

Draft Wildlife Protection Areas policy
 Submissions analysis
 Exhibition period: 15 August – 26 September 2017

Sub #	Name	Issue/s	Response
1	Respondent 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where will the policy apply? 2. Will the policy apply to existing residential areas and what are implications for current domestic animals? 3. Recommend regulation requiring cats being contained 4. Importance of increased protections when in close proximity to bushland 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The policy will apply to public land only and so will have no direct implications for current domestic animals that are kept in accordance with relevant local laws. 2. As above 3. Noted but beyond the scope of this policy 4. Agreed and considered consistent with the policy
2	Respondent 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need to ensure that where any declarations result in a reduction of dog exercise areas that this is offset through the provision of enclosed, grassed off leash areas. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is not anticipated that application of the WPA policy will result in reduction of existing areas for off leash use.
3	Respondent 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fully support the draft policy as a critical requirement for the survival of wildlife in Tweed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted and acknowledged
4	Respondent 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does not believe that the proposed approach as per the draft policy will be sufficient to prevent animal owners taking dogs into declared areas 2. There are not enough council rangers to enforce the existing laws 3. Recommends mandating cat and dog enclosures (as per Logan City Council) as more useful approach 4. Identifies a need for additional protected areas in Australia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted 2. Noted 3. Noted but beyond the scope of this policy 4. Noted but beyond the scope of this policy

5	Respondent 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify areas where koalas are considered to be at high risk of contact with domestic dogs 2. Prohibit dogs from all public parks, reserves and recreational areas that are located within high risk areas and from all new public parks and reserves in Koala Activity Precincts 3. Ensure koala habitat and other threatened species habitat are used as a trigger for declaration 4. Public land proximal to primary koala habitat (including sites adjacent to urban areas on the eastern extent of Pottsville Wetland) should be considered for declaration 5. Public land where bush stone-curlews are known to occur (including caravan parks, schools, asset protection zones and some areas of Black Rocks estate should be considered for declaration 6. Areas of public land including headlands, coastal, estuarine and riparian areas managed by Council should be considered for declaration 7. A schedule for the roll out of declarations should be prepared that is prioritised by risk to threatened species 8. Additional resources are required to ensure compliance, including to enable after hours patrols. 9. Support for the need for additional community awareness and the signage requirements 10. Recommends monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of measures in place to reduce the impacts of domestic animals on threatened species 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is being completed through the Tweed Coast Koala Plan of Management (KPOM) works program 2. This is also an existing action of the KPOM and will be implemented where relevant 3. Agreed and considered consistent with intent of the policy 4. Noted for future consideration, subject to Council adopting the draft policy 5. Noted for future consideration, subject to Council adopting the draft policy 6. Noted for future consideration, subject to Council adopting the draft policy 7. Noted and addressed through inclusion of a statement identifying how proposed declarations will be prioritised 8. Noted 9. Noted and acknowledged 10. Monitoring and evaluation provision added to the amended policy
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6	Fingal Head Coastcare Inc.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thank Council for recognising the need and developing a policy to address the problem of uncontrolled domestic animals on public land 2. Complete support for the draft and consider it essential for the protection of our natural environment 3. Recommend subsequent consideration of relevant areas on the Fingal Peninsula for declaration under the policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted and acknowledged 2. Noted and acknowledged 3. Noted for future consideration, subject to Council adopting the draft policy
7	Friends of the Koala Inc.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifies dog attack as a significant threat to koalas and notes the relevant provisions of the Tweed Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management. 2. Commends Council for the proposal to use wildlife protection areas to protect koalas and other wildlife in bushland reserves and trusts that other local government authorities will follow. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted and acknowledged 2. Noted and acknowledged
8	Internal comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minor formatting and edits required 2. Need to identify how to respond to community initiated proposals for declarations 3. <i>Threatened Species Act 1995</i> now repealed 4. Need to ensure consistency with Council's Companion Animals Management Plan Policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addressed in Version 2.0 2. Addressed in Version 2.0 3. Addressed in Version 2.0 4. Changes required to Companion Animals Management Plan identified and marked up for integration at next available opportunity