



Southern Koala Strategy

3-Mar-17



eNature.Net News

Everybody knows ... we need **Great Koala National Parks** on the North Coast. Southern Koala? A lone koala made *Sydney Morning Herald* headlines 6-Dec-16 as the first local sighting in decades, crossing the road in Kosciusko National Park.

Less than 100 koala may survive in NSW South Coast Forests. *Whose Koalas are even more vulnerable?*

Emailed to Koala.Strategy@Environment.NSW.gov.au 3-Mar-17

Koala is Australia's, New South Wales' & South East NSW' most Iconic Threatened Species!

'Alps-to-Sea' can connect NSW South Coast Forest koalas through Gippsland to the [Australian Alps](#). 'Jobs eco-tourism boom' is already a headline for the [Wilderness Coast](#) linking NSW to Gippsland.

Unfortunately, the *Australian Government* has still not released their *over-arching* and overdue '**National Koala Recovery Plan**' for NSW & ACT, after listing Koala as a '**Vulnerable TS**' in 2012. Therefore, '*whole-of-government*' NSW *Southern Koala Strategy* submissions cannot yet be finalised.

Meanwhile, the *NSW Government* has released a valuable flurry of related community consultation:

🌀 **NSW Dept. of Planning & Environment** [update feedback by 31-Mar-17](#). New Ministers Feb 2017

- a. [Climate Change Fund Strategic Plans](#) include [Enhanced Bushfire Management Projects](#)
- b. [State Environmental Planning Policy for Koala \(SEPP44\)](#) also sought feedback 3-Mar-17. Councils must be asked to prepare [Koala Plans](#) (also refer Nature.Net 2013 submission).

🌀 Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH)

- c. [NSW Koala Strategy](#) is an ongoing development responsibility of NSW Chief Scientist's committee. Koala Forums were attended in Bega (18-Feb-17) and Cooma (19-Feb-17).
 - **Southern Koala Strategy** is evolving as one '**Wildlife**' component for the South Coast
 - Submission 3-Mar-17 also referenced the '[Saving Our Species Iconic Koala Project](#)'
- d. '[AdaptNSW](#)' [addresses Climate Change](#), including a [South East 'Vulnerability Assessment'](#)
- e. **Wildlife 'hollows synergy' with 100-Year SOS & 100-Year Forest Carbon Credit plans**

🌀 Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

- RFA Reviews & new draft Coastal IFOAs (Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals)

🌀 National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS)

'Murrah Koala Forest' PoM (first draft being worked on – due for completion by March 2018)

Acknowledgement: Our '**Double Biamanga**' (2xB) 'case study' celebrates legal-rights earned by Aboriginal Owners' negotiation, and 2017 Review, of their 2006 [Biamanga National Park Lease](#) and 2014 '[Yuin Parks](#)' [Plan of Management](#). Key Aboriginal leadership today includes Daniel Morgan & Cathy Thomas (young Deputy Chairs of Biamanga & Gulaga NP Boards). Conservation board colleagues, late mates and mentors Dane Wimbush (1934-2015) & John Hibberd (1945-2012) left their mark in the [PoM document](#), knowledge shared with Aboriginal board members, & [Saving Murrah!](#)



Coastline of Mimosa Rocks National Park
Iconic photo by Richard Green (1940-2015)

Murrah Forest, neighboring Biamanga NP (top centre), lies between the Bega River (far left) and Bermagui River (far right, below Gulaga).