

**From:** [Karina Waterman](#)  
**To:** [vminquiry](#)  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION in support of new Vegetation Management Laws.  
**Date:** Wednesday, 27 April 2016 4:53:17 PM

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Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000  
[vminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:vminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I write as a concerned resident of East Coomera of the past 7 years.

Koalas are listed as vulnerable in Queensland, and Coomera is considered a key koala habitat area.

Existing conservation measures in the area are already failing our local wildlife. Sadly we are seeing increasing numbers of koalas that are malnourished, displaced, diseased, or dead. We frequently see koalas deceased on the side of the road, gasping to drink water out of chlorinated swimming pools, or stranded in the midst of cleared areas of land.

Whole swathes of land are being cleared at phenomenal speed, resulting in koala (and other wildlife) habitat rapidly disappearing. Animals are being driven into increasingly smaller, isolated pockets that are simply not large enough to sustain healthy populations. In some cases these pockets are no more than a few trees.

Existing legislation is failing us, it is failing to protect the biodiversity of our area and is failing to protect the koala. In the past 20 years we have seen a two thirds decrease in South East Queensland koalas. What will the next 10 years bring if we don't act now?

When it is gone, it is gone.

Kind regards,

Karina Waterman

Yours sincerely,  
Karina Waterman  
Queensland 4209, Australia

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