

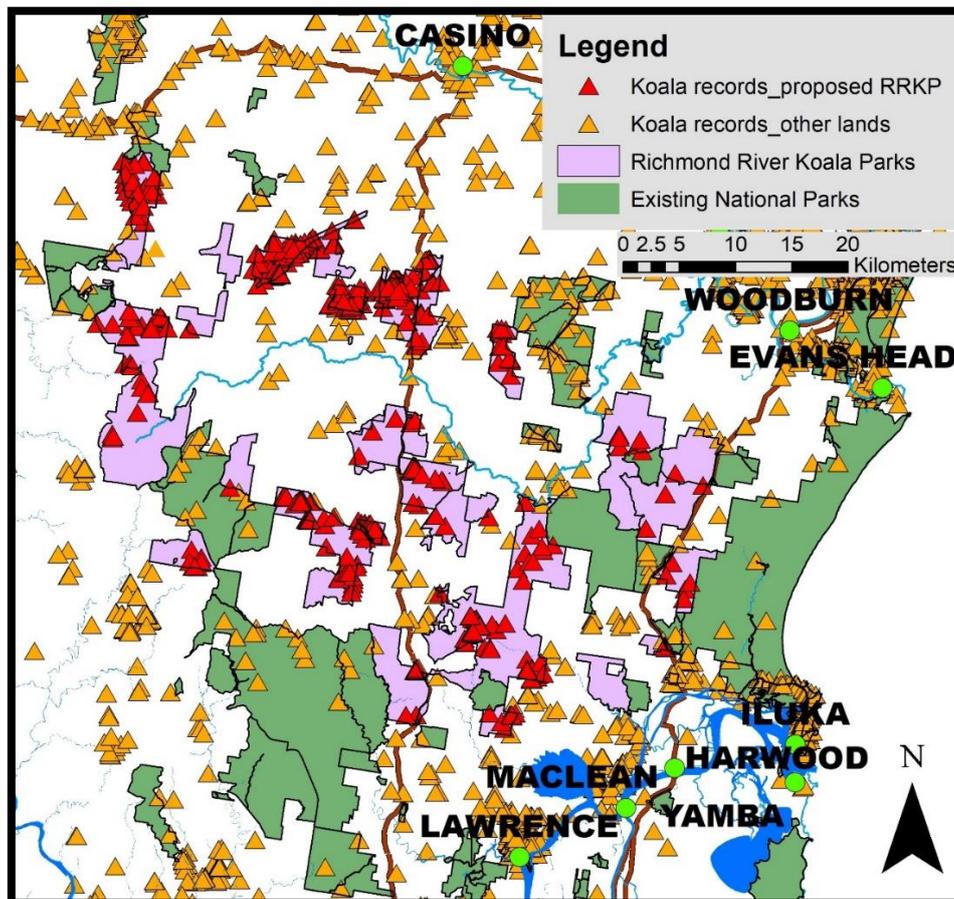


Help save a nationally important Koala population by stopping the logging of their feed trees and securing their future in national parks.

The forests of the southern Richmond River catchment are special - alive with stories and connections that stretch back countless generations. These forests shelter rare plants and animals, provide clean water and a refuge for one of the most important surviving Koala populations in New South Wales — a population that depends on the health of this Country for its survival.

The North East Forest Alliance first recognised the importance of these forests for Koalas in 2012 when they found the Forestry Corporation logging Koala High Use Areas. Since then community surveys have confirmed that Koalas still occupy more than 56,000 hectares of these State Forests. Community groups are now calling for these forests — and the Koalas' homes — to be protected as part of the Richmond River Koala Parks. Because the Clarence River is a major barrier to Koala dispersal, the Richmond Koalas are genetically different from those to the south in the Great Koala National Park.

Proposed Richmond River Koala Parks: Koalas



The 2019/20 wildfires burnt through most of the southern Richmond, killing over half the Koalas and many of their feed trees. They have been slowly recovering, except that now the trees they need for food and shelter are being logged.

Both the NSW and Commonwealth Governments have recognised the importance of this population: NSW identifying it as the Banyabba Area of Regional Koala Significance (ARKS) in 2019 and the Commonwealth identifying it as Nationally Important Koala Areas (NIKAs) in 2021. Because of the fires, Koalas were uplisted to nationally Endangered in 2022 and a Recovery Plan prepared.

Despite recognising their significance and plight, it has made no difference, both Governments refuse to change the logging rules or take any action to protect the southern Richmond Koalas.

In these forests Koalas rely on six main species of eucalypts for food, preferring mature trees (>30 cm diameter) that are over 90 years old. The logging rules only require the retention of a few small 'potential' feed trees, even though most will rarely be used by Koalas. Even if a Koala is seen in a tree, loggers only need to wait for it to leave before cutting its tree down. These are rules for Koala extinction.

We believe it's time to stand together for Country — to protect these ancient forests and the Koalas that live within them, for the future generations who will walk this land after us.

Help us to help them. Protect Country.

Protect the Richmond River Koalas.

THIS OR THIS



LEFT: Koala killed by lack of food in the aftermath of the 2019/20 wildfires, Ellangowan State Forest

RIGHT: Survivor of the 2019/20 wildfires whose feed trees are currently being cut down, Braemar State Forest.

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