

Meet young **Sapphire** born at Potoroo Palace (near Merrimbula).



Pin up girl, Sapphire says:

" Who are you? Are you here to steal my food?"

Ginger, 9, and Sunday, 6, wrote this caption together.

Sapphire is one of the last Southern Koalas and we are asking governments to stop logging her south coast NSW habitat.

Sapphire is special; she has long hair and is the largest koala genotype.

Once Southern Koalas spread from the Queensland border to South Australia; now they are only found in the NSW State Forests between Gulaga and Biamanga National Park. (Another small group is in the Strzeleckis, Gippsland. As koalas are not protected in Victoria, no one knows how many remain.)

Koalas in SA, NSW and Q. were recently added to the Federal Vulnerable listings under the Environment, Protection Conservation Act (EPBC). Logging in native forests is however covered by Regional Forest Agreements (RFA) which are exempt from the EPBC laws!

So despite koalas also being listed under NSW laws as Endangered, Sapphire's home range is virtually cleared-felled to supply the export woodchip market.

Koalas are territorial, they need extensive habitats and big trees on fertile soils to survive; they cannot co-exist with native forest logging for woodchips or to fuel wood-fired electricity plants.

If you want to support koalas like Sapphire and the wildlife found in these forests, let local NSW Member, Andrew Constance, Federal member for Eden Monaro, Dr. Mike Kelly and Federal Minister for the Environment, Tony Burke know how you feel and what you think.