

Submission Theme	Submission detail	Staff Response	Recommended Amendments to Strategy	BCS Action/relevant section of Strategy
Support for Strategy	9 respondents indicated support for the strategy, including that it is well laid out, is grounded in good science, provides a sound basis for management, and meaningful and admirable list of actionable targets.	Noted	N/A	N/A
Consultation and exhibition process	Fact sheets and summary information on Your Say page could have provided more information.	Fact sheets were intentionally developed to be brief, to encourage people with limited time to find out a bit about the Strategy, with links to the full strategy, chapter by chapter, available on the Your Say page.	N/A	N/A
	The survey seeking landholder interest in involvement could have been expanded to find out more about community biodiversity values.	Noted. Community input to the strategy was sought during strategy development (refer Appendix 5 Stakeholder Engagement Report). Council will continue to engage with the community through Actions 2.1, 2.7, 2.12 and 3.7.	N/A	<p>Appendix 5 Stakeholder Engagement Report</p> <p>Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity.</p> <p>Action 2.7 - Support and promote local biodiversity-related events and citizen science initiatives.</p> <p>Action 2.12 - Develop an education and awareness program regarding managing the impacts of domestic animals on native wildlife.</p> <p>Action 3.7 - Engage with landholders listed above (Action 3.4) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) advise of available land management resources, training, and incentives. b) advise of funding opportunities available for restoration, including grants and Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements.

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Presentation/layout	Consider including a map to distil key values, threats and priorities.	Maps are not included in the strategy as the information on these is likely to change over the 10 year lifetime of the strategy. For example NSW State Government is still in the process of updating Plant Community Types, and Council is planning to revise its wildlife corridor mapping as part of implementation of the BCS. Up to date mapping data will be made available to the public via Councils website as per Action 3.5.	None	Action 3.5 - Make the following Council mapping layers available to the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife corridors - HEV vegetation - Threatened species - Vegetation mapping - Priority restoration areas.
Strategy development	Concern that strategy was principally produced by a 'Gold Coast' company	This Strategy has been developed by Byron Shire Council with contributions from Ecosure Coffs Harbour (NSW) and local ecologists with expertise in fire ecology, rainforest ecology and native birds. Additionally peer review of the draft strategy was provided by eight local ecologists.	N/A	Acknowledgements , p. 3
Definitions	Clarify definition of biodiversity to apply to local native biodiversity	Noted. Definition will be corrected in final Strategy.	Add the following text to Box 1: In the context of this Strategy, biodiversity refers to the species, ecosystems and genetic material that are locally native to Byron Shire.	Box 1: What is Biodiversity?
	Clarify 'wet subtropics bioregion' (p.11)	Noted. To be clarified in final Strategy.	Amend text on p.11 to read: Byron Shire occurs within the wet, subtropical bioregion that straddles the NSW-Queensland border, known as the South Eastern Queensland Bioregion. This region is a 'melting pot' – where many different plant and animal groups ...	Section 1.2 Byron Shire Biodiversity - what makes it unique
	A glossary is required.	Noted, glossary to be added to final Strategy	Add glossary to final strategy	

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History	Acknowledge that Byron Shire has a long history of environmental activism. Byron Shire Council was the first Council in NSW to feature environmental protection zones in its LEP, were early initiators of wildlife corridors and embedded ecologically sustainable development in the 1998 LEP.	Noted. Section 1.1 to be updated to acknowledge this.	Add a paragraph on p.9, Section 1.1 to read: Byron Shire has a long history of environmental activism and volunteering that continues to inspire our community today. The 2004 Byron Shire Biodiversity Conservation Strategy led the way for other NSW Councils, and Byron Shire Council was the first Council in NSW to feature environmental protection zones and embed ecologically sustainable development in the 1998 Local Environment Plan. This strategy aims to provide the leadership, innovation and community partnerships to continue to protect and enhance this legacy.	Section 1.1: Our Motivation - Why does Byron Shire Council need to conserve biodiversity?
Resourcing	Concern that environmental staff are insufficiently resourced to achieve the goals of the BCS.	Noted. Council funds one full time Biodiversity Officer, supports BVL one day per week to deliver the Land for Wildlife Program and respond to customer biodiversity enquiries and supports project officers when council funding and grant funding is available to support additional biodiversity projects. Several actions within the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy relate to seeking additional grant funding to deliver elements of the strategy, including Actions 1.28, 3.9, 3.14, 4.3 and 4.6.	None	<p>Action 1.28 - Work with Council's Grants Officer to identify funding opportunities available to deliver elements of this plan on both private and public land.</p> <p>Action 3.9 - Seek grant funding opportunities for combined Council-private landholder restoration and revegetation projects on private land.</p> <p>Action 3.14 - Seek grant funding for an extension officer to work with landholders to protect and enhance biodiversity values on private land.</p> <p>Action 4.3 - Seek additional grant funding for the implementation of on-ground ecological restoration actions at priority Council-managed sites, including wildlife corridors, koala habitat and HEV vegetation.</p> <p>Action 4.6 - Seek grant funding for baseline study of koala populations in Site Investigation Area for Koala</p>

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				Plans of Management that is west of the coastal Koala Plan of Management area.
	Concern that the Bush Regeneration Team is the responsibility of the Infrastructure Services department rather than being part of Council's environmental team	The Bush Regeneration Team consists of highly skilled bush regenerators who undertake regeneration works across the shire. The department they reside in does not limit their ability to undertake environmental works rather it supports them as they are able to access additional staff and equipment as required being based at the depot. Bush Regeneration team leaders work closely with Council's coastal, biodiversity and sustainability staff to achieve best practice management on Council land.	None	Action 4.3 - Seek additional grant funding for the implementation of on-ground ecological restoration actions at priority Council-managed sites, including wildlife corridors, koala habitat and HEV vegetation. The lead for this action is a joint partnership between Council's Infrastructure Services and Sustainable Environment and Economy Directorates.
Vegetation protection	Providing buffers to the 17% of protected area should be identified as priority – especially to rainforests in a drying continent	Noted. In Byron Shire most of this land is private land and one of the key aims of the Biodiversity Strategy is to help work with and support private landholders to restore their land, starting with the identification of highest priority areas (Action 1.10), followed by providing information and resources and helping to seek grant funding (Actions 3.9 and 3.10).	None	Action 1.10 - Develop a priority restoration investment map that identifies key sites on private and public land requiring either protection or restoration, to assist in directing future Council and community restoration activities. Action 3.9 - Seek grant funding opportunities for combined Council-private landholder restoration and revegetation projects on private land. Action 3.10 Support and promote existing landholder incentive programmes.

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	<p>Need to identify highest value ecosystems (biodiversity hotspots) to help direct local planning and development controls and to guide management of other issues like monitoring of pet ownership and potential reductions of traffic speeds.</p>	<p>Mapping updates to help identify areas of high ecological value and prioritise ongoing management actions are addressed under the following objective: <i>Council uses current best practice desktop tools to support and facilitate HEV landscape and habitat protection</i>, and includes actions 1.14, 1.17. 1.18 and 1.23. Note that any requests for reductions of traffic speeds are not made through Council but should be made via the Safer Roads NSW have your say web page https://www.saferoadsnsw.com.au/haveyoursay.aspx</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action 1.14 - Update and maintain Council's vegetation and HEV mapping with revised Plant Community Types and current aerial photography. Action 1.17 - Update Council's wildlife corridor mapping. Action 1.18 - Update vegetation mapping to clearly identify recently listed threatened ecological communities. Action 1.23 - Map potential habitat areas for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail.</p>
	<p>Council should engage in Compulsory Purchase of existing private properties that compromise critical Biodiversity functions, such as flood affected properties.</p>	<p>Noted. Council's focus is to help support and inform landholders about appropriate land uses and how they can better manage their land to the benefit of biodiversity, as per Objective 3.2 – <i>Council works positively and proactively with rural landholders to facilitate biodiversity restoration and conservation on private land</i>. Land uses and management are generally limited under the LEP on environmentally significant land.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Objective 3.2 – Council works positively and proactively with rural landholders to facilitate biodiversity restoration and conservation on private land. Actions listed under Objective 3.2.</p>
<p>Voluntary Conservation Agreements</p>	<p>The Strategy should encourage and promote NPWS Voluntary Conservation Agreements</p>	<p>Addressed in Action 3.4, 3.7 and 3.10 Further information also provided in Box 12 <i>NSW Government Voluntary Private Land Conservation Agreements</i>.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action 3.4 - Develop a web page that connects rural landholders to biodiversity management resources for rural properties. Action 3.7 - Engage with landholders listed above (Action 3.4) to: a) advise of available land management resources, training, and incentives. b) advise of funding opportunities available for restoration, including grants and Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements. Action 3.10 - Support and promote</p>

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				existing landholder incentive programmes.
	Include the number of private property conservation agreements in the shire (VCA, Wildlife Refuges etc.)	Action 1.21 aims to improve Councils capacity to record information on private property conservation agreements so that information on the number and extent of different types of agreements can be made available.	None	Action 1.21 - Develop a process for recording and mapping areas covered by Vegetation Management Plans on private land.
Roadside Vegetation Management Plan	Prepare a Roadside Vegetation Management Plan with input from Asset Management	Addressed in Action 4.19.	None	Action 4.19 - Implement recommendations of Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan during road maintenance operations including: - Seek solutions to protect threatened vegetation while also achieving safety and asset protection requirements. - Seek opportunities to coordinate road maintenance activities so as to minimise seed set and weed spread. - Develop levels of service for RVMP categories.
	Action 1.22 is already defined in the Roadside Vegetation Management Plan	Noted. This action will enable the mapping data to be accessible to maintenance contractors via a mobile application.	None	Action 1.22 - Make Council's roadside threatened flora mapping available to council outdoor staff, contractors and the community via mobile application and public facing web map viewer.

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	<p>Clarify status of Roadside Management Plan - is this final, adopted and available to the public?</p>	<p>The Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (RVMP) was adopted by Council on 28 Sept 2012. Reference to this plan to be added to Appendix 2 under Local Plans and Strategies</p>	<p>Add to p.81: Byron Shire Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (2012) The aim of the RVMP is to protect threatened species and EECs, balance ecological conservation with the necessities of roadside vegetation management, outline preferred management techniques for roadside vegetation and improve Council's capacity to restore and protect significant roadside vegetation through improved management practices. The RVMP includes a field booklet with maps and maintenance activities for conservation categories and training for relevant maintenance staff and contractors on how to use the booklet.</p>	<p>Appendix 2, Local Plans and Strategies</p>
<p>Restoration</p>	<p>Natural bush regeneration should be prioritised over tree planting due to greater outcomes and cost efficiencies.</p>	<p>This is noted in the BCS, section 2.2.2 which states, <i>restoration of degraded ecosystems has a greater biodiversity benefit than planting cleared areas</i>. Council also supports this approach, however there is a role for tree planting in heavily cleared parts of our landscape and to raise community awareness. Tree planting is sometimes also a requirement of grant funding.</p>	<p>Amend last paragraph Section 2.2.2 to read: May of Byron Shire's residents can help too - by <i>restoring remnant vegetation on their land</i>, and planting fast-growing local rainforest species to buffer forest remnants.</p>	<p>2.2.2 Ecological Restoration and Revegetation</p>
	<p>Council should be more actively involved in partnering with Landcare and state and federal departments to develop grant applications, particularly where Council land abuts existing Landcare sites.</p>	<p>Noted. Aim 3 of the BCS is that <i>our land managers are well supported to conserve biodiversity across the landscape</i>. Under this action, the BCS acknowledges that, <i>to achieve real results across the landscape, Council must support and partner with other land managers in the region including private landholders, community groups and government agencies</i>. The BCS intends to implement this aim through Actions 3.9, 3.14 and 4.3.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Action 3.9 - Seek grant funding for combined Council-private landholder restoration projects on private land. Action 3.14 - Seek grant funding for an extension officer to work with landholder to protect and enhance biodiversity values on private land. Action 4.3 - Seek additional grant funding for the implementation of on-ground ecological restoration at priority Council-managed sites,</p>

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				including wildlife corridors, koala habitat and HEV vegetation.
	Investigate incentives for private landholder restoration and develop partnerships with other agencies regarding this.	Addressed in Action 3.13 Also already being implemented through the North East Hinterland Regional Koala Conservation Project, Byron Habitat Corridors Project and Koala Food for the Future Project.	None required	Action 3.13 - Investigate opportunities for Council to provide incentives for landholders to conduct restoration works that will assist with long term biodiversity conservation.
	Ensure ecological restoration and revegetation plans are designed to coordinate with adjacent councils to maximise value of wildlife corridors.	Noted. Coordination of ecological restoration activities within the shire and with neighbouring shires to achieve effective landscape scale biodiversity conservation and enhancement is an important element of the strategy, as demonstrated in Actions 1.10 and 1.17. Actions 4.12, 4.13 and 4.16 also address coordination and collaboration with other land managers on a regional scale, including the Northern Rivers Fire and Biodiversity Consortium, Regional Koala Communications Group, Regional Shorebird Group and Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Natural Resource Managers Group.	None required	Action 1.10 - Develop a priority restoration investment map that identifies key sites on private and public land requiring either protection or restoration, to assist in directing future Council and community restoration activities. Action 1.17 - Update Council's wildlife corridor mapping and liaise with other NRJO councils to ensure consistency in wildlife corridor mapping across the region.

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	<p>Encourage the revegetation of secondary wildlife corridors and the rehabilitation of vegetated wildlife corridors.</p>	<p>Restoration, and prioritisation of restoration sites (e.g. corridors) addressed in Actions 1.9, 3.9, 3.13, 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3. A priority restoration investment map will identify wildlife corridors as priority sites for revegetation.</p>		<p>Action 1.9 - Develop a priority restoration investment map that identifies key sites on private and public land requiring either protection or restoration, to assist in directing future Council and community restoration activities.</p> <p>Action 3.9 - Seek grant funding opportunities for combined Council-private landholder restoration and revegetation projects on private land.</p> <p>Action 3.13 - Investigate opportunities for Council to provide incentives for landholders to conduct restoration works that will assist with long term biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Action 4.1 - Progress restoration of remaining Council-managed sites identified as requiring restoration to an on-maintenance level (total 307 Ha requiring restoration) and provide follow-up quarterly maintenance on all restored sites.</p> <p>Action 4.2 - Restore (192 Ha) and maintain (315 Ha) native vegetation communities at Council Sewage Treatment Facility sites</p> <p>Action 4.3 - Seek additional grant funding for the implementation of on-ground ecological restoration actions at priority Council-managed sites, including wildlife corridors, koala habitat and HEV vegetation.</p>

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	<p>Box 6: Amend text to include reference ‘natural disturbance regimes’, and to clarify that there are risks associated with both increased and decreased disturbance.</p>	<p>Box 6 amended</p>	<p>Amend Box 6 to read: Each ecosystem is made up of the elements that inhabit it (like plants, animals, rocks and soils), and also processes that occur within it – including pollination, grazing, seed dispersal, decomposition and natural disturbance regimes. and: Generally, if an ecosystem is subject to many disturbances over a short time period, or if natural disturbances are withheld, the ecosystem processes don’t work as well and the ecosystem becomes less and less resilient.</p>	<p>Box 6, p.20</p>
	<p>Re Action 2.3 - <i>Update existing Brunswick Catchment Riparian Planting Guide and make available on-line</i>. Can other catchments in the Shire be supported in this way?</p>	<p>Noted. Resources are not available, however the Brunswick Catchment Riparian Planting Guide is relevant to riparian rehabilitation projects throughout much of Byron Shire and it is anticipated the on-line version will be used by local Landcare groups in other catchments.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action 2.3 - Update existing Brunswick Catchment Riparian Planting Guide and make available on-line.</p>
	<p>Box 8 should include the area of council lands have been restored and have had some regeneration work done</p>	<p>630 Hectares (approximately 143 sites) of bushland reserves owned or managed by BSC have been identified within the Byron Shire. (This does not include roadside vegetation, some of which was mapped as containing high ecological value and threatened species in 2011). Of this 630 ha: - 60 Hectares – 29 sites = At maintenance Level - 183 Hectares – 30 sites = Restoration work underway – not at maintenance level - 387 Hectares – 84 sites = Restoration work not underway.</p>	<p>Update Box 8 to include: To date, 60 ha of these sites have been restored to a maintenance level and restoration work is underway in a further 183 Ha.</p>	<p>Box 8: Ecological Restoration in Byron Shire</p>

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	Produce or adapt information (ie designs etc) on the construction of nest/roost boxes	Addressed in Actions 2.1 and 2.2. Links to existing current information to be provided from Council website.	None required	Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.2 - Use Council's website to promote existing local biodiversity information resources that are available.
Exotic plant species/ Weeds	Compile and regularly update a comprehensive weed list for the Council website	This has already been done as part of the Byron Shire Council Invasive Species List - refer Integrated Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029.	None required	Integrated Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029. file:///fapmho2/users\$/lcaddick/Downloads/Byron-Shire-Integrated-Pest-Management-Strategy-IPMS-2019-2029-Adopted-20-February-2020-Resolution-20-023.pdf
	That Council reintroduce the practice of only planting locally endemic species in public places.	While the Northern Rivers has a rich botanic wealth and Council aims to plant local native species where possible, not many of the species perform well in a street landscape and are rarely available in the container sizes to achieve an instant effect. Exotic species are not used in council plantings, but some plantings do include hybrid native species that have more conspicuous attributes and are available in bulk numbers. Another important consideration for Council is that these species do not have the ability to become weeds (hybrids are often sterile).	None required	
	Add Umbrella Tree (<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>) to Council's weed list.	<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i> is listed already in the Byron Shire Council Invasive Species List - refer Integrated Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029.	None required	Integrated Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029. file:///fapmho2/users\$/lcaddick/Downloads/Byron-Shire-Integrated-Pest-Management-Strategy-IPMS-2019-2029-Adopted-20-February-2020-Resolution-20-023.pdf

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	Screen, control and monitor weeds in soil prior to and following dumping of soil, and investigate the feasibility for developing weed wash down procedures and facilities for Council (or contractors) machinery after working in weed affected areas.	Soils purchased by Council for gardens and sports fields are pasteurised via composting or inert such as river sand to maintain hygiene. If a load of material does contain weed seed Council will stop dealing with that supplier, which acts as an incentive for the supplier to ensure mixes provided are 'clean'. Contractors are requested to wash down equipment before visiting other sport fields. Council is also investigating a means of providing wash-down where water and seed containment areas are not immediately available.	None required	

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Invasive Fauna Species	Council relies on LLS to take the lead on feral animal control and needs to become more proactive in bringing together stakeholders and helping landholders obtain funding.	<p>Under the Biosecurity Act 2015, all community members have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, minimise or eliminate any biosecurity risk. Byron Shire Council fulfils its duty with the implementation of the Byron Shire Council Pest Animal Management Plan (2018-2023), which guides the control of pest animals on Council land and Council managed land. This plan also allows for assistance to private landholders where funds are available. Council has funded pest animal trapping on private lands in 2018-2019) and has been successful in receiving a grant, on behalf of the community, to fund trapping on private land in 2020-2021. Actions 3.9, 3.12 and 4.22 in the Biodiversity Strategy address this. Council has a positive ongoing working relationship with Local Land Services (LLS) which contributes to a coordinated approach to pest animal control. LLS is the primary agency responsible for the coordination and support of pest animal control across NSW. Action 4.23 in Council's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy addresses working with LLS to manage pest animals across land tenures.</p> <p>The LLS Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan (2018-2023) outlines how Government, industry and the community can work together and share the responsibility to prevent, eradicate, contain or manage pest animals, including working with land holders to develop Local Pest Management Plans.</p>	None required	<p>Action 3.9 - Seek grant funding for combined Council-private landholder restoration projects on private land.</p> <p>Action 3.12 - Continue to facilitate the Agricultural Cluster Group to identify opportunities for sustainable farming improvements.</p> <p>Action 4.22 - Develop and implement operational plans for target pest species.</p> <p>Action 4.23 - Work with North Coast LLS and private land managers to develop a coordinated cross-tenure approach to pest animal management and support management of target pest animal species on private land in high priority areas.</p> <p>Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023 - https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Environment/Pests-and-weeds/Pest-animals</p>
	Need for plan of management for Indian Mynas	To be addressed under Action 4.22 and the Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023.	None required	<p>Action 4.22 - Develop and implement Operational Plans for target pest species.</p> <p>Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023 - https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Environment/Pests-and-weeds/Pest-animals</p>

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	<p>Include Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD) as a potential emerging threat, associated with low-frequency fire.</p>	<p>Noted - Section 2.4 and Action 4.4 updated</p>	<p>Amend Section 2.4 with the following text: The recent and novel establishment of Bell Miners (<i>Manorina melanophrys</i>) in coastal Byron Shire, signals a high potential for Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD) as an emerging threat to the open-forests of the Shire. BMAD is listed as a Key Threatening Process under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act (2016) and is decimating thousands of square kilometres of Eucalypt forest from Queensland to Victoria. While BMAD extends to coastal areas on the NSW south coast, in this region it has historically been restricted to the hinterland and ranges. However, over the last decade Bell Miner colonies have moved towards coast, including recent colonies at Yelgun and the floodplain of the lower Brunswick River. Long-unburnt open-forest with a dense mesic midstorey provides ideal nesting habitat for Bell Miners (Stone, Kathuria, Carney, & Hunter, 2008; Silver & Carnegie, 2017). Most open-forests in Byron Shire are now in this condition (BSC, 2017b).</p>	<p>Action 4.4 - Identify priority dry sclerophyll and heath ecosystems requiring restoration through the reintroduction of fire, including areas at risk of Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD).</p>

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Domestic pets	<p>No mention of domestic pets being a big threat to biodiversity in Threats section (Chapter 2) – Domestic dogs in particular are a huge treat to beach nesting birds – and more and more dog-owners are seeking extensions of their current allocated places to walk dogs. Currently the Open Space draft is asking residents if they have enough spaces for dog walking. Unless we limit to exiting sites our areas for biodiversity will decline.</p>	<p>Environmental impacts and impacts to biodiversity from passive recreational use of our coastal areas such as dog walking and dog exercising is a known threat and flagged in the coastal management program that Council is developing. In parallel with developing a plan for managing the coastal zone, Council is currently developing strategies to improve dog owner compliance in open spaces, such as Tallow Beach, where dog-wildlife interactions are an issue. Council understands that dogs and people can co-exist but only through proactive and responsible dog ownership. Dogs in public spaces are a key interest to many in the community, and as such Council is also developing a Shire-wide 'Dogs in Public Spaces Strategy'. Refer https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Projects-and-initiatives/Dog-friendly-Byron-Shire. The strategy will review our current off leash areas and how we manage them with opportunity for the community to inform the strategy and have a say throughout the process. Reducing the impact of dogs on biodiversity and improving management of dogs in public spaces is a priority and Council welcomes the opportunity to work with the community and park users to manage this issue better.</p> <p>Domestic pets mentioned as key threat on p.18 and Section 2.1 (p.20). Threat to beach nesting birds also flagged in Box 4 (p.16). Action 2.12 addresses managing impacts of domestic animals.</p>	None required.	2.12 Develop an education and awareness program regarding managing the impacts of domestic animals on native wildlife.

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	<p>Concern that threat of domestic pets (cats and dogs) is under-resourced by Council. Need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need easier interaction process with rangers, - Deterrent cases highlighted, - More enforcement - No weakening of current rules. - larger fines for domestic animal compliance. - better planning and awareness raising regarding impacts of cats and dogs on wildlife and shared responsibilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council’s Community Enforcement Officers are able to be contacted by the public 7 days/week. - Council is agreeable to highlighting deterrent cases, where privacy legislation permits. - Enforcement action is undertaken on a case-by-case basis in accordance with Council’s Enforcement Policy. The Companion Animals Act is enforced via compliance with the 2020 Compliance Priorities Program, Council’s Enforcement Policy and the Office of Local Government’s directions. - There is no plan to weaken current rules. - The NSW State Government regulates penalties (including the amount of fines). Domestic pets are identified as key threat on p.18 and Section 2.1 (p.20), and the threat to beach nesting birds also flagged in Box 4 (p.16). Shared responsibility is identified in Objective 2.2 and Action 2.12 addresses managing impacts of domestic animals. Actions 2.1 and 2.2 will address better promotion/raising awareness of what people can do to promote wildlife and protect biodiversity. 	<p>Add the following text added to Section 2.1: Management of companion animals is regulated under the Companion Animals Act 1998, which is enforced by Council via compliance with the annual Compliance Priorities Program, Council’s Enforcement Policy https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Your-right-to-Council-information/Policies-publications/Enforcement-Policy and the Office of Local Government’s directions.</p>	<p>Action - 2.12 Develop an education and awareness program regarding managing the impacts of domestic animals on native wildlife. Objective 2.2 Land managers and residents are provided with accessible information regarding threats to native biodiversity and their individual responsibility to manage these threats. Council’s Enforcement Policy (https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Your-right-to-Council-information/Policies-publications/Enforcement-Policy) and the Office of Local Government’s directions.</p>
	<p>That Council reintroduce Council Compliance on Developer Covenants that prohibit the keeping of dogs and cats on environmentally sensitive developments, or on developments abutting environmentally protected areas, such as Nature Reserves and National Parks. Or adopts a Budget for legal assistance of residents to enforce such dog and cat prohibitions.</p>	<p>Developer Covenants are agreements between two parties, which are legally considered civil matters. As a result, Council are unable to undertake legal action or assist residents to undertake legal action to enforce these conditions.</p>	<p>None</p>	

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	That Council utilise the Companion Animals Legislation to declare private developed areas and their public roads and places, in high biodiversity areas, as Wildlife Protection Areas under the act, and enforce the Acts provisions that prohibit cats and dogs being owned, or taken into, these areas.	There are two (2) dog/cat free declared Wildlife Protection Areas and one (1) cat free declared Wildlife Protection Area within the Shire. These restrictions apply to public land/spaces only and cannot prohibit companion animals on private land. Similarly, this legislation does not restrict a person from owning a companion animal on private property within these areas.	None	
	Need for strategic cat trapping Paterson St Hilltop Reserve	Noted. Cat trapping in this area would require collaboration with other land management agencies, in particular National Parks. Management of feral cats will be considered during development of operational plans for this species, as per Action 4.22 and the Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023.	None	Action 4.22 - Develop and implement Operational Plans for target pest species. Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023 - https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Environment/Pests-and-weeds/Pest-animals
Fire management	Will prescribed management burns consider potential impacts on koalas?	Yes any prescribed ecological burning carried out by Council will consider potential impacts on koalas.	None required	Action 4.15 - Seek to partner with landholders, relevant Aboriginal stakeholders, universities and government fire management agencies to plan, implement and monitor an ecological and cultural burning hub at Broken Head Reserve Rd, to improve biodiversity values, provide on-ground training in ecological and cultural burning and provide data into effectiveness and best practice for biodiversity and fire management.

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	<p>Need proper resourcing of Aboriginal Cultural practice and training people to carry out ecological burns according to plant communities and seasonal variations.</p>	<p>Noted. Council has limited resources for fire management, but, through Actions 2.5, 4.4, 4.12, 4.14 and 4.15 will be working with local fire ecologists, traditional owners and community groups to identify opportunities to resource management of fire-dependant ecosystems.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Action 2.5 - Raise community awareness of how planned fire in some dry forest ecosystems can help conserve biodiversity, re-invigorate Aboriginal cultural practices, improve community bush fire safety and reduce green house gas emissions.</p> <p>Action 4.4 - Identify priority dry sclerophyll and heath ecosystems requiring restoration through the reintroduction of fire, including areas at risk of Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD).</p> <p>Action 4.12 - Ensure Council is represented at Northern Rivers FABCON meetings and workshops to maintain currency regarding best fire management practice under changing climate.</p> <p>Action 4.14 - Involve relevant aboriginal stakeholders in development of biodiversity plans and programmes so that traditional knowledge (e.g. relating to cultural burning, plant uses, plant propagation and culturally significant species) can be effectively incorporated.</p> <p>Action 4.15 - Seek to partner with landholders, relevant Aboriginal stakeholders, universities and government fire management agencies to plan, implement and monitor an ecological and cultural burning hub at Broken Head Reserve Rd, to improve biodiversity values,</p>

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				provide on-ground training in ecological and cultural burning and provide data into effectiveness and best practice for biodiversity and fire management.
	Add an action to periodically update vegetation mapping to identify current fire frequency status to allow identification of areas subject to inappropriate fire frequency/regimes and prioritise ecological restoration and fire management.	Updates re fire frequency status added to Action 1.11.	Action 1.11 - Conduct a review of Byron Shire’s biodiversity values as a baseline for ongoing biodiversity monitoring. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Byron Shire flora and fauna lists, • Status of threatened flora and fauna, • Status of weed species, • Extent of native vegetation, • Extent of protected vegetation (public and private land) • Fire frequency status. 	Action 1.11 - Conduct a review of Byron Shire’s biodiversity values as a baseline for ongoing biodiversity monitoring. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Byron Shire flora and fauna lists, • Status of threatened flora and fauna, • Status of weed species, • Extent of native vegetation, • Extent of protected vegetation (public and private land) • Fire frequency status.
	There has been very little reference to bushfires in the draft BCS.	Bushfires are discussed in Section 2.4 Fire and Biodiversity and in Appendix 4 Emerging Fire and Biodiversity Issues in Byron Shire.	None required	Section 2.4 Fire and Biodiversity Appendix 4 Emerging Fire and Biodiversity Issues in Byron Shire.
	Request to extend the Saperstein fire trail through existing roads on private properties, west to Upper Main Arm.	Council does not manage land in this area. Council has discussed this request with the RFS and been advised that private landholders would need to apply to the agency who manages the land that the fire trail connects through, or through the Bushfire Management Committee.	None required - outside of scope of Strategy	N/A
Threatened species	Prepare threatened species profiles and management guidelines for all threatened species that are known or considered likely to occur in the Shire.	Threatened species profiles available from NSW Government DPIE (previously OEH). Coordinating threatened species management at a state level enables better management of threatened species at a landscape scale, across their range. The ability of a single council to implement a threatened species recovery plan in one local government area is	None	Aim 4 – Manage: We use best-practice land management to improve ecological resilience and reduce threats to biodiversity.

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		<p>limited.</p> <p>As per Aim 4, Council is committed to best practice land management, which includes applying best practice recovery actions for threatened species on Council land as per threatened species management plans.</p>		
	Develop a threatened species recovery plan for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail	<p>Refer to the response above. A threatened species recovery plan for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail is available at:</p> <p>https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/c5ea7c55-808c-4b01-8a28-c04260f76e8d/files/t-mitchellae.pdf</p>	None required	<p>Action 1.22 - Map potential habitat areas for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail.</p> <p>Action 2.6 - Implement a community awareness campaign to assist in protection and habitat identification for the Mitchell's Rainforest Snail in the Byron Bay area.</p>
	Establish a threatened plant arboretum on Council land.	Noted. Resources not available at this time.	None	N/A
	Concern regarding over-emphasis on koalas (Actions 4.6-4.9)	<p>Following the 2019-20 bushfire season there have been many calls to nominate the koala to be listed as endangered in NSW and Qld. Actions in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy relating to koalas reflect this proposed status, as well as ongoing Council grant funding commitments (Byron Shire Coastal Koala Plan of Management, North East Hinterland Koala conservation Project, North Coast Koala Linkage Project and Koala Food for the Future Project). Management of other threatened species and communities is also addressed in the Strategy (Actions 1.11, 1.23, 4.9, 4.18 and 4.28) and will continue to be progressed through grant funding (Actions 1.29 and 3.9).</p> <p>Many of the koala management/protection actions in the Strategy will also benefit other native species inhabiting the same ecosystems.</p>	Typo correction - Action 1.29 accidentally omitted from draft strategy. This will be included in final strategy. Action 1.29 reads: Work with Council's Grants Officer to identify funding opportunities available to deliver elements of this plan on both private and public land.	<p>Action 1.11 - Conduct a review of Byron Shire's biodiversity values as a baseline for ongoing biodiversity monitoring.</p> <p>Action 1.23 - Map potential habitat areas for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail.</p> <p>Action 1.29 - Work with Council's Grants Officer to identify funding opportunities available to deliver elements of this plan on both private and public land.</p> <p>Action 3.9 Seek grant funding opportunities for combined Council-private landholder restoration and revegetation projects on private land.</p> <p>Action 4.9 - Review and implement monitoring programs to assess effectiveness of Council ecological restoration, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Threatened flora monitoring, - Plant species diversity,

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				<p>- Koala activity in planted koala corridors.</p> <p>Action 4.13 - Liaise with local conservation groups and government agencies to share information (e.g. monitoring data) and identify opportunities for biodiversity conservation partnerships.</p> <p>Action 4.18 - Implement actions in the Flying Fox Camp Management Plan 2018-2023.</p> <p>Action 4.28 - Audit and renew roadside threatened vegetation markers.</p>
Wildlife road strike	<p>Considering the numbers of koalas killed on Byron’s roads every year, the identification of road strike hotspots should be given a greater priority. Consideration should also be given to spots where koalas are frequently seen crossing the roads.</p>	<p>Noted - identification of key sites to be determined with collaboration with wildlife carer groups. This activity is currently in progress.</p>	None required	<p>Action 4.25 - Work with RMS, local wildlife groups and Regional Koala Communications Group to identify road strike hotspots in Byron Shire.</p>
	<p>What forms of road strike mitigation will be trialled?</p>	<p>Types of mitigation methods to be trialled will be subject to funding available, as well as consideration of emerging technologies in future. Likely to include static and motion signage and road surface treatments. Council welcomes input from wildlife rescue groups on this matter.</p>	None required	<p>Action 4.26 - Seek funding for road strike mitigation trials at priority road strike hotspots.</p>
Planning and development	<p>Support for a Biodiversity DCP that includes: - Clear triggers requiring assessment of impacts on koalas from development proposals, precisely worded</p>	<p>Noted. To be addressed in Biodiversity DCP, Action 1.1</p>	None required	<p>Action 1.1 - Update Council’s DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects current legislation; • Reflects the Guiding Principles of

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	to avoid misinterpretation. - Protection of koala food trees and riparian vegetation. - Clear steps for survey and monitoring koala impacts. - Clear penalties for non-compliance. - Clear guidelines for undertaking Cumulative Impact Assessments for potential developments. - Assessment of koala habitat at both local and landscape scale.			the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy; • Aligns with the Byron Shire Rural Land Use Strategy 2017. • Reflects updates to local and regional vegetation mapping; • Provides standards and controls to ensure planning of new development maintains or improves ecological values & ecological function; • Incorporates clear planning controls for protection of Koala Habitat, within the Byron Coastal Koala Management Area, and other rural koalas habitat areas.
	There need to be greater protective measures put in place in the planning process to prevent wide scale removal of important habitats on private land.	Noted. To be addressed in Biodiversity DCP, Action 1.1	None required	Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter.
	BCS should have a direct link to any of Council's development control plans to ensure that protection of the environment is clear and actionable. Local planning and development controls must include the principles of the BCS as a pre-requisite for all development.	Byron Shire Biodiversity DCP is being drafted in parallel with the draft BCS to ensure a direct link between these two documents (Action 1.1). Actions 1.2, 1.3 and 1.5 refer to other DCP updates proposed in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.	Amend Action 1.2 to include reference to the Biodiversity DCP.	Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter. Action 1.2 - Amend existing Council DCP chapters to reflect current NSW environmental legislation and Council's Biodiversity DCP. Action 1.3 - Review opportunities to improve biodiversity through tree planting/restoration provisions in Council's urban and rural development approval processes. Action 1.5 - Amend Council's LEP to increase protections for core koala

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				habitat as per CKPOM.
	<p>The Guiding Principles (Box 5, p.17) - the precautionary principle and in-situ conservation should be at the forefront of any planning controls.</p>	<p>Noted. Reference to guiding principles to be included in Biodiversity DCP.</p>	<p>Amend Action 1.1 to include reference to the Guiding Principles of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.</p>	<p>Action 1.1 - Update Council’s DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects current legislation; • Reflects the Guiding Principles of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy; • Aligns with the Byron Shire Rural Land Use Strategy 2017. • Reflects updates to local and regional vegetation mapping; • Provides standards and controls to ensure planning of new development maintains or improves ecological values & ecological function; • Incorporates clear planning controls for protection of Koala Habitat, within the Byron Coastal Koala Management Area, and other rural koalas habitat areas.

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	Will the DCP include the relevant information as required by the new SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019, as per BSC submission?	The proposed Biodiversity DCP will include all the provisions as required by the new Koala Habitat Protection SEPP for areas that fall outside of the Byron Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management. These provisions will be included within a section specifically for Koala's and Koala Habitat within the DCP.	N/A	N/A
	Review shire wide planning controls for wildlife corridors, HEV vegetation, buffers and tree removals.	Addressed in Actions 1.1 and 1.3.	None required	<p>Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter.</p> <p>Action 1.3 - Review opportunities to improve biodiversity through tree planting/restoration provisions in Council's urban and rural development approval processes.</p>
	Council should restore use of the State Standard LEP E Zone "Environmental Living", that still allows restricted housing development on environmentally sensitive sites, but restricts the larger footprint of 'border to border' development allowed under other existing LEP housing development zones.	The E4 Environmental Living zone is available for Council to use and is being considered for key parcels of land.	None	
	Concern regarding proliferation of secondary dwellings/large dwellings and impacts of this on urban biodiversity.	Noted. To be addressed in Biodiversity DCP, Action 1.1	None	<p>Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter.</p>

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	Include a new action to improve the standard of review of planning applications and an increase awareness of the need to condition consents to provide adequately for tree loss replacement and any additional regeneration works that are undertaken.	Council employs a dedicated ecologist in the Planning Services section to assess development applications with the aim of preventing biodiversity loss in the Byron Shire. This aim is often somewhat obstructed by state and federal planning legislation which works to facilitate development at the expense of biodiversity conservation. Wherever possible, developments are required to avoid and/or minimise biodiversity impacts, and where this cannot be enforced due to lack of legislative power, compensatory planting requirements or equivalent ecological restoration are applied via Vegetation Management Plans, Biodiversity Conservation Management Plans, Environmental Enhancement and Repair Plans, or landscape plans. The progress of ecological restoration works are monitored primarily through the requirement of annual monitoring reports.	None required	N/A
	Include an action to employ an ecologist in the Planning Assessment division of Council to review development application.	There is already a person in Council fulfilling this role.	None required	
	It would be useful to have an extension officer who is available to applicants who are undertaking development or rezonings.	Development Support Officers are available in Council to advise applicants who are undertaking developments or rezonings. Where required, planning officers or ecological planners can be included in these discussions.	None required	
	Assessment of future developments should be informed by data such as flora and fauna surveys undertaken in the surrounding area and other major strategic works planned in the area.	Known flora and fauna records from adjacent sites are considered during assessment of development applications.	None required	

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	Prepare template pro-forma's/minimum standard guidelines for assessing ecological attributes of a site for development applications.	Noted. To be considered during development of Biodiversity DCP.	None	Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter.
Planning and Legislative Framework	The Planning and Legislative Framework included in the 2004 BCS (1.8) should be included in the 2020 BCS	The revised Biodiversity Conservation Strategy contains a detailed updated summary of current legislation in Appendix 2. Key legislation, plants and strategies are also summarised in Figure 3.1.	None required	Appendix 2 - Related Legislation, Strategies and Plans Figure 3.1 - Key Legislation and Strategies
	Description of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act in Appendix 2 should include discussion of the alternative options to offsets and better explanation of how the process works.	Noted. Appendix 2 to be updated with this information.	Appendix 2 to be updated.	Appendix 2 - Related Legislation, Strategies and Plans
SEPP Koala Habitat Protection 2019	Concern that the scale of local and regional mapping will not be sufficient to identify all potential impacts on koalas without ground truthing and koala surveys.	Noted. Addressed in Action 1.7. SEPP Koala Habitat Protection 2019 specifies survey requirements for koala habitat.	None	Action 1.7 - Develop a Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management for Byron Shire hinterland, in accordance with SEPP Koala Habitat Protection 2019.
	Koalas in the hinterland should be given equal protection as those within the coastal area.	Noted. Addressed in Action 1.7.	None required	Action 1.7 - Develop a Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management for Byron Shire hinterland, in accordance with SEPP Koala Habitat Protection 2019.
Council infrastructure and development	The BCS should mandate that there be no net loss of shire biodiversity from any Council development, and Council should not use biodiversity offsets on its own developments.	Noted. Text to be amended to clarify the current and ongoing approach of Council to no net loss and offsets for Council developments.	Add new Section to read: 2.2.3 Best practice management of Council development Council managed land includes roads, sewerage treatment plants, the resource recovery centre, parks and sports facilities, all of which periodically require repair,	Section 2.2 Land Use and Habitat Fragmentation Aim 4: Manage

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			<p>upgrade or development. Council is committed to undertaking its developments with best practice, including carrying out detailed ecological assessments prior to development and ensuring no net loss of biodiversity during development. Where possible all biodiversity losses are avoided. Where a biodiversity loss cannot be avoided, e.g. where the site is constrained by boundaries, available space, utilities, other assets or meeting required standards, offsetting is used. There are sometimes circumstances where weed removal and restoration of a remnant creates a greater biodiversity benefit than tree planting. This is considered on a site by site basis, in consultation with ecologists.</p> <p>Add new paragraph on p. 48 (Aim 4) to state: Council is committed to ensuring no net loss of biodiversity through its developments, through avoidance of biodiversity impacts where possible and offsetting impacts where no other option is available.</p>	
	<p>That Council comply with the existing Policy of planting 20 trees for every public tree Council removes.</p>	<p>Council Infrastructure Services team refer to Chapter B2 (Preservation of Trees and Other Vegetation) of the DCP in determining compensatory planting rates. However, in some circumstances ecological restoration is used instead of tree planting, where this is identified as providing a greater biodiversity benefit than tree planting. Projects are not closed out until planting/restoration has occurred.</p>		

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Biodiversity Offsets	Council re-considers utilising Biodiversity offsets.	Noted. The use of offsets will be addressed further in development of Council's Biodiversity Development Control Plan. This plan will acknowledge the limitations of offsets and aims to provide clearer guidance to reduce the use of offsets.	None required	Action 1.1 - Update Council's DCP 2014 to include a Biodiversity, Vegetation and Habitat Management Chapter.
Community engagement	Communication with local Landcare Groups and individuals should be seen as just as important as intra-governmental liaison to address issues such as climate change, habitat fragmentation and landscape linkages.	Noted. Council welcomes partnerships with local Landcare groups. The BCS acknowledges the need for strong partnerships with local landholders through Objectives 3.2 and 4.2. Local community conservation groups to be added to the list of key partners on p.45.	Update list of key partners on p.45 to include local community conservation groups.	Objective 3.2 - Council works positively and proactively with rural landholders to facilitate biodiversity restoration and conservation on private land. Objective 4.2 - Partner with community environmental groups, universities, citizen scientist and other land managers to monitor threatened species and ecological communities to improve best-practice biodiversity planning and management across the Northern Rivers.
	Include actions and objectives to create opportunities to engage and inform locals/residents about biodiversity	Engagement and awareness raising amongst locals is addressed specifically under Objectives 1 and 2 and Actions 2.1, 2.2 and 3.4	None required	Objective 2.1 - The community has access to clear, up to date information on Byron Shire's unique biodiversity and how everyone can help to protect it. Objective 2.2 - Land managers and residents are provided with accessible information regarding threats to native biodiversity and their individual responsibility to manage these threats. Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.2 - Use Council's website to promote existing local biodiversity information resources that are available.

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				<p>Action 3.4 - Develop a web page that connects rural landholders to biodiversity management resources for rural properties.</p>
	<p>Council website and regular email newsletters should include additional information to enhance the knowledge base of residents.</p>	<p>Addressed under Actions 2.1, 2.2 and 3.4</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.2 - Use Council's website to promote existing local biodiversity information resources that are available. Action 3.4 - Develop a web page that connects rural landholders to biodiversity management resources for rural properties.</p>
	<p>Include on website: 2004 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, biodiversity section, regularly updated information on flora, fauna and weeds, species information and maps, information on Byron Shire's biodiversity values.</p>	<p>Addressed under Actions 2.1, 3.4 and 3.5</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 3.4 - Develop a web page that connects rural landholders to biodiversity management resources for rural properties. Action 3.5 - Make the following Council vegetation mapping layers available to the public to assist with restoration planning: - Wildlife corridors - HEV Vegetation - Threatened species - Vegetation mapping - Priority restoration areas</p>

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	<p>Aim 2 (Inform) should include Council's commitment to providing ongoing information to residents via the website.</p>	<p>Council's commitment to providing ongoing information via the website and other channels, including workshops, is provided on page 46, through objectives 2.1-2.4 and through Actions 2.1, 2.2, 3.4, 3.5 and 3.11. Council's community engagement follows IAP2 principles.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Aim 2: INFORM - Our community is well informed about biodiversity and what they can do to protect it Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.2 - Use Council's website to promote existing local biodiversity information resources that are available. Action 3.4 - Develop a web page that connects rural landholders to biodiversity management resources for rural properties. Action 3.5 - Make the following Council vegetation mapping layers available to the public to assist with restoration planning: - Wildlife corridors - HEV Vegetation - Threatened species - Vegetation mapping - Priority restoration areas Action 3.11 - Partner with Landcare to deliver annual/bi-annual training sessions for landowners on native vegetation restoration.</p>
	<p>Objective 2.1 to provide clear, up to date information to the local community on local biodiversity and how to protect it should include a specific section on koalas detailing the importance of retaining habitat, including individual trees and</p>	<p>Koalas will be addressed as part of this objective. This will also be addressed through implementation of the Byron Shire Coastal Koala Plan of Management.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Objective 2.1 - The community has access to clear, up to date information on Byron Shire's unique biodiversity and how everyone can help to protect it. Byron Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management 2016 - https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Environment/Native-animals-and-plants/Koalas#section-4</p>

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	important windbreaks, issues relating to dogs and car hits.			
	Additional recommendations to include in Box 2: <i>What you can do to help protect the environment.</i>	Noted, Box 2 to be updated accordingly.	Add the following dot points to Box 2: - Provide hollow logs, rocks and clean water in your garden. - Mulch your garden to reduce water loss. - Install solar panels and solar hot water, insulate your house and use fans instead of air conditioning. - Plant native trees for shade.	Box 2 , p. 10
	Add an action to erect signs to identify areas of wildlife significance (corridors, koala movement areas, significant roadside vegetation).	Addressed in Actions: 2.14, 4.26 and 4.28		Action 2.14 - Seek funding for design and fabrication of engaging interpretive information regarding native wildlife at locations receiving high visitor numbers. Action 4.26 - Seek funding for road strike mitigation trials at priority road strike hotspots. Action 4.28 - Audit and renew roadside threatened vegetation markers.
Need for greater promotion of citizen science	Council should identify and promote citizen science and wildlife and bird spotting.	Actions 2.1 and 2.2 will address better promotion/raising awareness of what people can do to promote wildlife and protect biodiversity. Action 2.7 Will also help to promote involvement in citizen science activities like wildlife and bird spotting. Box 2 updated to include citizen science.	Add: 'Become a citizen scientist' to Box 2	Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.7 - Support and promote local biodiversity-related events and citizen science initiatives.

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Data/tools	Various additions/corrections suggested to Table 3.1	Table 3.1 updated	Updates to Table 3.1: Birdata (https://birdata.birdlife.org.au/). Birdata is BirdLife Australia’s mobile app and web portal. It facilitates simple data entry in the field and basic reporting facilities. It also provides for various dedicated monitoring projects such as Shorebirds 2020 and birds in Backyards. Native Plants Guide, My Local Native Garden booklet, iNaturalist	Table 3.1 - Biodiversity Planning Tools
	Table 3.1 g. 37, Planned Burn Guidelines for SE QLD – replace with Guidelines for Northern NSW.	Byron Shire is within SE Queensland IBRA bioregion and the Qld Government SE Qld guidelines relate most accurately to ecological burn requirements for vegetation communities in Byron Shire. NPWS and RFS policy is to use regionally specific guidelines over the state wide guidelines, where these exist.	None required	Table 3.1 - Biodiversity Planning Tools
	The BCS needs a resource page.	Table 3.1 includes a list of resources and will be updated with those suggested during public exhibition. The final version of the strategy will include electronic links to these resources. More links to resources will also be provided on Council's web pages as per Action 2.1	Add hot links throughout document.	Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Table 3.1 - Biodiversity Planning Tools
	Bangalow Koalas do not support the use of the I Spy Koala app due to concerns that sick/injured koalas may not be reached in time.	Noted. To be followed up through discussions with Regional Koala Communications Group (Action 4.13). Council supports the use of this app for private landholders reporting koala sightings, who would otherwise not report this data, as understanding of local koala distribution aids us in planning projects and seeking grant funding. Council also promotes the numbers for people to call if they see injured wildlife, via our website and media channels (Actions 2.1 and 2.12), and is interested in continuing to work with local wildlife carers to do this.	None	Action 4.13 - Liaise with local conservation groups and government agencies to share information and identify opportunities for biodiversity conservation partnerships. Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity. Action 2.12 - Develop an education and awareness program regarding managing the impacts of domestic animals on native wildlife.

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GIS mapping	Updates to current GIS datasets and making these accessible to the public via the internet is supported.	Noted	N/A	Action 2.2 - Use Council's website to promote existing local biodiversity information resources that are available via Council front Counter.
	Maintain threatened species database and associated GIS layers.	Addressed in Action 1.13	None required	Action 1.13 - Upload Council's threatened species records to Bionet annually.
	Significant changes in the new Koala SEPP 2019, particularly with regard to the definition of Core Koala Habitat and the list of trees important to koalas, will need to be incorporated into any mapping reviews.	Noted. This is addressed under Action 1.7, and also Action 1.1	None required	Action 1.7 - Develop a Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management for Byron Shire Hinterland, in accordance with SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019.
	Development of a priority restoration map should be given higher priority.	Noted. Development of this is subject to completion of other priority mapping projects, including wildlife corridor mapping.	None	Action 1.10 - Develop a priority restoration investment map that identifies key sites on private and public land requiring either protection or restoration, to assist in directing future Council and community restoration activities.
	Need to map 1750 vegetation formations as a baseline for ecological restoration.	Noted. To be added as a new action to BCS	Add the following action under Objective 1.3 : Map 1750 vegetation formations as a baseline for ecological restoration.	Objective 1.3 : Council uses current best practice desktop tools to support and facilitate HEV landscape and habitat protection.
	Need an action to make HEV vegetation data available on line.	Addressed in Action 3.5	None	Action 3.5 - Make the following Council mapping layers available to the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife corridors - HEV vegetation - Threatened species - Vegetation mapping - Priority restoration areas.

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	<p>BCS should include wildlife corridor maps showing current wildlife corridors and an explanation of the importance of wildlife corridors in biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation.</p>	<p>Wildlife corridor mapping for Byron Shire requires updating and is listed as a Very High priority action in the BCS (Action 1.17). This mapping will be available on Council's website once complete (Action 3.5). The significance of wildlife corridors and protecting/restoring connectivity is flagged in <i>Box 5: Our Guiding Principles</i>, <i>Box 6: What is ecological resilience?</i> and in Sections <i>2.2 Land Use and Habitat Fragmentation</i>, <i>2.2.2 Ecological Restoration and Revegetation</i> and <i>2.3.2 Climate Change - What Can We Do?</i>, as well as being highlighted in the case study: <i>Bangalow Koalas - Creating Koala Connections</i> (p.24).</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action 1.17 - Update Council's wildlife corridor mapping and liaise with other NRJO Councils to ensure consistency in wildlife corridor mapping across the region. Action 3.5 -Make the following Council vegetation mapping layers available to the public to assist with restoration planning: - Wildlife corridors</p>
	<p>Maps and species lists, including a clear view of state, national and international status and links to further information provided by state and federal government should be included in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.</p>	<p>Council acknowledges that a clear understanding of species status and distribution, as well as locations of key biodiversity elements including wildlife corridors and High Environmental Value vegetation, is essential to management of Biodiversity in Byron Shire. Actions 1.11, 1.12, 1.14 and 1.17 address this, and these data will be collated and uploaded to Council's website during implementation of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. Static maps have not been included in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, because these represent a snapshot in time, likely to change over the ten year timeframe of the strategy. Having maps accessible electronically will enable them to be updated with new species records, ground truthing of vegetation mapping etcetera.</p>		<p>Action 1.11 - Conduct a review of Byron Shire's biodiversity values as a baseline for ongoing biodiversity monitoring. Include: - Updated Byron Shire flora and fauna lists, - Status of threatened flora and fauna, - Status of weed species, - Extent of native vegetation, - Extent of protected vegetation (public and private land) - Fire frequency status. Action 1.12 - Update Council's threatened species mapping to reflect local, state and federal mapping. Action 1.14 - Update and maintain Council's vegetation and HEV mapping with revised Plant Community Types (PCTs) and current aerial photography. Action 1.17 - Update Council's wildlife corridor mapping and liaise</p>

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				with other NRJO Councils to ensure consistency in wildlife corridor mapping across the region.
Koala sightings data and mapping	Is Byron Shire Council GIS database updated with all local koala sightings information.	Byron Shire Council GIS database is periodically updated from Bionet Atlas. Therefore BSC information is, at best, as current as that on Bionet Atlas. People are advised to check Bionet Atlas in the first instance.	None	N/A
	Will updates to threatened species mapping incorporate all the sightings data for Byron Shire? We understand that sightings data is no longer being sent to DPIE, only admissions data from FOK, so important areas for koalas could be omitted from the mapping if only DPIE's data is uploaded.	Noted - to be followed up with Regional Koala Communications Group.	None required	Action 1.12 - Update Council's threatened species mapping to reflect local, state and federal mapping.

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	Will mapping of revegetated habitats include those areas planted by groups such as Bangalow Koalas and local Landcare groups? There have been sightings of koalas in revegetated areas approximately 5-6 years after they have been planted, including at Broken Head, Brunswick and Ballina, so this information is very valuable.	Yes	None required	Action 1.19 - Map areas that have been revegetated using public funds and for conservation purposes.
	Updating of Council's Koala Potential Habitat should include areas with koala records as, according to the new SEPP Koala Habitat Planning Policy 2019, Core Koala Habitat includes any area of land where koalas are present.	Noted - to be followed up during mapping updates.	None required	Action 1.20 - Update Council's Koala Potential Habitat mapping to reflect new PCTs and emerging datasets from OEH (Koala Habitat Information Base) and UQ (North Coast Koala Linkage Project).
	The action to seek funding for baseline study of koala populations in the western part of the Shire and development of a Hinterland KPoM is supported.	Noted	None required	Action 4.6 - Seek grant funding for a baseline study of koala populations in the Site Investigation Area for Koala Plans of Management that is west of the coastal Koala Plan of Management Area.

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Monitoring	Survey data in Byron Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (CKPoM) are out of date and accurate data are critical for implementation of the CKPoM. Without updating Koala surveys to confirm the current distribution of koalas, the CKPoM will be ineffective as it will fail to identify critical areas of habitat and roadkill hotspots. Recent FoK data indicate that koala road strike has increased significantly since development of the CKPoM.	Noted. This will be addressed in Action 4.7, subject to available resources.	None	Action 4.7 - Implement a monitoring program for the Byron Coast Koala population.
	Will the monitoring programmes for koala activity in planted koala corridors include those areas planted by Bangalow Koalas and other community groups, or just land planted by the council?	The number of sites monitored will be subject to resources available.	None	Action 4.9 - Review and implement monitoring programs to assess effectiveness of Council ecological restoration, including: - Koala activity in planted koala corridors.
	Monitor the effectiveness of the No Net Loss Policy by assessing the extent of vegetation cover when undertaking comprehensive State of the Environment reports.	Noted. Action added to monitor the extent of vegetation cover in Byron Shire every 3 years.	Update actions table to include new action under Objective 1.3: Monitor extent of vegetation cover in Byron Shire every 3 years.	

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	<p>Conduct biodiversity assessments for all Council owned and managed lands.</p>	<p>Monitoring will be carried out subject to available resources. Addressed in Actions 4.8 and 4.9.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action 4.8 - Review and implement monitoring programs to assess effectiveness of Council ecological restoration, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Threatened flora monitoring, - Plant species diversity, - Koala activity in planted koala corridors. <p>Action 4.9 - Partner with local universities to undertake review of Council restoration data, including site work records and pre and post restoration species lists, to guide ongoing management and resourcing.</p>
<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Climate Change Adaptation Planning - is important and supported. A good monitoring program would need to be in place if we are going to adapt to biodiversity loss. BBB is happy to work with BSC to share monitoring results of bird sightings and habitat observations.</p>	<p>Noted. Monitoring is addressed in Actions 4.9 and 4.10. Monitoring is important and will be implemented subject to available resources. Involvement of citizen science (Action 2.7), and local groups like Byron Bird Buddies (Action 4.13), is an important component of this, and Council welcomes collaboration with these groups.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Action 4.9 - Partner with local universities to undertake review of Council restoration data, including site work records and pre and post restoration species lists, to guide ongoing management and resourcing.</p> <p>Action 4.10 - Support expert wildlife surveys at Byron and Vallances Rd Sewerage Treatment Plants.</p>

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	<p>Council comply with the previous Adopted Greenhouse management strategy, by</p> <p>a) The reintroduction of Greenhouse gas accounting for all of Councils operations, including the now ignored aspects of road/footpath construction and removal of forest, and</p> <p>b) Greenhouse gas accounting assessment of new private developments. While Council has little say on private construction materials, and on lawfully allowed vegetation removal, it is in the best position to monitor, and keep an account of, the residents, and thus the broad Shire's, greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>Council monitors its operational emissions (i.e. undertakes 'greenhouse gas accounting') and reports on this annually (https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Environment/Climate-change/Mitigation/Reducing-Councils-emissions#section-2).</p> <p>At the December 2019 meeting Council resolved to use the federal government's Climate Active (https://www.climateactive.org.au/) to become certified as Carbon Neutral when we reach our target year 2025. This certification includes Scope 3 emissions, i.e. those that are a consequence of the organisation's activities but are not directly owned or controlled by the organisation, which could include asphalt and concrete. This will be further considered by the Sustainability and Emissions Reduction Advisory Committee over forthcoming months.</p> <p>For more information on emissions reduction products being implemented or considered by Council, members of the public can view the agendas and minutes from the Sustainability and Emissions Reduction Advisory Committee online (https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-meetings/Agendas-Minutes).</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>Byron Shire Council (2019). To Zero Together. Byron Shire Council Net Zero Emissions Strategy for Council Operations 2025.</p> <p>file://fapmho2/users\$/lcaddick/Downloads/Final_Net-Zero-Emissions-Strategy-for-Council-Operations-2025%20(1).pdf</p>
	<p>That while Council is restricted by State Government to only consider development under a 100 year scenario, that Council informally identifies the extent of impacts from Global Warming, which is an approximate 4 degree temperature rise, with an approximate 8 metre sea</p>	<p>Council is considering up to date climate modelling predictions as part of the development of the Byron Shire Climate Change Adaptation Plan. Objective 1.2 of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy requires that: <i>Climate change adaptation strategies consider and maximise opportunities for biodiversity conservation.</i> Biodiversity considerations will be integrated into the Climate Emergency Action Plan as per Action 1.8.</p>	<p>None. To be addressed during development of Climate Change Adaptation Plan</p>	<p>Action 1.8 - Support development of Byron Shire Climate Change Adaptation Plan and integration of biodiversity conservation actions into this plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigating the impacts of climate change on local biodiversity; - identification and protection of wildlife corridors and refugia; - identification and protection of high carbon storage ecosystems and buffers for climate change

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	level rise, and starts to implement Biodiversity Management on the facts of such 'work in progress' projections.			adaptation.
	Various additions to Box 9 'Carbon Sequestration'	Box 9 to be amended accordingly.	Amend Box 9 text to read: Some ecosystems, for example wetlands, saltmarshes and mangroves, are particularly effective in carbon sequestration - these are termed 'blue carbon' ecosystems. Charcoal from landscape fires can also sequester large amounts of carbon in soils, wetlands and marine deposits (Santin <i>et al.</i> 2015).	Box 9: What is Carbon Sequestration , p. 23.
	Include the statement that protection and restoration of identified areas of biodiversity significance would assist the natural carbon sequestration process.	Noted. Section 2.3.2 to be amended accordingly.	Add the following sentence to section 2.3.2: Protection and restoration of areas of biodiversity significance can assist the natural carbon sequestration process.	2.3.2 Climate Change - What Can We Do?
	2.3.2 - <i>Climate Change - what can we do?</i> Add detailed examples and responsibilities to each dot point.	Refer to actions 1.8 and 1.9 for further detail. Additional detail regarding these actions will be addressed during development of the Byron Shire Climate Change Adaptation Plan in 2020-21.	None. To be addressed during development of Climate Change Adaptation Plan	Action 1.8 - Support development of Byron Shire Climate Change Adaptation Plan and integration of biodiversity conservation actions into this plan, including: - Investigating the impacts of climate change on local biodiversity; - identification and protection of wildlife corridors and refugia; - identification and protection of high carbon storage ecosystems and buffers for climate change adaptation. Action 1.9 - Update Council planting lists to identify species in different vegetation communities likely to be adaptable or sensitive to climate

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				change.
Pollution	Support compliance to respond to (and prevent) pollution events.	There are various Acts and regulations that empower Council and other government agencies to implement compliance action regarding pollution. The strategy does not preclude any of those legislative requirements or obligations	None	N/A
Additional Information	Our Biodiversity infographic (p.16) should be enhanced with further detail, or a link to, information on the Shires most threatened species.	Further detail on Byron Shire's threatened species and communities is given in Section 1.2 and Figure 1.1. As per Action 1.11, updated flora and fauna lists, including status will be developed as part of strategy implementation and made available on Council's website. It is also intended to update the information on Council's website regarding threatened species. Action 2.1 will be amended to reflect this.	Amend Action 2.1 to include a 4th dot point: - Information on the Shire's most threatened species.	<p>Action 1.11 - Conduct a review of Byron Shire's biodiversity values as a baseline for ongoing biodiversity monitoring. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Byron Shire flora and fauna lists, • Status of threatened flora and fauna, • Status of weed species, • Extent of native vegetation, • Extent of protected vegetation (public and private land) <p>Action 2.1 - Provide expert advice regarding how people can help protect biodiversity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simple steps people can take to reduce their climate footprint. - How to improve biodiversity of urban areas and villages. - How to protect native wildlife from threats. - Information on the Shire's most threatened species.
	Need for a new section explaining Council's role, responsibility and commitment/statement of priority to biodiversity at all levels/across the whole organisation.	Council's roles and responsibilities are outlined in Section 1.1 and in Chapter 4, page 44. Councils commitment to biodiversity is encapsulated in the vision of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, as well as in the environmental objectives of Council's Community Strategic Plan.	None required	<p>Section 1.1: Our Motivation - Why does Byron Shire Council need to conserve biodiversity?</p> <p>Chapter 4: Strategic Framework and Action Plan.</p> <p>Community Strategic Plan - Our Byron Our Future</p>

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				https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Community-Strategic-Plan-Our-Byron-Our-Future
	Include an action for an annual review of the BCS and reporting on all Council's actions, and make this available on Council's website.	Monitoring, review and reporting of the BCS is addressed in Section 5.2, which identifies that progress with the Action Plan will be reported annually to Council's Biodiversity Advisory Committee. Reports to the Biodiversity Advisory Committee are available on Council's website.	None required	Section 5.2 - Monitoring, Review and Reporting
Audit	The need for a comprehensive audit of all actions from the 2004 BCS, including which actions were implemented, which were not, expenditure, funding that was gained (including that from projects undertaken with other Councils) and staffing.	An audit of progress with actions from the 2004 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy was completed in 2013 and reported to the Biodiversity and Sustainability Advisory Committee in 2013, and again in June 2019. This report was considered during development of the revised biodiversity conservation strategy and will be added to the References section. As with all reports presented to Council committees, this report is available via Council's website (https://byron.infocouncil.biz/Open/2019/06/BAC_17062019_AGN_1077_AT.htm#PDF2_ReportName_6597). Spending valuable resources reviewing this audit again will not further advance biodiversity in the Shire and our focus is on implementing the on-ground actions provided in the Action Plan.	Add 2013 audit of Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Actions to Reference Section	
Submissions regarding specific parks or sites.	Brunswick Heads Sports Fields Shield lights to focus only on sports field, to protect wildlife habitat. Drain stagnant water.	Forwarded to Mgr Open Space - ref E2020/34924. Council parks maintenance staff have addressed this issue previously.	None required	N/A

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	Beech Drive Recreation Grounds, Suffolk Park Concern re maintenance and protection of native vegetation adjacent to proposed of bike pump track site, particularly impacts on drainage.	The pump track location was determined by Council resolution to be the north west corner of the reserve, to provide the least impact upon residents while also allowing consideration of other uses including; a half field soccer pitch, possible growth of the community gardens, or other uses and activities as identified by the community through the development of the Masterplan. A full Review of Environmental Factors for this project is in draft form and will be completed once the details of proposed design and construction methodology have been confirmed. The Pump Track final design will be considerate of the existing natural landforms and mature vegetation and will be responsive to and sympathetic to the natural environment.	None required	N/A
	Request for protection and rehabilitation of vegetation near a private residence in the SW corner of Tallowood Ridge Estate.	Council does not manage land in this location, however Brunswick Valley Landcare are already undertaking restoration projects in this area funded by and Environmental Trust grant (via the Friends of Mooiball Spur), and Council has supported this project through hosting a community awareness raising event around dog-koala interactions.	None	N/A
Byron Bypass	Concern expressed regarding removal of wetland and Mitchell's Rainforest Snail habitat during construction of Byron Bypass.	The Byron Bay Bypass was approved with a requirement for biobanking offsets, designed to improve the quality of other high value habitat areas, which for this project were at Lilli Pilli and Wallum Place. Furthermore, Council has included in the budget for next year further regeneration works throughout the shire in their commitment to going above and beyond what was required for the project. Biobanking offsets plus above and beyond restoration projects total 12.05 hectares.	None	N/A

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	Provide funding for baseline study of critically endangered Mitchell's Rainforest Snails in Cumbebin Swamp and areas surrounding the new Bypass Road, and Use CCTV cameras or similar to monitor the effectiveness of the underpass in Byron Bypass for snail connectivity to wetland habitats divided by the Bypass.	Actions 1.22 and 2.6 address further work to be carried out by Council to improve local understanding and raise awareness regarding Mitchell's Rainforest Snail.	None	Action 1.22 - Map potential habitat areas for Mitchell's Rainforest Snail. Action 2.6 - Implement a community awareness campaign to assist in protection and habitat identification for the Mitchell's Rainforest Snail in the Byron Bay area.
Typos/minor corrections	Six submissions identified typos and minor corrections including corrections to new legislation, amendments to species names etcetera.	All typos identified in submissions will be amended in the final Biodiversity Conservation Strategy	Amend all typos	Various
References	Include the 2004 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy in references.	2004 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy to be included in references.	2004 Biodiversity Conservation Strategy include in references.	References
	Include the 2010 Far North Coast Regional Conservation Plan in Appendix 2	Amend Appendix 2 to include 2010 Far North Coast Regional Conservation Plan.	Include the 2010 Far North Coast Regional Conservation Plan (https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/biodiversity/10982fncrcp.pdf) in Appendix 2, under Regional Plans and Strategies.	Appendix 2