

# Sydney's Koala Belt

Hawkesbury Environmental  
Network AGM

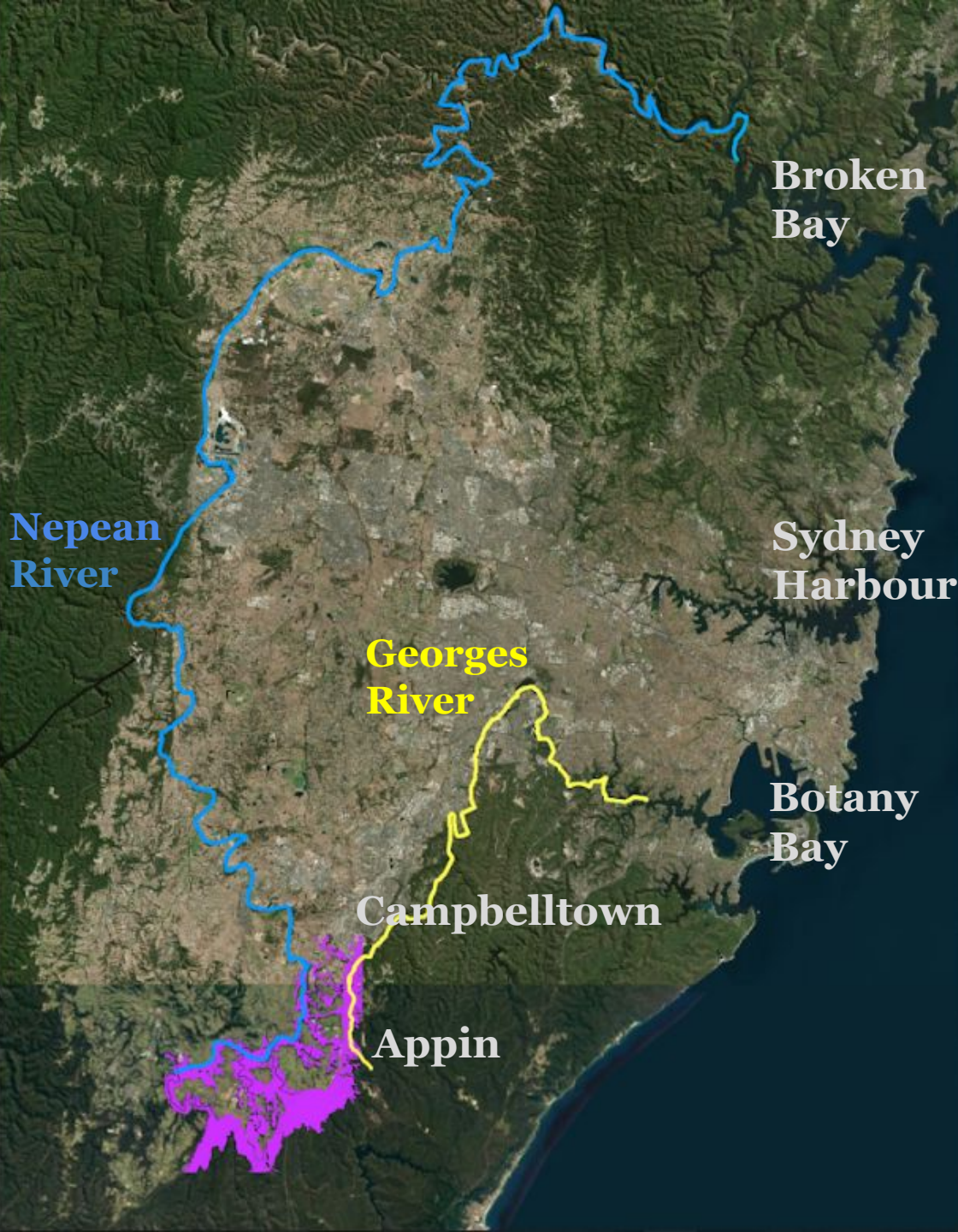
30th November 2024

**Connects Koala colonies -  
allows recolonization.  
“Biodiversity Super Ring Road”**

**Georges River in Yellow  
Nepean River in Blue are  
primary Koala corridors, Purple  
are the Macarthur Koala  
Corridors**

Saul Deane  
TEC

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Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment

**Conservation Advice for *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory**

In effect under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* from 12 February 2022.

This document combines the approved conservation advice and listing assessment for the species. It provides a foundation for conservation action and further planning.



*Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) © Copyright Karen Ford



**NSW GOVERNMENT**  
**Chief Scientist & Engineer**

Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population  
Koala Independent Expert Panel

**A** Response to questions about advice provided in the Koala Independent Expert Panel Report 'Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population'

**B** Advice regarding the protection of koala populations associated with the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan  
February 2022

**C**

**COMPREHENSIVE KOALA PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

Prepared by Biolink for Campbelltown City Council

NSW Office of Environment & Heritage | campbelltown city council | Biolink

**Scientists - East - West Koala Corridors essential**

**Uplisted 'Endangered' listing 2020/22**

**E-W corridors, 390m Min Widths 2020/21**

**E-W Corridors, 425m min. Widths 2016/20**

**GREATER 2018 MACARTHUR 2040**

An interim plan for the Greater Macarthur Growth Area  
NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
November 2018

**Regulatory Environment - CPCP evolution**

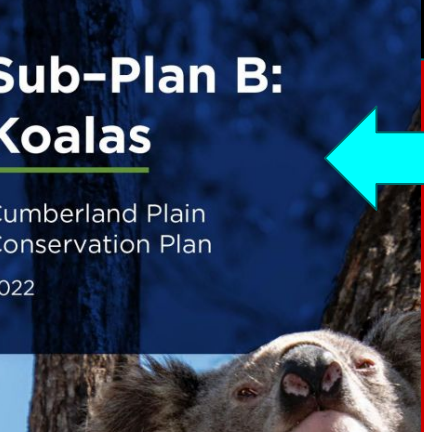
**2022/24 Only Ousedale Ck**

**2022 Translocation**

**2019 Only E-W, Ousedale**

**Sub-Plan B: Koalas**

Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan  
2022



**NSW Koala Strategy**

Towards doubling the number of koalas in New South Wales by 2050

Department of Planning and Environment

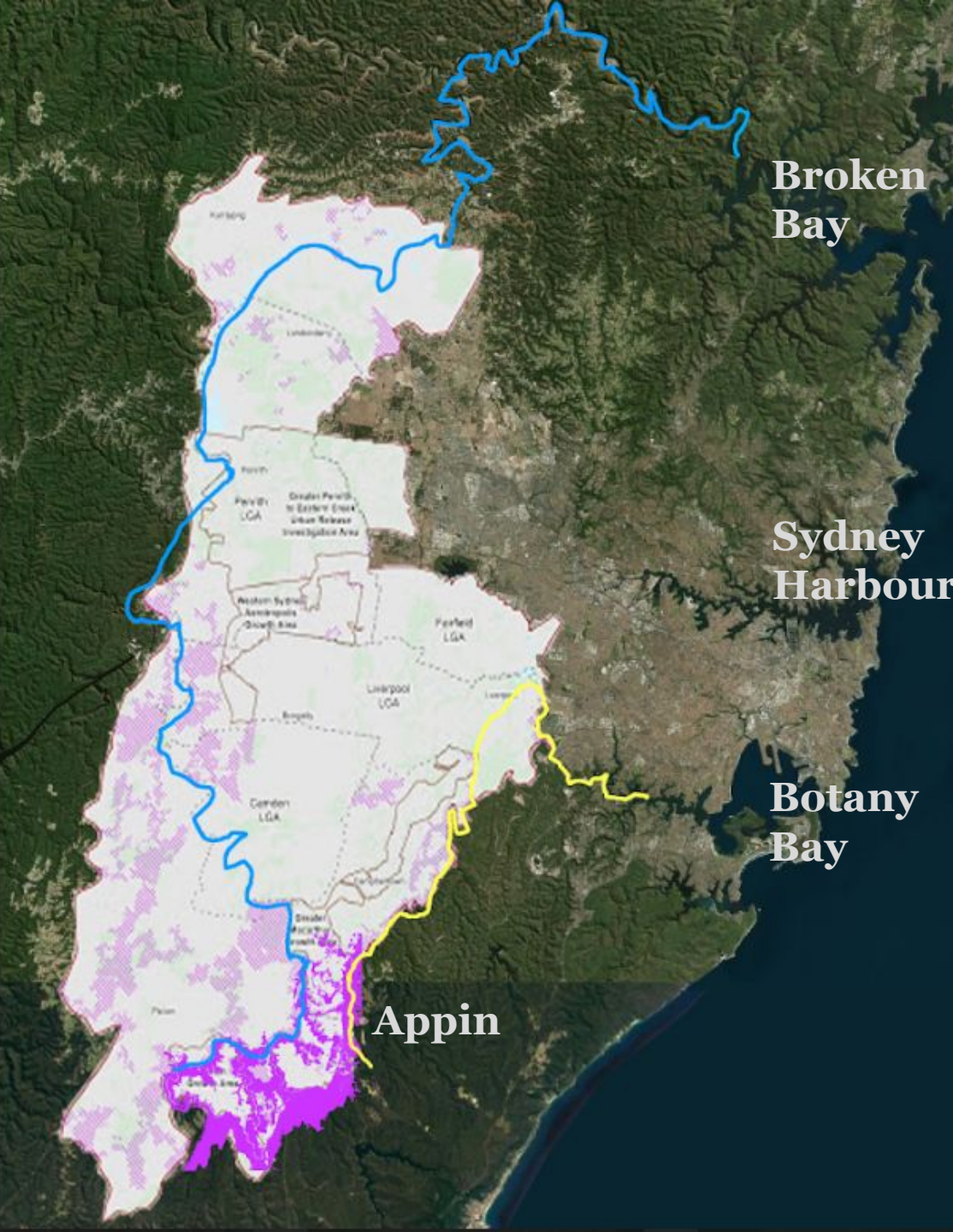
**NSW GOVERNMENT**

**Stage 1 - BioCert.**

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT

**Conserving Koalas in the Wollondilly and Campbelltown Local Government Areas**

**NSW Planning - Removes East-West Koala corridors**



**Broken Bay**

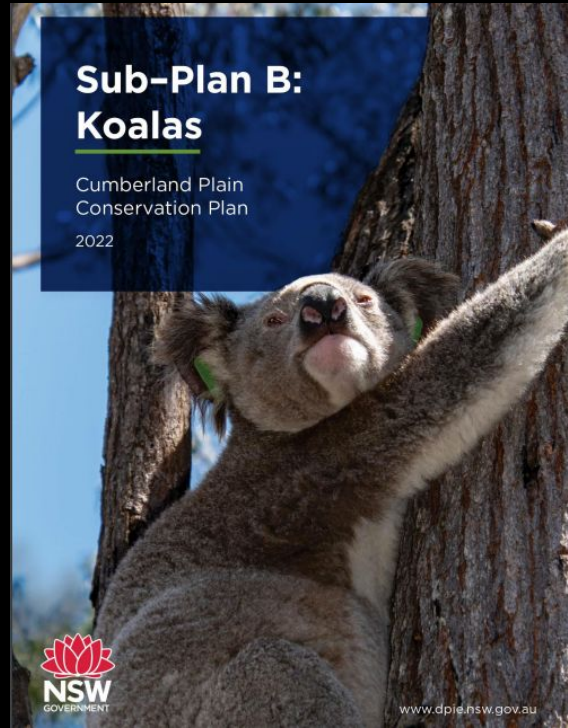
**Sydney Harbour**

**Botany Bay**

**Appin**

# Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan (CPCP)

Landscape scale Biodiversity Certification (biocertification).  
A landclearing certificate

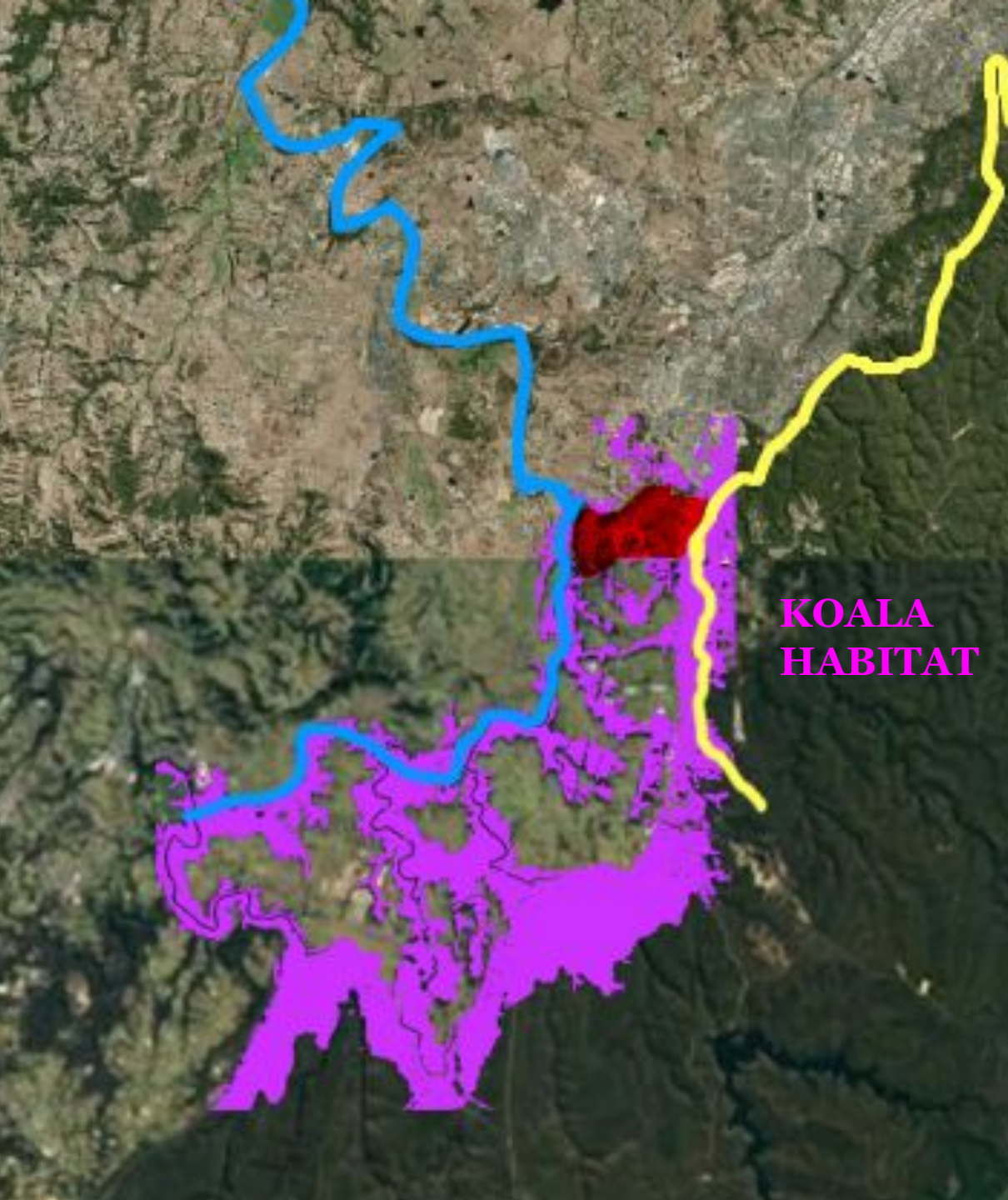


## Sub-Plan B: Koalas

Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan  
2022



[www.dpie.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au)

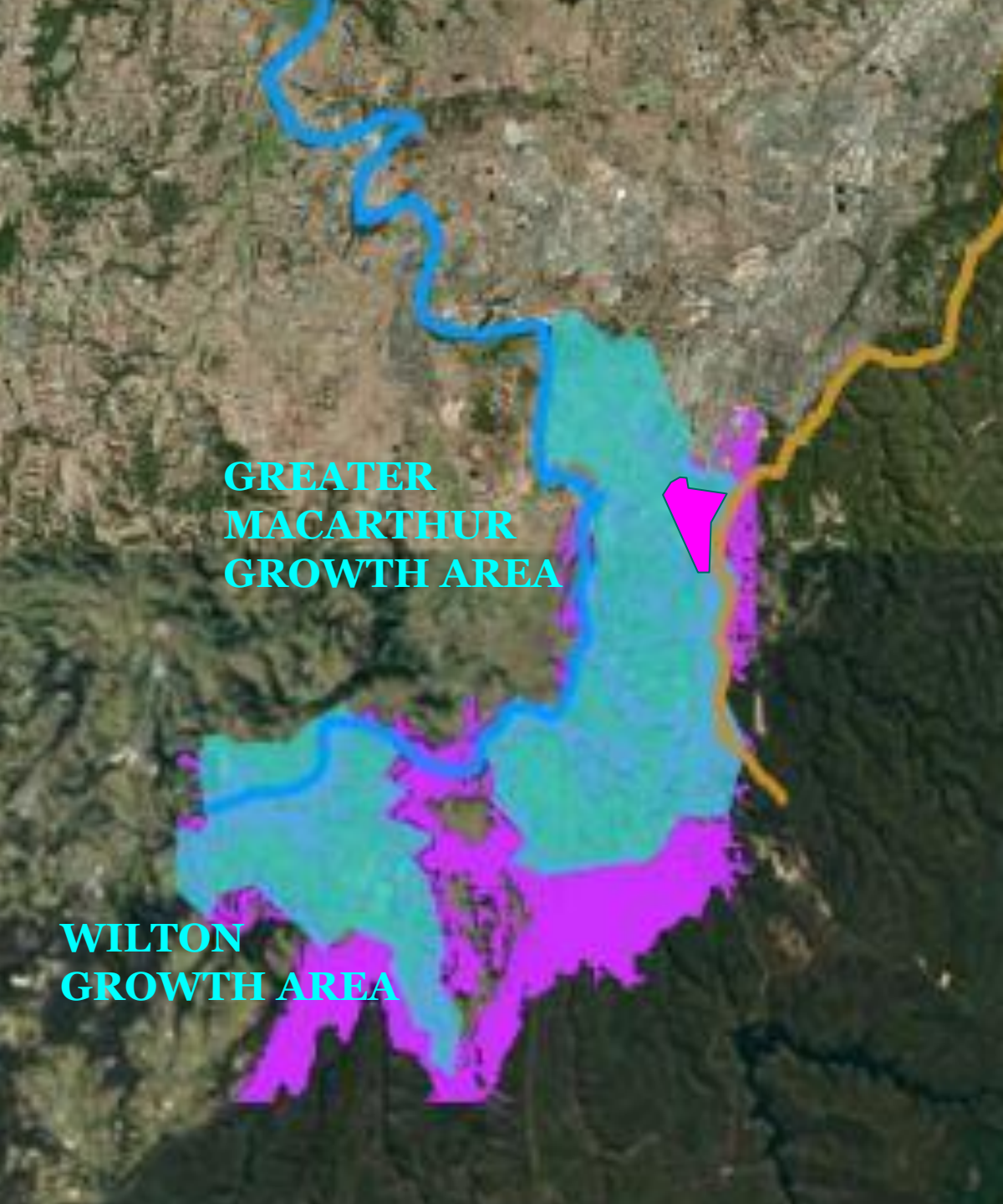


**Gilead is the shortest Koala corridor between the Georges and Nepean river primary Koala corridors**

**Purple shows Campbelltown & Wilton Koala corridors and habitat**

### **3 Corridor Criteria**

- 1. Numerous riparian corridors:  
East-West & North-South links**
- 2. Wide - 400m**
- 3. Corridor integrity**



**GREATER  
MACARTHUR  
GROWTH AREA**

**WILTON  
GROWTH AREA**

# GREATER MACARTHUR 2040

An interim plan for the  
Greater Macarthur Growth Area

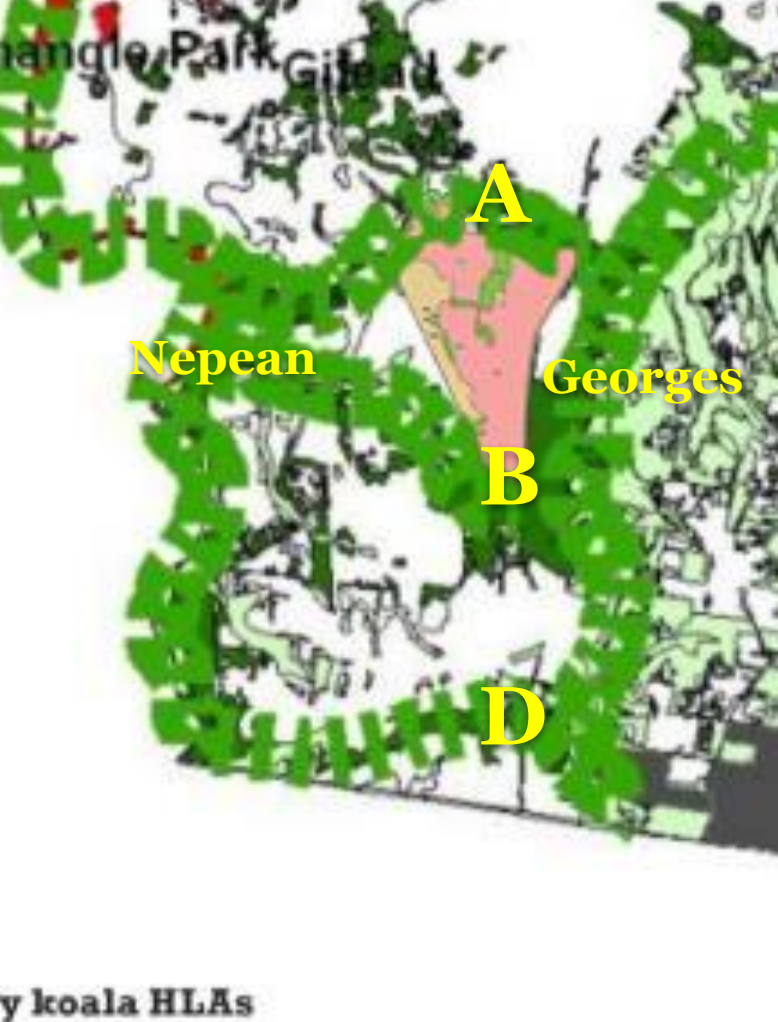
NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
November 2018

**2018**

NSW Planning Minister  
Roberts declared **Koala  
habitat** Growth Area for  
housing in Sydney

**Nepean River Koala  
Corridor 425m wide  
promised**



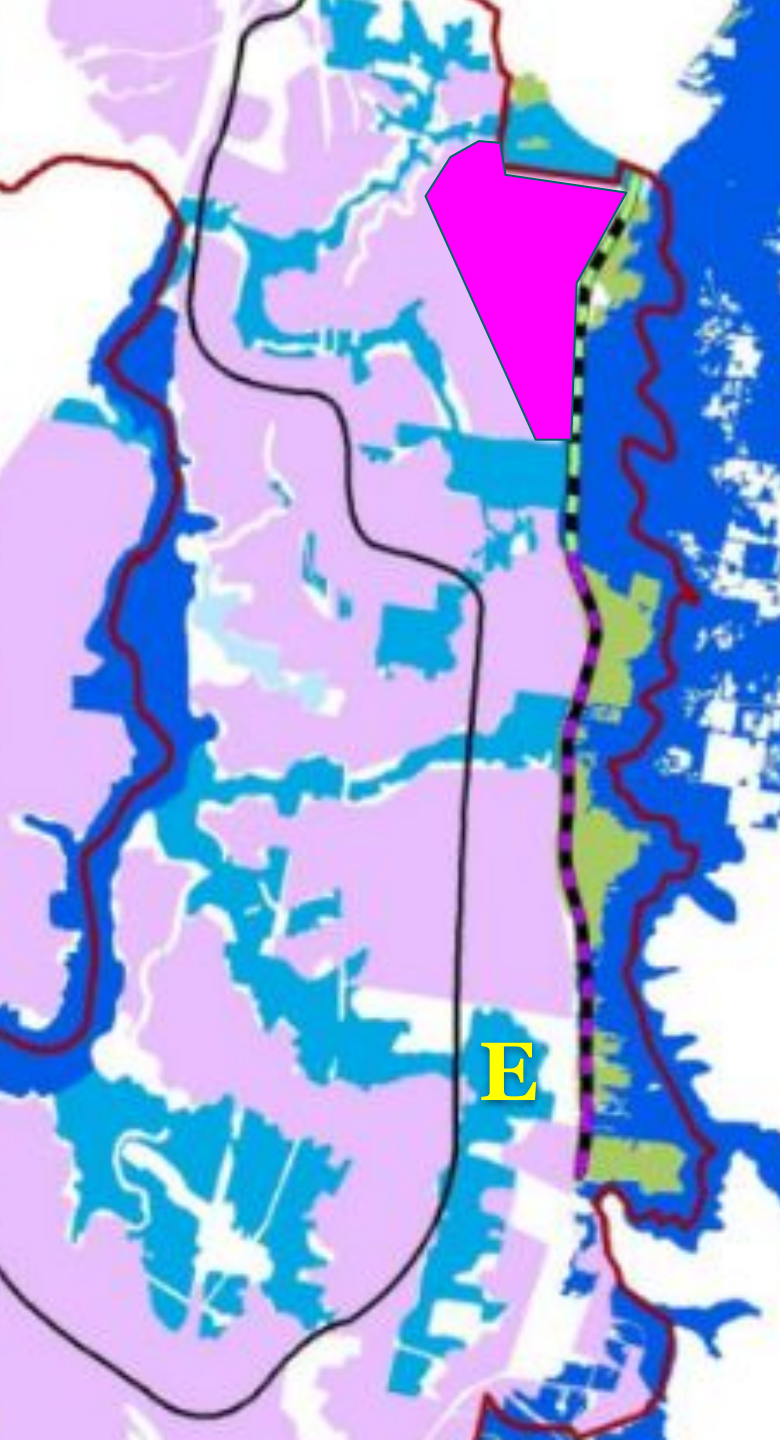


**2016  
Draft Campbelltown  
KPoM:**

**3-crossings/corridors:  
( A, B & D ) Appin rd.**

**2 - North - South  
Corridors:  
Nepean & Georges**

**Widths - 425m**



**Gilead Stage 1 :  
Biocerfied under  
this report.**

**Anthony Lean  
delegated  
authority.**

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONM

## **Conserving Koalas in the Wollondilly and Campbelltown Local Government Areas**

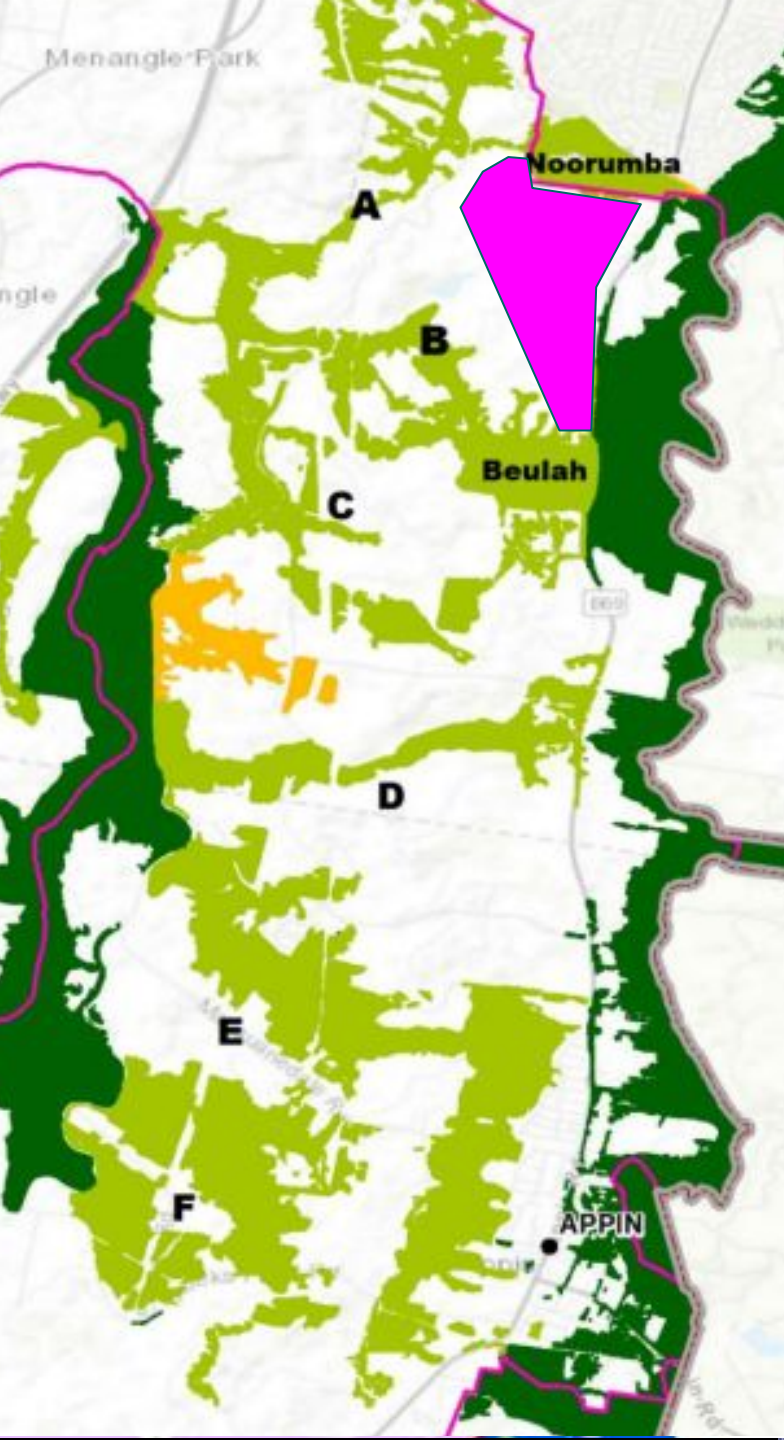
**2019** (no scientific basis)

**No need for East - West  
Corridors** (last paragraph)  
**One crossing at Ousedale  
Creek (E)**

**Exclusion fencing down  
Appin road** (keep Koalas out  
of developable area - see dotted  
line).

**Widths:** No Minimum

**Primary reference for:  
2019 Biocertification of  
Lendlease Gilead Stage 1.**



Chief Scientist  
& Engineer

Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala population

Koala Independent Expert Panel

30 April 2020

**2020** Chief Scientist:  
Environment Minister Kean  
commissions

**5 crossings on Appin Rd  
(A, B, D & E).** (But 1 on  
Bulli-Appin Rd.)

**Georges River** - Georges  
River Koala Reserve.

**Nepean River** - Primary  
Koala Habitat

**Widths** - Av. min 390m + 2  
x 30m buffers.





*CPCP gives Federal government concurrent State approval of CPCP, allows NSW Environment/NSW Planning to self assess the CPCP against Chief Scientists.*

*3 criteria important for Koala corridors: width, number and protection. Chief Scientist calls for :*

- *Widths:*

- *Nepean River - East Bank a Primary Corridor 390m + 30m Buffer*
- *Corridors widths, Minimum width 390 + 2 x 30m buffers = 450m*

- *Numbers: 5 Koala crossings on Appin Road*

- *Noorumba (A)*
- *Beulah (B)*
- *Mallaty Creek (D)*
- *Nepean Creek (C)*
- *Ousedale Creek (E)*
- *Elladale Creek (F)*

- *Protection:*

- *C2 zoning (Conservation zoning), ownership Developer.*
- *Who owns it, must go to Government or a Trust.*



**2020 July Comprehensive Campbelltown Koala Plan of Management:**

**Corridors:**

**3-East-West: ( A, B & D ) A**

**2 - North - South**

**Corridors:**

Nepean & Georges

**Widths - 425m**

Koala SEPP (SEPP 44)  
Basis of Koala Wars never applied by Campbelltown Council.



**2021 Biosis methodology**

**2 crossings on Appin Rd (E).** (But 1 on Bulli-Appin Rd.) Maybe ones at Noorumba & Beulah.

**Georges River Koala Reserve. Nepean River - Primary Koala Habitat** (Av. width 313m)

**Widths :** Creates own Methodology for calculating widths. No minimum widths

Mimics once again the Conserving Koalas 2019 Report.



## Sub-Plan B: Koalas

Cumberland Plain  
Conservation Plan

2022



**2022 CPCP**

**One crossing at Ousedale  
Creek (E), Corridor D  
(Mallaty Creek excluded)**

**Widths: No Minimum**

**Primary reference for:  
2022 NSW Koala Strategy -  
(SWSydney)**

Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
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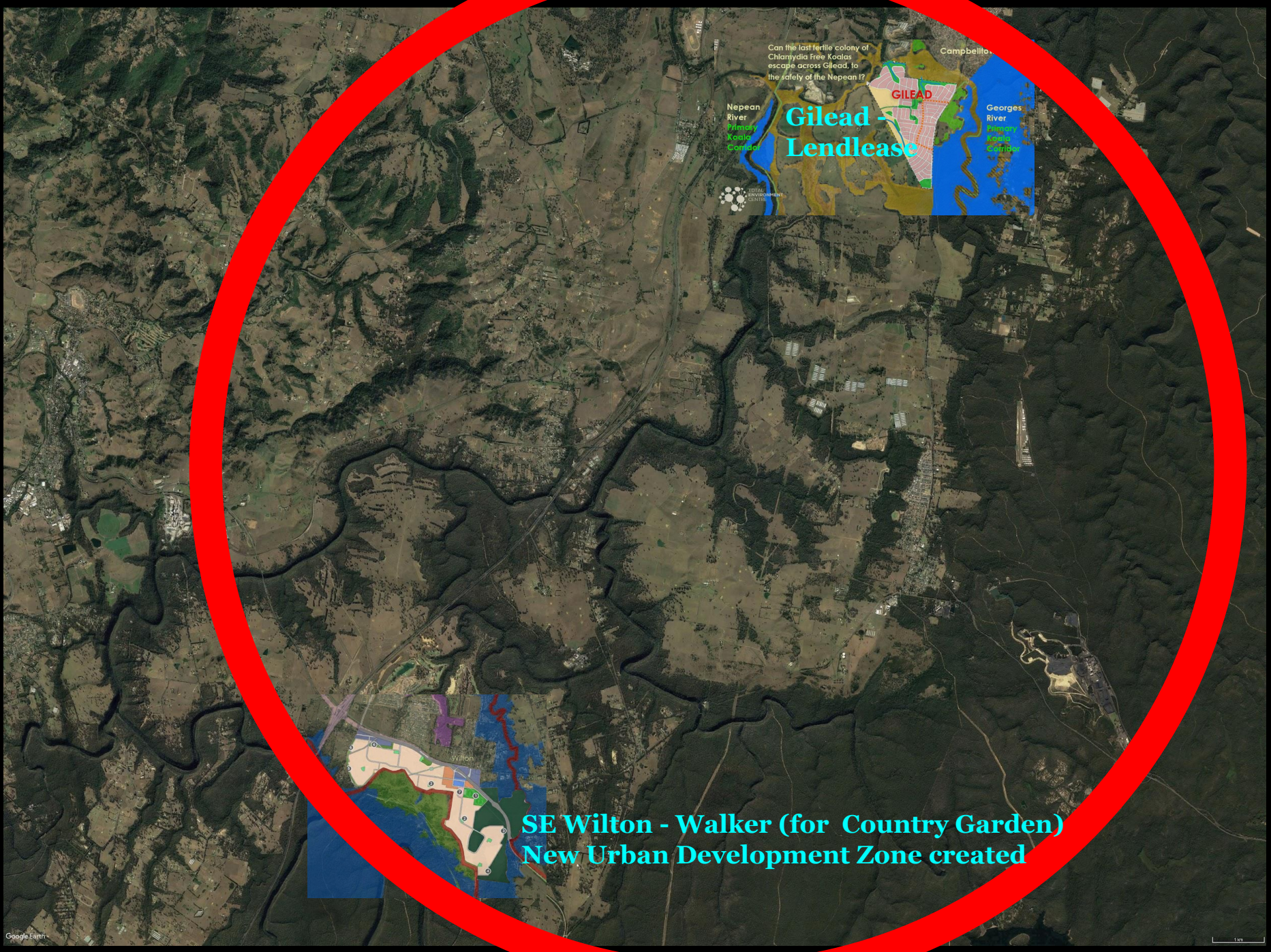
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**Conserving Koalas in the Wollondilly and Campbelltown Local Government Areas**

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Can the last fertile colony of Chlamydia Free Koalas escape across Gilead, to the safety of the Nepean?

Nepean River  
Koala  
Corridor

**Gilead -  
Lendlease**

Georges River  
Koala  
Corridor

Campbellton



**SE Wilton - Walker (for Country Garden)  
New Urban Development Zone created**

Light green is the corridors and widths required for Koalas - CSE2020, CKPoM2018



(A)

Lendlease's Gilead  
(figtree hill)

Stage 1

Stage 2

(B)

GILEAD

Nepean  
River

(C)

Dark Green is the corridor fragments Lendlease will leave for Koala Habitat Corridors in Gilead.



In response to public submissions concerning the width of the Menangle Creek corridor in proximity to Noorumba Reserve, the Panel considers there is utility in widening this section of corridor for the purpose of supporting its function as a Strategic Linkage Area for Koalas and other fauna. The Panel notes the recommendations of the Chief Scientist and Engineer report, titled *Advice on the protection of the Campbelltown Koala Population* suggest that efforts to widen the corridor should be made. The nexus for widening this section would be dependent on securing an effective Appin Road crossing which the Panel understands is being separately addressed via proposed amendments to the State Voluntary Planning Agreement (2018/9398) for Mt Gilead. A minimum suitable width, consistent with the advice of Dr Steve Phillips, as reported to Council's Ordinary Meeting on 13 October 2020 would be

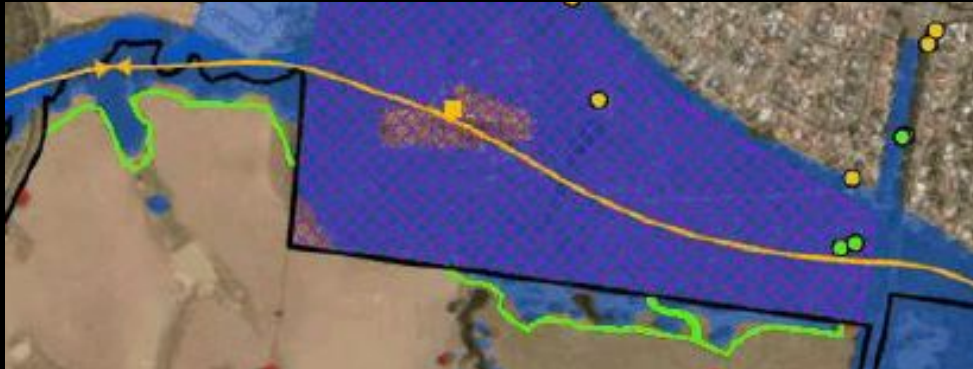
250m, noting the associated limitations for revegetation due to existing land use in proximity to the creek.

The Panel carefully considered all written and verbal submissions including material provided for consideration at the meeting and was satisfied that all matters raised are satisfactorily addressed in the application or by way of conditions of consent. In the Panel's opinion there are no grounds to justify refusal of the application.

#### Decision of the Panel

1. That Development Application 2984/2020/DA-CW for the proposed tree removal, dam dewatering, bulk earthworks and remediation works at Appin Road, Gilead be approved subject to conditions in attachment 1 to the report presented to the Panel, subject to the following amendments:
  - a. Insert after exiting condition 22, the following new condition 22A under the heading Prior to Issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate:

Prior to the commencement of any works or the issuing of a subdivision works certificate, whichever is to occur first, a plan must be provided to the satisfaction of Council's Executive Manager Urban Release and Engagement (or equivalent), that identifies a revised boundary of proposed works adjacent to the section of the Noorumba-Mt Gilead Biobank/Conservation Stewardship Site located between Lot 3 DP 730136 Appin Road Gilead and Pt Lot 102 DP 611552 Noorumba Reserve. The purpose of the plan is to identify a corridor of minimum 250 metre width, measured south from the centre line of Menangle Creek, within which no works will be permitted to occur under this consent.



**16 Dec 2020 - (Corridor A)  
Campbelltown Local Planning  
Panel**



Can the last fertile colony of  
Chlamydia Free Koalas  
escape across Gilead, to  
the safety of the Nepean?

Nepean River  
Koala  
Corridor

**Gilead -  
Lendlease**

Georges River  
Koala  
Corridor

Campbellton



**Appin Precinct - Walker**  
Fast tracked for Housing

**Macquariedale -  
Walker**

**SE Wilton - Walker**

# Learnings for HEN from Macarthur

1. **No. of Koala Corridors: use Watershed as backbone of Koala Corridors: Creeks and Rivers**
2. **Width of Corridors: Use a Koala Corridor Methodology over Mapping to establish 400m corridors**
  - a. **Setout from creekbed, equal setback both sides. (use clear graphics to describe)**
  - b. **Measure distances between confluences.**
  - c. **250m is absolute minimum (state the minimum dont be ambiguous)**
3. **Corridor protection: Use zoning, large lot subdivision or public ownership to protect.**
4. **Generate Network along the Nepean - Hawkesbury - Judith Hannan (Upper Nepean), Hawkesbury-Nepean Waterkeeper Alliance, Central Coast Env. Network and Jackie Scruby (Pittwater)**



# GEORGES RIVER KOALA NETWORK



## Koala - Human Landscape Compatibility Goals within Macarthur

1. **Macro Connectivity : North - South & East - West**
  - a. **Georges River Koala National Park**
  - b. **The Two Rivers Koala Frontier Regional Park**
2. **Mid - Large Wildlife Corridors/Habitat (Biolink 425m)  
& Water Catchment protection**
  - a. **Koala Blue-Green Grid – Watershed structure**
  - b. **East -West over/underpasses**
  - c. **Biodiversity Hotspot protection - integration.**
3. **Micro - Subdivision Koala Habitability**
  - d. **Obligation to Landscape - Setbacks &/or Green Coverage Min**
  - e. **Dog control**
  - f. **Large Nature Strips – Native Trees**
  - g. **Traffic calming**