

# Snapshot

## Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan



### Supporting new housing and infrastructure

The Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan (the Plan) will provide biodiversity approvals for new housing and infrastructure corridors to support the delivery of the Western Parkland City.

- The Plan Area covers 200,000 hectares of Western Sydney from Wilton in the south to Windsor and Kurrajong in the north.
- The Plan will:
  - unlock new housing, employment areas and infrastructure across four nominated areas: Wilton Growth Area, Greater Macarthur Growth Area, Western Sydney Aerotropolis, and Greater Penrith to Eastern Creek Investigation Area
  - support the delivery of four new infrastructure corridors spanning 121 km
  - certify 10,470 hectares of urban capable land for development
- The Plan Area covers parts of eight local government areas: Blacktown, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly
- It includes three Aboriginal Land Councils
  - Deerubbin, Gandangara and Tharawal



### Environmental values

The Plan Area supports species and ecological communities that are unique to the subregion and a range of other natural assets that are valued by the community.

- More than 100 threatened species and ecological communities are found in the Plan Area.
- It is home to the largest koala population in the Sydney Basin with 600-1000 koalas.
- It supports 20,500 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland, a critically endangered ecological community that is found only in the Sydney Basin.
- There are 680 kilometres of waterways in the three major river catchments (Hawkesbury, Nepean and Georges rivers)



**Black-chinned honeyeater**  
Dean Ingwersen/DPIE



## Biodiversity assessment

A detailed scientific assessment was undertaken to avoid and minimise impacts to biodiversity from the projected delivery of housing and infrastructure.

- Field surveys were completed across 2,630 hectares of nominated areas to survey for fauna species and check vegetation mapping and condition
- Ecologists surveyed 258 vegetation plots as part of the biodiversity assessment across the four nominated areas
- Approved experts prepared 19 threatened species assessment reports



## The conservation program

The Plan's conservation program is designed to offset all impacts on biodiversity by protecting at least three times the area affected by development.

- Up to 1,780 hectares of unavoidable impacts on threatened ecological communities will be managed through the Plan's offset program.
- The Plan will protect at least 5,475 hectares of native vegetation in perpetuity including eight threatened ecological communities.
- The conservation program will create, protect and manage important habitat corridors for koalas and other species.
- A total of 4,795 hectares of land will be zoned E2 for environmental conservation including riparian corridors.
- Around 28,300 hectares of land with biodiversity value is identified for selecting future conservation lands (reserves and biodiversity stewardship sites).



## The Southern Sydney koala population

The conservation program includes actions to protect koala habitat and reduce threats to koalas from urban development and roads.

- The Georges River Koala Reserve will protect up to 1,885 hectares of land for koala habitat along the Georges River corridor.
- Around 100,000 new trees will be planted to restore important koala habitat in the Georges River Koala Reserve and other priority locations.
- Over 3,500 hectares of koala habitat will be zoned E2 for environmental conservation
- A total of 120 km of koala exclusion fencing will be installed, including fencing both sides of Appin Road, to stop koalas entering urban areas and being hit by vehicles.
- At least one east-west habitat corridor between the Nepean River and the Georges River will be protected, including construction of a safe koala crossing over Appin Road



Cumberland Plain Woodland  
Dayle Green/DPIE



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