



Moments not Minutes

Redefining our engagement with nature



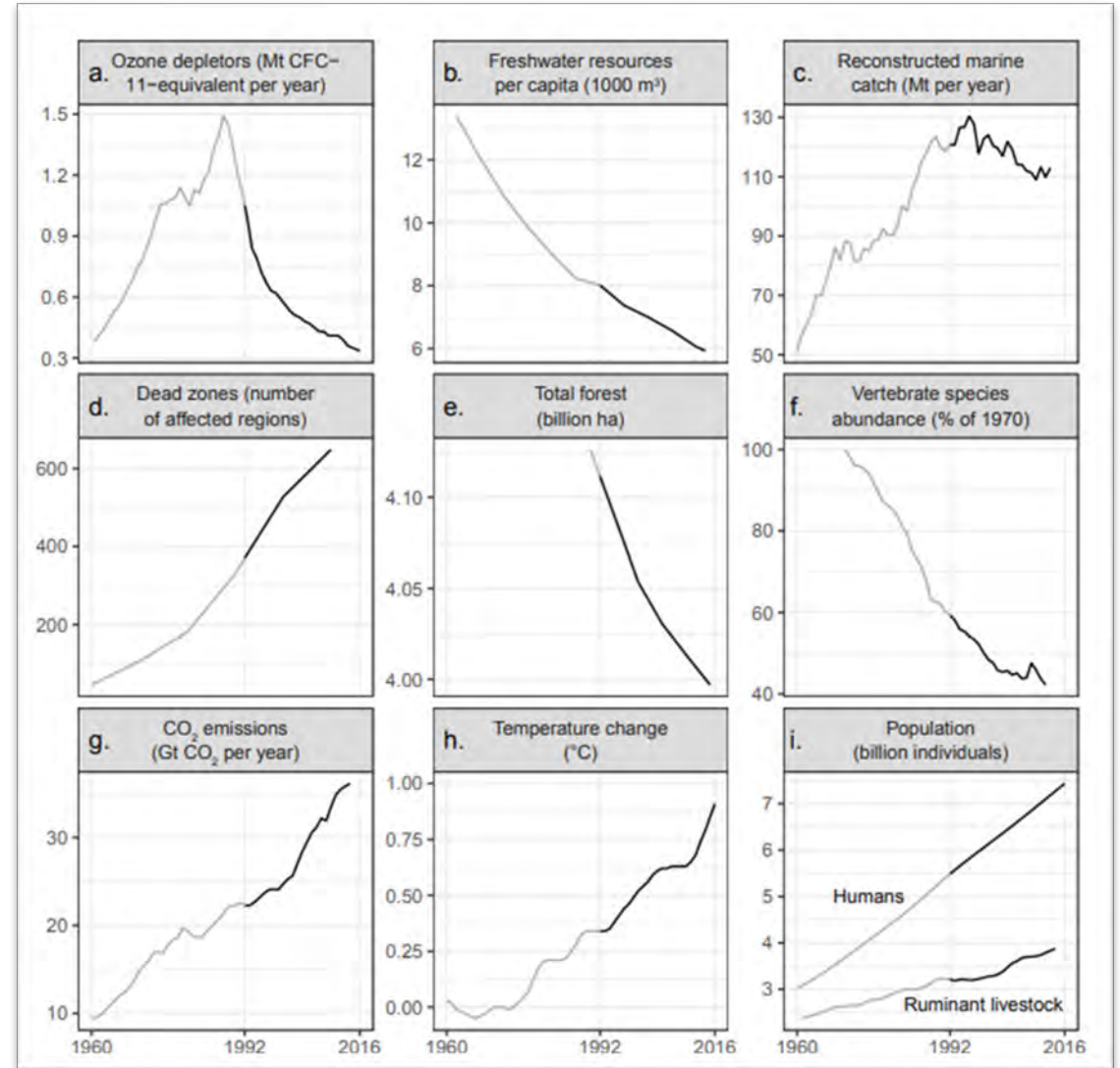
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society.

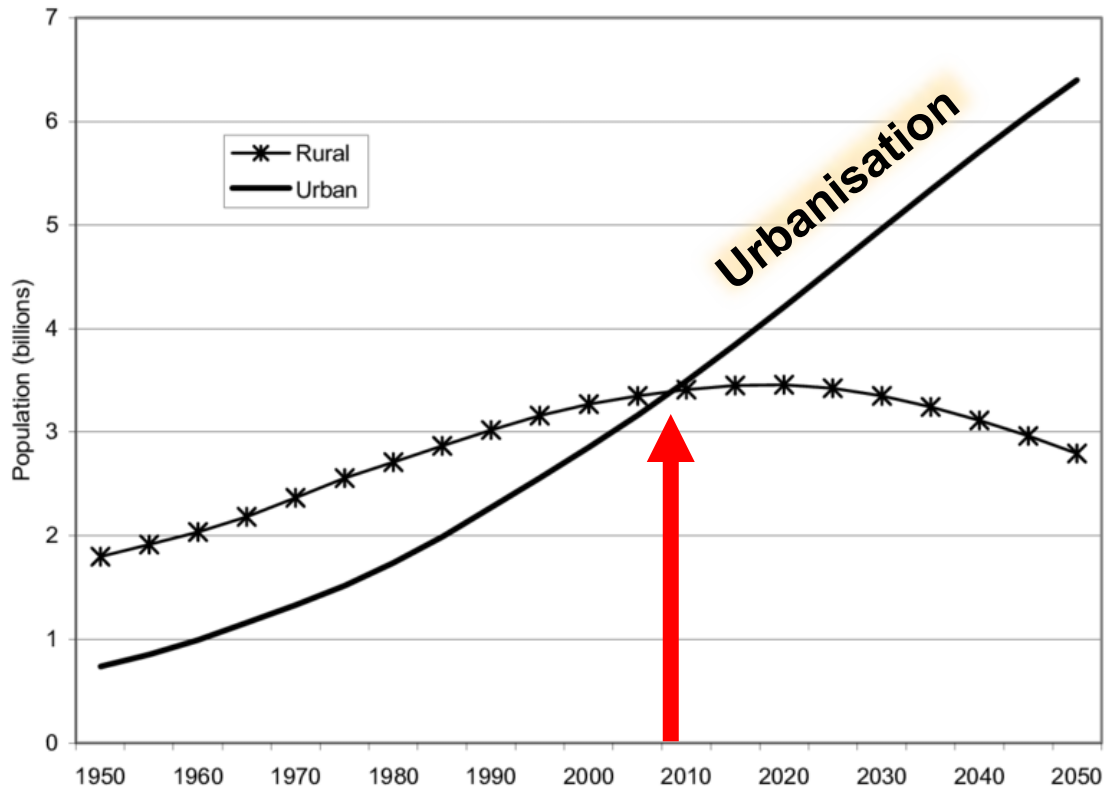
We're not in Kansas anymore



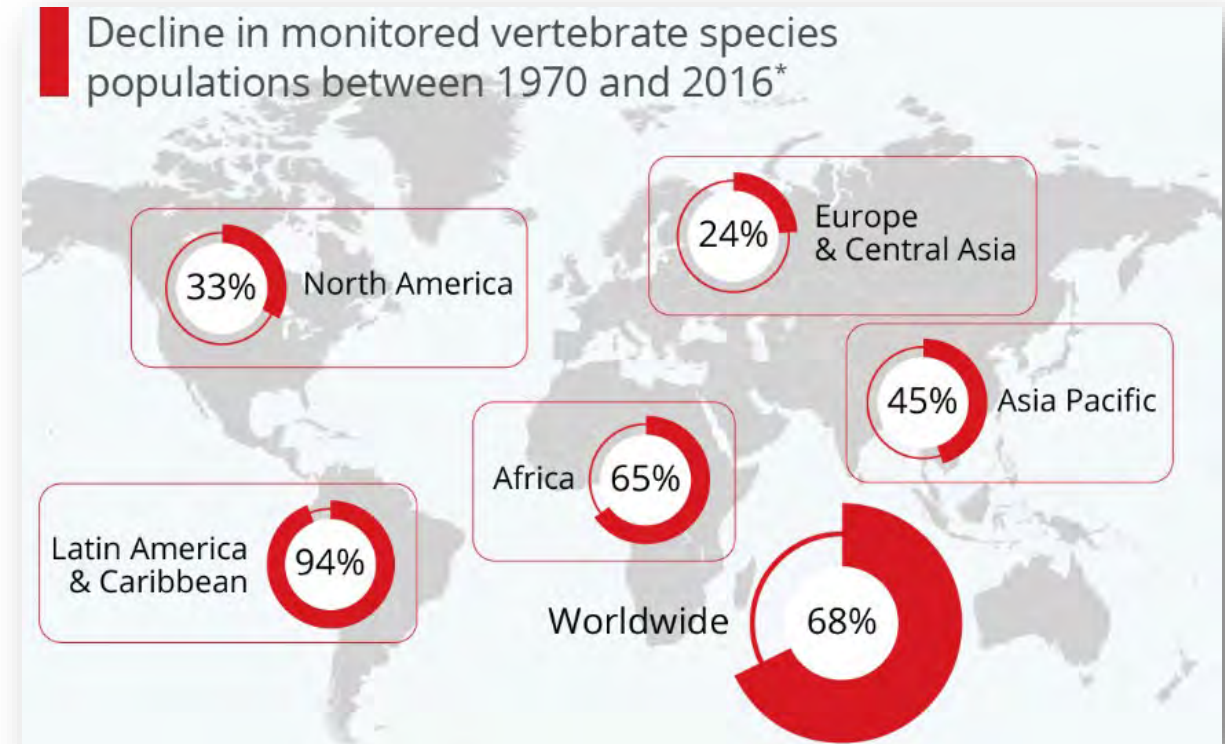
Photo: Andrew Turbill / DPE



Declining contact with nature



Shetty, PS. (2009)



<https://www.statista.com/chart/22845/decline-in-monitored-vertebrate-species-populations/>

Business-as-usual: a failed model



2017

BioScience



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World Scientists' Warning to Humanity: A Second Notice FREE

William J. Ripple, Christopher Wolf, Thomas M. Newsome, Mauro Galetti, Mohammed Alamgir, Eileen Crist, Mahmoud I. Mahmoud, William F. Laurance, 15,364 scientist signatories from 184 countries

BioScience, Volume 67, Issue 12, 1 December 2017, Pages 1026–1028,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/bix125>



1992

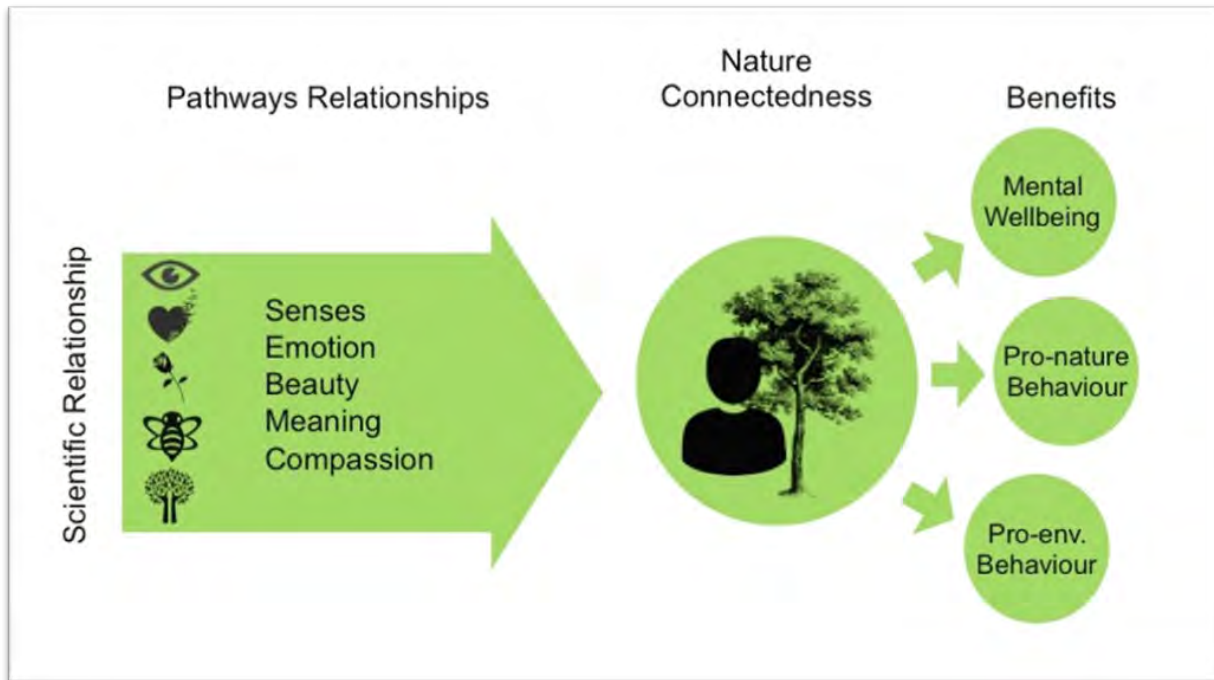
A person with dark, curly hair is sitting on the forest floor, viewed from the back. They are wearing a light-colored t-shirt with the text 'MAXBO THE GRANGE ASSOCIATION' printed on the back. They are also wearing purple pants and black shoes. The forest floor is covered in dry leaves and twigs. The background is a dense forest with many thin trees and green foliage.

“(i). increasing outdoor nature education for children, as well as the overall engagement of society in the appreciation of nature”

The true value of nature-based experiences



Human health and wellbeing benefits of nature connectedness:



Source: Richardson et al 2020

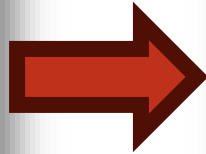
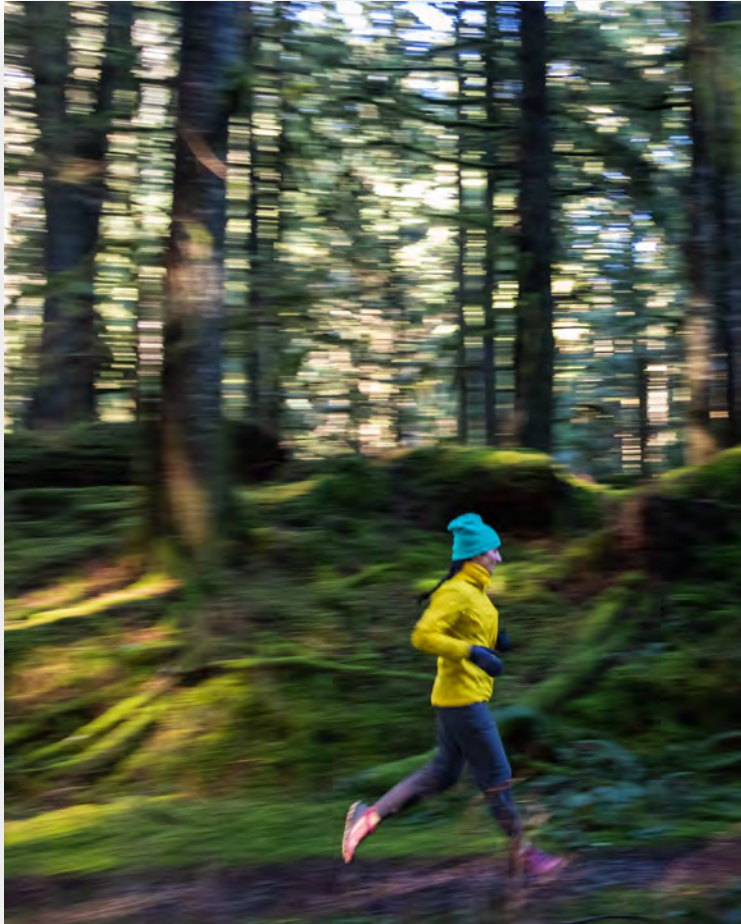
- **17%** - improved mental health
- **11%** - improved productivity
- **\$2.1 trillion** - estimated global worth
- **1:200** - ratio of financial return
- **\$** - larger than current global tourism industry

Source: Buckley & Chauvenet, 2022

Increasing Connectedness is Key



Photo by Greg Rosenke on UnSplash



Dorrigo National Park a new approach



Photo: Jay Black/DPE



Photo: Jay Black/DPE



Photo: Andrew Turbill/DPE



We want our visitors to:

- Slow down
- Pay attention
- Engage their senses
- See more
- Hear more
- Smell more
- Stay longer

Is it working?



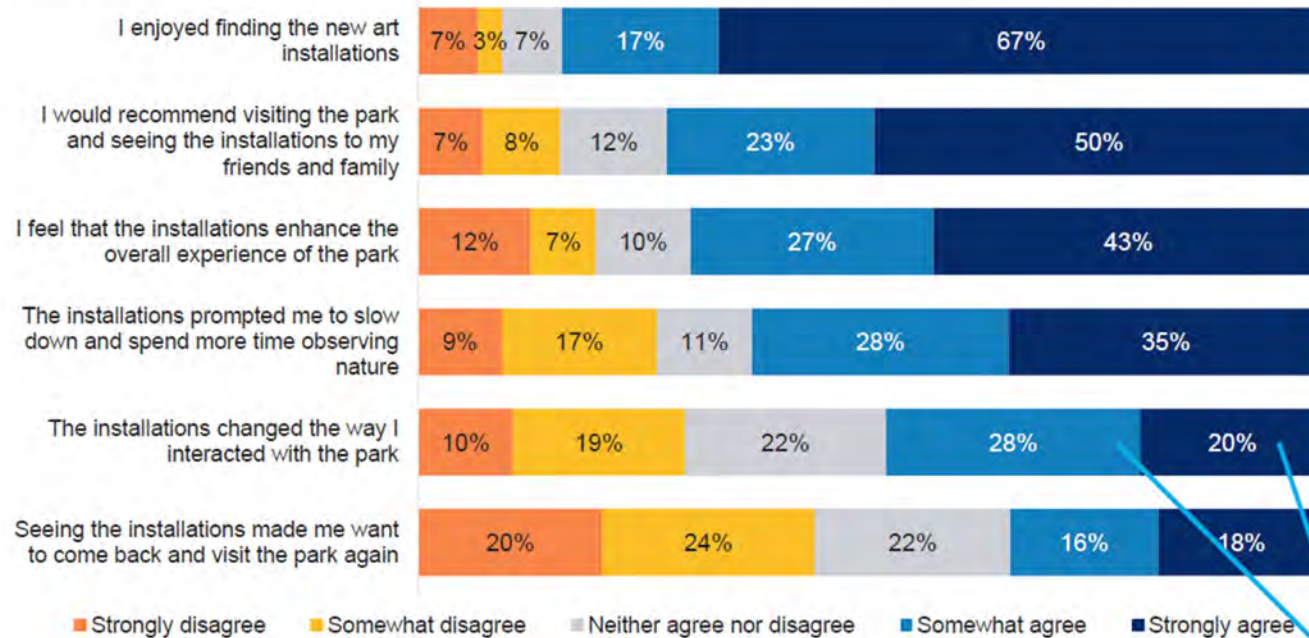
Perceptions of the art installations (exit survey)

Most visitors enjoyed finding the installations and would recommend the experience to others.



94% saw at least some of the new art installations

Please tell us the extent to which you agree with the following statements - installations



	Total Agree	Total Disagree
I enjoyed finding the new art installations	84%	9%
I would recommend visiting the park and seeing the installations to my friends and family	73%	16%
I feel that the installations enhance the overall experience of the park	70%	20%
The installations prompted me to slow down and spend more time observing nature	63%	26%
The installations changed the way I interacted with the park	48%	29%
Seeing the installations made me want to come back and visit the park again	35%	44%

- How so?**
- Unexpected / caught me off guard (65%)
 - Had fun finding them (61%)
 - Beautiful (54%)
 - Helped me pay more attention to other things in the rainforest (50%)
 - Innovative (42%)





andrew.turbill@environment.nsw.gov.au