Committee Secretary
Senate standing Committees on Environment and Communications

SERVANTS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT,

December 12, 2012

Dear Members of the Senate Committee,

Many will send you pages of reasoned argument as to why animals should be protected and some placed on the list of endangered species. I will agree with their conclusions. I just wish to appeal to you as human persons who share the planet with these creatures. They cannot protect themselves. They are helpless before the humans who devastate their habitat, cut down their trees, build out their places of livelihood.

We are not the only living beings on this planet. The animals and trees have a right to live, and because we as humans wield so much power over their lives, we have the right and responsibility to guarantee their survival as species in their own right.

Humans are important, but they should not take over all the land from all the other creatures. From a purely selfish point of view, we as humans will be terribly impoverished in our senses and spirit if we send any more species of plants, trees and animals into extinction. Once a species is extinct, it will never return. Our own lives will be the poorer. Natural beauty is given to us, but once gone, it cannot be returned.

Please consider this, and the effect continuing extinctions will have on the lives of your children and grand-children unto the seventh generation and beyond, when you are deciding the fate of trees and animal species.

Yours Sincerely
Sr Marian McClelland sss