Taming of a wild law
the sorry story of the
the Flora and Fauna
Guarantee Act 1988

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“to guarantee that all taxa of Victoria's flora and fauna other than the taxa listed in the Excluded List can survive, flourish and retain their potential for evolutionary development in the wild”

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
Section 4
s4(2) A public authority must be administered so as to have regard to the flora and fauna conservation and management objectives.
One of the principles of the World Conservation Strategy states that because we have the power to change ecosystems radically, we are morally obliged to respect the intrinsic value of other species and to act prudently in their interests. Many people believe that species and natural systems have the right to exist independent of their value to humanity.

Draft Flora and Fauna Guarantee Strategy, 1992

- Species, communities
- Threatening processes
- Action Statements
- Critical habitat determinations
- Interim Conservation Orders
- Management Plans
- Public Authority Management Agreements
- Protected flora
The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 in practice

- Action Statements
- Threatening processes
- Species, communities
- Protected flora controls (but public land only)
- PAMAs
- Strategy
- Management Plans
The lack of baseline data and outcome or output performance measures means it is not possible to conclude whether the Act has achieved its primary objectives. The available data, which is patchy, indicates that it has not.

Administration of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
Victorian Auditor General’s Report
April 2009
Action Statements

“At the current rate, and assuming no additional items listed, it would take 22 years to develop action statements for the remaining listed items”
Frankston Spider Orchid

*Caladenia robinsonii*

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