



Glen Elmes MP

LNP Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability
LNP Member for Noosa

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Koala numbers drop by almost 15 per cent

Figures released in the 2009 RSPCA koala count confirm the Bligh Labor Government has done nothing to halt the rapid decline of koalas in South East Queensland.

LNP spokesman for Climate Change and Sustainability Glen Elmes said only 106 koalas were spotted [across South East Queensland](#) in 2009, almost 15 per cent less than the number of koalas spotted in 2007.

“What is particularly concerning about this count is that there were more spotters out looking for koalas in 2009 than in 2007 – but they found less koalas.

“It shows that despite multiple promises from the Bligh Labor Government to introduce new planning regulations that would protect koalas, these numbers continue to decrease.

“We have seen a 64 per cent decrease in the South East Queensland koala population in the past 10 years.

“Since Koalas were declared a species vulnerable to extinction the Labor Government has failed at everything except telling Queenslanders how many koalas have died.

“In 2007 Labor promised not to sell government land supporting koala habitat – they have broken that promise.

“It is clear that all the talk and planning has achieved nothing more than ensuring South East Queensland’s koala population ends up in the history books.

“Rather than embarking on a jet set junket to Copenhagen for another planning talk-fest, the Minister should finally act to solve a very real problem in her own backyard.”

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