

The Hon Minister Upton  
Minister for the Environment and Heritage NSW

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.

Clearing and logging are the scourges of Australia. Why is this rampant, unsustainable decimation of our forests happening at all? The very short term gain of these practices and selling us all short. We need to admit that Australia in many areas is not viable for farming, and that we do not need to sell off native forest for toilet paper. We need these forested areas to keep Australia cooler, to help keep soil in place and our native animals alive. Look to more tourism, agriculture that works with our environment and better use and rehabilitation of the lands already cleared.

I despair of what the corporate world is doing to our home....and they do it with your support. Things have to change.

- The key to the survival of any species is protection of its habitat. I urge you to: implement stronger measures to save critical koala habitat in NSW including: ending logging of native forest on public land;
- improving protection of koala habitat in private native forestry operations;
- ensure urban development and infrastructure does not wipe out koala habitat, and
- reverse the recent changes that have eroded our land-clearing protections.
- and to recognise and support the koala rehabilitation groups and the veterinarians who work with them to deal with the everyday consequences of these poor policies on koalas.

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

Sincerely,

Lyndsey Hatchwell