

Dear Minister Upton and Office of Environment and Heritage,

I am calling on you to ensure koalas are protected into the future, so that the world's favourite animal is not lost from NSW.

The key to the survival of any species is protection of its habitat. I urge you to implement stronger measures to save koala habitat, including ending native forest logging on public land, improving protection of koala habitat in private native forestry, ensuring urban development does not wipe out koala habitat and reversing the recent changes to our land-clearing protections.

Under the government's new land-clearing laws, WWF estimates we could see 2 million ha of koala habitat lost via the 'Equity Code'. The \$10 million earmarked to purchase koala habitat as part of your strategy will buy only 6,000ha of land on 2015 prices. Ten farmers applying the Equity Code could clear this in a single year.

I urge you to take meaningful action to save this beloved, iconic species.

Sincerely,

John Marsh

Good Afternoon Steve,

I don't know if it's too late to suggest as part of the Koala Strategy Plan that OEHL lobby the State and Federal Governments to reduce our CO2 emissions and abandon the so called "Clean Coal" initiative.

The reasoning behind this suggestion is that there is a direct link between the CO2 levels in the atmosphere and the toxin levels in Eucalyptus leaves. Every time CO2 levels increase, so too do the toxin levels. Research estimates that if we continue with our current rate of emissions then in approximately 30 - 50 years, maximum, all Eucalyptus will be unpalatable to Koalas.

Sorry to send this directly to you but I could not access the OEHL site.

Regards,

John Marsh