

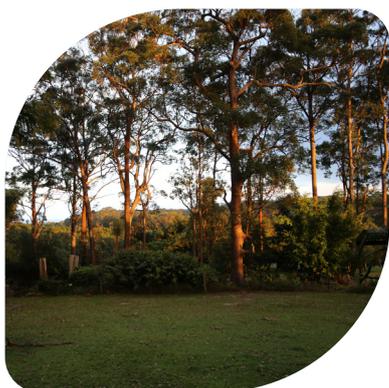
# Protecting Koalas of North Coast New South Wales



## To the Landholder

We are writing to you as you may be eligible to participate in a Local Land Services Koala Project.

North Coast Local Land Services is inviting expressions of interest from landholders interested in **protecting key koala habitat in the Coffs Harbour Area**. Successful landholders will be eligible for technical advice and funding to improve koala habitat on their property. We are looking for landholders who already have koala habitat on their property and want to encourage more koalas onto their land.



## Why this is important

Koala populations are at elevated risk for a variety of reasons. A growing population and large scale habitat clearing has resulted in fragmented patches of poor quality koala habitat.

Other threats, such as drought, fire, climate change, disease, vehicle strike and dog attack are further impacting koala populations. Creating 'habitat refuges' in areas remote from, and resilient to, such threats is extremely important for long-term koala persistence.

The Coffs Harbour area supports extremely important koala habitat and a much loved population of koalas. Landholders who participate in this project will be helping to secure this important koala population for future generations.

## Activities eligible for funding

- Controlling weeds
- Making fences wildlife friendly
- Removing pest animals
- Planting trees
- Fire management planning & actions (eg. Maintaining fire breaks, access tracks, controlled burn planning)
- Native vegetation restoration planning with ecologists

\*With additional opportunities to learn about Cultural Site Values from Traditional Owners, carry out Detection Dog Surveys and more!



Help protect the  
koalas of our region

## Eligibility criteria

1. Your land is privately owned, freehold tenure, within the **Coffs Harbour Local Government Area**.
2. Your property supports a continuous patch of 10 Ha of native vegetation (or 5 Ha if adjoining a protected area, or linked up with a neighbours proposal).\*\*
3. You should be willing to relinquish any private native forestry agreements existing on the specific area.

*\*\*This area may be subject to further desk-top analysis to determine its value to koalas and other biodiversity.*

## What happens after you apply

1. Applications will be assessed by an expert panel and site visits will be offered to the highest-ranking applicants.
2. If the site is suitable we will work with you to identify the conservation area & develop a site management plan.
3. Our project ecologists will conduct an in-depth assessment recording all threatened species present, providing a detailed report for you to keep.
4. Applicants that meet certain criteria may also choose to work with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust, to place a voluntary, ongoing conservation agreement on their land.
5. Once agreements are signed, you will be eligible to receive funding to begin habitat protection works on your site.
6. Successful landholders will be invited to attend workshops on koala ecology and habitat management, Indigenous cultural significance and monitoring of koala populations.

## How to apply

Complete the online Expression of Interest form at <https://bit.ly/NCLLSKoala> by **28th of January 2022**

If you need help submitting the online application, please email [koalas.northcoast@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:koalas.northcoast@lls.nsw.gov.au) or phone North Coast Local land Services on **1300 795 299** and a member from our Koala Project Team can assist you to complete the form over the phone.

## Frequently asked questions

### What does 'conservation area' mean?

The conservation area is the area that Local land Services will fund works to be completed and you will commit to manage for the duration agreed in the Land Management Deed.

### How do I know if I have koala habitat on my property?

Council maps indicate that there is koala habitat in your area. If you are eligible for the project our ecologists will validate the presence of 'koala food tree' species on your property when they visit.

### I already have/ I am pursuing a Conservation Agreement (CA) with the BCT on my property, does that mean I am not eligible?

If you have (or have applied for) a CA with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust you may still be eligible to receive funding from Local land Services depending on the work that you need done.

## For more information:

### KOALA PROJECT TEAM

North Coast Local Land Services

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