



Australian
Koala
Foundation

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IUCN Koala Listing Outdated and Inaccurate

CEO of the Australian Koala Foundation Deborah Tabart OAM has today said the IUCN Red List of threatened animal species excludes the koala because of inaccurate data and the Government entities behind it.

Despite evidence of 25 000 dead koalas in the past ten years and the species being listed as vulnerable in southeast Queensland in 2003, the IUCN describes it as 'common' and with an 'unknown population trend' in the region.

According to Ms Tabart, the IUCN's list is completely out of date.

"They have got their facts all wrong and if they used independent data rather than tainted Government information, they would see this plain and clear," Ms Tabart said.

"It's no wonder when the IUCN calls on pro Government scientists to review the status of the koala, including one scientist who constantly calls for them to be culled.

"I am absolutely shocked that this current review is so poorly done. if this shoddy science found that Australia got an "F" with 788 species under threat not including the koala, how many other animals have been left off the list?

"Did they do their research well enough? I'm flabbergasted that the IUCN could be so out of touch, the documents on their website are just re-hashed, historical Government data," Ms Tabart said. You would think they would look at \$8m worth of scientific research funded by our organization, but clearly they didn't.

Ms Tabart will be in Canberra this Thursday as the only non-government entity to attend the National Koala Steering Committee review where she is calling on the Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett to list the koala as vulnerable under the national EPBC Act.

To find out ways to help the Australian Koala Foundation save our koalas, visit the website at www.savethekoala.com.

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media release