



**Australian
Koala
Foundation**

ACN 010 922 102

Actions speak louder than words: Government called on to do more than selectively upgrade the status of Koalas from ‘Vulnerable’ to ‘Endangered’

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The Federal Government has now closed public submissions in response to upgrading the status of the Koala from ‘Vulnerable’ to ‘Endangered’ in New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT. The Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) as today released its response to the call – stating the proposed change is far too limited and not backed by the action needed to save the Koala Australia-wide.

AKF has written to Minister for the Environment, the Hon Sussan Ley MP, noting that the Koala is in danger far beyond New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT alone. Unless the Koala is also listed in Victoria and South Australia, all Australian Koalas are not going to be protected as the public would wish them to be.

Chair of the Australian Koala Foundation, Deborah Tabart OAM, said the Federal Government has everything it needs to upgrade anything, but what is not happening is protection of Koala habitat.

“Australian Koala Foundation has endlessly sent documents, maps and science to show the Federal Government that the Koala is in serious trouble. Not to mention, the millions of other species that reside in the Koala forests of Australia,” Deborah said.

“The Government is asking us whether they should change a word, we are asking them a far more important question - whether or not a change in status from ‘Vulnerable’ to ‘Endangered’ will result in any new action to save the Koala?”

AKF is calling for the implementation of the Koala Protection Act, noting that any legislation that purports to protect the Koala has to be proactive in protecting Koala habitat.

“There is not a person on this planet that does not know the Koala is under threat. A change in status across the board should be a no-brainer, but without subsequent action to stop land clearing, this is nothing more than tokenistic rhetoric.” Deborah said.

To find out more about the Koala Protection Act and AKF’s solutions to save the Koala Australia-wide visit savethekoala.com

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