

June 16, 2014

Tim the Yowie Man wrote:

Out-of-place koala

Two separate incidents in recent weeks of motorists swerving to miss a disorientated koala crossing Pialligo Avenue have prompted a local wildlife rescue group to erect home-made warning signs along the highway between Canberra Airport and Queanbeyan.



Home-made Koala warning sign on Pialligo Avenue. *Photo: Tim the Yowie Man*

James Fitzgerald, koala co-ordinator for the Queanbeyan-based Wildcare (wildcare.com.au) who have rescued and rehabilitated five koalas in the Queanbeyan area since 2011, believes the lone koala is likely to be a young male that's been pushed out of its home range by dominant adult males.

Fitzgerald is urging anyone who spots the koala to call Wildcare on 6299 1966. "We don't mind if it's in the middle of the night - the area around there isn't ideal habitat so this koala is very likely in urgent need of help," says the wildlife warrior.

Although it is extremely unusual for a koala to be spotted in Canberra, the known population of koalas in the area extending south of Queanbeyan along the range to Numeralla is one of only a handful of populations in NSW to be actually increasing in numbers.

Extract from: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/travel/tim-the-yowie-man-australasian-bittern-in-canberra-20140620-zs8y0.html>