

Attachment 3 - Draft Tweed Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management submissions analysis

Topic	Submission No.	Issue	Planning Response	Recommendation
General	1, 5, 6, 11, 16, 19, 20, 21, 28, 32, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 35, 36, 38, 34, 33, 30, 27, 17, 18, 51, 22, 23, 24, 45, 44, 43, 42, 37, 2, 3, 10, 13, 14, 48, 49, 52, 39, 40, 41, 50	Qualified or unqualified support for the draft Plan	Noted	
General	27	Non statutory aspects of the draft Plan strongly supported	Noted	
General	25	There should be more nature reserves to link habitat	Land acquisition is a very expensive option and would divert resources from habitat restoration and other programs. However, land is often dedicated to council and provision are made for this in the draft Plan (see Section 5.8.6)	
General	32, 36, 17, 18	The Plan is too reliant on voluntary participation	Except for its development control responsibilities Council cannot compel participation by landholders or community interests. However, the community awareness components of draft plan make a concerted effort to improve landholder behaviour.	
General	19, 21, 36, 39	Increase compliance and/or zero tolerance to illegal clearing	Noted and agreed. Resources for maintaining compliance are an important consideration for the Plan and could be further highlighted.	Amend Section 6.5 to highlight Council's compliance responsibilities under the Plan
General	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	People who report koala issues should not be treated as a nuisance	Noted	
General	5, 20, 32, 27, 17, 18	Support for increased resources to implement plan	Noted. However resourcing issues are assumed to be covered under plan review and reporting to Council during the first year of implementation under Part 14.	Amend Section 13.2 and Part 14 to explicitly mention resourcing.

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General	6, 19, 36, 34, 17, 18	Support extension of plan to other parts of the Shire	Noted. The draft Plan focuses on areas of most intense management pressure where there is clear evidence of koala population decline.	
General	11	Support for increasing koala numbers not just protecting existing areas	Noted - see Section 2.6	
General	16	Make use of rate notices to convey important information	This may be possible but it does not require change to the draft Plan	
General	16, 20, 21, 32, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 35, 36, 30, 17, 18, 24	Review outdated IKPOMs and/or incorporate into Plan	Section 6.3(i) ensures that any revision of IKPOMs must be consistent with the Tweed Coast plan but does not trigger any revision. It is suggested that the Koala Management Committee (KMC) should be able to advise Council on the review or repeal of any contiguous IKPOMs and that plan review process consider the operation of IKPOMs. Note, however that the IKPOMs are approved by the State not Council.	Amend Section 4.7 to allow the KMC to advise Council on issues related to the review of any contiguous IKPOMs Amend Section 13.2 to include the consideration of IKPOMs in the Plan review process
General	16	Include IKPOMs as appendices	Noted, however it may be better to make them available on Council's website. This would allow interested parties to see the most current version.	Amend Implementation Schedule and Section 12.2 Community Awareness Strategy in make provision for "other documents" such as IKPOMs available on Council's website.
General	29	The draft Plan does not promote population recovery, is not based on the best information and is overly influenced by SEPP 44 which is fundamentally flawed	It is not open to Council to ignore the existing planning framework. While it is agreed that SEPP 44 is problematic the preparation draft plan was not overly constrained by it. Of much greater concern for koalas are the ongoing incremental impacts arising from expanding human population on the Tweed Coast. Although the challenge is daunting the Tweed Community has consistently and emphatically called for Council to do what it can. The draft Plan is by far the most stringent in NSW. The draft Plan builds substantially on the draft prepared by Biolink	

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General	29	Preparing a plan does not affect recovery	Adoption of the Plan highlights the issue for Council and the community and formally commits Council to undertaking actions within its scope. The scope of the draft Plan covers all of the issues relevant to koala conservation on the Tweed Coast. Although Council is already implementing many of the actions in the plan its adoption provides the basis for increasing resources for on-ground works.	
General	29	The Plan does not contain enough details of works to be carried out.	The precise detail of works to be carried out depends on many factors including resources available, landholder agreement and participation, legal issues, technical knowhow, planning approval (in some cases), timing issues and the outcomes of detailed site assessments. Within each of the major areas of conservation concern for Tweed Coast koalas the Plan outlines a general strategy. This provides staff with the ability to pursue appropriate works without having to revisit the Plan itself. To be effective the Plan needs to be able to respond to changing conditions and new opportunities.	
Background and presentation	20, 28, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 27, 49, 41	Presentation is logical clear and well informed	Noted	
Background and presentation	19, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 4	Plan is unnecessarily complicated.	Noted. While the problem of low and declining koalas is pretty straightforward the solutions are necessarily complex. The draft Plan attempts to provide sufficient background to justify the provisions which need to cover a wide range of issues the affect koalas. The provisions of the plan need to be unambiguous and precise in order to be consistent with the guiding principles set out in Section 3.2. Also, to function as statutory plan and have legal authority the Plan needs to cover the issues outlined in Appendix A.	

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Background and presentation	51	Maps are clear and easy to understand	Noted	
Background and presentation	50	Difficult to interpret various overlays used on maps	It is intended to make individual layers available on Tweed mapping website	
Background and presentation	50	The "Potential Urban Footprint" is used in the maps but "Future Urban Footprint" is used elsewhere	Noted and agreed	Amend maps to refer to the "Future Urban Footprint"
Background and presentation	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	The Plan should focus on three remaining koala subpopulations and identify the threats in each area	Covered under the Management Framework (Section 3.5) and elsewhere but the 3 subpopulations could be mentioned in the intro under Section 1.1	Amend Section 1.1 to mention the three remaining koala subpopulations.
Background and presentation	12	Provide additional detail about the status of each of the three main koala populations to assist community engagement	This level of detail is contained in the Tweed Coast Habitat Study. Community awareness and engagement activities can be targeted by management area where appropriate	Amend provisions of Section 12.1 to note intent to engage by management area where relevant.
Background and presentation	27	Include Tweed Coast Koala Habitat Study as an appendix	This was considered but would have made the document very bulky. It is made clear in the introduction that the plan is underpinned by findings of the habitat study which will be available on Council's website alongside the Plan itself	
Background and presentation	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	The Introduction should mention the unsustainable number of koalas and the importance of community involvement in their recovery	See first paragraph under Section 1.1 which highlights that koala numbers are unsustainable. Section 1.5 highlights the need for a coordinated approach. Section 1.6 identifies the role of different sections of the community. See also plan outcomes (Section 2.6.2) and Part 4 which highlights the need for community involvement	
Background and presentation	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 17, 18	The Plan should note the Preliminary Determination as an Endangered Population under the TSC Act.	Agreed, the Preliminary Determination had not been made at the time of exhibition.	Note the Preliminary Determination as an Endangered Population under Section 1.3.

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Background and presentation	20, 6, 32, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Plan should mention that koalas are an economic asset and eco-tourism potential	The values of koalas are not in dispute and Part 12 of the plan actively promotes koalas and their value, intrinsically and to the community. The development provisions (Part 5) and the strategic planning components of the Plan (Part 6) seek to provide enhanced outcomes for koalas irrespective of the type of development. Due to low koala numbers there are no areas where koalas can be reliably observed by tourists.	
Background and presentation	39	Reference to wild dogs should also include domestic dogs	Noted and agreed	Amend Section 1.6 to refer to the management of wild and domestic dogs.
Roles and Management Framework	20, 27, 17, 18	Supports management framework	Noted	
Roles and Management Framework	2, 41	The vision and aims are supported	Noted	
Roles and Management Framework	2	It may be difficult to achieve the aims and expected outcomes of the Plan	Noted	
Roles and Management Framework	5, 20, 28, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 35, 27, 37	Support Council taking a leading role	Noted - see Section 4.2	
Roles and Management Framework	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 27	Strong support for Koala Management Committee	Noted - see Section 4.7	
Roles and Management Framework	36	Need more community representation on the Koala Advisory Committee	Noted and agreed. The stated composition represents the minimum make up of the committee however the plan should be more explicit and more closely reflect the current KAG composition.	Amend Section 4.7(iii) to include 1 Councillor (nominated by Council), 2 Council officers, 3 general community representatives and 1 representative each from OEH, RFS, FOK and a Koala Conservation/

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				Environmental Group.
Roles and Management Framework	32	Recommendations of the Koala Management Committee should not be overridden by Council's Executive.	The Koala Management Committee will be a committee of Council and as such the Executive will have a role in making their recommendations to Council. Note, however the elected Council ultimately make the decisions and the recommendations of both the committee and the Executive are taken into account.	
Roles and Management Framework	32	Dr Steve Philips should be invited to chair the Koala Management Committee	The chair of the Koala Management Committee will be elected from its membership.	
Roles and Management Framework	40	Council engineering department should be represented on the Koala Management Committee	As above. The review will be conducted by the Koala Management Committee which will have significant representation by Council staff which is likely to come from at least two divisions. Regardless consultation of the review will need to cover all relevant stakeholders.	
Roles and Management Framework	5, 20	Support voluntary participation of community groups	Noted - see Section 4.6	
Roles and Management Framework	20, 21, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 27, 17, 18	Supports Core Koala Habitat definition	Noted	
Roles and Management Framework	32	The draft plan should identify Primary Koala Habitat	The draft plan uses the term "Preferred Koala Habitat" which is inclusive of Primary Koala Habitat, as it more accurately represents the actual and potential distribution of koalas. See Section 3.3	
Roles and Management Framework	39	Boundaries of KAPs do not always align with known areas of Preferred Koala Habitat associated with significant koala activity	The boundaries encompass these areas but followed cadastral parcels to avoid complications that may arise if individual parcels were covered affected by more than one precinct type.	

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Development Assessment - General	11, 16	Support for certainty and strict guidelines for developers	Noted - See Parts 5 and 6	
Development Assessment - General	20, 27, 17, 18, 3	Development controls well thought out	Noted	
Development Assessment - Layout	1, 36, 17, 18	Difficulties implementing enclave development	Noted	
Development Assessment - Layout	32, 36	No new koala friendly development should be approved.	Noted, however it is considered that this style of development is appropriate in certain circumstances, in particular rural residential and large lot development.	
Development Assessment - Layout	20, 17, 18	Choice between koala friendly and enclaved development must suit the circumstances	Noted. See Section 5.9.2 which defines when these development styles apply.	
Development Assessment - Layout	50	Consider providing illustrations to help visualise development layout and design provisions of Section 5.9	Noted. To be considered in a future review.	
Development Assessment - Infrastructure	40	In cases where development consent is required for public infrastructure there may not be sufficient flexibility to carry out emergency works	Section 5.4 applies to public infrastructure captured by both Part 4 and 5 of the EP&A Act. And as a consequence there is no issue here. However it is acknowledged that the flowchart refers only to Part 5 of the EP&A Act.	Amend the flowchart under Section 5.1 to remove the reference to Part 5 of the EP&A Act
Development Assessment - Infrastructure	36	Deviations from the Plan for public infrastructure should not be supported	As noted in the draft Plan almost all public infrastructure may be carried out under the state Infrastructure SEPP which overrides Council plans. Section 5.4 aims to ensure that Council considers the koala Plan a matter of policy.	
Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	17, 18	Provisions for land dedication and management strongly supported	Noted	

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Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	40	Suggest an additional provision to allow clearing of vegetation for emergency public infrastructure works	The Plan only applies where Council consent or approval is required. In these cases justification against the provisions of the Plan is considered reasonable. Vegetation removal to protect life or imminent risk to property does not require consent or approval under clause 5.9 of the LEP.	
Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	1, 36, 17, 18	There should be mandatory protection for preferred koala feed trees >100mm dbh	PKFTs cannot be removed if actively used by koalas regardless of size. No removal of large PKFTs (>250mm dbh) is permitted. Removal of small PKFTs (100 - 250mm dbh) in KAP/KLP is subject to merit assessment on a case by case basis and if permitted will be subject to stringent offsetting (see Section 5.8.3(i),(ii),(iii) and Appendix C).	
Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	1, 36	Urban development should be prohibited in KAP and KLP areas	Noted, however Preferred Koala Habitat cannot be removed and there are significant cleared areas which are part of the Future Urban Footprint. The provisions of Part 5 of the Plan seek to ensure that any future development protects, manages and enhances koalas and their habitat.	
Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	29, 17, 18	Council officers should not have discretion for the removal of koala feed trees	The draft Plan does not allow the removal of any koala feed tree where there is evidence of use by koalas (Section 5.6.4, 5.8.3) or any large koala feed tree (> 250mm dbh) or Preferred Koala Habitat in a KAP or KLP. The potential removal of small koala feed trees (100-250mm dbh and not used by koalas) may be permitted but subject to stringent offsetting (see Section 5.8.3i,ii,iii and Appendix C). The draft plan prepared by Biolink allowed considerable Council discretion and did not restrict the removal of Preferred Koala Habitat (except retaining individual large koala feed trees > 250mm dbh) and allowed any small koala feed trees (< 250mm dbh) to be removed or offset.	

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Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	29	1 ha exclusion required by DP&E is unwarranted	Agree, however Section 5.6.3(iii) excludes any areas that cannot meet the Minor Development provisions of Section 5.6.4. This prevents the removal of Preferred Koala Habitat, actively used koala feed trees and allows Council to refuse or require offsets for the removal of other koala feed trees.	
Development Assessment - Habitat Protection	39, 32	Separate koalas from threats by buffers	Buffers required for bushfire (Asset Protection Zones) are considered adequate to address koala management and are included in the definition of the Development Envelope. Additional buffers for wetlands or other nature conservation requirements are outside of the scope of this plan but will need to be addressed as part of the broader assessment of the development proposal.	For clarity amend the definition of the Development Envelope to include any other buffers
Development Assessment - Offsets	19, 20, 21, 32, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 36, 27, 17, 18	Offsetting in koala habitat areas is unacceptable	Noted and agreed. The Plan does not permit the removal of koala habitat or large koala feed trees in any koala activity or linkage precincts or any other areas where koalas are present. There may be cases where the removal of small individual trees is acceptable but this will be subject to merit assessment and if permitted will be subject to stringent offsetting (see Section 5.8.3(i),(ii),(iii) and Appendix C).	
Development Assessment - Offsets	41, 40	Offsetting should preference protection and enhancement strategies rather than single tree plantings as this has broader biodiversity benefits	Offsetting is discouraged in the draft Plan and only allows replanting as enhancement and protection approaches result in a net loss of koala habitat. Offset plantings where permitted will be integrated into the koala landscape and to create or infill koala habitat consistent with the aims of the Plan which seek to increase the area of koala habitat.	
Development Assessment - Offsets	41	It is not clear if only direct or indirect impacts such as clearing entitlement under the 10/50 bushfire code would be subject to offsetting	As noted in Appendix C, offsetting only applies to direct loss of koala feed trees or koala habitat. Indirect impacts must be avoided or mitigated. With respect to "clearing entitlements" under the 10/50 bushfire clearing rules such clearing will be assumed in the assessment process and may lead to rejection of the	

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			application if it is not in accordance with the Plan.	
Development Assessment - Offsets	40	Offsetting requirements may be onerous for Council infrastructure projects	Due to the significance of the issue, development that results in the requirement for offsetting is discouraged in the Plan. Except in certain circumstances if applicants are to pursue offsetting it will be their responsibility to secure and manage receiving sites. With respect to potential offsetting for Council infrastructure it may be possible to utilise existing restoration sites under the provisions of Section 7 which will be coordinated by Council staff. The provisions of Section 5.4 provide considerable scope of flexibility in regard to possible offset arrangements which will not be available to other applicants.	
Development Assessment - Surveys	40	The koala habitat survey requirements in Section 5.7.3(ii) maybe excessive for very small public infrastructure projects	Given that the Minor Development provisions do not extend to public infrastructure works it is acknowledged that flexibility is required. Section 5.4 allows the required flexibility, however further explanation could be provided in the explanatory notes to Section 5.4	Amend Section 5.4 to provide further explanation related to the assessment of koala habitat.
Development Assessment - Surveys	40	The precise mapping of all native vegetation stems within or within 20m of the development envelope as per Section 5.7.3(iii)(e) is too onerous especially for minor linear infrastructure	Noted. Suggest change to Preferred Koala Feed Trees to be removed or retained.	Amend Section 5.7.3(iii)(e) to refer to all Preferred Koala Feed Trees to be removed or retained rather than all native vegetation
Development Assessment - Surveys	40	Suggest that a template for an audit referred to in Section 5.7.3(iii)(i) be provided in the Plan	Noted, however given the large number of possible pathways under Plan making the preparation of such a template difficult. The purpose of the audit is for the applicant to clearly list (e.g. in a table) the relevant provisions and outline how they have been addressed.	

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Development Assessment - Dogs	39	Provision should be made under Section 5.9.4, Enclaved Development for off-leash dog exercise areas	Noted and agreed.	Add a new clause under Section 5.9.4 to require the provision of secure off-leash dog exercise areas
Development Assessment - Dogs	39	Provision should be made under Section 5.9.3.4 for lands dedicated as public bushland should be declared as a "wildlife protection area" to allow Council to prohibit dogs	Noted and agreed, but this should extend across all public areas within koala friendly developments.	Add a new clause under Section 5.9.3.4 to prohibit dogs from public areas in koala friendly developments
Development Assessment - Fencing	1	Floppy top fencing is problematic	Noted.	Revise Appendix D
Development Assessment - Fencing	39	Need to more clearly distinguish between fauna friendly and fauna exclusion fencing	Note and agreed	Amend plan to distinguish between fauna friendly and fauna exclusion fencing where appropriate
Development Assessment - Fencing	39	Section 5.6.4 refers to koala-proof pool fencing but this is not covered in Appendix D	Noted and agreed	Include koala-proof pool fencing in Appendix D
Development Assessment - Fencing	51	Fencing should be required to ensure the separation of koalas and dogs	See Section 5.9.4.2	
Development Assessment - Flexibility	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 17, 18	It should be made clearer what a "better ecological outcome" means in Section 5.11	Section 5.11 only applies where a developer wishes to vary the standard provisions. This is most likely to occur when the nature of the development falls outside of the standard provisions of Part 5. As per Section 5.11(iv) such a variation would need to be consistent with the aims of the plan (Section 2.6.1), the Koala Management Framework (Part 3) and relevant provisions of Part 5.	Amend Section 5.11 (ii) to ensure consistency with the aims of the plan (Section 2.6.1), the Koala Management Framework (Part 3) and relevant provisions of Part 5.
Development Assessment - Incentives	50	Development incentives (Section 5.10.3.6) should only derive from the LEP	It is intended to embed the Plan through the LEP under Section 6.2.2(i) in the longer term. Suggest including a note to advise that Section 5.10.3.6(iv) may not be operational until the Plan is referenced in the	Include a note under Section 5.10.3.6 to advise that Section 5.10.3.6(iv) may not be operational until the Plan is

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			LEP	referenced in the LEP.
Development Assessment - Pools	36	Pools should have a rope in case a gate is left open	Gates must be kept closed by law to prevent access by small children.	
Development Assessment - Roads	39	Planting of koala food trees on roadsides should only occur on low use roads	Noted and agreed. Under Section 5.9.3 high use roads must have fauna exclusion fencing etc. However this could be made clearer	Amend Section 5.9.3.2(ii)(a) to exclude high use roads.
Development Assessment - Roads	40	Concerns regarding potential conflicts between planting trees on roadsides and the provision of infrastructure with priority given to maintaining infrastructure	The Plan clearly highlights the need to resolve potential conflicts in the design phase including the possible need to provide wider than normal road reserves. It is acknowledged however that roadsides may not always be suitable locations and that the Plan should only require this where practical and ecologically appropriate.	Amend Section 5.9.3.2 to include the planting of koala feed trees on public lands including low-use roads but only "where practical and ecologically appropriate"
Development Assessment - Temporary Development	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Temporary developments may be problematic	Noted and agreed. At present, due to difficulties in predefining the scale of temporary development, it currently falls under the main development provisions of the plan (Sections 5.7, 5.8, 5.9.3) however it is acknowledged that this type of development does not sit well here. Clause 2.8 of LEP 2014 provides for temporary development. Consideration should be given to creating a link to this provision	Amend Part 5 to link to clause 2.8 of Tweed LEP ensuring consistency with the aims of the Plan (Section 2.6.1), the Koala Management Framework (Part 3) and relevant provisions of Part 5 Development Assessment.
Strategic Planning	20, 27	Support strategic planning provisions	Noted	
Strategic Planning	1, 20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 27, 17, 18, 21, 41	Support for environmental protection zoning of koala habitat	Noted - see Section 6.2.2	
Strategic Planning	12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 17, 18	Plan should be adopted as DCP and be implemented by Council	Noted - See Section 6.4	
Strategic Planning	20, 21, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 27, 17, 18	Tree preservation provisions are critical	Noted - see Section 6.2.2	

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Strategic Planning	41, 50	Amend LEP to give additional statutory weight to the plan	Clause 6.2.2(i) provides for Council to amend the LEP to give effect to the provisions of the Plan	
Strategic Planning	50	Incorporation in Council's DCP may not be necessary especially if the Plan is embedded in the LEP	Noted. It is expected that the DCP would simply make reference to the Plan rather than duplicating its content.	
Strategic Planning	50	Remove section 6.5 Council Operations from Strategic Planning section	The way Council plans and manages its own operations is "strategic". Also it does not fit well elsewhere	
Strategic Planning	50	Include reference to Figure 1 in Section 6.2	Noted and agreed	Amend Section 6.2 to reference Figure 1
Strategic Planning	50	Under Section 6.2.2(iv) reference is made to buffers for "nature conservation" however this should be confined to "koala habitat"	Noted and agreed although a planning proposal would ultimately need to consider both issues (e.g. buffers to wetlands)	Amend Section 6.2.2(iv) to refer to "koala habitat" rather than "nature conservation".
Habitat Restoration	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 17, 18, 27	Support for habitat restoration program	Noted	
Habitat Restoration	20	Support increasing koala habitat to mitigate indirect impacts	Noted	
Habitat Restoration	1	Habitat restoration should focus on larger areas of core habitat	Noted. Consistent with provisions of Section 7.2.1	
Habitat Restoration	29	All available areas should be afforded equal priority for habitat restoration	The "availability" of sites is dependent on a range of factors including funding, landholder agreement and participation, legal, technical and planning and timing issues. The provisions of Section 7.2.1 are designed to focus efforts in and around KAPs and KLPs.	
Habitat Restoration	41	It is unclear if the Plan considers habitat protection measures such as TPOs VCAs	Under Part 5 Council will require a restrictive covenant accompanied by a habitat restoration plan to ensure ongoing protection and management of lands set	

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		BioBanking etc	aside for nature conservation as a result of development. Other mechanisms could be considered under Section 5.11 and Part 7.	
Habitat Restoration	39	Suggest that mixed species plantings should be minimum of 50% primary koala feed trees	Good suggestion although it may not be appropriate in all circumstances. Suggest it is a consideration rather than a requirement.	Include consideration of minimum of 50% preferred koala feed trees in mixed species plantings under Section 7.2.2
Roads	5, 11, 19	Support for traffic controls	Noted see Part 8	
Roads	1, 19, 20, 29, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 36, 17, 18, 25	Implement targeted traffic mitigation including signage, increase police presence and fencing at black spots ASAP	Noted and agreed. Substantial road treatments installed during December 2014 along Clothiers Ck Road.	
Roads	51	Exclusion fencing along roads need to be properly maintained	Agreed. Once the development is complete it is normally Council responsibility to maintain infrastructure. Section 8.4 of the Plan addresses this issue.	
Roads	39	A key criterion for new roads and upgrades should be the placement of the road to minimise any loss of koala habitat or connectivity	This is assumed under Section 8.3 but this could be made clearer	Amend Section 8.3(i) to refer to the placement of any new road or road upgrade.
Roads	39	Zero road mortality under Section 8.3(i)(b) may not be realistic. What happens if there is a road death	Acknowledged. This should be a design aspiration rather than a fixed performance criterion.	Amend Section 8.3(i) to "seek the following performance criteria"
Roads	39	Should mention RMS audit referred to in Implementation Schedule	Works will be encompassed in the formal liaison with RMS and Council see Section 8.2.1.	Remove mention of RMS audit of highway crossings from Implementation Schedule
Roads	40	Resourcing and responsibilities for the maintenance of wildlife infrastructure referred to in	Responsibilities and resources for the maintenance of wildlife infrastructure should be with the relevant Council "asset owner". Additional costs associated	Include the consideration of resourcing issues in the implementation table

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		section 8.4	with the maintenance of such infrastructure will need to be considered in the budget process	
Dogs	11, 20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 17, 18, 14	Support for dog controls including better compliance, not just reliance on signage	Noted see Parts 5 and 9. Resources for maintaining compliance are an important consideration for the plan and could be further highlighted in the plan.	Amend Section 6.5 to highlight council's compliance responsibilities under the plan
Dogs	39	Dog attack is not confined to the urban fringe or bushland. Reference should be made to the impact of domestic dogs in the urban landscape	Noted and agreed	Delete reference to urban fringe in Section 9.1. Add a sentence on the risks to koalas from domestic dogs in the urban landscape.
Dogs	39	Provision should be made for off leash dog areas in KAPs	Development in KAPs will be very limited; however there may be some opportunity for enclaved development in some areas. In such cases, secure off leash dog areas could be appropriate.	Amend Section 9.2 to potentially allow secure off-leash dog areas in enclaved developments.
Dogs	39	It should be acknowledged that landholders are responsible for the management of domestic dogs and wild dogs on their land	Note and agreed.	Include a paragraph under Section 9.1 noting that landholders are responsible for the management of domestic dogs and wild dogs on their land
Dogs	39	The plan should note that it is not known whether or not wild dogs have a significant impact on koalas on the Tweed Coast	Noted and agreed. The plan need to consider the importance or otherwise of this issue.	Amend Section 9.4 to include research into the potential impacts of wild dogs on tweed Coast koalas
Fire Management	5, 20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 33, 47	Support better fire management	Noted - see Part 10	
Fire Management	12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	RFS should liaise with wildlife rescuers who have been trained by RFS to assist after fires	Noted. Part 10 of the Plan provides for this improved liaison and cooperation	
Fire Management	32	Fire Management should include measures to reduce ignition risks from adjacent	Minimising ignition is an integral part of bushfire risk planning and community education components of the Plan.	

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		development		
Fire Management	39	The 6-8 year minimal use of fire should be referenced to a start date	Noted and agreed	Amend Section 10.2 to refer to 8 years from 2009.
Fire Management	39	The plan should consider ecological burns to restore koala habitat to promote sclerophyll regeneration	Noted and agreed	Amend Section 10.3 to include investigation of ecological burns to promote sclerophyll regeneration
Koala Welfare	1, 20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Support for Wildlife Care groups	Noted. Council supports both FOK and TVWC financially under its policy - <i>Financial Assistance to Licensed Not for Profit Native Animal Welfare Groups</i>	
Koala Welfare	16	Consider artificial insemination	Noted. This is one of many possibilities to assist in augmentation of the population and is covered under clause Section 11.4i	
Koala Welfare	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Need a release site on the Tweed Coast	See Sect. 11.4	
Koala Welfare	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 32, 33	Support vaccine research	This needs to be considered in context of all other resource demands.	
Koala Welfare	32, 36	Need to highlight human induced stress	Most of the provisions of the plan relating to development, dogs, roads, bushfire and the like are designed to minimise stress on koalas, however it is acknowledged that the issue of stress should be mentioned in Part 11.	Amend Section 11.1 to highlight the potential link between human induced stress and disease and how the Plan addresses these issues
Koala Welfare	32, 36	Construct a koala hospital in Tweed Shire	High quality facilities are available at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital and Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital. Friends of Koala advise that services provided by these facilities adequately meet demand an additional facility would not be viable. Duplication of these facilities would also be very expensive and would divert scarce resources from other areas of the Plan	

Topic	Submission No.	Issue	Planning Response	Recommendation
Community Awareness	5	Support for community education	Noted - see Part 12	
Community Awareness	16	Consider a green awards program	This could be considered by the KMC under the Community Awareness Strategy referred to under Section 12.2	
Community Awareness	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Financial support for advocacy and education groups	Needs to be considered in context of all other resource demands. Council supports both FOK and TVWC financially under its policy - <i>Financial Assistance to Licensed Not for Profit Native Animal Welfare Groups</i> . Council also provides support for other groups on a project basis.	
Community Awareness	32	Skilled knowledgeable people should deliver training	All training will be utilise appropriately trained and qualified people.	
Community Awareness	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	The Plan should explain public actions to preserve koalas and encourage participation	See Part 12 Community Awareness and Engagement. See also responsibilities for the community (Section 4.6)	
Community Awareness	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33, 32, 4	Website to report compliance issues and threats	See Section 12.1(i) which includes the provision of web page to achieve this. Resources for maintaining compliance are an important consideration for the plan and could be further highlighted in the Plan.	Amend 6.5 to highlight council's compliance responsibilities under the plan
Monitoring and Review	16	Support plan review every five years	Noted - Part 13	
Monitoring and Review	29	Koala population should be monitored every 2 years instead of every 3 years	Noted.	Include a sub clause in Part 13 to allow additional monitoring if considered necessary by the Koala Management Committee
Monitoring and Review	27	Initial reassessment of the koala population will be critical	Noted and agreed	
Monitoring and Review	16, 27, 40	Need to bring forward review of the Plan	Agreed. Suggest that earlier review could be prompted by the Koala Management Committee if considered necessary.	Include a sub clause in Part 13 to allow additional review if considered necessary by the

Topic	Submission No.	Issue	Planning Response	Recommendation
				Koala Management Committee
Monitoring and Review	32	Draft Plan should focus on preventing impacts on koalas rather than monitoring	The draft Plan needs to and does do both.	
Monitoring and Review	1	Emergency response provisions are needed where data indicates an ongoing population decline	The Plan provides ample opportunity for Council to respond to individual events. Response to longer term changes will arise from regular review of the plan which as suggested above be prompted by the KMC at any time	
Monitoring and Review	20, 12, 7, 8, 9, 46, 47, 33	Council staff must be fully informed in koala ecology	Council employs a number of competent ecologists with specialist knowledge in koala conservation and planning. These staff provide key technical advice throughout Council divisions regarding koala ecology and management.	
Monitoring and Review	16	Climate change impacts	Noted. Any necessary responses to climate change (e.g. tree preferences) will emerge over time and will be addressed under ongoing review process in Part 13.	
Implementation	39	Unexplained acronyms used in Part 14	Noted	Revise Part 14 and/or Acronyms and Definitions section.
Implementation	39	4 th action under reducing the risk of dog attack refers to KLPs which is inconsistent with Section 9.2	Noted and agreed	Revise implementation table to be consistent with Section 9.2
Implementation	50	Include changes to LEP/DCP in implementation table etc	Noted.	Include strategic planning elements in implementation schedule
Site Specific	15, 49	The Black Rocks sports field access road should be left open	Noted	
Site Specific	19, 32, 35, 36	Keep the gate locked 24/7 at Black Rocks	Noted. Council have considered this issue on several occasions and decided to allow public access to the sports field during the day. Council staff are currently	Amend 6.5 to highlight council's compliance responsibilities under the plan

Topic	Submission No.	Issue	Planning Response	Recommendation
			working on an improved compliance strategy to minimise unauthorised activities in this area. It should be noted however that potential disturbance of koalas by humans also occurs in many other areas of the Tweed Coast. Resources for maintaining compliance are an important consideration for the plan and could be further highlighted in the plan.	
Site Specific	26	Support for additional management at Black Rocks	Noted	
Site Specific	32, 35	Additional traffic restrictions at Black Rocks	Outside the scope of the draft Plan and not considered to be a high priority for traffic mitigation measures.	
Site Specific	32, 36, 31, 17, 18	Revegetate Black Rocks Sports fields and/or rezone to E2; DCP for Black Rocks and other sports fields	Outside the scope of the draft Plan.	
Site Specific	32, 35, 36	Does not support the proposed men's shed at Black Rocks	The LEP determines the land uses for which a Development Application (DA) may be submitted, not the koala plan. Any DA for Black Rocks sports field will need to be assessed on its merits including the provisions of the plan when adopted.	
Site Specific	32	Moratorium on development applications at Black Rocks until the IKPoM is reviewed.	This request is outside the scope of the draft plan	
Site Specific	32, 17, 18	The draft Plan should provide for detailed koala monitoring in the Black Rocks /Wooyung area	Under the draft plan further comprehensive koala monitoring is scheduled for 2015. It is considered important to monitor all areas not just the Black Rocks area	
Site Specific	32	The draft plan should include the recommendations of the Dunloe Sands Mining Project Environmental Management Plan 2009	Compliance with existing development approvals is outside the scope of the Plan	

Topic	Submission No.	Issue	Planning Response	Recommendation
Site Specific	32	Mitigate impacts of future Dunloe Park development	See Section 5.10 which provides for areas subject to Future Urban Development.	
Site Specific	39	Formalisation of Kellehers Rd is a key management issue for Pottsville KAP and surrounding koala precincts	Noted and agreed. This issue is highlighted under the description of the Pottsville KAP and will be a key issue for the future development of the Dunloe Park area.	
Site Specific	25	Concerns regarding potential subdivision at Tanglewood	The future development of the Tanglewood area will be covered by the Plan.	
Site specific	32	Replace vehicle access gate at Pottsville Environmental Park with a koala/dog-proof gate	Noted, however there have been no issues at this site. Replacement of the gate would need to be accompanied by perimeter fencing including along the creek which would be impractical, environmentally damaging and counterproductive.	