

Lorraine Vass

Koala Strategy Submissions
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed NSW whole-of-government koala strategy and the Draft Saving Our Species Iconic Koala Project.

I have been actively involved in koala conservation for 17 years through Friends of the Koala, the peak koala conservation organisation in the Northern Rivers region. Indeed koala conservation has and continues to be my personal U3A.

I welcome the NSW Government's initiative to request the Chief Scientist & Engineer to review the decline of koala populations across the state and to develop a whole-of-government strategy to stabilise and then increase koala numbers in key areas.

While there is much merit in her recommendations they fall far short of preventing the destruction of koala habitat which is the over-arching cause of declining numbers.

Many of us in the Northern Rivers are fortunate to share our lives with wild koalas. It is a privilege that carries responsibilities to do everything we can to safeguard these precious wild animals for future generations.

We look to the NSW government to demonstrate bold, fearless leadership in making this happen.

Having spent many, many hours putting together Friends of the Koala's response to the koala strategy proposal and the draft Saving Our Species Iconic Koala Project, my personal submission is endorsement of the points made in the submission I have forwarded on behalf of Friends of the Koala.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Vass
3 March 2017