



Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Framework



Our Vision: Biodiversity in Byron Shire is valued, protected and enhanced, through inspiring leadership, community engagement, expert input, urgent action and innovation.

AIM 1 – Lead

We are an organisation that provides clear direction, guidance and resources to conserve and enhance our biodiversity.

Key Objectives

1. Council's land use planning is up to date with current legislation and maximises opportunities to protect High Ecological Value landscapes.
2. Climate change adaptation strategies maximise opportunities for biodiversity conservation.
3. Best practice desktop tools are used to support High Ecological Value landscape and habitat protection.
4. Biodiversity conservation and management better integrated into Council's day-to-day operations.
5. Additional funding is secured to support biodiversity projects.

Key Actions

- ✔ Develop a Biodiversity and Habitat Management Chapter for Council's DCP.
- ✔ Develop a Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management for the Byron hinterland.
- ✔ Update Council's wildlife corridor mapping.
- ✔ Develop a priority restoration investment map to guide future restoration planning.
- ✔ Review the current status of flora, fauna, threatened species and weeds in the Shire.

- ✔ Update Council's mapping to reflect current legislation and available data.
- ✔ Identify grant funding opportunities for Biodiversity projects.



Swamp Orchid, L. Caddick

AIM 2 – Inform

Our community is well informed about biodiversity and what they can do to protect it.

Key Objectives

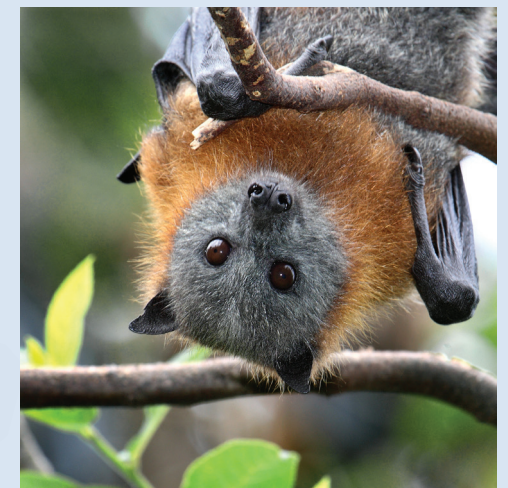
1. The community has access to clear, up to date information on Byron Shires unique biodiversity and how everyone can help protect it.
2. Land managers and residents have access to information regarding threats to native biodiversity and their individual responsibility to manage these threats.
3. Council facilitates opportunities for visitors to engage with nature and to learn about and want to protect Byron Shire's biodiversity.
4. Information on our local indigenous heritage is integrated into education materials developed for residents and visitors.

Key Actions

- ✔ Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity.
- ✔ Implement education and awareness programmes for flying foxes, Mitchell's rainforest snail, pest management, impacts of domestic animals and fire ecology.
- ✔ Work with tourism operators to build capacity in environmental awareness.
- ✔ Increase inclusion of Bundjalung language for place, plants and animals in Council's biodiversity documents and outputs.



Artist: Daniel Hend



Grey-headed Flying Fox, V. Jones

AIM 3 – Support

Our land managers are well supported to conserve biodiversity across the landscape.

Key Objectives

1. Council develops strong partnerships with relevant Aboriginal stakeholders, that share biodiversity knowledge and guide management.
2. Council works proactively with rural landholders to facilitate biodiversity restoration and conservation on private land.
3. Council facilitates a local carbon offsets industry that integrates biodiversity conservation into planning and design of offset plantings.

Key Actions

- ✔ Provide additional biodiversity support and extension services to private landholders.
- ✔ Make Council biodiversity mapping layers accessible to the public.
- ✔ Engage with landholders interested in participating in environmental restoration and provide information, training and resources.
- ✔ Implement restoration projects on private land to increase wildlife habitat.



AIM 4 – Manage

We use best practice land management to improve ecological resilience and reduce threats to biodiversity.

Key Objectives

1. Resource Council's bush regeneration team to continue to restore degraded native vegetation on Council-managed land.
2. Partner with community groups, universities and citizen scientists to monitor threatened species and communities for best-practice biodiversity management.
3. Engage with local and regional stakeholders to ensure land managers have capacity to implement best practice in biodiversity and cultural heritage management.
4. Implement existing threatened species management plans on Council-managed land.
5. Monitor, map and record weeds to prioritise management across the Shire.
6. Pest animals are managed strategically through targeted management plans.
7. Investigate opportunities to protect native wildlife on Council-managed roads and infrastructure.
8. Provide support to Landcare, Primary Industry groups and individual landholders to implement best practice natural resource management along the Brunswick and Wilsons Rivers.

Key Actions

- ✔ Restore biodiversity values on Council managed land.
- ✔ Implement a current best practice training forum for environmental staff.
- ✔ Implement monitoring programs for threatened species and restoration sites.
- ✔ Implement Flying Fox Camp Management Plan.
- ✔ Implement operational plans for target pest species.
- ✔ Identify wildlife road strike hotspots and develop prioritised mitigation measures.
- ✔ Audit and renew roadside threatened vegetation markers.
- ✔ Identify priority dry forest ecosystems requiring fire management.

