

Minister Upton and Office of Environment and Heritage,

You and your department are supposed to be the protectors of our wildlife and lands. Unfortunately you have become the problem!

The people of this state who value the land and all its inhabitants have to constantly battle against the government.

WAKE UP to yourselves and protect our natural assets. It is what we are PAYING you to do!

I CONCUR with all that follows.

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,

David Palmer 