Australian Environment Foundation

Submission to the Inquiry into Australia’s Environment

by the

Senate Environment and Communications References Committee

Australian Environment Foundation

PO Box 274 Deakin West ACT 2600

Phone: 03 9818 2434

info@aefweb.info

www.aefweb.info

**About the Australian Environment Foundation**

The Australian Environment Foundation is a not-for-profit, membership-based environmental organisation having no political affiliations, dedicated to informing and educating Australians about environmental issues and solutions to environmental challenges.

The Australian Environment Foundation takes an evidence-based, solution focused approach to environmental issues.

AEF members value:

 **Evidence** - policies are set and decisions are made on the basis of facts, evidence and scientific analysis.

 **Choice** - issues are prioritised on the basis of accurate risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis.

 **Technology** - appropriate and innovative technological solutions are implemented.

 **Management** - active management is used when necessary, acknowledging that landscapes and ecosystems are dynamic.

 **Diversity** - biological diversity is maintained.

 **People** - people are an integral part of the environment.

Accordingly, the AEF embraces the IUCN (World Conservation Union) sustainable use principles stated below, as providing an ethical balanced framework for many environmental challenges.

*1. Conservation of biological diversity is central to the mission of IUCN, and accordingly IUCN recommends that decisions of whether to use, or not to use, wild living resources should be consistent with this aim.*

*2. Both consumptive and non-consumptive use of biological diversity are fundamental to the economies, cultures, and well-being of all nations and peoples.*

*3. Use, if sustainable, can serve human needs on an ongoing basis while contributing to the conservation of biological diversity.*

Many of the Australian Environment Foundation’s members are practical environmentalists – people who actively use and also care for the environment – appreciating that environmental protection and sustainable resource use are generally compatible in providing balanced outcomes. 4 | P a g e