INQUIRY INTO KOALA POPULATIONS AND HABITAT IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 July 2019

Partially Confidential

Dear Committee,

I have lived on the Mid North Coast on and off for over 35 years. I have seen what has happened with logging over this period of time. Beautiful trees disappearing in huge numbers is a very worrying thing to see in light of climate change.

I am most concerned however about the fauna of our area. I have seen with my own eyes their habitat being reduced and them being pushed out by housing, farming and forestry. I have seen the rezoning and remapping happening and it sends a chill down my spine. Where will they go? Where do you expect them to live? When will you be satisfied?

With the climate changing so rapidly, they will become fewer and fewer. It is so very difficult to see a Koala in the wild and when visitors have come to this area they are told to go to the Koala Hospital in Port Macquarie to see one. That is appalling.

The only place you can see them is when they have lost limbs from dog attacks or car injuries or are starving.

You cannot allow this to continue. It is breaking my heart to see this happening in my lifetime. I beg you to please do the right thing.

Please listen to those who live in the area. They know. You don't need science to tell you the flora and fauna are in dire straits and you must realise we need these trees for survival as well? It is a huge difference between an old growth tree and a sapling. You cannot get the same benefit from the sapling.

Please consider what I have said. Please give them this chance to survive. We only have one shot..

Yours sincerely