

Submission
No 94

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 28 July 2019

Partially
Confidential

Dear Committee

Please find below my brief submission to this Inquiry.

I am certainly no expert in koala conservation but wish to note the importance of this iconic animal to Australia. Not only is it a vital part of our biodiversity but a key tourism symbol.

I understand that the clearing of habitat as well as disease have decimated koala populations. I believe that they could be extinct as soon as 2050. I would never have imagined that an animal so emblematic of Australia could become extinct - let alone in my lifetime.

As a child my family hiked often through the Warrumbungles and the excitement on spotting a koala in the wild was wonderful. I would hope that the Government takes every step possible to ensure that future generations have this opportunity and that koala habitat and populations are repaired and preserved.

Sincerely