

# **MIDCOAST KOALA CONSERVATION STRATEGY**

## **ENGAGEMENT REPORT**



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# BACKGROUND

This report provides a summary of community consultation to inform the development of the MidCoast Koala Strategy 2024-2028, undertaken between 27 November 2023 and 11 February 2024.

The MidCoast Koala Strategy will be a four-year plan to guide the coordinated conservation, recovery, and long-term management of koala populations in the MidCoast. The Strategy will be fundamental to providing strategic direction to the State-funded Koala Safe Spaces project through which Council has been developing community awareness, supporting local community action, and gathering data through an extensive koala survey.

It will support the objectives of the New South Wales Koala Strategy 2021-2026, which recognises the endangered status of koalas and aims to double the koala population by 2050. MidCoast Council is a Regional Partner to the NSW Koala Strategy.

The Strategy will be informed by the ideas and perspectives of stakeholders and the community as well as koala sightings data, habitat mapping, and applied scientific knowledge. With the majority of koala habitat and corridors on the MidCoast occurring on private land, landholder participation is key to the success of the Strategy. Council engaged environmental consultants NGH Consulting to help develop the draft Strategy and undertake community consultation.

It is important to note that as the Strategy is not being prepared under the Biodiversity and Conservation State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) as a Koala Plan of Management, the Strategy will not result in any additional planning restrictions being imposed on the future development of private land. The current legislative framework which assesses the impact on koalas and other threatened species will continue to apply.

The feedback from this engagement will inform the preparation of the draft MidCoast Koala Strategy, which will be placed on public exhibition for 28 days for community feedback. Feedback from the exhibition of the draft Strategy will inform the final MidCoast Koala Strategy. The final Strategy will come into force when adopted by Council.



27 Nov 23– 11 Feb 24

# ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT



## DRAFT MIDCOAST KOALA STRATEGY CONSULTATION

**Thank you for your valuable feedback.  
This snapshot gives an overview of the topics  
raised and how people got involved.**

**Your top priority was habitat and corridor  
protection and restoration.**

### **Key interventions suggested were:**

- Habitat and corridor regeneration through tree planting on public and private land
- Protecting koala habitat from development
- Advocate for: changes to the State government planning framework; strategic koala habitat to become part of national parks; and more accountability for forestry practices

### **Key ideas for reducing threats to koalas were:**

- Mitigations around vehicle strike hotspots
- Educating and supporting landholders to improve koala habitat and reduce risks
- Using Traditional Owner knowledge for prescribed burns
- Improving dog owner education and behaviour
- Participants also felt surveying for koala populations, registering sightings, and sharing data between stakeholders should be a priority.

**"I am happy the council is  
being proactive for our koalas  
and your ecologists are doing  
an amazing job."**

### **How you got involved**

**463** people visited our consultation webpage  
**Over 450** engagements via Facebook and Instagram  
**48** people completed an online survey  
**49** people attended a drop-in session  
**20** members of the Koala Reference Group  
attended a workshop

**"Protection of unique wildlife such  
as Koalas must be a top priority for  
future generations to research and  
enjoy."**

### **What's next?**

We will develop the draft Koala Strategy using input from the community. When the draft Strategy is developed, we will be asking for final feedback from the community before the Strategy is presented to Council for adoption.

[midcoast.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay](https://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay)



**MIDCOAST**  
council

# SUMMARY

Community consultation sought input from a range of key stakeholders through several methods, namely, the Koala Reference Group established under the Koala Safe Spaces project, where a range of stakeholder expertise and interests are represented; face-to-face consultation with interested community members through drop-in centres where all were welcome; an online survey open to all community members; koala habitat mapping; and acceptance of written submissions from organisations.

Feedback was sought on a number of key themes, including habitat protection, restoration, creation and connectivity; bushfire management; Traditional Owner knowledge; education and community engagement; partnering; threat management (vehicles, dogs, disease); health and welfare; research and monitoring; compensation measures for koala habitat loss; funding; and advocacy. Community members were also able to provide feedback on any aspect of koala conservation they felt was relevant.

A range of methods were used to inform stakeholders and the community of the consultation, including direct emails, e-newsletters, social media posts, media releases, radio interviews and information on Council's web page.

# METHODOLOGY

The engagement ran for a period longer than 28 days due to falling in the school holiday period. Feedback was received from 27 November 2023 through to 11 February 2024.

The initial consultation sought input on the strategy's potential content, maps and actions. It was undertaken through a mix of face-to-face and online engagement, with a phone consultation also provided as an option.

Face-to-face consultation was undertaken by NGH Consulting, with support from Council staff. An online survey was developed by Council. The data from all forms of consultation was collated, analysed and provided to the consultants to inform the development of the draft Strategy.

A cornerstone of the consultation was the Have Your Say page on Council's website which detailed why and how the consultation would take place, where and how to take part in face-to-face engagement, answers to frequently asked questions, draft habitat maps, and an online survey for completion. This page received 463 unique visits, with 48 different people completing a survey.

Drop-in sessions were held over three days in early December, in Tinonee, Gloucester and Bulahdelah, from 10am to 6pm, with opportunities to book or drop in. Community members were able to view and discuss draft habitat maps, talk to Council staff and NGH Consultants, provide their feedback and ask questions. A total of 49 people signed in at the drop-in sessions (25 in Tinonee, 10 in Bulahdelah, 14 in Gloucester). A number of other community members dropped in but did not sign the official attendance form.



A workshop with the MidCoast Koala Reference Group was also held in early December. The two-hour workshop featured discussion of the draft habitat maps and key consultation themes. It was facilitated by NGH consultants and was attended by 20 members of the group. The group was established to guide the development of the Koala Strategy and is made up of representatives of key community stakeholder groups, including government organisations – NPWS, Crown Lands, Local Land Services, DPE (Biodiversity & Conservation Division), MidCoast Council; non-government organisations – Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, MidCoast 2 Tops Landcare, Koalas in Care, NSW Farmers; and the MidCoast community – Aboriginal community representation, local industry representation, and community members.

## How we got the word out

- 2,425 direct emails to Council's community database
- Over 50 direct emails to key stakeholders
- 2,450 subscribers received 7 updates in Council's newsletter, News Wrap
- 84 schools invited to offer feedback through the School Newsletter
- 4 posts on social media
- 2 media releases issued to traditional and community media outlets across the MidCoast
- 1 radio interview
- 3 drop-in sessions in different locations
- 1 workshop with the Koala Reference Group
- 1 Have Your Say page on the internet
- 2 updates on the MidCoast Council staff intranet and electronic information boards
- Digital message board posts in Forster and Taree libraries and Customer Service Centres
- Weekly advertising in MidCoast newspapers in Council's Have Your Say section

## How you had your say

- 463 people visited the webpage
- Over 450 engagements via Facebook and Instagram

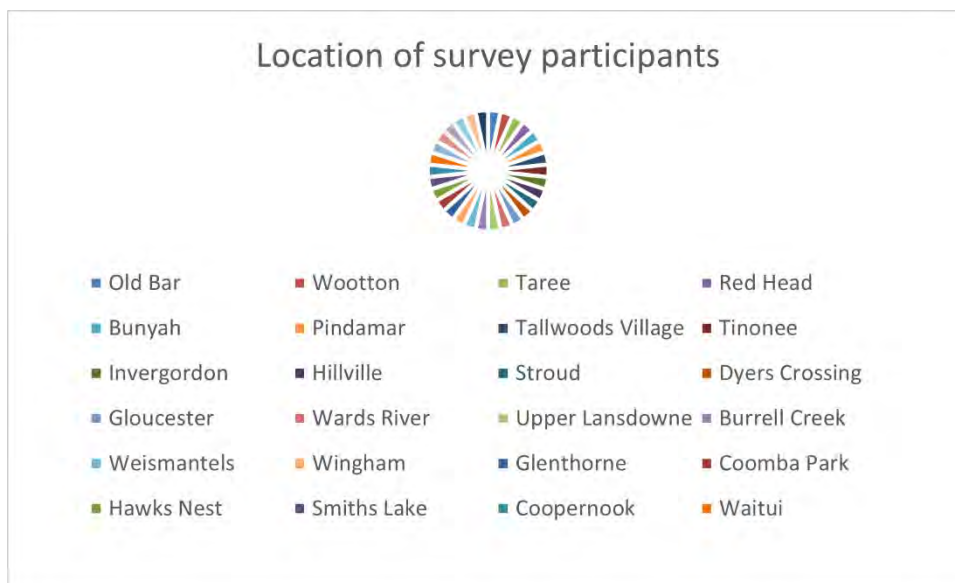


- 48 online surveys completed
- 49 people attended a drop-in session
- 20 members of the Koala Reference Group attended a workshop

## DETAILED DATA

### Online survey summary

There were 49 online surveys received between 27 November 2023 and 11 February 2024, of these, one lacked any information and was considered invalid. The majority of respondents provided their location, revealing considerable diversity in the participant base.



Respondents were asked 15 questions which were designed to elicit local knowledge about koala populations, habitat, risks, mitigation strategies, and ideas for education, engagement, research, partnerships, and advocacy. Expert knowledge of koalas or sightings of koalas or their habitat was not required to complete the survey, therefore participants were not required to answer every question.

### Awareness of koala activity and habitat

Thirty-one percent of participants could identify the general area where koalas were located, while eighteen percent were able to describe the specific habitat locations. Twelve percent of participants identified koala activity in their backyard. The remaining respondents were either not able to identify the area or could do so by using existing surveys and modelling. Tinonee and Old Bar were mentioned most frequently as areas where koalas were sighted.

Respondents were also asked to contribute their sightings data to the interactive koala habitat mapping tool on the Koala Safe Spaces webpage. Sightings data and descriptions in the surveys will contribute to draft koala habitat mapping. These maps will continue to be updated beyond the Koala Strategy consultation.

Participants were also asked to describe areas where koalas regularly move between areas of habitat. Responses included roads or roadsides, farmland, bush corridors, vacant land, private property, and national parks. Just over half of the respondents who answered this question identified road crossings as a key location for intra-habitat movement.

Just over half of those taking the survey said they knew of previous or potential habitats which could be restored. Of these, around 50 percent mentioned locations where land had been cleared and new developments now exist. The rest mentioned areas of bushland, State Forest and private land.

### **Awareness of risks and ideas for mitigation strategies**

Around one third of survey respondents said they were aware of spots where koalas had been hit by a vehicle. Areas mentioned include Tinonee, Hallidays Point, Rainbow Flat, and Old Bar.

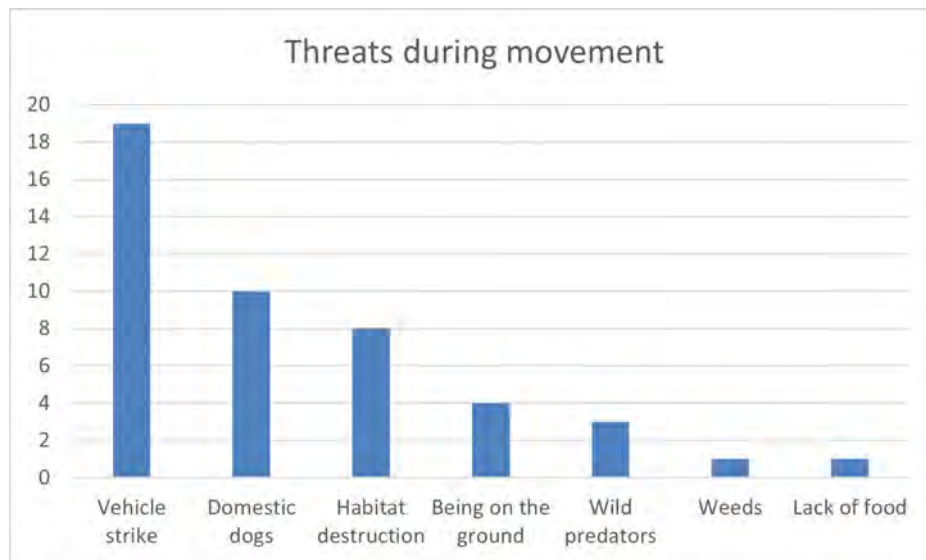
Ideas to help reduce vehicle strikes included the installation of flashing lights, highly visible warning signs with attention to positioning, AI and CCTV surveillance techniques to support strategic operation of warning lights, speed limit reductions especially in high koala movement windows, fencing to deter koalas from crossing the road, under-road tunnels, and speed humps.

Just under a quarter of respondents were aware of locations where koalas are at risk of dog attack or trampling by livestock. Risk areas were generally identified as any locations where koalas and dogs or livestock occur together. Specific areas of risk mentioned included Hawks Nest, Harrington, Tinonee, North Arm Cove, and Kiwarra Heights Estate.

The three most popular measures suggested to help reduce dog attacks on koalas were restricting dog movement especially at night, public education, and habitat restoration. Other suggestions included appropriate fencing, fines, feral cat and dog control, restrictions on dog quantities and type in urban areas, and applying solutions already researched.

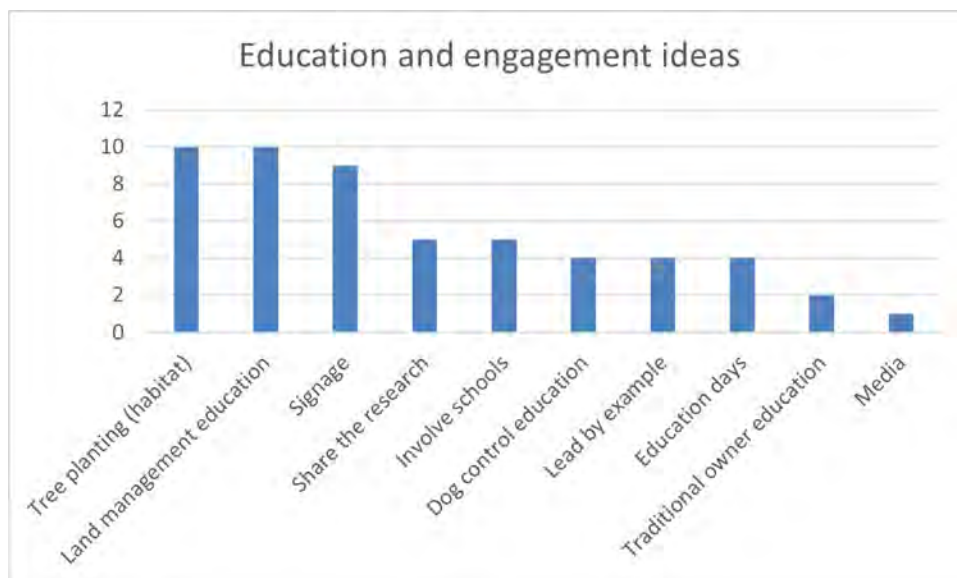
Over three quarters of survey takers said koalas appeared to be at risk when moving between habitat locations. The top three threats identified were vehicle strike, dog attack and habitat destruction.





### Ideas to work together for koala conservation

Over eighty percent of respondents provided suggestions for education and engagement on koala conservation. The top three suggestions were habitat conservation and restoration, including support for tree planting; land management education, including community education on environmental values and sound land management practices; and signage, especially in vehicle strike hotspots.



Respondents mentioned a vast number of entities for potential Council partnership and collaboration. These ranged from private landholders and community groups to non-government organisations and State Government agencies. Other ideas included schools and universities and Traditional Owners. Working with high-impact industries and businesses, such as developers, was mentioned by several respondents with the suggestion to educate and restrict operations that

impact koala habitat. Most respondents identified habitat conservation and restoration as the key desired outcome of recommended partnerships.

Almost fifty percent of respondents said surveying for koala populations and registering sightings was important. Many participants mentioned the use of technology and citizen science to study koala movements and inform management actions such as road strike mitigation and corridor restoration. Others mentioned the importance of understanding more about breeding and health and koala interactions with other animals. One respondent suggested investigating the potential benefits of ecotourism in balancing economic interests and koala habitat creation and restoration.

Around 70 percent of respondents said that Council advocacy to the NSW and Australian Governments should be centred on actions related to habitat and corridor expansion as well as protection, including from residential developments, logging and tree clearing. Other ideas included changing some current land management authorities, more research funding and education, and a reduction of the RFS Rural Boundary Clearing Code.

Most respondents who answered the question on bushfire threat mentioned the value of applying Traditional Owner knowledge and or cool burns. The role of the Rural Fire Service in threat reduction was also mentioned. Reduction of weeds, the value of fire trails and the negative impact of tree clearing was also mentioned.

## **Koala Reference Group workshop**

The Koala Reference Group met with NGH consultants for a 2-hour workshop. The 20 attending participants were asked to rank a range of management actions and prioritise them on five key themes, namely, habitat protection, restoration and connectivity; threat mitigation; education and management; research, monitoring, health and welfare; advocacy and funding. While most of the actions were deemed important, priorities could be clearly identified in the feedback.

**Under habitat protection, restoration and connectivity**, the top priorities emerged as improving the connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration; supporting and working with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity agreements; identifying and rehabilitating important connectivity corridors; and working with State and Federal Governments to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national parks reserves estate.

**Under threat mitigation** the top priorities were incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into fire management approaches; identification of koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to hazard reduction burns; liaison with RFS or land managers to ensure prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact.

**Under education and management** the top priorities were maintaining and supporting the Koala Sightings Register and providing regular updated sightings data to the State Government; and supporting local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.

**Under research, monitoring, health and welfare** the top priority was undertaking rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and updating associated partner databases with the latest data.

**Under advocacy and funding** the top priorities were advocating to State Government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk, Kiwarra and Nerong State Forests; and advocating for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework.

The full list of responses is contained in the Appendices of this report.

## Drop-in Sessions

Drop-in sessions for community members to comment on the same five key themes as the Koala Reference Group were held over three days in early December, in Tinonee, Gloucester and Bulahdelah, from 10am to 6pm. Attendees were also able to use post-it notes to add further information or nuance to their responses. Broadly, the results demonstrate that community members had very similar priorities to the Koala Reference Group members albeit in a different order.

**Under habitat protection, restoration, and connectivity** the top priorities emerged as supporting and working with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity agreements; identifying and rehabilitating important connectivity corridors; working with State and Federal Governments to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national parks reserves estate; and improving the connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.

**Under threat mitigation** the top priorities were working with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots; liaison with RFS or land managers to ensure prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact; and identification of areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.

**Under education and management** most of the proposed activities were considered important; however, the top priority was to maintain and support the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sightings to the State Government.

**Under research, monitoring, health and welfare** the top priority was supporting wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment and training.



**Under advocacy and funding** the top priority was advocating to the State Government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk, Kiwarra and Nerong State Forests; other priorities included advocating for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework; and engaging and building partnerships with the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.

## **Written submissions**

Council received one written submission from the Forestry Corporation as a major manager of forested land and koala habitat in the MidCoast Council area. The Forestry Corporation manages approximately 120,000 hectares of State Forests in the MidCoast Council area. The submission shared data and information on koala records, current monitoring, habitat, trends, bushfires, and suggested management actions including development limitations, dog control, fencing, signage, speed limits, and habitat and corridor restoration. The full submission is available in the Appendices of this report.

## **CONCLUSION**




The results of this consultation demonstrate broad community consensus that Council has a further role to play in koala conservation by improving koala habitat and connectivity on Council land, working with and supporting private landholders to undertake conservation activities, educating the community on koala-friendly behaviours, and advocating to the State and Federal Government.

The results of this consultation and the detailed data collected have been used to help guide the development of the draft MidCoast Koala Strategy. The draft Strategy will be placed on public exhibition for further community feedback prior to its presentation to Councillors for adoption.




# APPENDICES

## Koala Reference Group workshop

KRG

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments? Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on <i>Council land</i> through habitat restoration.	✓	
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	✓	
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on <i>private land</i> through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).	✓	Alpine (Kinnear) Drive education for new owners (3)
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	✓	Especially for fires post (2)
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	✓	Really important (1)
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements	✓	

KRG

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments? Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on <i>Council land</i> through habitat restoration.	✓	needs to be prioritized so it is effective, connected to larger habitat nodes/koala habitat/pop? 2-3
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	✓	1
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on <i>private land</i> through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).	✓	PHF properties need to be addressed - resolved 1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	✓	Need to bring up along on the journey to save koalas 2-3
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	✓	This is urgent Bulga 1
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements	✓	need to prioritize LIT engagement with landholders for that area 1
1.7	Incorporate flexibility in strategy to allow prioritise for on-ground investment as new & better data becomes available (eg Drone survey) - ie new areas	✓	Live document -> update mapping 1

adaptive strategy (x)




(7)

primary investment






85% Threatened/Minor Species/Boonah/Hill End  
30 YEARS

KRG

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY				
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on <i>Council land</i> through habitat restoration.			1
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.			1
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on <i>private land</i> through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).			2
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.			1
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.			2
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements			1
1.7				

KRG

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY				
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on <i>Council land</i> through habitat restoration.	✓		2 - 1
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	✓		3 - 2
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on <i>private land</i> through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).	✓	include Biodiversity Credits	4 - 1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	✓		4 - 2
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	X	It's important that realistic resources come with any land acquisitions.	6 - 3
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements	✓		5 - 2
1.7				

(5)



↑  
rank  
↑  
priority



KRC

## 2. THREAT MITIGATION

(bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)

No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.	✓			①
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.				①
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.				①
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.	①	✓✓		yes
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.	①	✓✓		yes



Deer problems — (3)

✓ should

KRC

## 2. THREAT MITIGATION

(bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.				1
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.	✓		Ensure walk-throughs before burns.	1
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.	✓		Ensure accurate definition of 'Bushfire prone' areas for 10/50 Rule	1
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.	✓			1
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.			Engagement should be with all communities. NSW area could have dog attacks	3
2.6	Re-introduce LGA-wide "Tree Preservation Orders" to provide consistency and certainty for assessment/approval of vegetation removal	✓		In only very limited areas are property owners required to apply to remove trees	1

2.7 Addressing trampling educating landowners adding corridors — barb wire

KRG

## 2. THREAT MITIGATION



(bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)

No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.	✓		4 - 2
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.	✓		3 - 2
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.	✓		1 - 4
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.	✓	Low Priority because of the expense.	5 - 3
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.	✓		2 - 1
2.6		⑤		

KRG.

## 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge

No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.			①
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.			①
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.			①
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.			2
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	① ✓		✓
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).		we can do this internally	
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.	① ✓		

Koala Smart will be presented (National Park)



### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.	✓			2 - 1
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.	✓			3 - 1
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.	✓			6 - 2
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.	✓			1 - 1
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	✓			4 - 1
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).	✓			5 - 2
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership. <i>Part 1</i>	X		* Extreme weather and planning education needs to be done just prior to event. Responsible dog ownership generally applies to urban areas and direct surrounds.	7 - 3
3.8					

(6)

### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.			N/A	2
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.			N/A	1
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.			N/A	2
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.			??	1
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.				3 1
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).				2 1
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.			YES	1 2
3.8	Develop a "schools koala readiness" to encourage kids to get involved. Enthusiastic children get parents involved. Perhaps include a kids version to the Koala Sightings app - include fun game ways.	✓		HIGHEST PRIORITY	2



### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.	✓			3
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.	✓			2
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.	✓			2
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.	✓			1
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	✓			3
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).	✓			2
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.	✓			2-3
3.8					

(7)

### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
4.1	Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.			1	
4.2	Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.			State Forest won't care	
4.3	Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.			FAUNA is present mostly for non-koalas	
4.4	Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.				
4.5	Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.			transparency and	
4.6	Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.			we need more than one provider	
4.7	Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.				

4 / 5

11/

KRG

#### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
4.1	Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and <u>monitoring</u> in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.				2 - 1
4.2	Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.			?	6 - 3
4.3	Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.	X			7 - 3
4.4	Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.				3 - 1
4.5	Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.				5 - 2
4.6	Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.				1 - 1
4.7	Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.				4 - 2
4.8					

KRG

#### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
4.1	Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.	✓	✗	Eastern data went down to model koala pop in whole LGA 3 within 20 years ecological threat (see 4.3)	2
4.2	Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.	✓		Independent assessments are needed (not filled by forestry).	1
4.3	Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.	✓			2
4.4	Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.	✓			3
4.5	Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.		✓		3
4.6	Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.	✓			2
4.7	Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.	✓		This should be a condition of career licensing	3
4.8					

⑥



KRG

## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF. <i>BULGA state forest</i>				
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			<i>Not councils role</i>	
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.				
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation. <i>CARBON market projects</i>				
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			<i>No offsets</i>	
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			<i>yes! always</i>	

(4)

KRG

## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING





No.	ACTION			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.			<i>Add Bulga SF</i>	1
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.				3
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.				2
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.				2-3
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).				
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			<i>with adequate compliance</i>	1

(5)





## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.			1 - 1
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.	?		6 - 3
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.			2 - 1
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.			4 - 2
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			5 - 2
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			3 - 1
5.7				

## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.	✓		1
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.	✓		2
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.	✓		1
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.	✓		2
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).	✓		3
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework	✓		2
5.7	Advocate to RFS about need to consider koalas (and other wildlife) in hazard reduction burns. They need to do "walk throughs" <del>before</del> by local wildlife carers prior to burns.	✓		1

## Drop in sessions

Tinonee

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.	✓	1
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	✓	1
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).	✓	1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	✓	1
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	✓	2
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements.	✓	1
1.7	?		

PLEASE ADD COMMENTS WITH STICKY NOTES HERE

1.1 AND private land in new D.A.s.

Council support the ending of Native Forest logging on state land ASAP.

Stop logging Koala habitat - public + private NOW

koalas are so threatened that everything is a NO1 priority

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.	✓	1
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	✓	1
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).	✓	1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	✓	2
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	✓	2
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements.	✓	1
1.7			

# COMMENTS HERE

Include Stewardship site) Action (13)

Speed limits at Tinonee Rd where high density of koalas live. Slow traffic down

speed humps + signage in koala dense areas.



2. THREAT MITIGATION (bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
No.	ACTION			
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.	👍👎		2
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.	👍👎		2
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.	👍👎		2
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.	👍👎		1
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.	👍👎		1
2.6				

Farmers to plant buffers & fence for koala corridors

Reduce speed limit at koala roadkill hot spot, give drivers, & govt koala conservation

Lobbying TFRNSW - noise 60 km/hr speed limit to expand zone @ least 200m - Deans Rd - speed & road kill an issue  
**Also Timor Road**

2. THREAT MITIGATION (bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)			Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
No.	ACTION			
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.	👍👎		3 2
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.	👍👎		3
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.	👍👎		
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.	👍👎	vehicle strike on roads in high density koala habitat.	1 1
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.	👍👎		2 2
2.6				

encourage risk assessments for private land.  
 - drive  
 - koalas & shade.  
 - disjuncted fencing

project longevity & finding cycle  
 - long-term monitoring

stop logging in native forests.

**5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING**

No.	ACTION



**3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT**  
including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge

*Logging of state land ASAP.*

*Threatened that anything is a NO.1 priority*

No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.	★	1
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.	✓	2
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.	✓	1
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.	✓	1
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	★	1
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).	✓	2
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.	★	1
3.8			

PLEASE ADD COMMENTS ON STICKY NOTES HERE.

*Education Traditional Owner elders to go into schools as part of other education programs children are very responsible*

**3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT**  
including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge


No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.	★	3
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.		1
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.	★	2
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.	★	1 2
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	★	3
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).		
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.	★	2 3
3.8			






*implement koala education in schools + prep*

*Continued cultural ed across interconnected issues through community*


is  
vita









## RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
4.1	Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.			1
4.2	Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.			
4.3	Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.			
4.4	Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.			
4.5	Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.			
4.6	Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.			
4.7	Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.			
4.8				














## 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE










No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
4.1	Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.			
4.2	Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.			
4.3	Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.			3
4.4	Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.			
4.5	Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.			
4.6	Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.	 		1 1
4.7	Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.	 		2 2
4.8				

ADD STICKY NOTES WITH COMMENTS HERE.



5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING				
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.	 		1/1
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.	 		1
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.	 		2
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).	 		2
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework	 		2
5.7				

*fencing + bridges & viaducts is over koalar cross roads now*

5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING				
No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.	  		1, 2
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.			
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.			1
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			3
5.7				



## 1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY

No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.		
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.		
1.3	Support work with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust/Conservation Partners Program).		
1.4	Build and support community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied		
1.5	Work with landholders to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into		
1.6	Work with landholders to protect private land conservation and help facilitate agreements		
1.7			

*Handwritten notes on sticky paper:*

- Identify co-benefits with landholders (not just koalas)*
- Find win-win scenarios for landowners + koalas*
- Case study / Koala friendly land/properties with grazing*
- Importance of cleared land - restoration potential - make it accessible - not to prevent - have when done previously cleared*

## 2. THREAT MITIGATION

(bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)

No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.		
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.		
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RES) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat and individual mapping with local fire mitigation		
2.4	Work with Transport for variable message signs		
2.5	Identify areas where ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour		
2.6			

*Handwritten notes on sticky paper:*

- Climate change resilience*
- Fire Response Strategy - L.A.P.2 - Clearing appropriate to overly grassy areas*
- Develop climate resilience projects with landholders (road)*
- look @ local reasons for decline - what do people get out of these threats? Address cause + benefits*
- Build swales + Billabongs to detain + slow release*
- detain H<sub>2</sub>O in landscape ↓ run-off. ↑ Infiltration*
- Smaller Lake - when young - 20 yrs ago had koalas now - silviculture planning*
- Compensation - vegetation management - Plans (coastal forest - monitored) - SERENITAS - koalas are - New Solutions - Road closures as has been (Green infrastructure worked and provided)*

### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge



#### No. ACTION



Any  
comments?

Priority  
1, 2 or 3?

- 3.1 Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.
- 3.2 Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.

Strategy's that  
have already  
been used  
- have a better  
approach

to encompass  
cultural/life style  
break down  
also cultural  
approach

Strategy - don't make  
it work, like  
before designing  
- what you are  
trying to achieve  
- what you are  
trying to achieve

Professional  
history of  
- what you are  
trying to achieve  
- what you are  
trying to achieve

DIOS - what  
can't  
integration of town  
planning/engineering/MS  
to all understand  
National/ENV legislation  
and procedure

(potential target audiences to include rural landholders).

co-benefits  
case study

Oysters  
- need salt in  
bays  
- slow water  
down to maintain  
health.

Climate  
resilience  
+  
co-benefits

Climate change  
+ farmers  
- shade - dry  
periods  
- erosion - delay  
reframe projects

Education  
campaigns for  
different  
land uses  
- local - urban  
- lifestyle block

### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



#### No. ACTION



Any  
comments?

Priority  
1, 2 or 3?

- 4.1 Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.
- 4.2 Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.
- 4.3 Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.
- 4.4 Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.
- 4.5 Staff attendance at conferences/symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.
- 4.6 Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.
- 4.7 Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.
- 4.8



Demonstrate  
- properties  
in key locations  
- long-term  
monitoring 10 years

forest  
/ pasture  
open woodland



## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.			
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.			
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.			
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework.			
5.7				



1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.	★	3
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.	★	3
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).		1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	★ Very important	3
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.	★	
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements	★	
1.7			

1. HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND CONNECTIVITY			
No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
1.1	Improve the condition and connectivity of existing habitat on Council land through habitat restoration.	★ This is focused on restoration - should include protection	3
1.2	Identify and rehabilitate important connectivity corridors.		
1.3	Support/work with landholders to protect koala habitat on private land through in-perpetuity conservation agreements (& Biodiversity Conservation Trust: Conservation Partners Program).		1
1.4	Build capacity of partners and community groups to deliver koala habitat restoration and planting and monitoring projects focussing on expanding existing smaller areas of known occupied habitat, including on private land.	★ WIL TRAINING - FIRE CARERS + RESCUE	3
1.5	Work with State and Federal government to identify strategic sites that could be incorporated into the national park reserves estate.		
1.6	Investigate strategic sites suitable for private land conservation and help facilitate agreements		
1.7			



Help to actively show Koala population from Wapool road to Wapool Creek 12 mile creek. The Koalas were very kind - Thank you!

GLOC

Chlorophyll - Good! Have been using chlorophyll for a long time (background)

2. THREAT MITIGATION  
(bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)

No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.		
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.		
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.		
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.		
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.		
2.6	Local land services legislation - where the approach included the local council - local council all felt from bottom of the - the making of the - even being this way.		

Need to make sure the council is aware of the local council all felt from bottom of the - the making of the - even being this way.

Also need to make sure the council is aware of the local council all felt from bottom of the - the making of the - even being this way.

2.5 Have integrated responsible pet ownership messaging, rather than just dogs, as the responsible dog and cat is important for council's broader environmental goals.

2.5 Have integrated responsible pet ownership messaging, rather than just dogs, as the responsible dog and cat is important for council's broader environmental goals.


2.5 Have integrated responsible pet ownership messaging, rather than just dogs, as the responsible dog and cat is important for council's broader environmental goals.



2. THREAT MITIGATION (bushfire management, vehicle strike, domestic/wild dogs, livestock trampling)			
No.	ACTION	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
2.1	Incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning practices into bushfire management approaches.	very needed	3
2.2	Identify koala habitat areas when managing wildfire and prior to any hazard reduction burns.		3
2.3	Liaise with authorities (RFS) or land managers to ensure that prescribed burns or bushfire control within koala habitat is conducted in a way that minimises impact to koala habitat and individual koalas. Share occupied koala habitat and fire refugia mapping with local fire authorities to inform bushfire mitigation planning.		3
2.4	Work with Transport for NSW to install mitigation measures at vehicle strike hotspots, variable message signs, pavement treatments, fencing, culvert works.		3
2.5	Identify areas where dog attacks are a key threat to koalas and understand better ways to engage and communicate with and change the behaviour of dog owners.		3
2.6	Work in areas that are isolated from noise - eg. Stroud, Booral & Lumbagoes Creek		



GLOC

### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge




No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.			
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.			
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.			
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.			
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.			
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).			
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.			
3.8				



*currently multiple reporting tools -> consider creating a single national system to streamline (stop incoherence) / easy to use + externally maintained -> good idea needs -> all sightings public knowledge*

*rather than redesign need to ensure there is appropriate message being sent eg on active might be engage communities (consultants to conduct social research on appropriate messaging -> including with diff messages with random focus groups or guerrilla research in koala territories)*

*high speed response which is critical to emergency response*

### 3. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT including integrating Traditional Owner knowledge



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
3.1	Enable Elders and the Aboriginal community to be involved in koala conservation and share knowledge and stories if appropriate.	★		3
3.2	Support local Aboriginal people to implement, monitor and evaluate their own koala projects.	★		3
3.3	Explore opportunities for joint management areas with Aboriginal communities where appropriate. Build partnership and co-design initiatives.	★		3
3.4	Maintain and promote the Koala Sightings Register and provide regular updated sighting data to State Government.	★		3
3.5	Continue raising awareness in the community about local koala populations and their conservation needs through the Koala Safe Spaces Program or Citizen Science projects.	★		
3.6	Co-design a koala conservation communications and engagement campaign with key stakeholders (potential target audiences to include rural landholders).		<i>nearly impossible</i>	
3.7	Deliver campaigns, workshops or field days regarding habitat restoration and other ways of protecting and conserving koalas during extreme weather event or regarding responsible dog ownership.		<i>TV campaign for our area</i>	
3.8				

9LO

9LO

#### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH AND WELFARE



No. ACTION



Any  
comments?

Priority  
1, 2 or 3?

- 4.1 Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.
- 4.2 Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.
- 4.3 Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.
- 4.4 Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.
- 4.5 Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.
- 4.6 Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.
- 4.7 Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.
- 4.8

#### 4. RESEARCH, MONITORING, HEALTH

All  
important but  
very difficult to  
achieve



No. ACTION



Any  
comments?





Priority  
1, 2 or 3?

- 4.1 Undertake rigorous on-ground ecological assessments and monitoring in the LGA and update associated partner databases with latest data.
- 4.2 Stay abreast of latest investigations regarding how koalas are responding to intensive native forest harvesting on the NSW North Coast.
- 4.3 Use predicted climate change data and modelling techniques to predict the possible impacts on koalas from climate change. Use this information to prioritise adaptation actions and investment in habitat and corridor protection and restoration.
- 4.4 Create opportunities between local communities and organisations to share koala conservation information and data.
- 4.5 Staff attendance at conferences/ symposia regarding latest finding and research on koala knowledge systems, data gaps or program progress.
- 4.6 Support wildlife rehabilitation providers to acquire koala rescue equipment or training.
- 4.7 Support wildlife rescue groups to collate koala rehabilitation data and continue to import it into BioNet and SEED.
- 4.8



## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF. <i>Chichester? via</i>			
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.			
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.			
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			

↑ Wallaroo State Forest  
Isolation Rd to  
The Buckleys Way



↑ Legitimate remaining  
forest should not be  
approved to clear  
for local land  
services approved  
200 acres not approved  
yet by planning by state.

↑ Yes Forests should be  
preserved and protected  
for koalas and  
wildlife.

Advocate for  
improvements to  
habitat destruction  
affecting on private  
lands.

## 5. ADVOCACY AND FUNDING



No.	ACTION	 	Any comments?	Priority 1, 2 or 3?
5.1	Advocate to State government regarding the accountability of forestry practices particularly in Wang Wauk SF, Kiwarrak SF and Nerong SF.		+ Yarratt SF	
5.2	Support the review and update of the Koala Rehabilitation Training Standards for the Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector and Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Koalas.			
5.3	Advocate to State government (RMS) to include koala barrier fencing and crossings at new road construction projects.			
5.4	Engage with and build partnerships the private sector to leverage investment in koala conservation.			
5.5	Assist State Government to identify local private sector partners to deliver Carbon market projects ACCU (identify locations for koala habitat carbon plantings).			
5.6	Advocate for an effective impact assessment regime for koalas in the NSW and Commonwealth planning framework			
5.7				

All Actions  
a priority

## Written submissions



Forestry Corporation of NSW ABN 43 141 867 510

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Ref: F24/25  
8/02/2024

MidCoast Council  
Via email: [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

### Mid Coast Council – Draft Koala Strategy Consultation

As a major manager of forested land and koala habitat in the MidCoast Council area, Forestry Corporation of NSW is keen to engage with MidCoast Council to share information and contribute to the development of your koala strategy.

Forestry Corporation applauds the MidCoast Council for developing a local koala strategy, and notes your objective:

*The MidCoast Koala Strategy will document management actions for koala recovery and conservation. The strategy will be informed by koala sightings data, habitat mapping, applied scientific knowledge and the ideas and perspectives of stakeholders and the community*

Forestry Corporation manages approximately 120,000 hectares of State Forests in the MidCoast Council area. These forests are managed for multiple uses, protecting and providing habitat for koalas, preserving biodiversity, supporting tourism and recreation, protecting cultural heritage and producing renewable timber.

These forests are high quality koala habitat with around 1,000 koala records in the forests of the MidCoast Council area. The attached map indicates the location of koala records within State forests, these digital records are available through the NSW Government's BIONET Atlas.

Forestry Corporation, in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Forest Science and other agencies has conducted significant surveys, monitoring and research into koalas in the public hinterland forests of the North Coast, including within these forests over the last decade. The detail can be found on DPI's website at [Forest Ecology \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://ForestEcology.nsw.gov.au).

In summary this research has found that

- public forests on the North Coast provide koalas with around 1.7 million hectares of high quality habitat
- occupancy of that habitat is much higher than previously thought
- koalas are resilient to timber harvesting under the strict regulations applied and that there is no difference in koala occupancy or density as a result of sustainable timber harvesting operations.
- the trend in koala populations within these hinterland forests is stable, not declining as reported in other koala populations
- fires did impact koala populations, but that impact was largely confined to areas burnt at very high severity and koalas continue to persist in most of those areas, although at reduced levels



- koala population declines associated with the Black Summer fires were much lower across the North Coast hinterland than reported elsewhere.

Whilst koalas are demonstrably doing well in the public forests of the North Coast, Forestry Corporation recognises that particular populations and locations are threatened by activities such as vehicle strike, land clearing for development and dog attack. Further, changing climate, increased fire risk and disease have potential to impact koala populations.

Within the MidCoast Council area, a range of forestry activities occur including Private Native Forestry activities on private properties overseen by Local Land Services, plantation activities on both private and public land overseen by DPI Forestry and Forestry Corporation's activities in State forests. These each have their own regulatory arrangements and responsibilities and as such are generally not appropriate to include in MidCoast Council's strategy or actions other than from a contextual perspective.

Consistent with the objective of the MidCoast Council koala strategy, management actions that mitigate the recognised threats that are within MidCoast Council's areas of responsibility should be the priority of this strategy. Examples include:

- setting development limits for land clearing development within koala habitat
- setting dog control requirements within koala habitat
- implementing coordinated wild dog control with landholders for populations threatened by wild dogs
- prioritising road fencing for vehicle strike hotspots such as along the Buckets Way
- establishing koala signage and speed limits in semi-rural and urban areas with koalas
- carrying out fire fuel mitigation works on council owned reserves in koala habitat
- investigating improved koala under pass/overpass on Pacific Highway between Forster turnoff and Purfleet, given the highway forms a significant impediment to east-west movement of koalas and the current wildlife underpass is not ideal and being used by mountain bikers using Old Bar Cycle Way
- encouraging and facilitating reforestation on cleared land at the landscape scale where linkages between forested areas have been broken by land clearing and development
- encouraging landowners to conduct habitat restoration on fire-affected koala habitat to manage dense regrowth or weed infestations
- improving koala injury care and rehabilitation facilities within the MidCoast Council area.

Forestry Corporation note MidCoast Council is active in koala habitat restoration and commend this work. Research and experience has shown that koalas occupy plantings of suitable species within remarkably short timeframes so there is significant ability to restore or improve habitat for koalas in cleared and semi-cleared areas. These efforts will be improved where remnant mature trees of suitable species occur. Attachment B provides indicative locations of where connectivity could be improved.

Forestry Corporation supports community planting through an annual program of seedling giveaways for re-establishing koala habitat and would be happy to discuss this further. We also have resources to support effective tree planting for habitat online at <https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/sustainability/forest-research/koalas-on-the-nsw-north-coast/koalas>

Further ongoing monitoring of koala numbers, collection of data of koalas entering care and disease status to maintain awareness of koala populations trends will be important to guide future conservation actions. To this end, data sharing arrangements should be considered with other land managers and agencies. Forestry Corporation is happy to share information

and data about its koala management programs in the MidCoast Council area. Current research and monitoring programs in the MidCoast Council area are summarised below:

**Monitoring** – Forestry Corporation monitor koala occupancy annually using song meters across forests of the North Coast under the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (CIFOA) monitoring plan. This adds to monitoring data collected by DPI since 2015.

**Kiwarra State Forest fire project** – Forestry Corporation is reintroducing low intensity fire into Kiwarra State Forest to help the habitat recover from the 2019-20 Black Summer fires. Koala density and recovery is being monitored using song meters in a grid array across four large treatment areas with the first low intensity fire introduced during spring of 2023.

**UAV(Drone) surveys** – Forestry Corporation are designing a UAV survey program primarily for Southern Greater Gliders which will commence in 2024 which is expected to reveal additional information on koala abundance and add to the data being collected for the statewide koala baseline surveys.

Forestry Corporation welcomes the opportunity to meet with MidCoast Council to discuss the matters above earlier and to support the development of the strategy and look forward to providing feedback on the draft stagey once prepared.

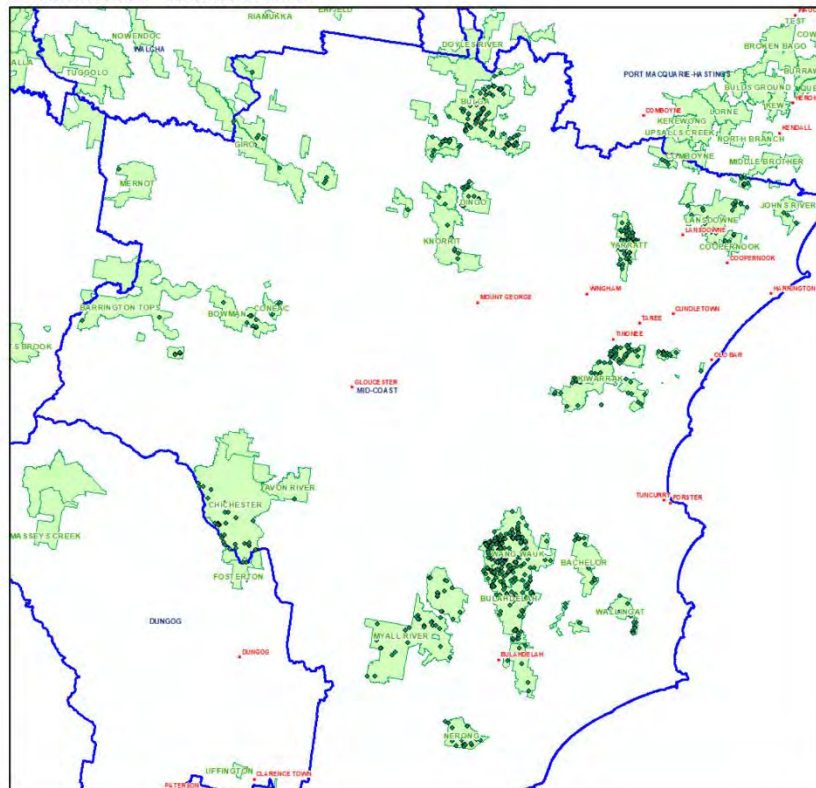
Should you have any questions, or require further information about any of the information outlined in this letter, please feel free to contact me on 0419962477.

Yours sincerely

**Justin Williams**  
Biodiversity and Strategy Manager  
Forestry Corporation of NSW



# Attachment A – koala records



Attachment B – Approximate locations for improved koala connectivity corridors (yellow)





## Online surveys

<b>Question 1: Can you identify and describe where koala populations are in the MidCoast?</b>
Old Bar area
No response
Kolinda Drive and land along the west side of Saltwater Rd. Lot 70 Saltwater Road.
I rely on professional mapping and siting data for this information
Yes, NSW Government modelling and mapping and knowing preferred fodder trees in this region
No response
I can only describe in my backyard and local area at Red Head. We have lived on the back of the corridor for 20 years.
Bunyah
From the recent Koala Dog survey a number of properties have evidence of koalas. 192 Clarke st, 11 Clarke st and 39 warri st,Pindimar
In accordance with the NSW Govt "Restoring Koala Habitat" Info/fact sheet Koalas are found from Tweed Heads down to Newcastle but the sheets also states that Koala populations are sparse/fragmented throughout this region.
Tinonee School, Tinonee township, Alpine Drive and Peg Leg Creek, Mondrook.
Gloucester River at Cedar Creek, 2363 Gloucester Tops Rd, Invergordon, NSW, 2422
Yes
No response
stroud
No
The Bucketts area near Gloucester.
I had a koala in my garden in February 2022. The first. I sighting I have had since moving here in1980. I also saw one in a tree on the property across the road from my property, on Terreel Road, Wards River, several months ago.
Yes
Yes, with some general maps available
Weismantels, Wards River
My place (Cedar Creek at Invergordon) and Port Macquarie near the hospital
Yes
Partially
Koalas are located from port stephens all the way up to tweed heads with different numbers in populations depending on habitat available
Some
No response
I am aware of some but not all locations although I rarely see koalas.
No response
To some extent
Kiwarra Forest.
I have only seen one on the Booti Booti walk and on the road-The Lakes Way between the Blueys turnoff and The Recky Club.
No response
Harrington and tinonee
Yes
YES
widespread distribution
North Arm Cove

Tinonee Port Macquarie Kempsey
I do not have sufficient information to identify koala populations
Not by habitations if that's what you mean but I have heard of sightings in dyers crossing
Black Head, Diamond Beach
near tinonee
Forest near Taree and Crowdy head
Some of them
In Wingham, Tinonee
Yes
No

<b>Question 2: Can you identify and describe areas where koalas regularly move between areas of habitat?</b>
Have seen in the last 18 months koalas crossing Old Bar road just before turn off to Ironwood Sawmill( Crows nest Rd), near Rosebank cemetery, in Kolinda Drive, crossing old bar road in front of tavern heading toward Redgum Rd saltwater Rd, Follies rdne
No response
Along the portion of land, 70 Saltwater Rd and into the properties of Kolinda Drive.
As above
I can identify potential corridors. Their use is dependent on many variables though.
No response
They move from Tallwoods corridor down to the Red Head Reserve.
Peoples farmland including the trees along Bunyah Road.
No response
Without appropriate food trees and adequate cover and transit areas, the populations are likely to decline
Tinonee Public School, Alpine Drive Tinonee
Around my property
No
No response
stroud
no
No
No response
yes
Yes, red mahogany and gum trees
Nth of weismantels rd along the bucketts way
My place
Yes
Partially
yes they travel across my paddocks into neighbouring bushland and along our street treeline
At the bulga plateau koalas move from adjacent national parks, colling road, the Oxygen farm.
Deans creek area on The Bucketts Way and up into Tinonee Manchester St.
I am aware of some but not all areas where koalas move around.
No response
To some degree mostly due to past sightings and current signage
Crossing ove the Bucketts way from Deans creek area into Tinonee.



Other locals have reported sightings last year on the Seal Rocks Road a few kms from Seal Rocks, road to Celito Beach and The Lakes Way near the Bramble Reserve Tarbuck Bay
No response
Harrington near the colonial caravan park
Yes
YES
no
No
no
No
No response
No response
Tinonee - Wingham
Above
Some of them
between eucalyptus trees in forests
Yes
No

<b>Question 3: Are you aware of any previous or potential koala habitats which could be restored?</b>
Forest lane, koala crossing Saltwater Rd towards Forest Lane
No
The bushland of 70 Saltwater road and the industrial estate on Saltwater Rd.
No
There are innumerable recently (last 25 years) cleared areas in the LGA that still have high resilience and regeneration potential. Less resilient areas between areas of good habitat can be revegetated. Degrading factors such as Lantana need treatment
Northern Hinterland Grey Gum-Turpentine mesic forest remnants associated PCTs containing Eucalyptus microcorys, E punctuata/propinqua from Bushland Drive to North of Brimbin Nature Reserve; Yarrat SF
The final link needs to be restored and open from Cowan's land to the Red Head reserve.
Tuncurry and Forster where new developments are being built.
Areas of old growth forest that were clear felled at 180 Clarke st approx 12-15 years ago
The Forster - Tuncurry area has undergone major land-clearing. Koalas were likely to have been there prior to this so-called land development
Alpine Drive Tinonee - new subdivision
No
No
No response
No
No
No
No
No
personal Sightings in 2023 along The Buckets Way from Tinonee to Burrell Creek and also at Gloucester Rd at Bootawa. Travelling stock reserves no longer used.
No
No

Over grown lantana and heavy growth
No
kiwarrak state forest could be reclassified as a reginal park to enable bush regeneration and more habitat for koalas.we could improve all corridors leading to this area to enable movement of the population away from suburban areas to ensure their surviva
Koalas were plentiful on the bulga plateau in the 1800s and early 1900s, as I document in the book "The Mountain Speaks
No
I am aware that koala habitat at South Taree is slated for development. It makes far more sense ecologically and economically to protect existing habitat than to try to restore degraded habitat.
No
Hawks Nest . I used to regularly see Koalas up to around 20 years ago but have not seen any since. I believe the lack of renewal using cool burns of small areas of bush land ( pockets) have led to stressed trees that are less palatable.
No
As above
No
Crowdy national park area
Waitui valley into the Coorabakh NP
No
cleared land
Twenty years ago, koalas were regularly sighted in the North Arm Cove village area but are no longer present.
No
No
Cusack Lane has lots of trees and bush with a lot of wildlife and we would love to have koala corridor on our property to help them safely pass over over the hill we see lots of kangaroos go through our property and thought koalas could have a safe space
No
No
Smith Lake
Old bar. Thrumster. All areas damaged by the bushfires where our koala population was destroyed and where the property development is destroying their habitat.
No
Tree regeneration in the fire effected areas, improved fencing along the hwy
No

<b>Question 4: Are you aware of any areas koalas have been hit by a vehicle? Describe the koala vehicle strike hotspots you are aware of (describe or provide Google map coordinates)</b>
No
Old bar road
No
No
No
No
No
The highway between Nabitac and Taree.



No
No
Bucketts Way - I have personally rescued a Koala on this road
No
No
Bucketts/Hillville turn off, Hillville/Careys turn off, & just outside the warning sign on Bucketts going west & 500 metres before Hillville turn off
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
No
Bucketts Way - at the beginning of Bucketts Way (Port Stephens) between Forest Glen Road and Deep Creek, at Brewers Creek
the buckets way near the blind corner heading into tinonee just after the koala sign and in tinonee township and on the road out to mondrook
No
On the road from Tinonee to Wingham
No
No
No
Between deans creeks and manchester st in Tinonee
Wattley Hill Rd
No
No
No
Bucketts Way, Tinonee - from Denva road intersection to Hillville. Tinonee road between Tinonee and Wingham and Bootawah Road
No
No
Bucketts way near Tinonee
No
No
Black Head Road
No
No
Driving to port Macquarie from taree- coast or hwy. old bar road.
No
The lakes way rainbow flat near old soldiers rd
No

<b>Question 5: What could help reduce this number of vehicle strikes at this location?</b>
No response
Flashing lights, flashing happy koala when driving to speed limit
No response

No response
No response
No response
No response
More fencing to deter koalas.
No response
No response
Reduced speed limits, more Koala flashing alerts and signage
No response
No response
Move the warning sign nearer to Hillville turn off
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
Building ways koalas go underneath the road
drop the speed limit to 50, paint the road signage bigger and brighter, reduce speeds on mondrook roads
No response
Leave the potholes in the road so people drive slowly:). Reduce speed limit.
No response
No response
No response
Fencing leading to and a tunnel or animal bridge
Speed reductions and signage
No response
No response
No response
Reduce speed limit to 60kms during active Koala times (dawn and dusk), Flashing lights which are activated only when a koala is close by - utilizing AI and CCTV surveillance techniques, speed bumps in high kill zones (Bealy Road, Deans Creek road & tinone
No response
No response
Koala fences, underpasses
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
Stop cutting down the trees. Keep "wildlife pathways " for them to move from area to area.
No response
Signage
No response

<b>Question 6: Do you know of locations where koalas are at risk of dog attack or trampling by livestock? Describe the location and provide Google map coordinates if possible.</b>
Kolinda Drive
No response
No response
This is a risk in any koala area
Any farms adjoining the NP in Wootton. Lots of sightings in area, lots of unrestrained dogs and lots of cattle
No response
No response
Bunyah
Feral dogs are rife along Pindimar RD and areas of Warri and Clarke St, Pindimar.
Any road/thoroughfare that dissects habitat
Alpine Drive, Tinonee
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
Lansdowne
Riverford Road, unrestrained pet dogs as small packs near owner's property.
No response
No response
No response
1402 Booral-Washpool Road, Stroud
all of Tinonee township and surrounding properties koalas are at risk
No response
No response
Anywhere there are dogs and livestock.
No response
Hawks Nest
No response
No response
No response
Harrington
No response
Tinonee Village - all backyards with dogs, Beaulieu Road, Urray Road, Bull Hill Road, Clarke's Road
Anywhere where koalas and grazing land occur together
the non urban area at North Arm Cove
No response
No response
No response
No response
Tinonee
No response
Port Macquarie.



No response
Kiwarra heights estate
No response
No response

<b>Question 7: What measures may help reduce dog attacks on koalas?</b>
Dogs locked up at night, a number roam neighborhood
No response
No response
There has been extensive research on this issue that Council should rely on
Public education, strengthened companion animals act, council regs and compliance improved, significant fines for dog owners whose pets kill or injure koalas
No response
No response
Dog owners not letting their dogs wander, night or day.
Trapping and shooting from professional shooters.
Dogs and cats to be housed indoors at night and/or secure enclosures. If living in a koala designated zone, take appropriate measures to ensure control of predatory animals (aforementioned) and if koalas are crossing property, ensure they can do so safely.
Awareness & support programs for residents, restrictions on types of dogs, conservation zoning, correct residential fencing
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
Lock up dogs
Restrictions on number of pet dogs for each property. Not relating to working dogs which are usually managed with kennels and owners presence while loose.
No response
No response
No response
We have enclosed area where the dogs cannot get out. The attack with cattle was over 13 years ago. Putting in tree avenues for koalas to access river and be able to move around more freely, no cattle with calves
the fencing in the community doesnt allow koalas to escape easily ( colourbond), people are too relaxed about dogs roaming this includes neighbouring rural properties. rangers could get tougher to ensure people keep dogs on their own property and locked up at night. more education needed. increase koala habitat outside of residential area and improve corridors for koalas to enable movement into neighbouring forest Kiwarra as well as redesignate kiwarra state forest into a regional park to enable better use of the land with bush regeneration and provide a safer habitat.
No response
In general within the village of Tinonee. as koalas move thru the village they are vulnerable to dog attacks.
Whenever koalas are moving around on the ground they are vulnerable to dog attack. The Koala Safe Spaces program is using public money to undertake restoration works on private land where landholders have free-roaming dogs. I suggest that unless people will

undertake to restrict their dogs and can demonstrate that they have secure fenced areas for their dogs they should not be eligible for koala funding.
No response
Dogs must be on lead when walked and secured in dog runs in yards of a night or brought inside. Banning dogs from small areas is not sustainable as neighbours can have dogs and the large number of tourists who bring their dogs.
No response
No response
No response
Dogs kept on leash
No response
Education, Koala proof fencing
No response
Restricting unleashed dogs, especially dogs owned by bush campers
No response
No response
No response
No response
fences
No response
I don't know. Fines. Penalties. Wild dog and feral cat management
No response
Planting food trees away from these direct locations, better fencing and dog owner awareness education of koala movement
No response

<b>Question 8: As koalas move between habitat areas they may be at risk. Understanding such movement can help us identify areas for the restoration or creation of koala corridors. Are you aware such koala movement?</b>
Previous mentioned areas in earlier questions
Koalas in trees in Kolinda Drive Old Bar two sightings in private properties
As we lived at this address for 39 years, we have witnessed numerous sightings of koalas on our property, neighbouring properties as well as uninhabited bushland adjoining our fencelines. Obviously the koalas are moving from one area to another as we have seen them up one tree for a short period of time and moved by the next day. Approximately 2 years ago I stopped the car 2 doors up at 36 Kolinda Drive to watch a small koala cross the road and climb a sapling to safety. We have heard koalas bellowing and grunting around this time of the year so many times much to our dogs disgust. This has been less frequent after the fire of 2019. After the fires in 2019 our neighbours rescued injured koalas in the bushland around Kolinda and another koala that was burnt was rescued from a tree near No. 16 Kolinda Drive.
N/A
No
I have not personally witnessed koalas on ground except when involved in release to Brimbin Nature Reserve, however I have noted several trees in and around Yarrat SF with significant scratch marks and have sighted koalas in bushland north of Iluka CRT. If logging operations continue in Yarrat, the area between the southern section of Yarrat and Brimbin Nature Reserve needs to be preserved as a koala corridor, especially as development proceeds in the newer parts of the Stoney Creek subdivision. Higher vehicle traffic and fencing designed for stock rather than dogs, not to mention a very narrow riparian strip along Stoney Creek, makes this area much more dangerous for koalas to travel through. Retaining and restoring or allowing natural regeneration of sites such as

the cleared area between Old Port Macquarie Rd and Kindabel Close would improve connectivity here. In the Spotted Gum/Ironbark remnants north of Old Port Macquarie Rd there is significant Lanata invasion and although these sites are of lower value for koala food and habitat, they still form an important link between Yarrat Forest and the newly enlarged Brimbin Reserve.
Jan & Brian Cowan's 57 acre property extending to Shelly Beach.
They are everywhere in Bunyah.
Solid fences are a major obstacle, both chain mail and colour bond pose insurmountable barriers.
No response
No response
On my property and my neighbours from 2341 to 2363 Gloucester Tops Rd, Invergordon, NSW
Koalas move around forests on the MidNorth Coast.
No response
Listening Hill Stroud
no
My understanding is that Koala can / would move in and out of The Bucketts. However, the corridors are limited by open grazing land, cropping and housing development and roads between The Bucketts and the valleys of the Gloucester and Barrington Rivers.
I saw a koala sitting in the middle of the road, on Bucketts Wy on the southern edge of Stratford village. I sat and waited several minutes for him to move. I had to sound my horn to get him to move off the road. He headed east.
no
Sighted movement of koalas in the following general locations during 2023. :- Between Tinonee and Bootawa Rd. :- 200m West of Bootawa Rd on Buckets way :- 200m South of Killawarra Bridge on Gloucester Rd. :- Various places near Burrell Creek Hall, RFS building, Riverford Rd, First 400m Gloucester Rd :-4402 The Buckets Way, Kundibakh -32.242938, 151.929766
on 2 occasions we have seen koalas crossing the Bucketts way here -32.067098000 Lat 151.739332000 Long They come and go around my property of 48 hectares and my neighbour's property.
I only know what the council have advised already
having corridors protects the koalas, it provides shelter belts for cattle and minimises weeds as well as attracting birds and bees
yes and i have signed up to the koala safe spaces program to create a corridor on my property to provide a better link leading into the kiwarra state forest
I believe that they move around the bulga plateau
Deans Creek The Bucketts way
I have seen koalas at Minimbah, Myall Lakes NP and Whoota and they have been reported near where I live at Coomba Park. I have no idea what corridors they use on the ground and I am terrified for their safety given the number of threats that they have to navigate when moving around.
411 Koppin Yarratt Road Upper Lansdowne
Yes. I have seen photos from residents showing a koala behind the pharmacy in Yamba st.
No response
As described above-The Lakes Way between Blueys turn off and The Recky Elizabeth Beach, Brambles reserve Tarbuck Bay
No response



Across Harrington road near the colonial caravan park and manor road
I know koalas were spotted up on the ridge line west of Waitui in the Comboyne State Forest after the bush fires.
Throughout Tinonee and Kiwarrik
No response
No response
no
as in my previous response, i do not have sufficient information
Sorry I don't know any locations but want to be known I would like to do my part on my property for them and always drive looking out for them
No response
I can't
No response
Across old bar road. Across saltwater road.
No response
Khappinghat creek corridor
No response
<b>Question 9: Do koalas appear to be at risk during movement? Please describe</b>
Speeding cars. old Bar & Saltwater Rd, roaming dogs, development
60km speed limit no signage to heighten awareness
Whilst on the ground the koalas are at risk. The number of vehicles using Saltwater and Old Bar Roads have increased dramatically and so have the number of domestic dogs in the many housing developments that have grown around this area.
Koalas are always at increased risk when on the ground
Road crossings, foxes, cats, dogs, cattle, Lantana slowing them down making them more vulnerable
The koala release I observed made it very obvious how stressful human interaction is, and that koalas limit their movement between trees to only as much as necessary, since they are so vulnerable on the ground.
Limited trees and destruction of corridor leaves the koala vulnerable to dog attacks and lack of food.
Cars and dogs
Roads
Koala habitat must be restored that include koals-safe transit zones
From cars on the roads and lack of habitat for natural movement
No
No
Yes
No
Yes
As mentioned above, grazing, cropping and housing development and roads.
Yes
Yes
Generally observed moving along ground at road edge or in table drains. Some drivers at night stopping, but with headlights on animal, or flashing hazard lights dazzling animal.
Crossing The Bucketts way
No
Busier roads such as tinonee road.
Koalas are being exposed where properties have been cleared and new trees are not allowed to re-seed

neighbouring owner has cattle and we have seen wild dogs and neighbouring dogs roaming freely
No
they cross over the road from Kiwarrak .... the road is winding and visibility restricted traffic is doing 80 kmph.
They must be crossing roads and encountering dogs as they move around on the ground.
No
Yes
Yes
Vehicle accidents
No
From cars
Well this koala was in a logging area. Many koalas are at risk moving in nearly all known habitat.
Dog attack, car strike, cattle trampling
Any roads. Need speed limits of max 80 km/h where there are known koalas
Yes
Yes
they are at risk in the same way as other animals crossing a path
No
Yes
roads
No
Of course they r at risk. They r vulnerable.
Yes
Being on the ground creates risk of predator and dog attacks
No

<b>Question 10: What activities would you like to see occur to better educate and engage the community in koala conservation?</b>
Signage..... warning signs like they have in Laurieton Koala zone.... Reduce speed limits In areas stated previously where koala have been sighted. Records speed
Planting of koala friendly trees
Digital messaging on vulnerable roads
We feel that an education program to encourage the public to report all sightings all year round. Also the use of wildlife corridors and fire breaks in all new developments and label these on maps as well as having the developers use signage to identify these areas.
Information on the latest science on koala habitat requirements
Better education and awareness around on farm activities that put koalas at risk. Too much clearing, underscrubbing, trail biking, loose dogs, poor fire management etc in this area and little compliance by authorities against illegal activity
Involve local schools in regular koala surveys and monitoring; more promotion of koala surveys and proposed development in or adjacent to koala habitat; botanical identification activities to improve awareness of koala food trees and where they occur
Encourage the planting of koalas eucalyptus trees through all educational facilities.
Encourage landowners to keep their dogs contained.
More signs alerting driving public of the presence of koalas and a reduction of speed limits in and around Bundabah, Pindimar North and South. And also Pindimar Rd to the Myall Way.
Public education - within schools, communities, and especially for those within Councils and Land developers." Such education must mandate the need to dramatically increase koala-safe habitat and transit corridors. We cannot keep urbanizing the landscape - slicing and dicing their habitat, and expect these creatures to survive. For everyone on property to get

behind the notion of sharing the environment with wildlife rather than having permission to displace them. Koala-friendly trees need to be planted wholesale across the entire region.
More leadership from the top down. Cutting down reducing and infringing on known Koala habitats for subdivisions and developments sends the community message that nature doesn't come first. The messaging from council needs to reflect the issues at hand. We need to contribute to the natural environment with sustainable solutions that work in cohesion with nature. Easy to read accessible information for residents in koala populated areas.
Results of surveys published. Public awareness of where Koalas are and where they move. Cease destruction of habitat. Once it is known where they are, habitat is to be preserved.
Promotion of the koala research that has been completed by the DPI that demonstrates that good forestry practices benefit koala habitat and that the population numbers are doing well in state managed forests. NSW Forest Corp providing education to schools re: benefits of forestry and how they contribute to koala conservation.
Hearts & Minds comes to mind! Local younger people should be encouraged to discuss (formally) ways to improve all wild life survivability at farm & village level. Encourage leadership by local "parish" leaders Provide infrared binoculars to those keenly interested in this project & who will report their findings monthly. These people should be living in the local community & understand country practices (see above) Koalas-in-Care for example has done an amazing job yet few people are aware of the supreme effort over many years
Preserve wildlife corridors Educate community of the importance of preserving trees
No response
No response
No response
No response
Education that not every koala is a sick koala. Education about vehicle lighting at night and blinding for koala.
No response
Stop clearing trees that are habitat.
Lantana management Bushfire prevention Education and planting of koala preferred trees
Teaching farmers, that it is important not to remove trees. Trees provide protection from storms and heat so having shelter belts and indigenous trees adds value, by providing corridors with different levels of vegetation with native grasses they are better planning for bushfires and taking the heat out of fires, removing lantana. Noise is another big factor though people with dirt bikes and land clearing are causing degradation to environments that had previously not been cleared exposing areas to erosion and removing remnant trees. This in turn creates methods for lantana to grow. Regular burn offs where possible with all landholders, council and RFS better working together. Landholders should be more aware of the environment and climate that they are affecting.
i thought the koala day at tinonee oval was a success there seemed to be a lot of community members attending. maybe more days like this to educate the public, more letterbox drop info on keeping koalas safe in residential area by locking dogs up at night etc maybe even radio broadcasts or social media posts with educational messages
education in schools
First nations people and other koala agencies engaging with school children. The children are very keen and interested.
We need all landholders to understand that we must share the environment with other species. Owning land does not give you the right to do what you want. I think there is a need for much clearer and easily accessible spatial information about environmental values and restrictions on landholders. Especially as there is a high level of turnover of properties in this area I think that information packs about the local environment, the values of the local



environment, the legal requirements of landholders (biosecurity), the restrictions on what they can do should be made available to new residents. This could be done through Councils spatial data system.
No response
No response
Reduce the speed limit and speed cameras from Beaully Rd on the Buckets Way into Tinonee. -31.9467644, 152.4252592
Speed reduction limits, signage, record of sightings eg Koala sighted here 2022
Basic information 1. Where are the Mid Coast Koala populations? 2. How can we as a community protect these habitats.
Tours/ sightings recorded and shared in tell everybody
Travelling to all locations with education group to educate the public on koalas requirements to survive and how they can assist in their local area and when travelling.
Practical solutions in the education process to support communities to make significant change.
No response
A koala survey at North Arm Cove and surrounding area such as Karuah Conservation area and The Bulga Creek area Signs about wildlife protection at the North Arm Cove Community Centre precinct would be helpful
educational displays at markets
information sessions close to our location
Help in building koala safe habitats on properties I know many locals who would be more than happy to have space on their property dedicated to koala habitats being established for them especially as a lot of us have properties where previous owners took way too many trees down
The fact that you needed to state that this exercise won't affect landholders shows that Council understands that some landholders have an ongoing fear that revelations about koalas being on their property will result in some type of adverse outcome for the landholder. This is probably deeply ingrained. Landholders should feel that having koalas on a property adds value to it. Valuing natural resources should become an everyday factor in thinking about the value of land.
koala tunnels
Planting of trees throughout MidCoast to provide food corridors. Residents to keep animals in at night.
Council and developers actually showing they care rather than lip service. Making real change by dramatically changing how developers build and where they build. leaving in place more wild life pathways. Stop destroying their habitats.
No response
More education about how they move around and what to do to help them move from location to location. Back burning in more traditional ways for low and slow burns
No response

<b>Question 11: What partnerships between Council and other organisations do you think may be beneficial? Please say how the partnership would work and what the benefits would be:</b>
Tree planting with organisations such as Landcare etc.
Forestry, if not already undertake citizen science research on sightings
Council should be in close contact with organisations such as The Koala Preservation society, Wires, National Parks etc. (which may be already happening) to bring together all stakeholders including the general public for a combined approach to reporting, recording and

mapping of Koalas and their habitat areas. This should be available to all persons who are interested. Also an education program that introduces this concept into schools, especially primary age groups. Young Australians have a important role in the future of our environment.
Current partnerships with Landcare and LLS have been very beneficial. Stronger partnership with wildlife and rehabilitation groups would also be good
Coordination between council and other koala and habitat involved bodies such as Landcare, BCT, AABR, NCC, Koala NGOs, DCEWW etc to set priority areas for education, restoration, private land conservation land acquisition, development constraints etc.
No response
Consistent and effective regulations to stop landowners destroying and denuding the corridors. Making developers accountable to regenerate the corridor.
No response
Needs to be far more co-ordinated planning to protect and retain stands of habitat, map and identify so as developers/land owners know their responsibilities. Too often the excavators are in and too late, habitat gone. Give a monetary value on the worth of corridors to encourage protection eg rebate on rates....
For Council to get out of the pocket of Land developers. For those whose sole intent is to profit from buying land and then sub-dividing it for housing, there must not only be a cap on housing, but also much stronger measures that prevent destruction of habitat BEFORE it can occur. The threat of having to pay a fine for destroying habitat after the fact when profiting from multi-million deals at the expense of the environment (and koalas) is not a deterrant against rogue operators and/or those who feel the Council is tacitly approving environmental destruction.
No response
No response
Midcoast Council would benefit in partnership with NSW Forest Corp to promote good forestry practices that maintain healthy forests that are balanced for all activities eg: forestry harvesting, recreational, and environment with habitat diversity including koalas. Forestry income indirectly supports our regional infrastructure as roads/bridges and fire access in the public state forests are maintained by NSW Forest Corp. Our region could promote overall balance between ecology, regional jobs, fire mitigation strategies and balanced with our need for sustainable, renewable forests and wood products. Midcoast Council would also benefit from liasing with the local indigenous population and NSW Rural Fire Services cultural burning that act as fire mitigation strategies.
No response
No response
No response
As a member of the Gloucester Environment Group I am aware of the support that Council gives to landholders encourage tree planting. I believe that the proposed Strategy needs to outline how property owners and managers covering The Bucketts and surrounding lands will be engaged in an on-going program of research, property planning assistance and enhancement. A balance needs to be struck between land use / production and long term survival of the Koala species.
No response
No response
Engage with community groups (like local hall committees) to assist/monitor local movement when sighted. - Maybe temporary signs managed by those groups similar to "smoke hazard" for rural burn-off from the RFS. This to enable timely and local management of those signs. (Risk that identification could increase distraction to drivers looking for koalas and distracting them from safe driving.) Potential to identify rural landholders with significant areas to become relocation sites for koalas being crowded from the urban fringes.
No response
No response

Slow burns and lantana management is essential for Koalas and all wildlife
Weirdly I think working with private sequestration businesses that are coming into practice would be beneficial while these businesses do promote removal of trees, perhaps this will change through energy regulator, also councils could offer discounts are some form of incentive for landholders to take up carbon sequestration and planting of native grasses to improve soils, better methods of promoting soil improving rather than high phosphates that also impact rivers, by planting native grasses this in turn would offer less water required on paddocks and where paddocks have been improved more naturally to offer better water uptake and remove impaction.
redesignate kiwarrak into a regional park. Division 5 of the national parks and wildlife acts sets out the administrative framework for regional parks. The care control and management of the regional park can be under the secretary of the NPWS , a regional park trust or a local council and a regional park trust board needs to be established. We could work with local land services, Landcare, Taree indigenous development and enterprise (TIDE) who have programs for working on country and the mid coast aboriginal ranger school based traineeship and this area could provide a very valuable asset not only for koala populations but for our community. we could work with koala conservation groups such as koala conservation Australia limited and work towards building a local koala rehabilitation hospital to support koalas in care as Christine and Paul are elderly and i am not sure of the contingency plan for the future should something happen to them who will take over this role of caring for our koalas ??
Council already partners with coastcare and landcare. It works well.
Council, local and national road authorities, forestry collaborations.
I think koalas need us to really step up the level of coordination with organisations that operate at various spatial scales. MidCoast Council has a key role to play in coordinating actions that take place within our LGA. I think we should be partnering with universities to improve our knowledge about koala populations, threats and successful strategies. We should also be partnering with state government agencies such as Roads and Maritime to establish and improve koala safe road crossings in known hotspots. We should be partnering with the state government on planning the conservation estate and ending native forest logging. At a more local level perhaps we should try partnering with local associations such as "progress" associations, and get them to include conservation of our local environment and biodiversity on their agendas. I think another possible partner would be local garden clubs - how to make your garden wildlife friendly. Perhaps partnering with existing conservation landholder organisations such as BCT, LfW and HSI.
No response
University research and indigenous
Not sure
Not an organisation, just information sharing. Community workshops, street meetings etc. the weed review in Smiths Lake and planting for Sugar-gliders was great. Schools- students could be involved in the interpretation of data collected. Thus becoming aware of numbers increases/ decreases. This will inform their future.
Council needs to work with the local communities that live around Koala Habitats & get those communities to take on a protective role. Many schools, clubs & residents in the LGA would happily participate in a community project developed by Council.
No response
Council needs to partner with state government to halt logging in koala habitat (current and previous) Council needs to be stringent and transparent in allowing clearing of land for development as well as private logging. Council needs to partnership with environmental groups, wildlife groups and private landholders to reintroduce koalas to habitat they once lived in. Disease and stress free initiatives. If they were successfully reintroduced to SA and healthy populations established it can be done here.



Schools and Council - educate the children
No response
No response
Council and local markets to get the word out
there are many partners which could be involved Koala hospitals Private native forest owners/managers LLS scientists NGOs/Landcare
Education for the community on things we can do to make a difference
This may already happen but, if not, partnerships with schools could be beneficial.
?
Anyone that can help. Residence should be become involved to assist with information.
Work more closely with environmental agencies who are trying to protect the koalas and their habitats.
No response
Nurseries to allow land owners access to koala friendly trees, water troughs in trees. Rfs and local traditional owners, for back burning advice of areas for low heat fires to be conducted.
No response

<b>Question 12: What additional research and monitoring of koala populations do you think would be beneficial?</b>
Recording/ cameras in areas where koalas have been sighted to check on population numbers and health of koalas
As above
A council website showing all reporting of sightings in the MCC area, this being available to all people in the area as well as schools etc.
Koala researchers would be better placed to answer this question
I think the continuation of current activities through council, dpi, Landcare are sufficient
Ecological role of koalas and their interactions with other species; investigating links between the health of koala populations, supporting vegetation communities and the health of adjacent human populations
Just fight and do your job now to protect the extinction of these mammals before we have none in our area except signs that say 'Koalas were here'
No response
Drone mapping.
Citizen science, corporate accountability and [their] direct involvement in ensuring koala habitat is restored. Without koala-safe transit corridors, the genetic diversity of the species will be further compromised and eventually lead to localized extinction.
No response
An ongoing study of where they are and monitoring populations/sightings.
Do the NSW National Parks actually benefit koala populations? How do they compare with the current NSW State Forestry practices? Do koala populations exist within NSW National Parks and the NSW state managed forests? Do koalas have preferred forest areas eg: National Park/State Forest? If so, why? What are the size of the koala populations in a National Park and State Forests? Do Koalas prefer new growth compared to National Park old growth forests and which particular tree species do they prefer? What impact would monoculture hardwood plantations have on koala populations?
Take koala/all wild life monitoring out of the hands of Forestry NSW (when logging) as I believe they have reported few sightings. Also any significant tree felling by private owners

should be subject to prior inspection. Certain tree species should be spared
Do not plant trees close to busy roads
Ensure mapping of sightings is up to date
No response
A full scale study of the Koala populations existing in and in proximity to The Bucketts needs to be undertaken to maximise the viability of existing and future populations.
No response
No response
Council should be advocate for university and other external research and provide conduit for those groups to access relevant habitat and locations for research. That is, not direct financial support, but assisting the research.
regular monitoring during breeding season
No response
I see many koalas on trees along roads I wonder if this is because they can't access the safer areas with less cars and dogs due to lantana?
Allowing properties owners to be a sanctuary and encouraging these to increase koalas and wildlife, again perhaps this is another method of encouragement with council allowing methodologies of landholders to put lodgings in that are totally eco and offering eco tourism that minimises harm. This would then allow landholders to be less reliant financially and therefore landholders could work with the officers to increase surveillance and sightings.
continue research on bush fire affected areas and koala movement into these areas by use of sound meters and looking for scats and scatchings and maybe more drone surveys of all areas known to have koala populations ? heat detection drones ??
More monitoring of koalas in local state forests, such as Kiwarra
Microchip koalas so when they can activate warning lights to alert drivers.
Making roads safer for koalas - we need to know more about how to install safe koala crossings (underpasses ??). Where are there stable koala populations (if anywhere)?
No response
I suspect the lack of cool fire burns in small vegetation pockets have led to an increase in termites. The trees are under stress creating phytotoxins making the trees unpalatable to the koalas. The koalas then move being more susceptible to dogs and cars. There are also few new young trees to replace the older trees. There seems to be almost a monoculture of blackbutts, all of a similar age, which are not necessarily koala favoured.
Not sure
Environmental risks, habitat- minimum requirements for a population to be sustainable, continued research into reproductive science, current and future disease implications.
I think this is a question for the experts! Port Macquarie has been engaged with the Protection of Koalas for many decades I think they would have the best research & advice for Council.
How many are there in the Harrington area???
Talk to the AKF they have the best Koala mapping available. As usual no one listens. The outcome will only be as good as the continuation of collecting quality data with ongoing database and mapping updates and a strategy to protect populations left and to reintroduce healthy populations back to suitable where they once lived.
Tracking and monitoring of Koala populations gives evidence based data which can then be supported with infrastructure/policy/education changes to help keep Koalas safe from the impacts.
No response
Koala surveys of entire area between North Arm Cove village and Pacific Highway including Karuah Conservation area
numbers of populations
there are already a number of monitoring programs, however some more targeted programs could add to the existing data/statistics it would be important to understand what data is currently collected and available

I don't know enough but educating us locals on trees we can plant and where would be the best use for koalas to cross across our properties and funding some of the trees as unfortunately I don't personally have the funds to start planting a bunch of trees especially at the risk of planting the wrong trees and wrong location
Make it very easy for citizen scientists(anyone) to report koala populations and help protect them.
every year this could be done
Sponsor PhD students and school students to study local koalas
All the kolas sighting apps need to be removed from council who are in a compromised position.
No response
Making general public aware of general locations they have been seen, so they keep eyes peeled for them
No response

<b>Question 13: In discussions with State and Federal Government agencies, what do you think Council should be advocating for?</b>
Koala corridors expanded/ created. To ensure it isn't development at the cost of koala habitat loss
Local ratepayers involvement in proposed new developments that require destruction of fauna habitat
If all Local authorities then combined their information to a NSW website and then onto a Australia wide website which any person can access. Again encourage schools through DSE to introduce this in an education unit on the environment for all schools in the Stage . If primary schools were encourage to be involved voluntarily in either stage 2 or stage 3 in NSW, then students may become more invested in the future of their environment.
Stronger protections for koala habitat
Bush regeneration on national Park and state forest to reduce Lantana, better regional planning to reduce rural residential development, stronger companion animal laws and research and strategic action on cat and fox control
Ending logging in native forests and greater accountability of logging in state forests as well as on private land
All of the above. I understand the tiers of government just pay lip service to this country. SHARKS are extinct list but NOT KOALAS!!!
Maybe that would be a start; higher penalties etc
Not destroying koalas existing habitat.
Stop extensive land clearing on peoples properties.
Change the disastrous land clearing laws that came in 2016 or there abouts in NSW. Also the 50metre clear felling of vegetation around homes as per RFS.
Ensuring a cap on housing developments, no further land clearing and full, comprehensive restoration of koala habitat that includes koala-safe transit corridors - be it on public or private land.
No response
Support to maintain koala habitat and wildlife corridors.
Reduction in the size of the NSW National Parks and an increase in the footprint of NSW State Forests to be managed by NSW Forest Corp for forestry, conversation, recreation and fire mitigation strategies. This benefits our regional communities with healthy forests that support diversity of habitat, local jobs, wood products from our own backyard and reduced risk of wildfires that threaten our community. Examine the economic benefits of forestry ie: sustainable and renewable wood products that are required across all industries, roads, infrastructure, fire mitigation and public recreational spaces - low cost activities that benefit those who are living in small confined spaces.
All the above



Protection of native forests
No response
Support of the MidCoast Biodiversity Strategy.
They should be advocating for councils to stop approving large scale destruction of koala habitat, such as has occurred in Medowie. It is a total disgrace.
No response
Support for the research opportunities for ongoing research (nationally) including as relevant to the local situation.
Stop all commercial logging of natural forest
No response
Clearing heavy regrowth
Changing the environmental act ensuring that the act sits above State Government. Changing any land clearing options to raise awareness to landholders that there is benefits in having trees and shade, integration of wildlife amongst domestic animals. Indigenous officers, environmental officers to educate landholders on the benefits of attracting koalas and wildlife repairing the environment.
stop the logging of state forests in areas of regional koala significance and allow these areas to be turned into regional parks or whatever kind of conservation area the experts think is best to increase habitat for our koalas and other native flora and fauna .
Laws and regulations that prevent or restrict further rezoning of land to residential, commercial, etc. on which koalas pass through or have as core habitat. Also, rezonings which were made many years ago, and are now identified as koala or endangered species habitat.
Put a dollar value on Carbon sequestration. Regenerative practices that increase Australia's carbon footprint..... while at the same time keeping Australians and Australian flora and fauna healthy.
End native forest logging. Stop approving developments in known koala habitats. Increase the area set aside for conservation. Prioritise conservation and restoration in areas that will assist with koala movement and breeding. This includes in locations with high productivity.
No response
Care and conservation of existing vegetation
Not sure
1. Protection of vulnerable Koala habitats 2. Research and community education.
Protection of current Habitats & the purchase of land to protect these environmental from future developments.
Need to link with state forest and national parks in the Harrington and Crowdy area
great Koala NP would be a start No logging in state forests where koalas live or once lived. Tough laws on property developers. No development consent in areas where koalas live or once lived. Highway crossovers and street crossovers. Look at Canada's highway model. It's the old saying "no tree no me"
Advocate for changes to the RFS Rural Boundary Clearing Code to ensure crucial Koala habitat is not cleared to excess. Better managed State Forests.
No response
Less development in koala habitat areas
stop them becoming extinct
resources not just \$ also see my remark above about existing data
I don't know enough about government stuff sorry
Opposing destruction of koala habitat. This is even more urgent given the (human) population increase and the pressure on councils to release land for more and more housing. The Mid North Coast has fabulous natural features and inhabitants. Apart from its inherent value, this adds to its attractiveness tourism-wise. It is in danger of losing that "specialness"

with the wholesale wipeout of native vegetation on housing estates such as the monstrosity south of Forster and the featureless Edgewater development at Diamond Beach. (Why can't Council insist on a more balanced approach such as that at Seascope, Red Head? - although, even there, vegetation corridors are perilously close to being threatened, as is the Council's commitment to maintain villages, as opposed to strip urban development).
koala corridors - possibly under road or over road passages
Protecting existing populations and educating locals
Advocate for koalas and their habitats.
No response
Water tree troughs, improved fencing along hwys and maintenance of same.
No response

<b>Question 14: Please share any knowledge you have about best practice bushfire management. Please state whether you are sharing Traditional Owner knowledge.</b>
Slow , specific burn
No response
We draw the councils attention to the denuding of Emerald Downs estate on Forest Lane, not that the developers want to leave wildlife corridors! Easy access to fire breaks to allow CFA, National Parks and others to better access fires when they start, not like 2019. We have witnessed the traditional cool burns in Kakadu using traditional knowledge and ancient techniques and feel we can use these techniques in the future. We have also taken part in the cultural walks in Wingham, Saltwater and Taree ( sponsored by MCC) where the management of the environment was a centre piece of the discussions including fire management.
There has been extensive research on this issue that Council should rely on
Happy to chat to council any time. I can be found at <a href="mailto:president@aabr.org.au">president@aabr.org.au</a>
No response
Best practice bushfire management seems to be a joke. You chop DOWN the trees and leave the grass vulnerable that causes more concern for bushfire danger!!!
No response
Give the decision making for Hazard Reduction, Cultural Burning and Prescribed burning back to the local brigades. They are boots on the ground in their own areas.
Indigenous consultation, supervision, and implementation of cool burns in terms of bush fire management needs to be incorporated into the environmental management regime for the entire region.
No response
No response
Reducing the threat of bushfires to people and habitat was effectively practiced by the local indigenous populations pre-European settlement. We can't run away from the forest fires that threaten our communities - prevention strategies were and still are required. Land was actively managed with cool burning practices with little effort. NSW Forest Corp have been involved with fire management in the state forests for over a century. The practice of burning following selective native harvesting was a really cost effective management tool that offered lots of benefits to the forests and habitat ie: new growth, reduction in fuel loads, control of weeds and pests and protection of people and property from hot burning summer fires and increased diversity of species. NSW Forest Corp have experienced teams including local sub-contractors who have local forestry management that is evidence based and other knowledge that has passed down in families over many generations. These families have detailed knowledge of the local forests over long periods of time, they understand forests, they built the network of local forestry roads; they have experience with operating equipment that is readily available when required for bushfire management. They could fight fires overnight if

required (unlike the fire fighting airplanes/helicopters). The establishment and expansion of the NSW National Parks since early 1980s have become the biggest threat to our communities as reduced forestry practices have had the most severe impact on the diversity of our native flora and fauna. These large areas of unmanaged land have become inaccessible so fires can't be extinguished whilst they are small, they have huge fuel loads because they are not managed. Surely, there is some common sense that can be applied. There are many who can't see the forests for the trees. Please actively manage our forests to reduce the threat to our families and property. We don't need another 2019 bushfire season that devastates our communities and cremates koalas.
Community fire trailers as we have on Careys Road
List of non-active trained fireys (reserves) prepared to dig in one more time!
Council already doing a lot on bushfire education, needs to continue the program
No response
No response
No response
No response
Small burns often in a succession. Cleared land breaks between wooded areas to provide separation of fire zones. Agility to respond to opportunity for small burns. (Challenging with the current required notice period for neighbours.) Smaller rural holding and lifestyle blocks seldom have enough resources for good fire management. Maybe establish some level of Co-operative with equipment and neighbourhood based strategy. (Multiple helpers assisting neighbours in turn.)
No response
No response
Nil We are local land owners and very keen to get any assistance to safely maintain and reduce risk of bushfire
I was always brought up to do cool burns you do not want to burn out your property as this brings more weeds and exposes the soil. The issue is that you're not allowed to let a fire spread and with more properties getting closer this is getting harder. Also with seasons being different it's been harder to get decent burns having indigenous agents from the council on hand and working with the RFS would be much more beneficial, having RFS working with landholders would be much better currently the rules are very challenging when there are days that you can burn, because the Area Command is at Taree and our conditions at Stroud could be nothing remotely like Taree you should be able to notify area command provide details on the conditions and have them update their system of your planned burn, provide the DA, lots whatever. Or send some kind of form. Or nominate to work with an indigenous officer but then the day they come the conditions may not be favourable.
i do not have a lot of knowledge on bushfire management. But i have read ,Native forest logging increases the severity at which forests burn, beginning roughly 10 years after logging and continuing at elevated levels for another 30+ years. The likelihood of "crown burn" (when the forest canopy is burned) is about 10% in old growth forest versus 70% in forest logged 15 years ago. The NCC says extensive, peer reviewed research has found that logged forest was more likely to have burnt, and at a higher severity, during the 2019-20 bushfires than unlogged forests.24 Nov 2023
none
No response
No response
No response
No response
Not sure
We follow RFS advice.
None



No response
No response
Man Made climate change and the heating of the planet is changing the way we can manage the landscape, coupled with infrastructure which does not allow for the easy management of controlled cool burns in the cooler months.
No response
No response
NA
whilst cultural burning would be part of the solution, there are bushfire management practices (used in Private Native Forestry - under the Code) which would also be suitable
I don't know sorry I just do what the rural fire service tells us to do
Am learning about such bushfire management.
?
I think it is overused. Clearing of weeds and invasive plants
I do not know enough to comment.
No response
No response
No response

<b>Question 15: Is there anything else you would like to tell us about koala conservation on the MidCoast?</b>
Development and koala habitat need to be balanced..... more development, more people, more pets/dogs, cars .. all impacting our wildlife
No response
We feel the pressures on the koalas are contributed to by developers who are onl motivated by maximising profits at any cost to our environment. This can be stopped by MCC.
No response
We are at a cusp... BaU will result in local extinction of koalas. We need to stop negative practices asap and undertake all possible positive management
No response
On this east coast I can only say what conservation. We take photos and plan corridors; put up signs; and build koala hospitals. Then chop down their habitat.
No response
Koalas are here because it is a magnificent eco system that must be protected.
PLEASE STOP enabling the destruction of Koala habitat and ensure safe passage for them - thank you
No response
No response
Koala conservation on the MidCoast has become too extreme; driven more by ideology than fact. MidCoast Council should remain balanced in their approach to conservation and focus more on the core activities expected of council eg: local roads!
No response
Stop future rock quarries that threaten wildlife
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response
No response

I am shocked by the amount of people asking to come and look at our Koalas as they have "never seen a Koala in the wild"
There needs to be more of it and the state government needs to amend the current land clearing, LLS should not hold the authority for allowing this.
i am happy the council is being pro active for our koalas and your ecologists are doing an amazing job . i met with them at the tinonee koala day as well as the safe spaces program so thank you
Until habitat is protected, there will be a decline in koala numbers
Not sure where this should go. Replace wooden electricity poles to with metal ones to reduce forestry. metal more resilient reduce losses in bushfires.
No response
No response
No response
No response
Protection of unique wildlife such as Koalas must be a top priority for future generations to research and enjoy.
Sadly Australia is doing a very poor job we always put development first, at the current rate there will be no Koalas left in 20yres!!!
You could increase k owl edge with a koala trail like port Macquarie
No response
No response
No response
No response
I knit little koala toys. They are sold at Bungalow markets to raise money for tree planting. They could be sold here too.
there are too many conflicting and innacurate information given to the public
I hope we see an improvement and koalas being more safe and repopulating the area
To enhance the reputation of the Council, ensure that koala conservation is a high priority.
No response
Do all that is necessary
Save the koalas.
No response
More people need to get involved
No response