

## Susan Thomson

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**From:** Steve Hartley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 September 2020 10:27 AM  
**To:** Elizabeth Irwin  
**Subject:** FW: Petition to Save Sydney's Last Koala Population - An Objection to the Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Looks like this is a campaign.

For recording please.

Cheers

Steve

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 September 2020 10:11 AM  
**To:** Steve Hartley <Steve.Hartley@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Petition to Save Sydney's Last Koala Population - An Objection to the Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Steve Hartley,

I object to the current Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan because:

- The Plan doesn't set aside enough habitat to properly protect a recovering population of close to 1,000 koalas, which I understand is the largest chlamydia-free koala population in NSW.
- The CPCP's proposed construction of 120 km of Koala exclusion fencing will isolate Koala colonies from each other, especially because the Plan only protects one out of six east-west movement corridors recommended in the Chief Scientist's report, "Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population." (30 April 2020).
- The Plan reclassifies 10,000 ha of rural land for urban development in an area that was designated by our Federal Government in 2012 as a priority investment area for biodiversity offsets. The offsets were required as compensation for the environmental damage of a previous growth plan for Western Sydney - the North West & South West Growth Centres.
- The Plan acknowledges that 1,000 ha of critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland or around 16% of the remaining 6,400 ha will be impacted by the proposed development, but

the Plan only commits to the protection of 5,475 hectares of native vegetation in new conservation lands. Some of this conservation land, which includes koala habitat, is either still under investigation or will not be protected until 2040. This is not good enough.

- The Plan does not consider how the Sydney region's agricultural output, (which accounts for about 20% of the City's fresh food supplies), will cope with the further loss of rural land even though the Plan mentions that "the Plan area in the Cumberland basin in Western Sydney contains some of the most fertile country in the Sydney basin." Recent research has suggested that Covid-19's impact on international and local transportation networks highlights that rural land within 150 kilometres of the city is essential for human survival. (see the CSIRO publication, "The Future of the Fringe").

- The Plan acknowledges that the urban heat island effect in Western Sydney "will increase as urbanisation increases" but proposes only minimal measures to mitigate this effect. This area regularly experiences record summer temperatures, which are set to increase due to the effects of climate change.

- The Plan does not assess adverse impacts on the scenic, historic & physical qualities of one of the most heritage-rich and picturesque rural landscapes in NSW. Once our heritage has been lost, it is gone forever, which is in effect, stealing from future generations of Australians.

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[REDACTED]

Epping, New South Wales 2121

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