



Hunter Koala Preservation Society Inc.

P.O. Box 15, Tanilba Bay, NSW 2319

Phone/Fax 02 4984 5168

Email: hkps@tpg.com.au

Web Page: www.hunterkoala.com

NPWS Licence No 10064

ABN 49948477953



Mr Geoff Hudson

Senior Policy Officer – Natural Resource Management
Local Government and Shire's Association of N.S.W.

Email: geoff.hudson@lgsa.org.au

Telephone 9242 4095

31st January, 2011

*Not turned down above
not know of this address*

*Committee Secretary,
Senate Standing Committee
on Environment & Communications
P.O. Box 6100,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT
2600.*

AUSTRALIAN KOALA POPULATION.

The regional conservation Status of the koala varies from secure in some states to vulnerable in other states and even extinct in some areas which had koala colonies, due to land clearing and urban expansion. Koala habitat is poorly protected in all areas, thus koala numbers are declining rapidly over the last 10 – 20 years, with more human population competing for the remaining habitat.

Suggestion:

Huge habitat areas must be set aside and zoned environmental protection with sufficient funding from Federal & State Departments to maintain and enrich it. There should be financial incentives to private landowners of Koala habitat. Sufficient State funding provided to Councils to employ officers to enforce the problem of roaming dogs and tree preservation.

Hunter Koala Preservation Society Inc. and Native Animal Trust data base figures show serious decline in Port Stephens Council Koalas population. The Tilligerry Peninsula 1995-2011 studies also showed a decrease. 1994 Post fire studies showed a koala utilised 200 good trees. These figures will be included in a hard copy of this letter.

Port Stephens Koala habitat has been severely depleted over the last 40 years by sand mining and sand extraction. Urban development with metal fences cutting off Koala corridors and trees. Retro Virus is prevalent in Port Stephens. Dr Rod Starr took 33 named blood samples to Queensland University – all tests showed positive to Retro virus. Chlamydia infection has a major impact threat to local Koala population. This appears due to stress, loss of habitat – “No tree, no me”!

National Koala Conservation and Management Strategy stated importance of community participation and education, while hundreds of trained Volunteer Koala rehabilitators and carers were not taken into consideration or represented on the Steering Committee. For the revised document to be of any use it should be given a regulatory status by means of legislation, such as the listing of the Koala as “Endangered” at a National level, thus bringing it to the ‘Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act’.

More Councils with Koala populations should have a Koala Plan of Management in place, so that they are covered by legislation. State environmental Planning Policy SEPP44 does not include lists of trees from different regions – Koala's have taste preference for each area.

Personal Comment:

Thirty years of living in Koala habitat, looking after hundreds of sick and injured and orphaned Koalas since 8th January 1994 plus having trained for two years previously, I fear for the survival of Koala Population and Colonies, unless the Senate inquiry into Australia's Koala Population produces positive outcomes with Legislation to enforce them and money provided to achieve them. Not just research.

Yours sincerely

Jill Taylor – President, Hunter Koala Preservation Society Inc.

Hunter Koala Preservation Society
Statistics for 2010 as at 31/12/2010

	Disease	Dog	Fire	Vehicle	Unsuitable Environment	Other	Total
TOMAREE							
Rescues	13	4		16	25	5	63
Released	7	1		6	25	1	40
Deaths	6	3		10		4	23
TILLIGERRY							
Rescues	3			5		2	10
Released	3			2		1	6
Deaths	0			3		1	4
COMBINED							
Rescues	16	4	0	21	25	7	73
Released	10	1	0	8	25	2	46
Deaths	6	3	0	13	0	5	27
Note: Tomaree data commenced 17/4/2010							

Tilligerry Peninsula Deaths

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
1995	13		4		5		4
1996	13	1	3		3	1	5
1997	22	7	3		7		5
1998	18	5	2		8		3
1999	14	2	4		7		1
2000	27	7	4	1	9		6
2001	25	6	5		11		3
2002	27	1	8		9	1	8
2003	15	3	4		5		3
2004	25	4	5		12	1	3
2005	16	1			11		4
2006	17	5	2	2	4	2	2
2007	15	7	1	1	2	1	3
2008	17	2	1		9		5
2009	5	2			2		1
2010	4				3		1
2011	1	1					
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>274</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>57</i>

(a)

Tilligerry Peninsula Rescues

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
1995	26	5	5		10		6
1996	38	15	7		7	1	8
1997	40	19	4		10		7
1998	39	9	5		10	3	12
1999	38	9	8		10	4	7
2000	46	11	5	2	9	5	14
2001	38	11	5		16	3	3
2002	48	13	11		9	3	12
2003	25	9	7		5		4
2004	35	12	5		12	3	3
2005	32	6	1		14	4	7
2006	37	14	2	2	9	8	2
2007	35	12	2	4	4	6	7
2008	24	5	1		10	2	6
2009	19	6	1		2	5	5
2010	10	3			5		2
2011	1	1					
TOTAL	531	160	69	6	142	47	105

Tilligerry Peninsula Releases

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
1995	14	5	1		5		3
1996	25	14	4		4		3
1997	18	12	1		3		2
1998	21	4	3		2	3	9
1999	24	7	4		3	4	6
2000	18	4	1	1		5	7
2001	13	5			5	3	
2002	21	12	3			2	4
2003	10	6	3				1
2004	10	8				2	
2005	16	5	1		3	4	3
2006	17	9			2	6	
2007	19	5	1	2	2	5	4
2008	7	3			1	2	1
2009	14	4	1			5	4
2010	6	3			2		1
TOTAL	253	106	23	3	32	41	48

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Hunter Koala Preservation Society
Koalas Rescued On Tomaree Peninsula

By Location for Calendar Year

Year	Total	Anna Bay	Boat Harbour	Bob's Farm	Fingal Bay	Nelson Bay	One Mile	Salamander Bay	Shoal Bay	Soldier's Pt	Taylor's Beach
2010	83	15	4	2	1	7	10	12	3	6	3
2011	2	1						1			
Total	65	16	4	2	1	7	10	13	3	6	3

Note: Records commenced 17/4/2010

Friday, 14 January 2011

Page 1 of 1

Tomaree Peninsula Releases

[Records started 17/4/2010]

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
2010	40	7	1		6	25	1
2011	2					2	
<i>TOTAL</i>	42	7			6	27	1

Tomaree Peninsula Deaths

[Records started 17/4/2010]

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
2010	23	6	3		10		4
<i>TOTAL</i>	23	6	3		10		4

Note: Records Commenced on 17/4/2010

Friday, 14 January 2011

Page 1 of 1

(2)

Tomaree Peninsula Rescues

[Records started 17/4/2010]

Hunter Koala Preservation Society

For Calendar Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Dog</i>	<i>Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Unsuitable Environment</i>	<i>Other</i>
2010	63	13	4		16	25	5
2011	2					2	
<i>TOTAL</i>	65	13	4		16	27	5