

# Protecting

# Koalas of North Coast New South Wales



## Overview

**North Coast Local Land Services**, is working with local landholders across the region to protect the koalas of the North Coast by restoring koala habitat on private land and by building community knowledge on the needs of koalas.

The project, funded through the Australian Government's Environment Restoration Fund, will run for three years and will target koala habitat within the Port Macquarie, Bellmore River (East Kempsey), Nambucca and North Bellingen - Coffs Harbour Areas of Regional Koala Significance (ARKS). Selected areas support important koala habitat and several populations that are of state-wide significance. Participating landholders will be helping to secure these important koala populations for future generations, while enhancing the biodiversity values of their properties.

## How it Works

- A call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) will be announced in selected Areas of Regional Koala Significance (ARKS).
- Successful applicants will be eligible for grants to undertake land management activities within conservation areas on their properties. (eg. weed & feral animal control, tree-planting, fencing & fire management).
- Skills and knowledge of landholders will be increased - focusing on koala habitat restoration through technical advice and learning opportunities.
- Landholders will be supported in fire management through ecological assessments & planning.



### Australian Government

This project is supported by Local Land Services, through funding from the Australian Government's Environment Restoration Fund.

## Why this is important

Koala populations are at elevated risk for a variety of reasons. A growing human population, particularly in areas along Australia's east coast, has led to large-scale clearing of better-quality koala habitats with many koala populations struggling within smaller, fragmented patches of poorer quality habitat.

Other threats, such as drought, fire, climate change, disease, vehicle strike, 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.

For further  
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**Local Land  
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