

一项调查发现，如果不采取紧急行动，到 2050 年，考拉将在澳大利亚新南威尔士州灭绝。去年，据澳大利亚考拉基金会（**Australian Koala Foundation**）的估算，澳大利亚只剩下不到 8 万只考拉。

The future of the koala and what is an important home is **at stake**. Cate Faehrmann, the chair of the Parliamentary Committee, warned future generations may not see a koala in the wild again, if the report is ignored.

考拉的未來和它們在新南威爾士州的棲息地正面臨危機。議會委員會主席凱特·費爾曼警告說，如果這份報告被忽視，我們的後代可能就再也看不到野生考拉了。

The once-thriving **marsupial** has been **ravaged** by **habitat loss** and disease. The recent bushfire season was one of the worst in Australian history. It was particularly **lethal** to the koala population in New South Wales. About 5,000 are thought to have died, and the **blazes** that **scorched** more than 5 million hectares state-wide affected almost a quarter of koala habitats.

這種一度茁壯成長的有袋類動物遭到棲息地喪失和疾病的傷害。最近的森林火災季節是澳大利亞歷史上最嚴重的火災季之一。這對新南威爾士州的考拉的影響尤其致命。大約有 5000 只考拉死亡，大火燒毀了該州 500 多萬公頃林地，影響了近四分之一的考拉棲息地。

Across the rest of the country, koala numbers are falling, with a recent estimate of 80,000 remaining in the wild. The committee said current policies to protect them were failing and made a number of recommendations to **safeguard** them, including establishing new national parks and reducing land clearing.

在澳大利亚的其它地区，考拉的数量正在下降，据最近的估计，野生考拉的数量为 8 万只。该委员会表示，目前用来保护它们的政策没有奏效，委员会提出了一些保护考拉的提议，包括建设新的国家公园和减少对森林的砍伐。

In a statement, the New South Wales Environment Minister said his state would do everything it could to protect koalas for future generations.

新南威尔士州的环境部长在一份声明中说，新南威尔士州会尽一切努力为后代保护考拉。

## 1. 词汇表

at stake	处于危险中
marsupial	有袋类动物
ravaged	被破坏，被伤害
habitat loss	栖息地丧失
lethal	致命的
blazes	大火，烈火
scorched	烧毁了，烧焦了
safeguard	保护

2. 阅读理解：请在读完上文后，回答下列问题。（答案见下页）

1. True or false? *The New South Wales Environment Minister said his state wouldn't be able to do anything to protect the koalas.*
2. According to the article, what has ravaged the koala?
3. How many koalas have died in the recent bushfires?
4. What are some of the recommendations by the committee to safeguard koalas?

### 3. 答案

1. True or false? *The New South Wales Environment Minister said his state wouldn't be able to do anything to protect the koalas.*

**False. He said his state would do everything it could to protect them.**

2. According to the article, what has ravaged the koala?

**The once-thriving koala has been ravaged by habitat loss and disease.**

3. How many koalas have died in the recent bushfires?

**About 5,000 koalas have died in the recent bushfires.**

4. What are some of the recommendations by the committee to safeguard koalas?

**The recommendations include establishing new national parks and reducing land clearing.**