

**Submission  
No 45**

**INQUIRY INTO KOALA POPULATIONS AND HABITAT IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Ms Rachel Sussman

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Dear Committee Members

I am writing this not as an 'expert' on Koala but simply as a concerned citizen.

Koalas , like certain other animals, are a gift that only Australia was blessed with and like all gifts they are there for our joy to share with the world and our responsibility to cherish and protect.

And yet, day after day I read about cutting down trees to create more residential estates or roads or whatever else we come to desire for our comfort and convenience; I read about koalas run over and left to die by the side of the road; I read about koalas suffering disease due to lack of appropriate natural nutrition and I read about the decline of these beautiful beings.

And as I read all these my heart breaks and feel nothing but shame for our human selfishness and carelessness because these calamities are all due to human destruction of the bush - the koala natural habitat.

We fail to take our precious neighbours into account and protect their home while build ours; we fail to offer and create timely alternatives and safe relocations prior to destruction for our own purpose. And this is not good enough.

The establishment of a Committee is well overdue and we are running out of time to save our precious koalas and to rebuild the population.

On behalf of many simple citizens of NSW and indeed Australia I am therefore asking- please save our koala, protect them and rebuild their home.

Thank you