# [***Biodiversity loss poses $27b threat to economy***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:644P-HB51-DY8X-635G-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

ASX300 companies will be under pressure to begin quantifying how they will address ***biodiversity*** ***loss*** amid reports the national economy faces a near $30 billion wipe-out within 30 years if the problem is not addressed.

The Australian Council of Superannuation Investors has for the first time quantified the extent of systemic and physical risks to Australian businesses and investors from ***biodiversity*** ***loss***, with agriculture, forestry and aquaculture among those expected to be worst affected.

It expects ***biodiversity*** ***loss***, and the ability to quantify companies' impact on natural resources such as species, land and water, to grow in importance, with Europe leading the way.

Companies are also likely to be hit by ***biodiversity*** ***loss*** through a lack of raw materials to make products, with estimates of a $27b hit to Australia's economy by 2050 without abatement in ***biodiversity*** impacts.

The ACSI - which represents 34 top Australian super funds, with more than $1 trillion under management - said ***biodiversity*** ***loss*** needed to be treated by investors and companies as a separate issue to carbon emissions and climate change action.

"We would expect companies that have significant exposure to ***biodiversity***, whether impact by them or on them, already to be thinking about these issues and developing strategies," ACSI chief executive Louise Davidson said.

Ms Davidson expected companies with global reach, particularly with significant operations in Europe, to lead the ***biodiversity*** disclosures in Australia.

She urged companies and investors to begin research and background work on the issue to ensure they were ready for reporting requirements "in due course".

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