**Hunter Koala Preservation Society Inc.**
**P.O. Box 15, Tanilba Bay, NSW 2319, Australia**
Phone/Fax 02 4984 5168
Email: hkps@tpg.com.au
Web Page: www.hunterkoala.com
NPWS Licence No 10064 ABN 49948477953

Senate Standing C'tee on Environment & Communications
2011

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

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

Returned from above
not know at this address

31st January, 2011

**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*

| Year | TOTAL | Disease | Dog | Fire | Vehicle | Unsuitable Environment | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 | | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | **274** | **54** | **46** | **4** | **107** | **5** | **57** |

(a)

# Tilligerry Peninsula Rescues

## Hunter Koala Preservation Society

*For Calendar Year*

| Year | TOTAL | Disease | Dog | Fire | Vehicle | Unsuitable Environment | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 | 8 | 142 | 47 | 105 |

# Tilligerry Peninsula Releases

## Hunter Koala Preservation Society

*For Calendar Year*

| Year | TOTAL | Disease | Dog | Fire | Vehicle | Unsuitable Environment | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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** |

# 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 | 63 | 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*

# *Tomaree Peninsula Releases*

*[ Records started 17/4/2010 ]*

## *Hunter Koala Preservation Society*

*For Calendar Year*

| *Year* | *TOTAL* | *Disease* | *Dog* | *Fire* | *Vehicle* | *Unsuitable Environment* | *Other* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2010 | 40 | 7 | 1 | | 6 | 25 | 1 |
| 2011 | 2 | | | | | 2 | |
| ***TOTAL*** | **42** | **7** | | | **6** | **27** | **1** |

# *Tomaree Peninsula Deaths*

*[ Records started 17/4/2010]*

## *Hunter Koala Preservation Society*

*For Calendar Year*

| *Year* | *TOTAL* | *Disease* | *Dog* | *Fire* | *Vehicle* | *Unsuitable Environment* | *Other* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2010 | 23 | 6 | 3 | | 10 | | 4 |
| ***TOTAL*** | **23** | **6** | **3** | | **10** | | **4** |

***Note: Records Commenced on 17/4/2010***

# *Tomaree Peninsula Rescues*

***[ Records started 17/4/2010 ]***

## *Hunter Koala Preservation Society*

***For Calendar Year***

| *Year* | *TOTAL* | *Disease* | *Dog* | *Fire* | *Vehicle* | *Unsuitable Environment* | *Other* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2010 | 63 | 13 | 4 | | 16 | 25 | 5 |
| 2011 | 2 | | | | | 2 | |
| ***TOTAL*** | **65** | **13** | **4** | | **16** | **27** | **5** |