, get in early and make sure it will be protected from the start.

Look to the areas that are currently not supporting a population of residents but one that has un-spoilt bushland that can be truly preserved. Keep the Rural Fire Starters off it and most importantly.....don't sell it.

Let's do conservation properly

Regards  
[REDACTED]