



Koala Conservation

Managing a population in decline



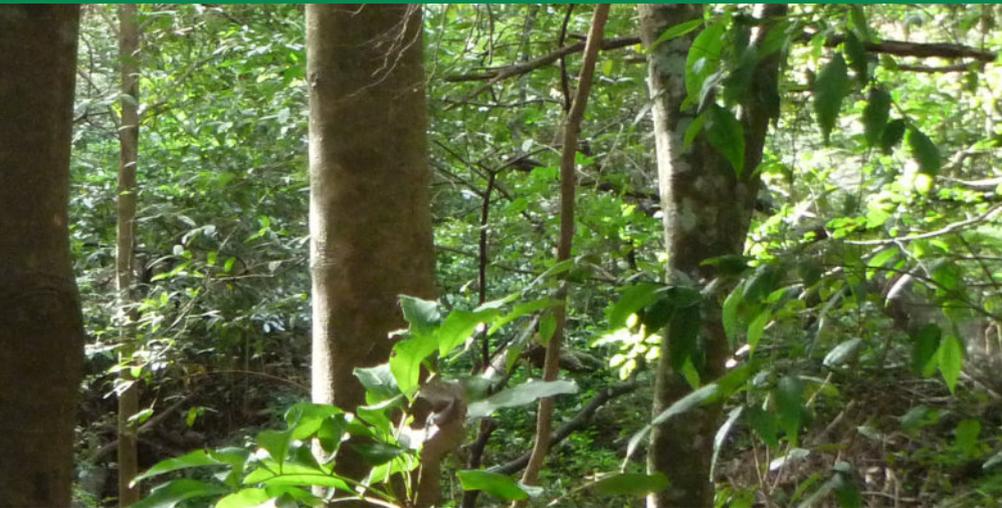
The koala is arguably Australia’s most iconic native wildlife species. Despite this, populations are declining or disappearing at an alarming rate due to multiple threatening processes including: habitat loss and fragmentation, vehicle strikes, dog attacks and disease. The seriousness of koala declines is evident in its recent listing as a nationally threatened species.

Ecosure has a wide range of expertise and experience dealing with koalas. Our experience includes captive environments, scientific based research projects, consultancy surveys, veterinarian advice and research into health and disease. Ecosure also played a key role in the inception and development of the Koala Research Network. The Koala Research Network is a collaborative group of koala researchers from various areas of industry including private, university, community and government. Ecosure currently has key staff members actively involved in the network.

Ecosure continues to aspire for the best possible outcomes for koala conservation and as a result regularly engage in collaboration with numerous external koala experts to ensure the delivery of high quality services.

Here are just a few of the koala conservation services that Ecosure has to offer.

- Collaborative koala surveys with Biolink using regularised grid – based sampling using the Spot Assessment Technique and strip transects
- Koala habitat assessments utilising koala habitat mapping, expertise in tree identification and high level skills in planning for and delivering ecological restoration solutions to provide habitat offset measures
- Koala management plans using field surveys, data assessments and high-level reporting
- In situ koala assessment comprising capture, anaesthesia and detailed assessment of the health, nutritional and reproductive status of free ranging populations in the context of land use and habitat use
- Monitoring using radio tracking techniques to determine home-range, movement patterns and baseline values for assessment of morbidity, mortality and reproductive success rates
- Expert knowledge and collaboration to achieve positive outcomes for koalas. Ecosure draws on numerous collaborators with extensive koala experience, including Steve Phillips (Biolink), researchers from the University of Queensland, and Jon Hanger (Endeavour Veterinary Services)



Our Experience

A sample of our recent projects

Burleigh Heads koala habitat use and population assessment plus city-wide koala monitoring advice

Ecosure, teamed with Dr Steve Phillips (Biolink), were recently engaged to conduct detailed koala surveys in the Burleigh Heads bushland region of the Gold Coast. These surveys were designed to use the spot assessment technique and strip transects to provide assessments of koala activity and density throughout the area. In addition, a city-wide desktop assessment was required to identify priority locations for fixed long-term monitoring sites. These sites were required to monitor changes in habitat quality for koalas and associated changes in distribution and abundance of the species.

Koala Management Plan & Significant Tree Survey, Private Landowner, Cornubia

Ecosure was engaged to develop a Koala Management Plan for a parcel of land on Carbrook Road, Cornubia. The primary objective of this management plan was to ensure that the development application for the property in question was in compliance with the criteria and applicable solutions of the Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2006 and Management Program 2006-2016 (QLD). We designed and implemented the koala survey including the collection of information on the location of significant vegetation present on site.



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