Koalas and Forests - The Facts

- Timber from State Forests is processed into natural products such as flooring, decking, joinery, furniture, writing paper, poles and fencing timber to name just a few. We have been operating sustainably for more than 125 years.
- The welfare and protection of koalas is vitally important. Koalas and their habitat are not on the brink of extinction but are under threat from bushfires, dog attack, road accidents, disease and land development not forestry.
- Bushfires are a major threat to koalas in National Parks less so in State Forests because of better access and more fire breaks.
- NSW already has 7.5 million hectares of National parks and reserves almost 4 times more area than State Forest.
- Half of all State Forests are set aside for environmental protection and forests that regrow after harvesting produce fresh leaves which koalas prefer to eat.
- State Forests are about five times cheaper to manage than our National Parks and reserves and they provide recreation and tourism.
- The forest products industry supports over 22,000 people with jobs and contributes around \$2.4 billion to the State each year. The industry is a key regional employer.
- Since the late 1990s, Regional Forest Agreements have protected all true wilderness, rainforest, old growth and high conservation value forest.

If you want to know more about forestry - perhaps you want to be part of its bright future - then visit <u>www.timbernsw.com.au</u>

