

VOICES FOR WOOGAROO

EXPERT COALITION SNAPSHOT

As at 15 June 2026

More than 300 experts from Australia, the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and Brazil have united to call for the protection of Woogaroo Forest, Queensland, Australia.



300+
EXPERT
SIGNATORIES



130+
UNIVERSITIES,
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS &
ORGANISATIONS



11
COUNTRIES



21,500+
PETITION SIGNATORIES

COALITION AT A GLANCE

Expert Signatories

300+

Community Petition Signatures

21,500+

Countries Represented

11

University Institutions

40+

Conservation, Wildlife, Scientific &
Community Organisations

90+

Professors and Doctors

170+

WHY EXPERTS ARE CONCERNED

- Loss and fragmentation of one of the largest remaining remnant bushland areas in the Ipswich–Springfield corridor
- Habitat impacts on Federally listed threatened species, including the endangered Koala
- Potential impacts on the Critically Endangered Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia ecological community
- Cumulative habitat loss across South East Queensland
- The limitations of offsets as substitutes for intact habitat
- Long-term ecological consequences of further fragmentation
- The need for landscape-scale conservation planning

EXPERTISE REPRESENTED

The coalition brings together expertise from a diverse range of disciplines, including:

- Ecology and Conservation Science
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Law
- Planning and Urban Design
- Medicine and Public Health
- Wildlife Conservation and Rehabilitation
- Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Leadership
- Environmental Policy and Governance
- Community and Environmental Advocacy
- Biodiversity and Threatened Species Recovery

SELECTED SIGNATORIES

SCIENCE, ECOLOGY & CONSERVATION

Professor Hugh Possingham, FAA FRS

Research Professor, University of Queensland

Professor David Lindenmayer, AO FAA FRZS

FAAS FESA

Distinguished Professor of conservation biology and landscape ecology, Australian National University

Professor Michael E Mann

Presidential Distinguished Professor of Earth & Environmental Science, University of Pennsylvania, USA

Professor Mark J F Brown

Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Ecology
Director, University Museum of Zoology -
University of Cambridge, UK

Professor William Laurance FRS

Distinguished Research Professor, James Cook
University

Professor Martine Maron

Professor of Environmental Management, University
of Queensland

Professor Carlos Afonso Nobre

Earth System scientist and meteorologist, Co-chair
of the Science Panel for the Amazon and creator of
the Amazonia 4.0 project.

...and many other leading experts

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY

Professor Justine Bell-James

Environmental and Climate Change Law,
University of Queensland

Professor Lee Godden

Research Professor, University of
Melbourne

Professor Jan McDonald

New Star Professor of Environmental and
Climate Law, University of Tasmania

Professor Rowena Maguire

Director of QUT Centre for Justice,
Queensland University of Technology

Dr Erin O'Donnell

ARC Research Fellow, University of
Melbourne Law School

...and other leading experts

PUBLIC LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY EXPERTISE

Hon. Robert Hill AC

Former Commonwealth Environment Minister

Professor Emerita Carmen Lawrence AO

Former WA Premier, Former Shadow Environment
Minister, Former Federal Minister for Human
Services and Health, Status for Women.

Senior Research Fellow, School of Psychological
Science - The University of Western Australia

Tim Low AM

Australian biologist and author

Professor Anne Poelina

Professor, Chair of Indigenous Knowledges and
Senior Research Fellow, Nulungu Research Institute

Madonna Thompson

Director, Jagera Daran

Ben Dessen

Author, Presenter, Director and CEO
Hills Wildlife Sanctuary

Bernice Volz AO

Karawatha Forest Protection Society

Georgeanne Irvine

Children's Wildlife Book Author, Director of Publishing
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

...and many other leading representatives

"Federal environment laws are clear: Developments likely to have a significant impact on federally listed species should not proceed."

Professor Hugh Possingham - Foreign Associate of The US National Academy of Sciences (FNAS), Australian Academy of Science (FAS), Research Professor at The University of Queensland, President of BirdLife Australia, Chief Scientist of Accounting for Nature, Co-Chair of The Biodiversity Council, Former Queensland Chief Scientist, co-author of the EPBC Act 1999.

VOICES FOR WOOGAROO

EXPERT COALITION SNAPSHOT



"People need somewhere to live, but decision-makers must stand firm to protect critically important wildlife corridors such as Woogaroo Forest." Dr Christine Hosking - Conservation Biology, University of Queensland

WHY THIS COALITION MATTERS

Collectively, the coalition represents expertise from more than 40 universities, research institutions, conservation organisations, professional associations and community environmental groups.

The coalition includes a former Commonwealth Environment Minister, Former State Premier, Fellows of major scientific academies, chief scientists, leading conservation biologists, environmental law experts, medical professionals, Indigenous leaders, wildlife researchers and representatives from conservation organisations across Australia and internationally.

The breadth of support demonstrates that concern for Woogaroo Forest extends well beyond the local community and reflects broader scientific, conservation and public-interest concerns regarding the future of one of South East Queensland's largest remaining remnant bushland areas.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

21,500+

community members have signed a petition calling for the protection of Woogaroo Forest. Together, the expert coalition and community petition demonstrate significant professional and public concern regarding the future of Woogaroo Forest, Queensland, Australia.

ABOUT VOICES FOR WOOGAROO

Voices for Woogaroo is a public Expert Open Letter handover event bringing together experts, community members and supporters to call for the protection of Woogaroo Forest and the wildlife it supports.

The Open Letter and community petition will be formally presented to Federal Environment Minister Murray Watt on 23 June 2026.

"Australia is being asked to do what every nation is, from the Amazon to the Congo: protect what mature native forest remains. Woogaroo is one of those decisions, and the world is watching how it is made." Professor Carlos Afonso Nobre - Earth System scientist and meteorologist, Co-chair of the Science Panel for the Amazon and creator of the Amazonia 4.0 project. Member of the US National Academy of Sciences and the UK's Royal Society.

MEDIA CONTACT

Joseph Ungaro

Treasurer, Save Woogaroo Forest Group Inc.

0450 224 203

admin@savewoogarooforest.com.au

www.savewoogarooforest.com.au