

Sarah Ng

From: DPE PS ePlanning Mailbox
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 11:54 AM
To: DPE PS Biodiversity Mailbox
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

From: noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au <noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 September 2020 3:21 PM
To: DPE PS ePlanning Mailbox <ePlanning@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Webform submission from: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

Submitted on Tue, 29/09/2020 - 15:20

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type: I am making a personal submission

First Name: Vanessa

Last Name: Wright

Name Withheld: No

Email: [REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode: 2204

Submission file: [webform_submission:values:submission_file]

Submission: To the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, I object to the the Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan for the reasons below... The Plan will accelerate the dismantling of Sydney's remaining green belt and rapidly diminish the Sydney basin's ability to meet 20% of the city's fresh food needs. It will also put the thriving and still expanding South West Sydney koala population on a path to extinction and have a significant impact on eight threatened ecological communities, 25 flora species and 24 fauna species. Many of these species are unique to this precious subregion. Key Criticisms of the Plan: ● The Plan proposes massive urban development on the Cumberland Plain, a region previously designated as a "first priority" biodiversity offset area for two other major Growth Centres. ● The Plan will reclassify a total of 10,014 hectares of rural land as 'urban capable' while setting aside only 5,475 hectares of native vegetation in new conservation lands. ● The Plan acknowledges that 1,014.6 hectares of critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland or around 16% of the remaining 6,400 hectares will be impacted by the proposed development. ● The Plan provides no assessment about how the loss of so much rural land will impact the Sydney region's food bowl capacity. ● The Plan acknowledges that the urban heat island effect in Western Sydney "will increase as urbanisation increases," but proposes only minimal measures to mitigate its effect. This area regularly experiences record summer temperatures. ● The Plan fails to set aside enough land to properly protect a thriving population of 600 to 1,000 koalas, the largest chlamydia-free koala population in NSW. ● The Plan's proposed construction of 120 km of Koala exclusion fencing will isolate and fragment Koala colonies, especially because the Plan protects only one of the six east-west movement corridors recommended in the Chief Scientist Koala Report. ● The Plan acknowledges that conservation land will only be secured slowly over time. No firm commitment has been made about how much land will eventually be protected. ● The Plan does not address the significant adverse impact on the scenic, historic and physical qualities of one of the most heritage rich and picturesque rural landscapes in NSW. The Cumberland Plain is home to the largest koala population in Greater Sydney and one of the only chlamydia-free populations in NSW. This unique region also contains 100 threatened or migratory animal and plant species, 680 kilometres of waterways including three water catchment areas and 68 hectares of wetlands of national importance. Your sincerely, Vanessa Wright

URL: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/draft-cumberland-plain-conservation-plan>