

Senior acoustic specialist Kurt Fristrup of the US National Park Service notes that human sounds cause problems other than acute annoyances.

Namely, they can “mask some of the quieter yet important sounds of nature like footfalls and breathing—the cues that predators listen for to catch prey and that prey use to escape predators,” he says.

A forest rally has hours of extreme noise from one end of the forest to the other, thus causing numerous animals to lose touch with their groups, their mothers, their surroundings and so needlessly die.

wombat forest is
VITAL HABITAT
Respect Native Animals

Wombat Forest has a unique biodiversity footprint.

Wombat Forest is the last bastion of wilderness west of Melbourne in a largely cleared landscape. We are surrounded by towns and farmland, and our water catchments are vital for millions of people.

We are only just beginning to learn about the incredible number of living organisms that make up the interconnected life cycles so essential for keeping our local ecosystem healthy and clean.

The Wombat Forest, after years of intensive logging, drought, fires, human settlement and recreational pressures, still houses wild animal populations. But for how much longer?

Australia’s animal and bird populations are rapidly becoming extinct all around this continent. It’s up to individual Australians to rapidly change our land management practices. Everyone needs to join the efforts to save Australian wildlife.

Wild forest is profoundly unsuitable for racing really loud, high performance cars. Rally noise damages animal communities. It’s called “**acoustic dislocation**”. Mobs of animals, all fleeing in terror across the district, always end in some deaths and many, many injuries. Abandoned young become snacks for predators, both marsupial and bird young, and many stab wounds and broken limbs inevitably occur as animals trip, slip, fall and eventually collapse as they flee in blind panic.

Traumatising animals is not fun **it’s torture.**

wombat forest is
ANIMAL KINDERGARTEN
Respect Native Animals

YOU

**have the power to
make the difference**

**don't
volunteer
for cruelty**

**Good sports don't threaten
WILD native animals**

Wombat Forestcare Inc.
Concerned Victorians seeking to enhance and
protect Wombat Forest into the future.

WATER QUALITY AND STREAM HEALTH

Millions of people drink the water from the six major river systems that start in the Wombat State Forest.

The runoff from unsealed forest roads is already recognised as a major threat to stream health. Fine particles of mud and dust are churned up by the speeding traffic and are washed into the streams with the next rain event.

This turbidity from fine particles causes oxygen deprivation in the stream water and affects a range of life forms, leading to suffocation, smothering and a loss of species. Water quality is compromised as a result and a downward spiral continues over time.

Wombat Forestcare Inc. asks that the DSE and the Victorian Government better manage erosion from recreational forest users, and promote water quality and biodiversity health.

Stream sides - riparian zones - are the most wildlife rich parts of our landscape.

Work to save animals not torture them.

Contact :
info@wombatforestcare.org.au
for more information

BE QUIET
Respect Native Animals

*“The Wombat State Forest is NOT a vacant space!
Car racing is NOT OK.
The animals flee across my place. It’s devastating.”*

**Said by upset local
business owner
and Moorabool
resident.**

Wild Wombat Forest needs **YOU**
to **enhance
biodiversity**
Australian native animals
need our help to
AVOID EXTINCTION
...cos’ if they go, we all go.

WHO PAYS?

We, the public are paying for this race. The costs are huge. The car clubs pay virtually nothing.

What a bargain !

Are local forest residents subjected to extended noise and distress?

Yes

Is the impact of *acoustic dislocation* on animal populations even greater than the effect on humans?

Yes

Will animals injure themselves, even die, as they flee the noise?

Yes

Does racing damage the roads and pollute the streams?

Yes

If car racing is OK under current laws then Wombat Forest needs to be immediately re-zoned for urgent protection.

Yes

**Join the work
to enhance wild
Australia ...**

To learn more about noise damage and acoustic dislocation in animals from road noise see Wombat Forestcare web site: www.wombatforestcare.org.au