



20 August 2009

## Minister fails koalas at Weyba Downs

Climate Change and Environment Minister Kate Jones has been urged to step in and save important koala habitat south of Noosa following the failure of her Cabinet colleague Stephen Robertson.

LNP Climate Change and Sustainability spokesman Glen Elmes said he'd become very frustrated in attempting to get Natural Resources Minister Stephen Robertson to take the matter of the destruction of koala habitat at Weyba Downs seriously.

"I've tried, unsuccessfully, on at least fifteen occasions to get Minister Robertson and his Department to step in and stop the on-going destruction of trees land at Monak Road, Weyba Downs," Mr Elmes said.

"Even though the land has been identified as some the area's last koala habitat it's again being cleared.

"I'm now calling on Minister Kate Jones to act to stop serious environmental damage."

Mr Elmes said the Bligh Government was big on crowing about its approach to climate change, but when it came to actually doing something to save koala habitat, Cabinet Ministers weren't interested.

"This is a real test for the Bligh Government and a real test for Minister Kate Jones to stand up and protect some of the last areas of koala habitat south of Noosa."

Mr Elmes said clearing had been going on at the site for at least 18 months following council's rejection of a development application that would have seen roundly 155 hectares cleared for 1200 homes.

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