

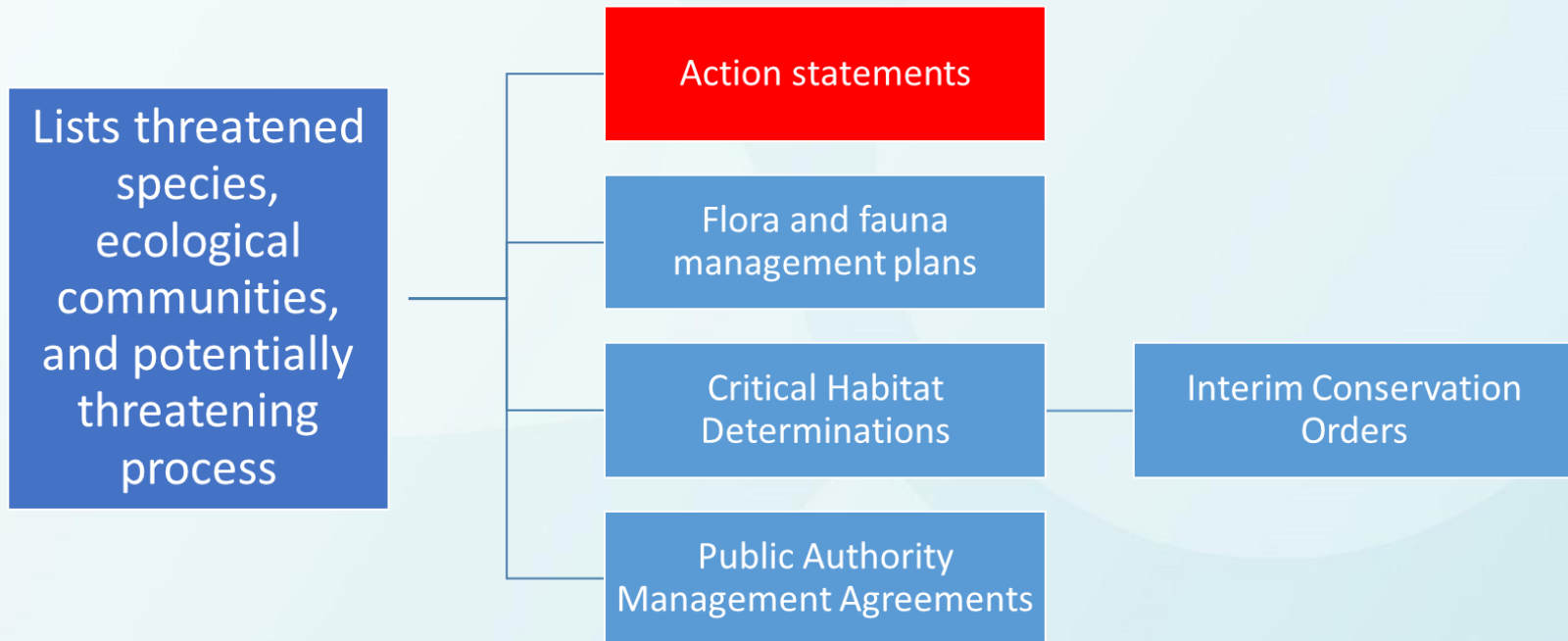


Environmental
Justice Australia

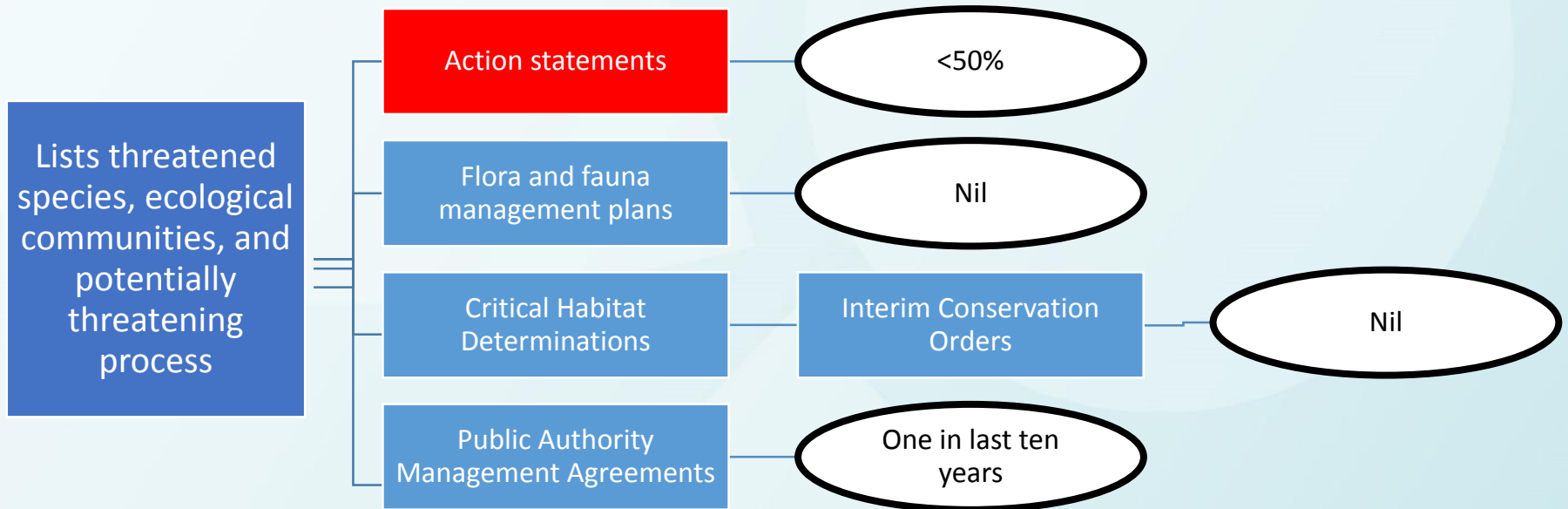
What is the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act?

How to make it an effective nature conservation law

How the FFG Act protects nature



How the FFG Act works in practice



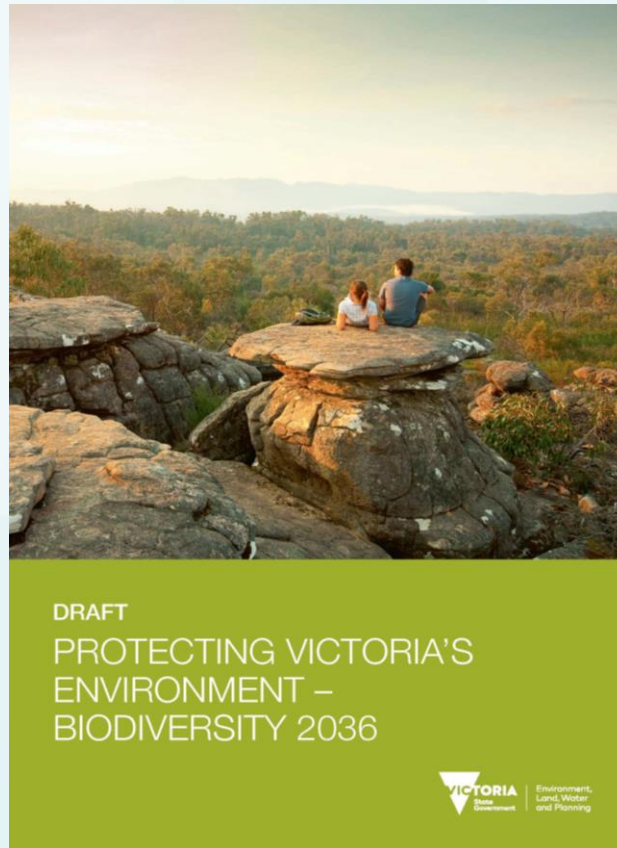
Plant offences

A person must not take, trade in, keep, move or process protected flora without a permit

Permit to take

EXEMPTIONS

Not just a threatened species law



Real life examples



Photo Credits:

1. Leadbeater's Possum: Healesville Sanctuary
2. Manna gums: Ben Moore
3. Tree marked for clearing by VicRoads: WHAM

The government's proposals: A better way forward?



The government's proposals: What to support and strengthen

Fair go for threatened species

- Public authorities must have better 'regard' to biodiversity in decision making
- Improved critical habitat provisions
- *BUT these need to go further*

Nature cop on the beat (enforcement)

- Increased penalties
- Improved range of enforcement tools
- Possibly, civil, as well as criminal, penalties

Targets and timelines

- Biodiversity targets in the biodiversity plan

Community power to act

- New obligations around making information public
- Community rights to review government decisions
- *BUT this needs to go further*

The government's proposals: What's missing

Fair go for threatened species

- Strong standard of protection for all threatened species
- Removal of exemptions for certain industries

Stronger stop and protect powers

- A clear obligation around when critical habitat must be declared and protected
- Emphasis on threatening processes: mitigation and prevention

Nature cop on the beat

- An independent authority to monitor and enforce the FFG Act

Targets and timelines

- More certainty that the biodiversity plan can become, and will remain, an up to date, detailed and focused biodiversity strategy

The government's proposals: major concerns

Loss of guarantee?

Landscape approach
at the expense of
individual species
protection?

Loss of mandatory
action statements

Public authorities as
model guardians?