

# NSW Wildlife Council Inc.

*'Achieving optimal outcomes for Australian Wildlife'*



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## **NSW Wildlife Council condemns logging of koala habitat**

Voluntary wildlife rehabilitators across the State are appalled at the Government's wanton disregard for the habitat of the last known koala population on the Far South Coast of NSW.

NSW Wildlife Council Chair, Audrey Koosmen had this to say, "Once again, biodiversity and the environment come second best to woodchipping. It is unbelievable that Premier Keneally has allowed logging to go ahead in Mumbulla State Forest."

Mrs Koosmen has been fighting for the koala for the past 35 years and has been a rescuer and rehabilitator for some 30 years. She heads the coordination of search and rescue when there are disasters such as bushfires or floods. "This very avoidable, manmade disaster is very distressing", Mrs Koosmen added.

"The NSW Wildlife Council applauds the efforts of koala campaigners and other conservationists who have worked so hard over years to locate and protect the koala population. It is ironic they are now faced with throwing their weight behind stopping this catastrophe" said Mrs Koosmen.

"The Council want these champions for the iconic and endangered koalas to know there are at least 4,500 wildlife rehabilitators and many thousands more people across NSW who support them and find the destruction of this very koala habitat outrageous", said Ms Koosmen.

"On behalf NSW Wildlife Council and the wildlife groups of NSW, I call on Premier Keneally to step in to ensure commonsense prevails and to prevent any further damage to the Murrumbidgee, Mumbulla and Tanja forests".

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