

Little Liverpool Range Initiative

From Little Things, Big Things Grow



**Little Liverpool
Range Initiative**

What is the Little Liverpool Range Initiative?



- A community based initiative that endeavours to connect and protect, habitat, species and people so that they all may survive and thrive



Where is the Little Liverpool Range?

- Extending from Hatton Vale in the north to Main Range National Park in the south, the Little Liverpool Range is 51 kilometres long and covers approx. 46,000 hectares



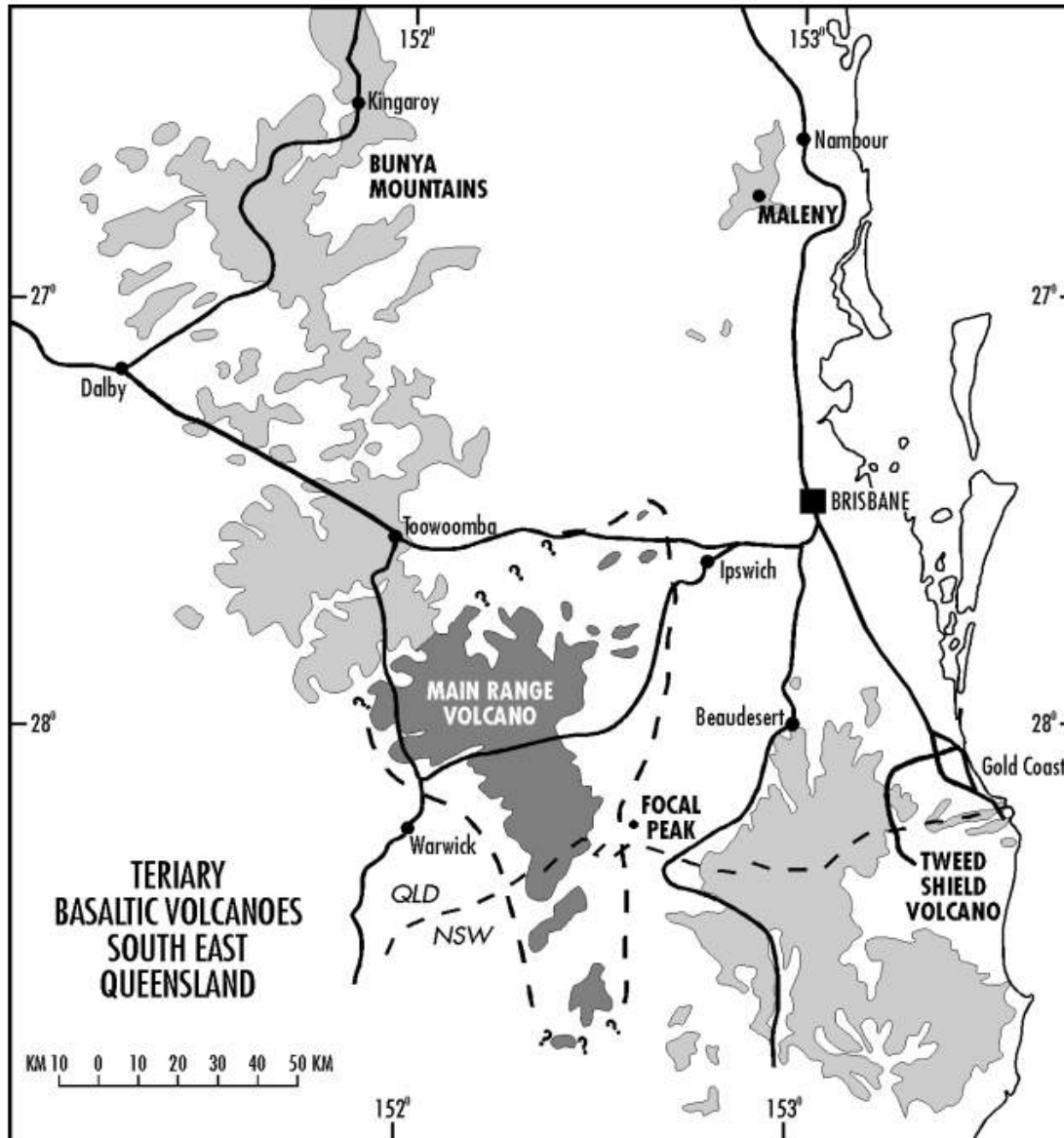
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Formation of the Little Liverpool Range?

- Tertiary period (22 – 25 million years ago)
- Numerous nearly horizontal lava flows, mainly of basalt, which erupted to gradually build a complex and elongated volcano.
- Basalt lava flows have a low viscosity and tend to flow large distances forming gently sloping shield volcanoes (as opposed to classical steep sided peaks like Mt Fuji)
- The Main Range & Little Liverpool Range shields formed part of a wider area of volcanic activity spreading northwards past Toowoomba and Kingaroy.
- Other volcanoes of similar age include Mt Barney and the much larger Tweed Volcano whose remains form the Lamington Plateau and Border Ranges.
- The Main Range volcano is believed to have spread as far east as the Kalbar - Boonah and northeast to Rosewood



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Tertiary Period

Due to its long-term isolation (~40 million years) as an island continent, the vast majority of Australia's native marsupial (93%), rodent (91%) and microbat (73%) species are found nowhere else.

Within the last 200 years at least 25 species of Australian mammals (almost 10%) have become extinct and many more (20% of remaining species) are now threatened.

This rate of mammal extinction is the highest in the world and represents a significant loss of unique biodiversity.

The Paleocene Epoch 65 to 54 million years ago	Australia is joined to Antarctica	The condylarths-ancestors of modern hoofed herbivores Rodents The first Primates
The Eocene Epoch 54 to 38 million years ago	Europe and North America separate	Bats Elephant ancestors Whales Eohippus-the first horse
The Oligocene Epoch 38 to 24 million years ago	Australia separates from Antarctica Antarctica is covered by glaciers Sea levels are low	Dogs, cats, and pigs toothed whales
The Miocene Epoch 24 to 5 million years ago	Africa is pushing into Europe-forms the Alps Arctic becomes covered with ice	Horses, camels, and rhinos Beaver-like animals many apes and other primates
The Pliocene Epoch 5 to 1.8 million years ago	Africa closes off the Mediterranean Sea North and South America join at Panama The Geography of the earth similar to today	First hominids-human ancestors



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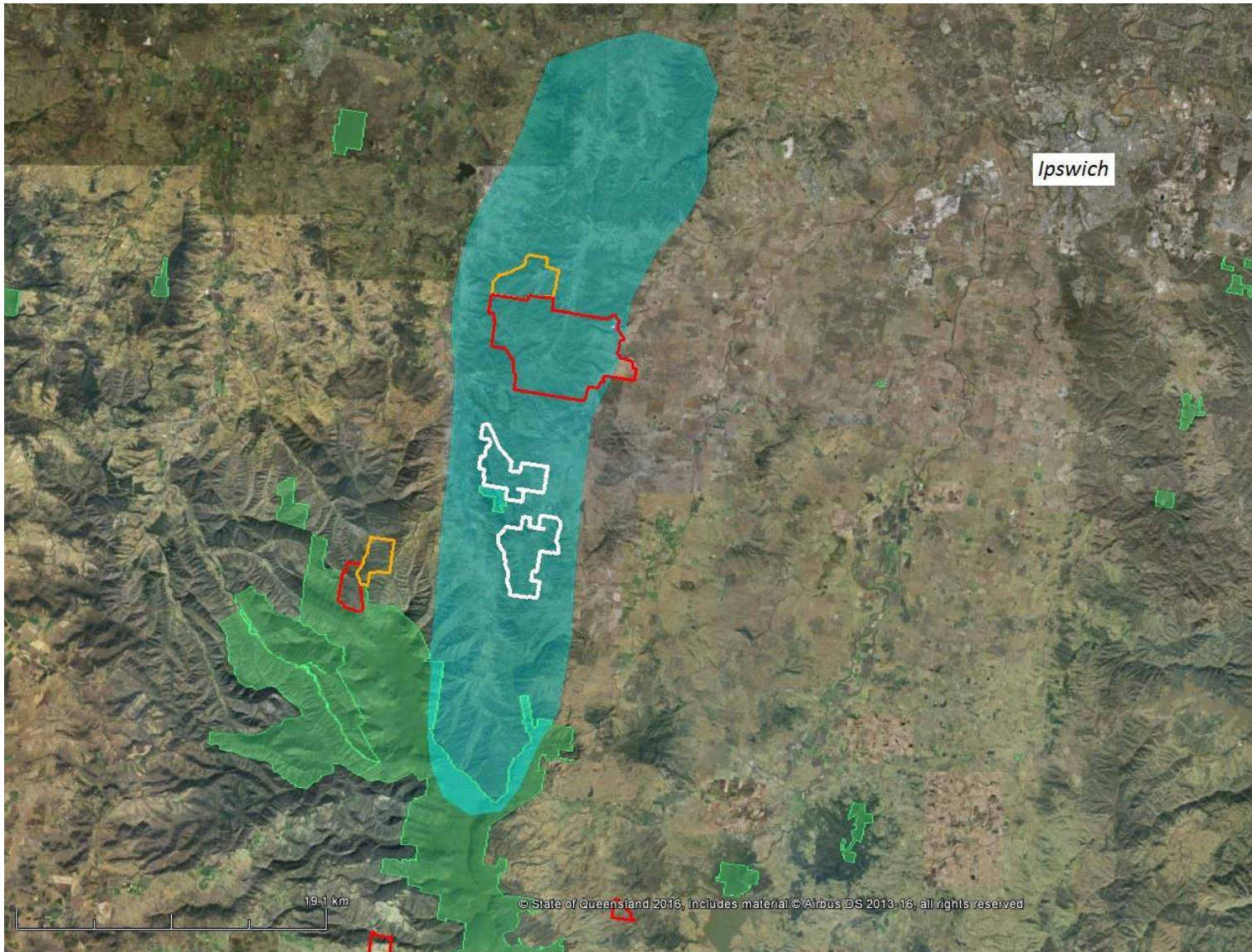
Challenges

- Habitat loss
- Managing invasive species
- Over grazing
- Unsustainable practices
- Population growth
- Climate change
- Altered fire regimes
- Altered hydrology

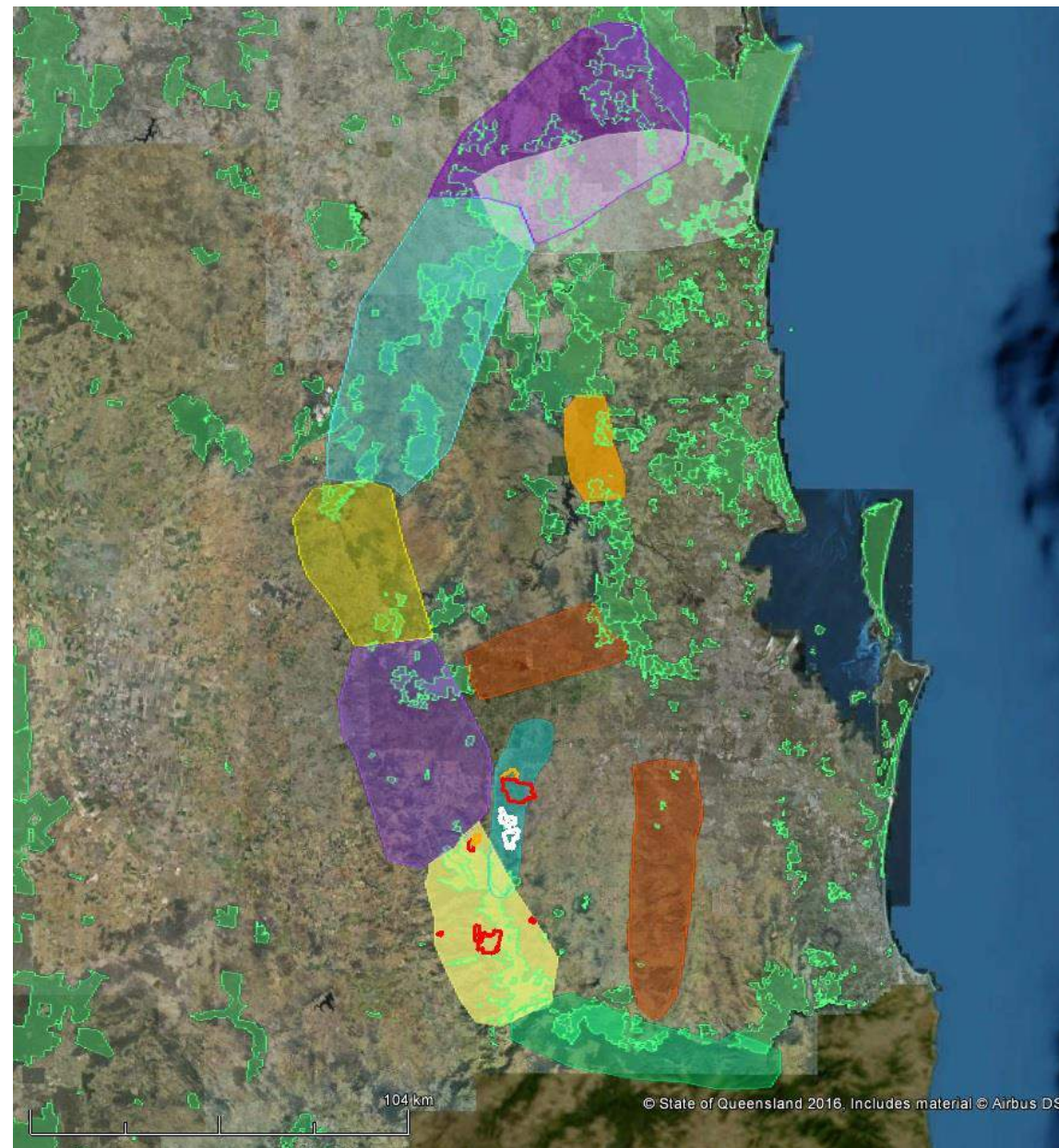
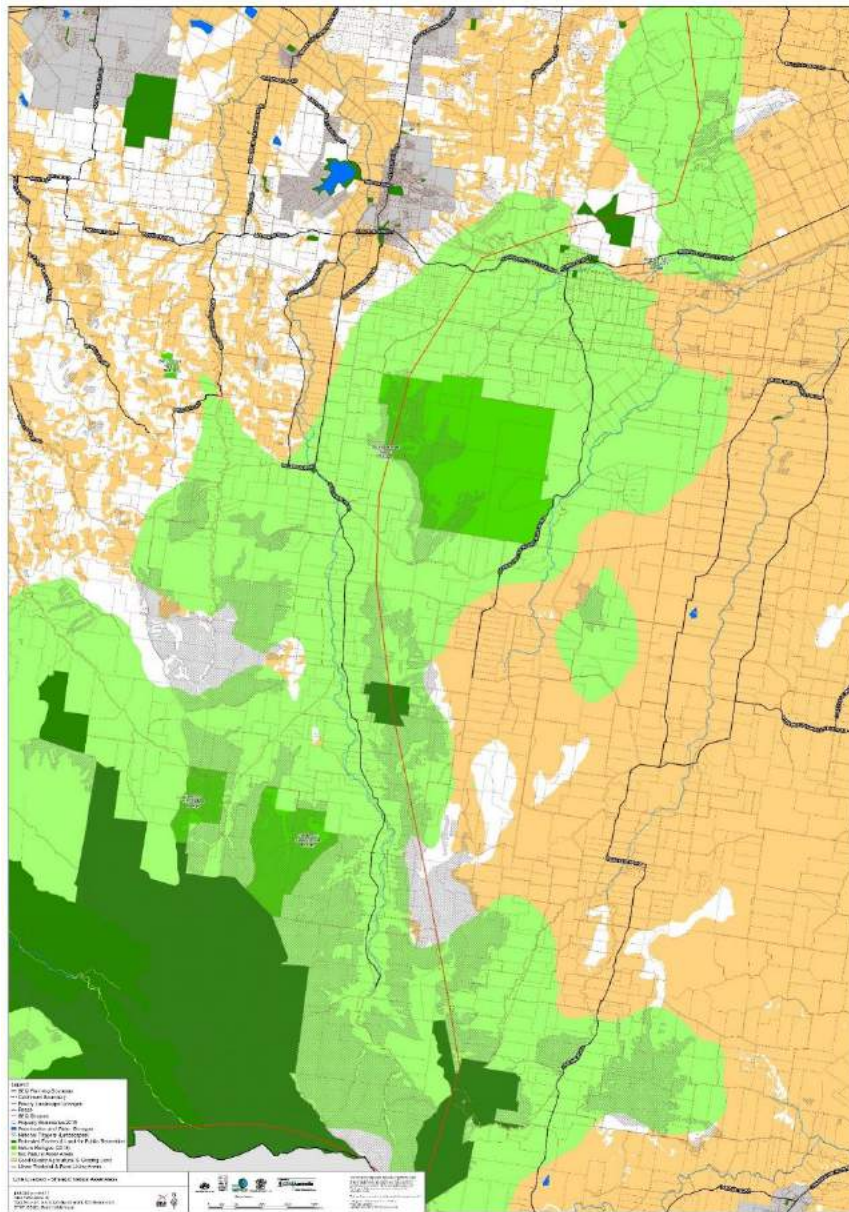
Will connectivity exacerbate the spread of weeds, pest species, diseases or catastrophic events (such as fire or floods)?



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Serpentine
Range Initiative

gondwana link

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Welcome to gondwana link

South-western Australia is an amazing place. It is one of the world's top 35 biodiversity hotspots, places "where exceptional concentrations of endemic species are undergoing exceptional loss of habitat".

Gondwana Link is our best chance to achieve reconnected, healthy and resilient country across south-western Australia. It builds on many decades of conservation work. We have a 100km goal, with over 300km of bushland already in place.

Gondwana Link is a collaborative effort entering its thirteenth year of achievement, an inspiring example of how a broad spectrum of local, regional & national groups can work together. With the support of Gondwana Link Ltd, these groups are:

- restoring ecological connectivity across south-western Australia, from the dry woodlands of the interior to the tall wet forests of the far south-west coast;
- protecting and restoring biodiversity bushland on an unprecedented scale; and
- building a living link that reaches eastward across the continent.

Our vision is both audacious and achievable but it needs your help!

Back to biodiversity

Land and Biodiversity - Preserving Our Ecosystems Awaits

The Judges have named Gondwana Link the winner based on its innovative approach, vision and partnerships forming a true national biodiversity outcome.

Category Winner

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saving the Berry Rainforest

[Recent Honeyeater Restoration Project](#)
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About Us

The Great Eastern Ranges Initiative is bringing people and organisations together to protect, link and restore healthy habitats over 3,600 kilometres from Western Victoria through NSW and the ACT to Far North Queensland. The initiative is a strategic response to mitigate the potential impacts of climate change, invasive species, land clearing and other environmental changes on our richest biodiversity and iconic landscapes.

About the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative

How we link and restore habitat

About the Ranges of eastern Australia

Iconic species of the Ranges

Kosciuszko2Coast

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GREAT EASTERN RANGES INITIATIVE - K2C A PROUD REGIONAL PARTNER

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Recent issues

Tree Planting Goes Ahead in Dieback affected region - Monaro

Tree planting goes ahead after massive rain event on the Monaro

Upper Snowy Landcare showcases its four Dieback Project plots along the highway between Cooma and Benildale

Upper Snowy Landcare Committee (USLC) is overjoyed to embark on the tree planting phase of its large scale revegetation project amongst the dieback scarred hills between Cooma and Benildale this week.

Robin Severn (Chair of USLC) was on site at Kelton Plain to celebrate the first day of planting. "Over the last few months, USLC have patiently waited for this godsend of Dieback Project."

The 5000 trees and shrubs being planted as a small but still very important re-established will mimic what has been lost along with 5 species of acacia species along with 5 species of eucalypt.

The jury is still out on the primary cause of dieback, but the drought causing the trees to weaken ultimately kills them; lack of seasonal rain, dying off at the edge of their range.

Despite the cause, the tree loss has such small bush birds, reptiles, tenaciously clinging to the canopy to feed and breed. Also the incursion, not to mention the tremors.

Habitat 141

ocean to outback

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Restoration on an unprecedented scale

Hinterland Bush Links

connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

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Wombats live in the rainforests of the Hinterland, feeding on fruit. Wildlife corridors assist them in moving across the landscape and spreading rainforest seed.

© Photo by David & Diane Ambrose

Latest Project

Subtropical Forests Ecology Course 2019

27 - 30 Aug 2019 This is the second year of this action packed course, over 40 Bush Links members and 25...

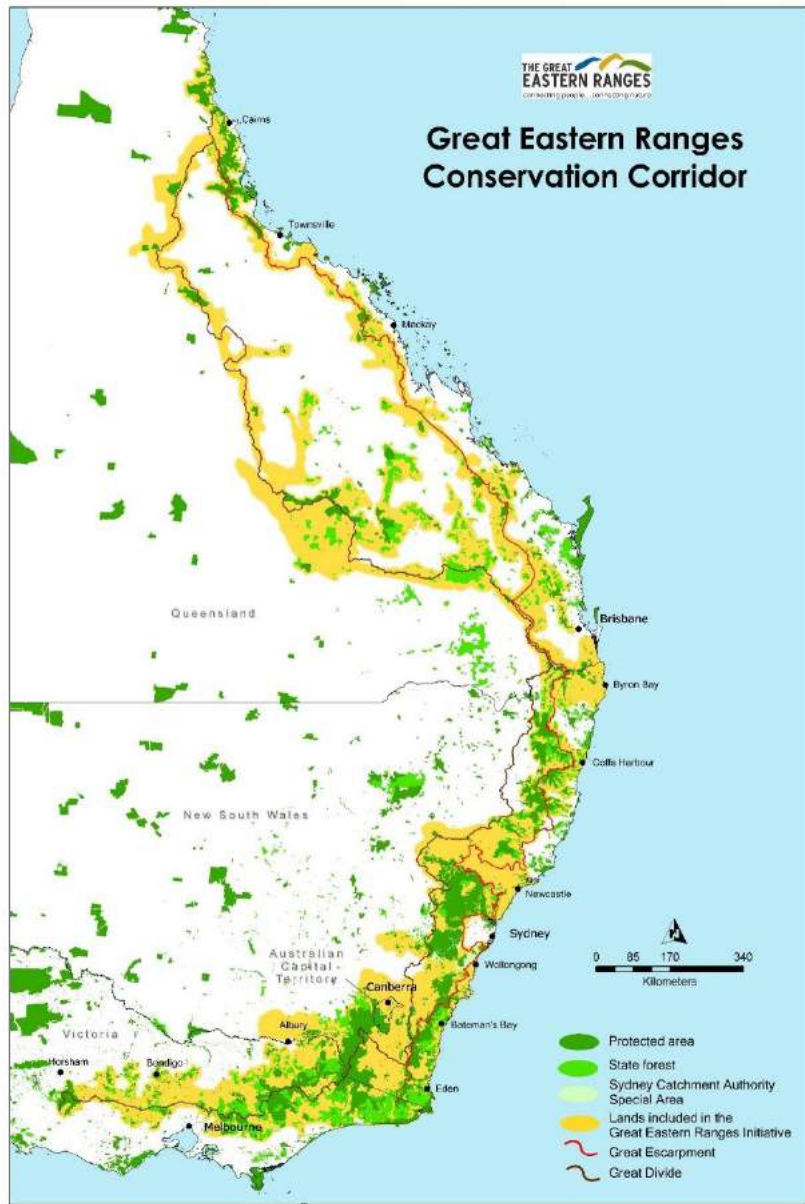
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Great Eastern Ranges



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A good start for scale

The Turner Family Foundation	4,638 Ha – Old Hidden Vale 682 Ha – Thornton Views
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Qld Trust for Nature	1,970 Ha - Aroona
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ICC (Mt Beau Brummel Conservation Park)	155 Ha
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7,445 Ha



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Hidden Vale – A brief history

- 1829 Alan Cunningham first Europeans
- 1841 First European Settler, James Phelps Robinson
- 1849 Property was 155,000 hectares in size and stretched over the NSW border
- 1871 Property reduced to 4,000 hectares after being resumed by the newly formed Queensland State Government
- 1999 Acquired by the Turner family



James Phelps
Robinson

- 1841
- Property Called Franklyn Vale

Henry and
Maria Mort

- 1849
- 155,000 Ha's, 13,000 Sheep

Philip Jost

- 1871
- Property renamed 'Jost Vale'
- Property reduced to 4,000 Ha's after resumption by the newly formed Qld State Government

A.J. Cotton

- 1900
- Property named Hidden Vale

Day Family

- 1929
- Property renamed 'Sutton Royal'

Murdo
Mackenzie

- 1929
- Property renamed 'Old Hidden Vale' and was 3,000 Ha's
- Mackenzie died 1957; sisters sold part of the property in 1964. Margaret Crombie held the balance which included Old Hidden Vale.

Cole Family

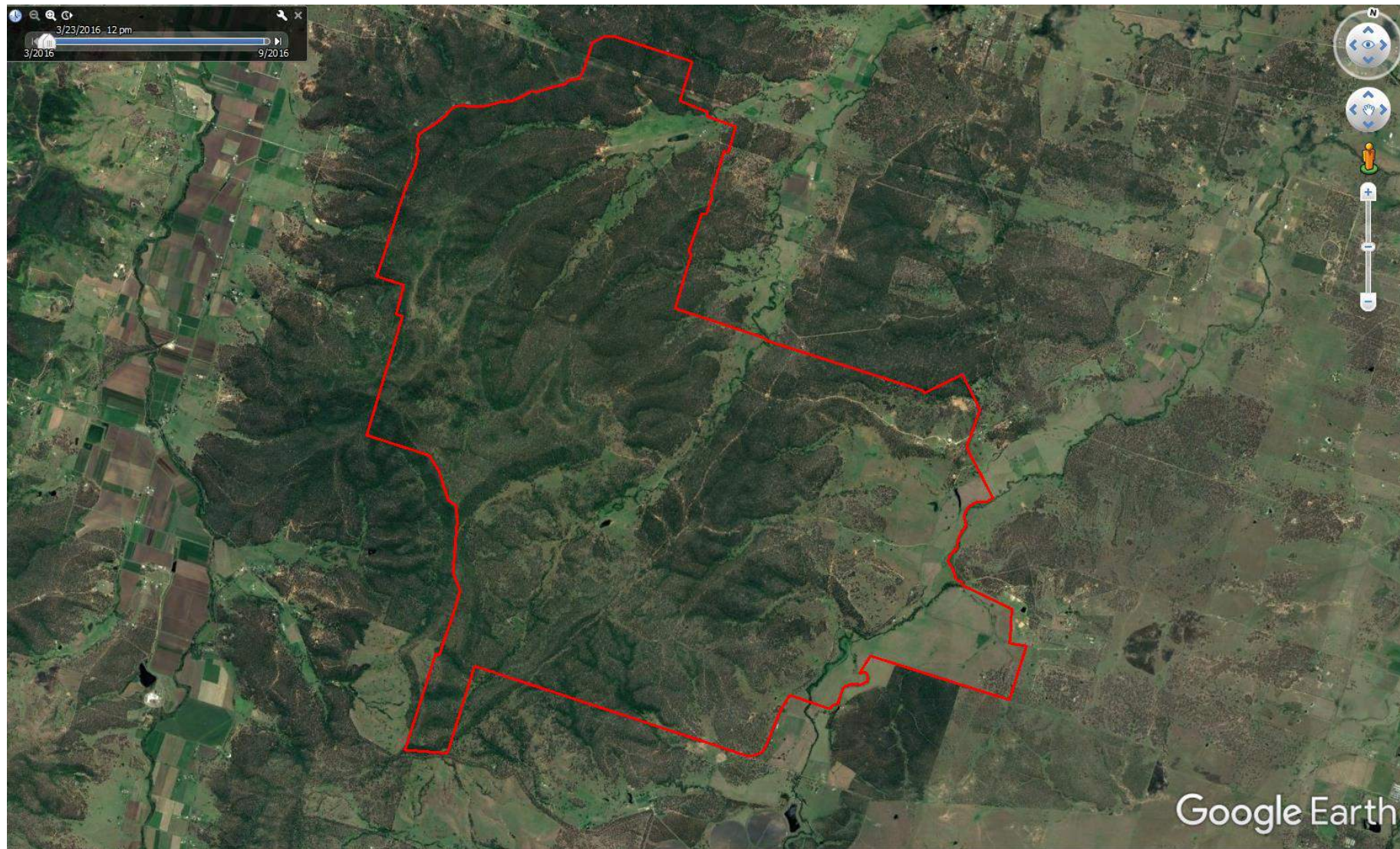
- Acquired Old Hidden Vale in 1992 and acquired additional parcels of land over time taking the property back to about the same size as when it was Jost Vale

Turner Family

- Acquired Old Hidden Vale from the Cole family towards the end of 1999



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Hidden Vale today

- Working cattle property of over 400 head
- 36 Room luxury retreat
- Series of mountain bike trails – over 150 kms
- Bush walking ecotourism operation
- Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre
- Commitment to ecological restoration

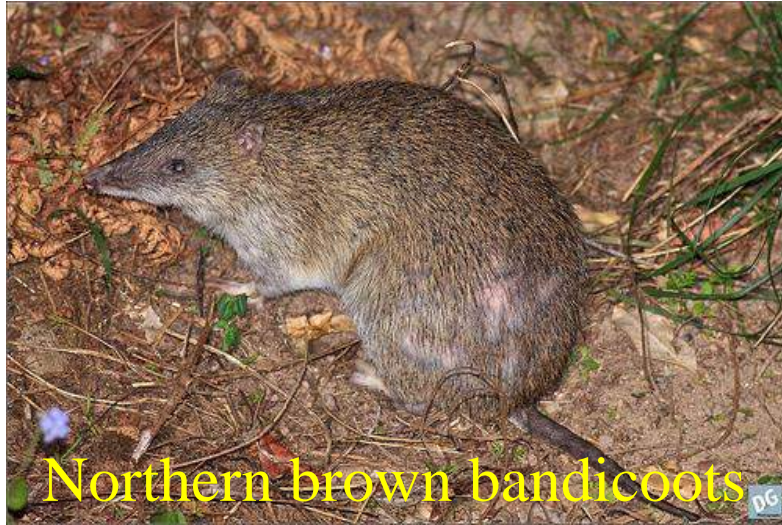


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Wildlife at the Centre



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Wildlife at The Centre

Eastern bristlebirds...

- Aviaries prepared
- Birds due in August
- Existing captive breeding program with Currumbin Sanctuary
- As a model for other endangered species at HV



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Some of our wildlife

- Koalas
- Glossy Black Cockatoos
- Pale Headed Rosellas
- Rainbow Lorikeets
- Powerful Owls
- Red-necked wallaby
- Brush tailed rock wallaby
- Common brushtail possum
- Brush tailed phascogale
- Greater glider
- Sugar glider
- Long nosed bandicoot
- Yellow-footed antechinus
- Tusked Frog
- Red bellied black snake
- Yellow faced whip snake
- Lesueur's tree frog



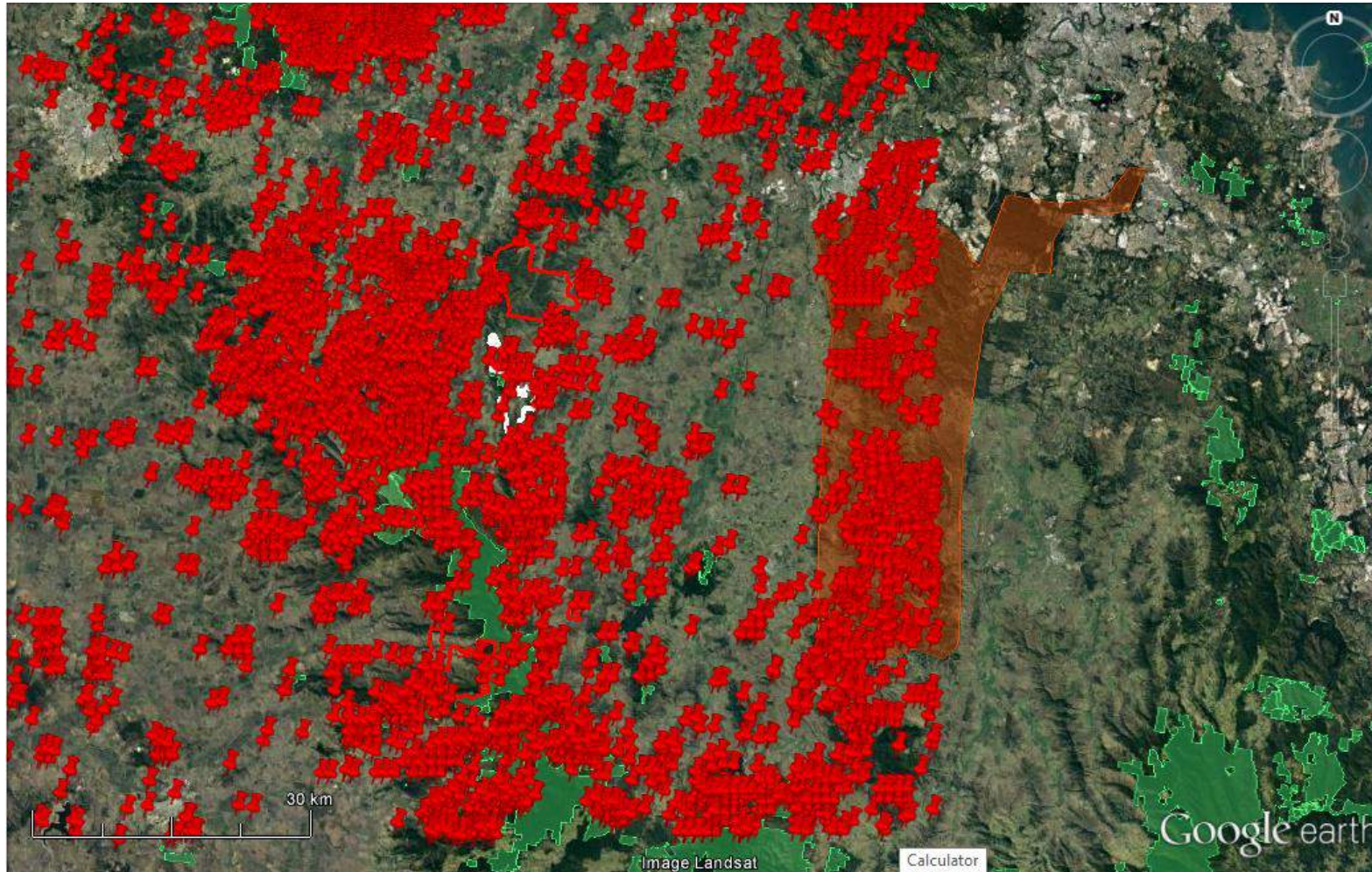
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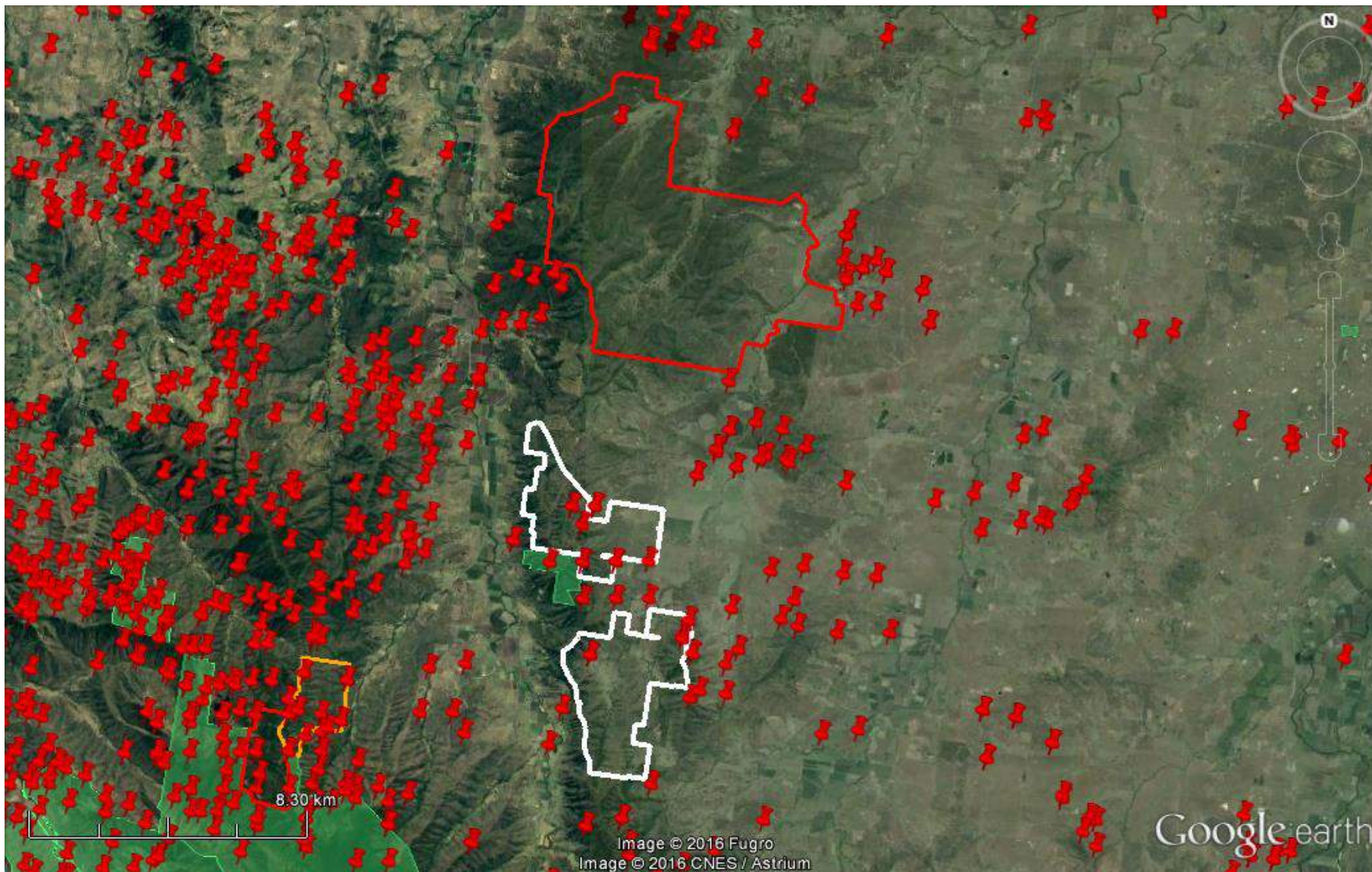
Some of our possible wildlife

- Eastern bristlebird
- Spotted quoll



Fire Map 2002-2015





Low fire incidences
over past decades –
need to review fire
management with
broader community



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Hidden Vale Project

- To deliver resilient ecosystems with representative, self-sustaining populations of fauna and flora endemic to the Scenic Rim



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The Hidden Vale Koala Project

An intensive koala project to develop:

- A thriving and sustainable koala population at Hidden Vale...
a “**koala haven**”...
- Healthy koalas for bolstering their populations through the Little Liverpool Range... a “**koala fountain**”...

Aim to find out:

- The size of the HV koala population;
- Health status and movements;
- Current threats – predation, disease, habitat change;
- Strategies for increasing koalas at HV;



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The Koala Project

How — Catch, examine and collar every koala in a prescribed area

- Monitor health and movements of all koalas for 12 months
- Treat and release any diseased koalas



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The Results (so far)

Three capture sessions so far, each of three days.

15 adult koalas have been captured, examined, fitted with a radio-tracking collar and released at their point of capture, with 4 joeys:

Name	Sex
Ahern	M
Amelia	F
Dalene	F (joey)
Dave	M
Deej	F (joey)
Flanners	M
Jo	F
Jude	F
Karen	F (joey)
Mara	F (joey)
Matt	M
O'Hara	M
Robyn	F
Skroo	M
Vicki	F



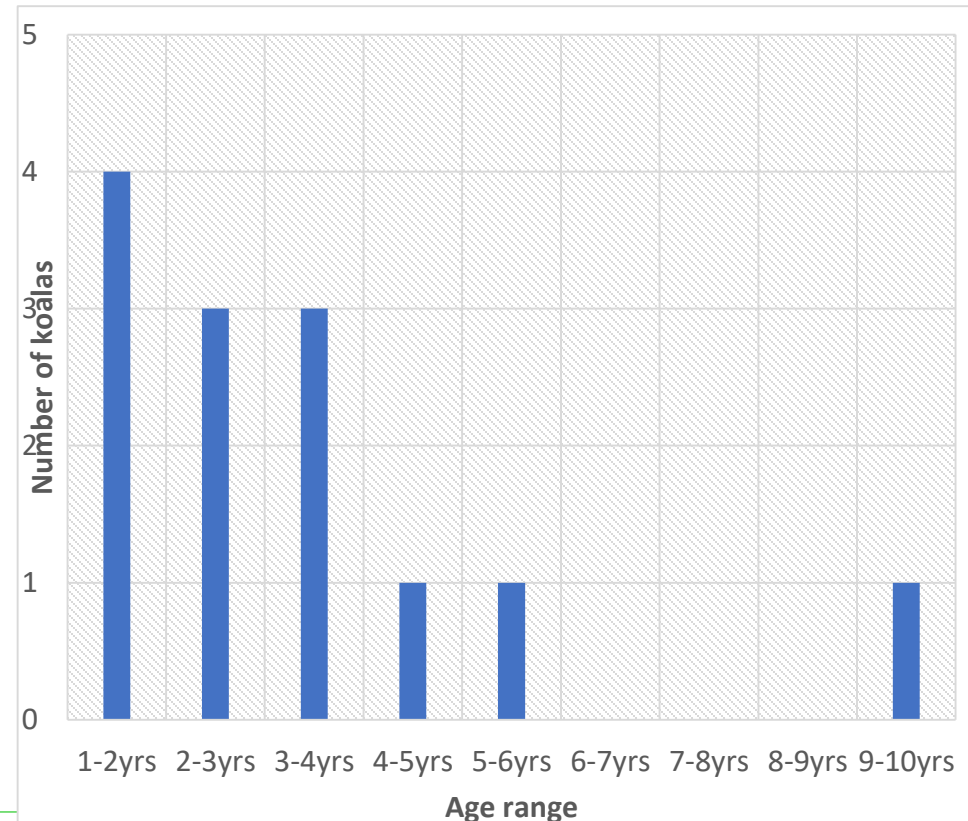
The Koala Project

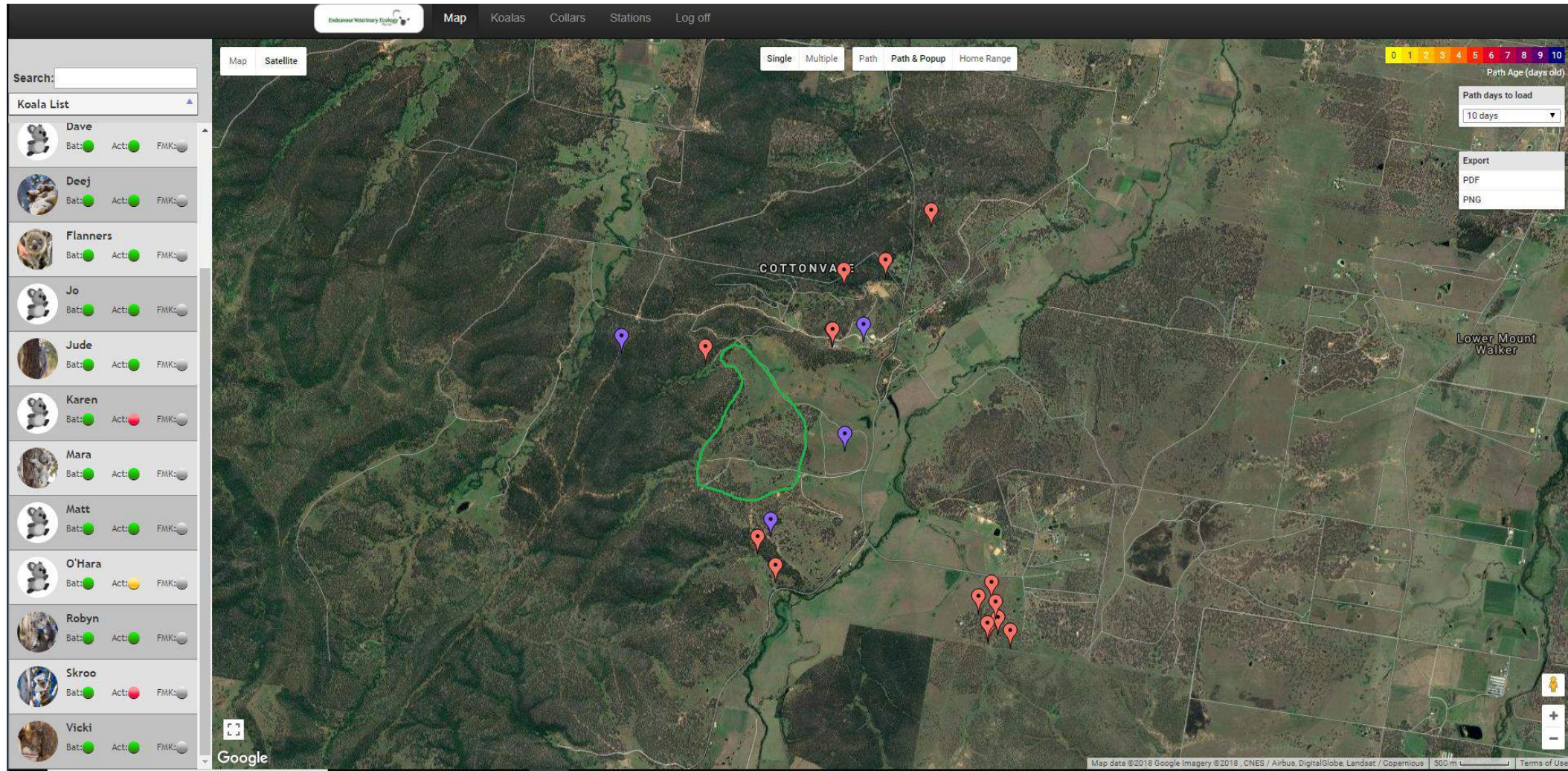
The Results:



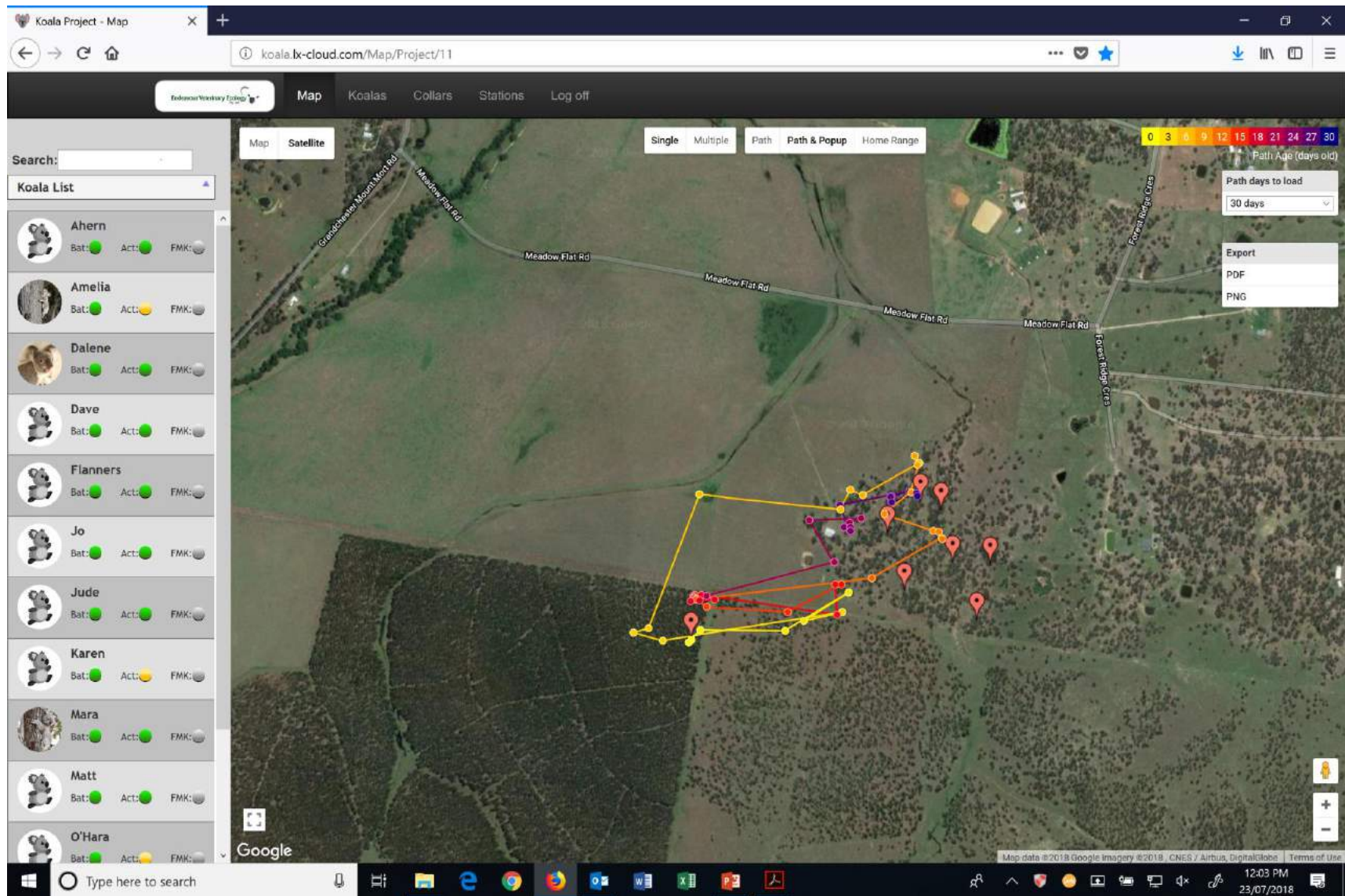
The Results: we have an unusual and valuable population:

- Most appear healthy with low level of chlamydia
- Most are young adults –few older koalas
- The population is breeding well.
- The LX tracking collars allow them to be tracked twice per day





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The Next Steps –

1. Continue project in the Nature Refuge;
2. Monitor their use of the koala plantations;
3. Look for potential interactions with cattle;
4. Continue to monitor movements and health of all koalas;
5. Chlamydia vaccine field trial
6. Look at possible eco tourism opportunities - develop “koala safaris”...



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Questions?



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