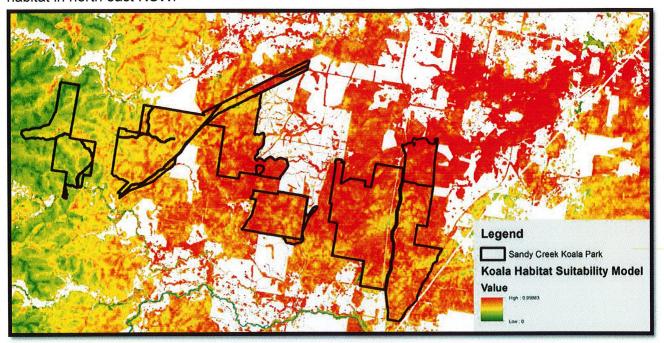
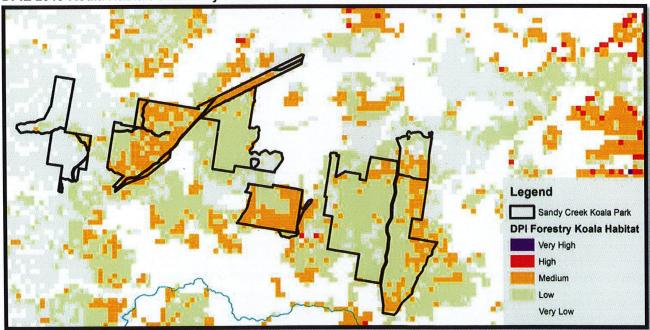
COMPARISON OF RECENT KOALA MODELLING.

As part of the Koala Strategy a Koala Habitat Suitability Model (KHSM) was prepared and just released. It predicts the spatial distribution of potential koala habitat across NSW using a value between 0 and 1 (i.e. a higher value represents a higher probability that a specific location will contain habitat suitable for koalas). The model provides an indication of where koalas have the potential to reside but are not necessarily currently occupied. This model confirms the importance of the Richmond River lowlands and highlights it as one of the most important areas of potential Koala habitat in north east NSW.



DPIE 2019 Koala Habitat Suitability Model



DPI Forestry (Law et. al. 2017, 2018) Koala Habitat mapping. Note that this bears little resemblance to the more recent KHSM, with many areas classed as very low habitat value by DPI Forestry reclassed as very high by KHSM. NEFA's scat surveys have confirmed the DPI Forestry model as being wrong. It is no wonder that the expert review by EPA (2016) recommended against using the Law et. al. model for forestry regulation. Regrettably the EPA didn't listen and now rely upon this shonky model for setting tree retention requirements for Koalas in logging.

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ANDREW RATCHFORD Date: 18/10/19

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