

**From:** Deborah Tabart [<mailto:DTabart@savethekoala.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 4 June 2010 7:36 AM  
**To:** [carolyn@koaladiaries.com.au](mailto:carolyn@koaladiaries.com.au)  
**Cc:** Belinda James; Dave Mitchell External  
**Subject:** RE: Koaladiaries.com.au

Dear Carolyn,

On behalf of the Australian Koala Foundation, I am writing to advise that I have absolutely no idea what you are talking about.

The fact that you have written these words to me and have somehow apportioned some sort of blame and guilt is just shocking to me.

AKF has for years made it clear that we want our Australia wide Koala Habitat Atlas maps on our website and Ms. Belinda James has been employed, along with our long term staff member Mr. David Mitchell to achieve that.

The maps are currently on our website and they identify the amount of habitat and the estimated koala numbers in Australia. They are currently not interactive.

Thousands of people also contact us for sightings. I did not receive an email from you. Koala Diaries was brought to my attention by others.

If any company that we have approached for our project has tried to copy code on our behalf for our intended project, then I would encourage you to be enraged with them. I will ask Belinda to make enquiries about that and I can assure you that company will not be employed by us. ESRI have also spoken with Belinda.

A simple phone call to me would have sufficed Carolyn.

Deborah

DEBORAH TABART OAM  
Chief Executive Officer  
Australian Koala Foundation  
[www.savethekoala.com](http://www.savethekoala.com)

GPO Box 2659 Brisbane Q 4001 Australia  
Ph: (61) 7 3229 7233 Fax: (61) 7 3221 0337  
Email: [dtabart@savethekoala.com](mailto:dtabart@savethekoala.com)

**From:** Carolyn Beaton [<mailto:carolyn@koaladiaries.com.au>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 3 June 2010 9:22 PM  
**To:** Deborah Tabart  
**Subject:** Koaladiaries.com.au

Hi Deborah

This note is further to my email of 9 February when I wrote to you on behalf of Alex Harris and myself advising you of the launch of our website, [www.koaladiaries.com.au](http://www.koaladiaries.com.au). You might recall that in that email, I expressed the hope that our project would be of benefit to all stakeholders involved in koala conservation, including the Australian Koala Foundation.

From the outset we were at pains to ensure we were not duplicating the efforts of existing entities, but rather, filling a void hitherto left untouched. Further, one of our foremost ambitions was to see our "Project Location" initiative, over time, become a valuable tool for groups and individuals already involved in koala conservation efforts. For that reason we were firmly of the mind that the information we gathered should be freely available to all members, be they conservation organisations, government agencies, individuals, schools or community groups, to assist with policy making, programs and activities.

As the project has gained momentum and expanded nationally we have remained true to the spirit of transparency and collaboration.

We were heartened that representatives from AKF were visiting the site and spending time on it. That was, until last week, when it became apparent that the interest stemmed merely from a desire to copy the site, rather than participate in and support it. We have been fielding bogus requests for information and, yesterday, even had software developers attempt to copy code, right before our eyes. In all instances, our direct enquiry led us to the Australian Koala Foundation. These actions are not only disingenuous but a serious breach of copyright law.

Alex and I are absolutely open to sharing Koala Diaries. It will be a very disappointing outcome to receive the support and participation of a diverse range of koala interest groups - *except* the AKF.

It is arguably this very fragmentation of conservation efforts that has frustrated the opportunities to save the koala.

Given Alex and I had the vision for Koala Diaries and took the considerable time to design and implement it, the fact that it is already built and open to all to submit to, access and add to - at no charge - it is inconceivable to us that another organisation would set out to duplicate rather than participate.

These recent actions are in contrast with the level of professionalism and integrity we expect of the Australian Koala Foundation. I would therefore be appreciative if you could enlighten us as to why you have chosen to progress down this path.

I look forward to your reply.

Regards,

Carolyn Beaton

KOALA DIARIES

E [carolyn@koaladiaries.com.au](mailto:carolyn@koaladiaries.com.au)

T 07-5455 3131