

Give our koalas fighting chance

RELOCATION: DEVELOPER'S WAY TO SAVE SPECIES

ANY koalas found in Pine Rivers should be put in a zoo, says Bill Bowden, the developer who created residential suburbs in Strathpine, Bray Park, Warner and Brendale.

Mr Bowden is convinced cars, domestic pets and disease will wipe out the koala population in this region.

"Give the koalas a chance," Mr Bowden said. "If they find koalas in Pine Rivers, shift them to a zoo." As for stalling development to accommodate the marsupials, he said: "People take precedence over koalas."



Mr Bowden was responding to comments by Wanda Grabowski (pictured) that koalas are all but extinct in Brendale and Warner – and endangered in Strathpine.

But Ms Grabowski, from Koala Action Pine Rivers, insists zoos are not the answer. "Queensland has a ridiculous law about translocation but koalas have a range of 5km for a male and

3km for a female and most zoos cannot provide this," she said. Ms Grabowski said

SPOT SURVEY

■ The Moreton Bay Regional Council's annual Community Koala Survey is on this weekend.

■ Schools can take part in the survey on Friday.

■ Survey forms are at council environment centres, libraries, customer service desks and at moretonbay.qld.gov.au/koalasurvey 2012.

SNAPSHOT

about 50 koalas will be displaced by the Moreton Bay Rail. "These are wild koalas; they deserve to live in the wild," she said. "Koala Action Pine Rivers has applied to have them relocated to Lake Samsonvale (15km away) but we have not heard back yet."

She backs the creation of a koala corridor from Whiteside and Kurwongbah to catchments at lakes Kurwongbah and Samsonvale.

But added: "I don't agree people take precedence over native wildlife. We are all

living beings and should live together."

My View Page 8