

OUR BIODIVERSITY

Byron Shire
covers
56,642
hectares

This includes:
39km of coastline
438km of rivers
600km roads

Byron Shire is located at the heart of the Wet Subtropics Bioregion – one of the most biodiverse regions in Australia, with:



The highest diversity of marsupials and microchiropteran bats of all Australia bioregions.



An equal diversity of frogs to the Wet Tropics.



The second highest bird diversity in Australia (next to the Wet Tropics)



Many relict species related to the flora and fauna of the ancient Gondwana continent.²

Our diverse ecosystems include:



Montane complexes

Subtropical rainforest, including floodplain and littoral rainforest

Wet and dry sclerophyll forest

Coastal heath and shrublands

Grasslands

Coastal wetlands

Estuaries, saltmarshes and mangroves

Our rainforests, wetlands and estuaries are an important winter feeding resource for migratory birds and bats from Australia and beyond¹.



Over **600** native animals⁴



160 threatened animal species⁴



2,000 ha koala habitat³



16 flying fox camps



Over **1500** native plants⁴

145 threatened plant species⁴



24,300 ha High Ecological Value vegetation, including **17%** of the Shire protected in national parks and reserves

11 Threatened Ecological Communities

148 ha World Heritage Gondwana Rainforests

317 ha of the remaining Big Scrub Lowland Subtropical Rainforest

92 ha Littoral Rainforest

1,596 ha Coastal (SEPP) wetlands^{4,5}



References: 1 Byron Shire Council. (2019). *Integrated Pest Management Strategy*. | 2 Byron Shire Council. (2007). *Biodiversity in Byron Shire*. Mullumbimby, Australia: Author. | 3 Biolink. (2012). *Byron Coast Koala Habitat Study*.
4 Department of Environment & Heritage. (2020) *Bionet Atlas*. | 5 Department of the Environment and Energy. (2019). *EPBC Protected Matters Search Tool*.