

**Submission  
No 106**

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

**Name:** Mr Jeremy Houghton

**Date Received:** 29 July 2019

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I think it is shameful that Australia is one of the global hot spots for deforestation. Our country also boasts the largest number of mammal extinctions of anywhere in the world. The recent decision to remap and reclassify old growth forests and open them up to logging is reprehensible, given the scarce amount of these trees and the vital habitat they provide. We are going through the worst drought of this generation, deforestation exacerbates this issue and the effects climate change. Our remaining forests need to be protected not disecrated, if we can't do it for the koalas, Australia's most famous icon, I doubt any other species will save them.