

# Protecting Koalas of North Coast New South Wales



## To the Landholder, Seeking Expressions of Interest

Are you interested in helping to maintain the local koala population and increase the quality of their habitat?

**North Coast Local Land Services (LLS)** and the **Hastings-Macleay Koala Recovery Partnership** are inviting expressions of interest (EOIs) from landholders to enter into conservation agreements that will protect key koala habitat in the Port Macquarie Area of Regional Koala Significance (see map right).

Successful landholders will be offered different land management options, depending on the size and condition of your property. These will involve advice and grants to manage a conservation area on your property. Certain agreements will be eligible for discounts on Council Rates and Land Tax.

Conservation agreements will be developed with **North Coast Local Land Services** and the **NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT)**, guided by ecologists and bush regeneration specialists.

The Port Macquarie area supports extremely important koala habitat and a local population of koalas that is of state-wide significance. Landholders who participate in this project will be helping to secure this important koala population for future generations.

### Eligible Landholder Area





## What Happens after you Apply

Attend a 'drop-in' information-session:

**Date:** 13th July

**Time:** 12pm-2pm / 5pm-8pm

**Location:** Port Macquarie Hastings Council  
(lunchtime session) / Lake Cathie Community Centre  
(evening session).

1. Applications will be assessed by an expert panel and site visits will be offered to the highest-ranking.
2. We will work with you to identify the conservation area and develop a site management plan.
3. Successful landholders will have the option of different land management agreements depending on the size and condition of your property.
4. Land that contains high quality koala habitat will have the opportunity to enter into an ongoing agreement with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust.
5. Once agreements are signed, you will be eligible to receive grants to begin habitat protection works on your site.
6. Successful landholders will be invited to attend workshops & technical information sessions on koala habitat enhancement.

## Eligibility Criteria

1. Your land is privately owned, freehold tenure, within the mapped eligible area (*or not far outside the boundary*).
2. Your property supports a continuous patch of **10 Ha** of native vegetation (or **5 Ha** if adjoining a protected area). This area may be subject to further desk-top analysis to determine its value to koalas and other biodiversity.
3. You should be willing to relinquish any private native forestry agreements existing on the specific area.

## Activities Eligible for Funding

- Weed control
- Fencing
- Pest animal control
- Re-vegetation
- Fire Management
- Habitat restoration
- Repairs to existing features, (eg. tracks) to maintain the conservation area
- Native vegetation restoration planning
- Project / grant management support

## How to Apply

Complete this Expression of Interest (EOI) form & email to [tenders.northcoast@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tenders.northcoast@lls.nsw.gov.au) or mail/drop-off to your local LLS office, addressed to Olivia Kemp **by 21st July**.

A digital form is available at [www.lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/north-coast](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/north-coast)

## For more information:

### OLIVIA KEMP

North Coast Local Land Services

P: 1300 795 299

M: 0428 635 077

E: [Olivia.kemp@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Olivia.kemp@lls.nsw.gov.au)

W: [lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/north-coast](http://lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/north-coast)

### REBECCA MONTAGUE-DRAKE

(Koala Ecologist)

The Hastings-Macleay Koala

Recovery Partnership

M: 0480 230 128

E: [rebecca.montague-drake@](mailto:rebecca.montague-drake@mncjo.nsw.gov.au)

[mncjo.nsw.gov.au](http://mncjo.nsw.gov.au)

**Contact us:** Lismore  
79 Conway Street  
Ph: 02 6623 3900

Casino  
147 Barker Street  
Ph: 02 6661 2900

South Grafton  
24 - 26 Mulgi Drive,  
Ph: 02 6604 1100

Coffs Harbour  
Level 1, 30 Park Avenue,  
Ph: 02 6659 9400

Kempsey  
83 Belgrave Street  
Ph: 02 6563 6700

# Expression of Interest Form

## Protecting Koalas in the the Port Macquarie region



### Contact and property details: (Required Fields)

Name of Landowner:..... Property owner(s).....  
(if different from Landowner)

ABN/ACN:.....Phone :.....Email:.....

Property Street address:.....

Local Government Area :.....Approximate Property Size (ha) .....

Lot and DP of Property:..... Proposed Conservation Area Size (ha).....

Preferred method of contact? (and time)     Home Phone         Mobile Phone         Email

Best Times: .....

How did you hear about us?         Social media     Letter mail out     Word of mouth

Workshop     Other (please specify):.....

### Do any of the following agreements apply to the proposed conservation area:

Conservation Agreement under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974?         Yes     No

Conservation Agreement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016?         Yes     No

Trust Agreement under Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001?         Yes     No

Registered Property Agreement under the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997?         Yes     No

Property Vegetation Plan or an offset or set-aside requirement?         Yes     No

Carbon agreement or a private native forestry agreement?         Yes     No

Catchment Management Authority or Local Land Services Management Agreement?         Yes     No

Do you have other covenants, caveats, agreements or restrictions on title?         Yes     No

If you have answered yes to any of the above, please provide name of the Agreement/requirement and the Agreement reference number: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Proposed Conservation Area: (Optional)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| How much of the proposed conservation area has been cleared or under-scrubbed in the last 15 years?  | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/><br>None of the site | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Less than half of the site | <input type="checkbox"/><br>More than half of the site |
| Has the proposed conservation area been grazed by domestic stock?  | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Never            | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Occasionally               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Continuously               |
| Does the majority of the site have a eucalypt canopy?  | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/><br>No               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't Know                 |  |
| Does the proposed conservation area have a mid-storey layer that is made up of mostly native species?<br><i>Mid-storey includes shrubs and other plants found below the tallest trees and above groundcover in height. Mid-storey plants can be thick or sparsely distributed.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/><br>No               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't Know                 |  |
| Does the majority of the proposed conservation area have a groundcover layer that is made up of mostly native species?<br><i>Ground cover means grasses and other plants that are generally below shin height</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/><br>No               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't Know                 |  |
| Are there a range of tree sizes within the proposed conservation area?<br><i>This may include small seedlings, saplings and larger trees that vary in their trunk size</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/><br>No               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't Know                 |  |
| Do koalas use the proposed conservation area?<br><i>Nb. This questions is simply for interest &amp; will not be used to rank applications as landholders may not realise they have koalas until specialist surveys are undertaken.</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/><br>No               | <input type="checkbox"/><br>Don't Know                 |  |

**What weed species are present in the proposed conservation area? (Optional)**

Please tick the box that best describes the abundance of these plants

| Name of invasive plant/s | A small number of scattered individual plants | A few dense patched across the area | One of the common plant species across the area | Don't know               |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Fire management (Optional)**

Was your proposed conservation area fire affected in the past 3 years?  Yes  No

If Yes, to what extent (%) were mature trees burned? To what extent was the under story burned (%)?.....

Do you have a current fire management plan for your property?  Yes  No

**Further Comments/Queries? (Optional)**

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**Privacy Statement**

The personal information you provide on this form is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998, under which you have rights and obligations. The information in this form is being collected for the purposes of involvement in the North Coast Local Land Services **Protecting Koalas** project. You are not required to provide your personal information but Local Land Services cannot process your application without it. This information is given voluntarily, however failure to supply full details will mean that Local Land Services may not be able to respond to you. Local Land Services will not disclose your personal information without your consent unless required by law.

Further information regarding privacy can be obtained from the Privacy Commission NSW <https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/privacy/citizens>