

Friend --

After months of speculation, the Baird government has finally released draft laws that will scrap protections for our unique wildlife and bushland.

Premier Baird's plan is nothing short of a disaster and will allow big agribusiness and developers to trash wildlife habitat across NSW.

We must stop these bad Bills from becoming law. Today is the first day of public consultation on the draft Bills. Show the Government you won't sit back and let nature be bulldozed, [email Environment Minister Mark Speakman now](#).

The draft Biodiversity Conservation Bill is supposed to be the main legal protection for trees and wildlife in this state. It should help to save the koala and pygmy possum and other vulnerable species for generations to come.

Yet if the plan the government released today becomes law, it will result in the death of thousands of animals every year, and take NSW down the same dangerous path of broad-scale land clearing that recently devastated hundreds of thousands of hectares of bushland in Queensland.

The Baird Government is already on a charm offensive, trying to spin the story to say he's protecting nature. But we've known all along the government is only re-writing our land clearing laws to benefit big agribusiness and developers.

Our Environment Minister Mark Speakman will be waiting to see if he's gotten away with trashing our laws. [Show him you're watching by sending him an email today](#).

Keen to do more? Amplify your voice by calling Environment Minister Mark Speakman's office on 8574 6390 and let him know you don't support their Bills. There's more information below.

We've just released the Thunderclap that over 700 of you signed up to in the last few weeks. That means that right now over 260,000 people will be seeing the message that Premier Baird is trashing our nature laws. That's huge.

Now we have to turn awareness into action. Together, we must use our collective power to stop this bad Bill from becoming law.

[Email Environment Minister Speakman](#) now and tell him you want an Environment Minister who will Stand Up For Nature.

Together, let's fight for the future of the animals and places we love in this beautiful state.

Kate Smolski

CEO

Nature Conservation Council of NSW

MORE INFORMATION

Some of the changes the government wants to make are:

- Scrapping the Native Vegetation Act 2003 and the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995;
- Lowering the threshold for tree clearing by ditching the requirement to 'maintain or improve biodiversity'; and
- Increasing the use of flawed biodiversity offsets.

Unless Premier Baird changes course, his new law will:

- Add extinction pressures to our state's 1000 threatened animal and plant species;
- Threaten our clean, reliable water supplies;
- Turn fertile farms into wasteland through erosion and salinity;
- Put landmark trees and bushland in our towns and suburbs at risk; and
- Release millions of tonnes of carbon pollution into our atmosphere.

See also: [the Baird Government's proposals](#).

Want to support our work? We rely on the generosity of supporters like you to protect and restore nature in NSW. Become a monthly '[Voice for Nature](#)' or chip in a [one-off donation here](#).

You can also keep up with Nature Conservation Council of NSW on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).
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