



The Hon. James Griffin MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage

MD21/7912

Ms Helen Minnican
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Minnican *Helen,*

Thank you for your email about an ePetition with more than 20,000 signatures requesting that the NSW Government purchase land containing koala habitat in Port Macquarie.

I am delighted that on 17 December 2021, the former Minister announced the purchase of the property at 147 The Ruins Way near Port Macquarie for addition to the Lakes Innes Nature Reserve to be managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). This purchase will protect core koala habitat in the Port Macquarie region which will help us reach the NSW Government's target of doubling the koala population by 2050.

The purchase is funded as a joint initiative and only possible through the generous contribution of \$3.5 million from Koala Conservation Australia (KCA) as well as from the NSW Government's landmark \$193 million dollar investment in koala conservation.

Further information about the Government's action to protect koalas in NSW is available at: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/programs-legislation-and-framework/nsw-koala-strategy.

Further information about NPWS' acquisition program is available at: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/establishing-new-parks-and-protected-areas/acquiring-land-for-new-parks.

Thank you for taking the time to bring this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. James Griffin MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage