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From: Jessica Wysser [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 October 2023 3:01 PM
To: NRC
Subject: NSW Invasive Species Management Review

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Dear Natural Resources Commission members,

I hereby lodge my submission to the New South Wales Invasive Species Management Review.

I thank the Minns Government for launching an independent review of invasive species management and biosecurity in the state. Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to wildlife and ecosystems in New South Wales. Tackling them requires long-term investment and reform.

I would like to provide feedback on Question 6 of the key review: What opportunities do you see to improve the outcomes of invasive species management in the future?

The outcomes of invasive species management can be improved in the future by the addition of the following measures:

1. Increase funding and frontline staff for programs which are long-term and strategic, rather than ad-hoc and politically-driven.
2. Manage invasive species across the whole landscape, regardless of who owns or manages the land.
3. Improve compliance and enforcement to ensure uncooperative landowners and public land managers are responsibly managing invasive species.
4. Build the rapid response capacity to tackle invasive species after major disturbances which include droughts, floods and fire.
5. Prioritise prevention and early action, including through stamping out the movement of high-risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish.
6. Encourage collaboration and involvement of the community and industry in partnerships and shared solutions.
7. Ensure independent oversight and accountability for government action on biosecurity and invasive species.
8. Support statewide and national research and innovation to develop and encourage uptake of improved tools and practices.

This is a crucial opportunity to shape the future of invasive species programs, funding, and reforms in New South Wales over the next decade. With the impacts and spread of invasive species getting worse, there's never been a more important time to tackle this problem head on.

I thank you for this opportunity to express my opinions on this matter.

For the only planet we have.

Jessica Wysser