

46.B

Denise Bradley

From: Katie Stevenson
Sent: Monday, 28 September 2020 3:25 PM
To: 'Rob Stokes'
Subject: FW: Koala habitat categories.docx
Attachments: Koala habitat categories.docx; ATT00001.htm

Document tendered by
MS Kate Fashman, MLC
Received by
Taylah Cauchi
Date: 9/3/21
Resolved to publish Yes / No

No action required – we are sorting but just to keep you in the loop

From: Tom Loomes
Sent: Monday, 28 September 2020 2:09 PM
To: Katie Stevenson
Subject: FW: Koala habitat categories.docx

This is what they have put up. Effectively no change, and expanding the restrictions out further to other categories of koala trees.

It is entirely counterproductive and not what we asked for. Just spoke with Marcus and Danijela and their view was the same. Marcus seeking to talk to Paul Grimes ASAP.

From: Marcus Ray
Sent: Monday, 28 September 2020 1:40 PM
To: Tom Loomes
Cc: Danijela Karac, Luke Walton
Subject: Fwd: Koala habitat categories.docx

Here is the first draft. I haven't read yet I'm on a zoom.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kate Wilson
Date: 28 September 2020 at 1:30:56 pm AEST
To: Marcus Ray
Cc: Paul Grimes, Michelle Dumazel, Danielle Pile, Jeremy Black
Georgina Kelly
Subject: Koala habitat categories.docx

Dear Marcus

Here is a quick DRAFT go table with a proposed approach to defining koala habitat categories that could be used to enable different land management activities.

Note trees are put into four different "Ranks" (this is the term, not categories). Also note they are distinguished by intensity of use on a regional basis, not by whether they are feed trees or not ie some rank 3 trees will be feed trees. Hence the approach to categorisation is similar but different to what you discussed with Paul.

Note this has been put together very rapidly, so usual caveats apply.

Happy to discuss

DRAFT: Criteria for determining different categories of koala habitat and associated land management actions

DRAFT only – has not been discussed with Minister for Environment.

	Core koala habitat	High value koala habitat	Medium value koala habitat	Low value koala habitat
Definition	As in Koala SEPP 15% or more of canopy is preferred koala habitat trees AND Current presence or records of presence in last 18 years	50% or more of canopy is rank 1, 2 or 3 koala habitat trees ¹ AND No record of koala presence	15% or more of canopy is rank 1, 2 or 3 koala habitat trees AND No record of koala presence	Canopy does not have rank 1, 2 or 3 koala habitat trees but can have rank 4 AND No record of koala presence
Allowable activities	Restricted allowable activities		Full suite of allowable activities	
Land Management Code	No ²		Yes (with appropriate settings to protect rank 1, 2 or 3 trees)	

- The quality of habitat is affected by the nature of the trees present, but also very critically by their prevalence.
- Ranks are not defined as to whether they are feed trees or not. Rather they are defined on a regional basis as follows
 - 1 is regionally high use in two or more koala management areas (KMAs)
 - 2 is local high use within a single koala management area
 - 3 is an irregular use tree
 - 4 is a low use tree
- Some of the lower ranked trees by use may still be feed trees, and hence there could be important habitat that has a predominance of rank 3 trees.
- The list of rank 1-4 tree species changes in each koala management area – landholders can refer to the koala SEPP to identify their KMA

¹ Koala habitat trees are listed in Schedule 2 of the Koala SEPP, rankings for each region are found in the Koala Habitat Information Base Technical Guide (Tables A.4-A.12)

² Currently, core koala habitat (defined by Koala Plans of Management) is mapped as sensitive regulated land - the Code cannot be used and allowable activities are restricted

- The Minister for the Environment (with concurrence from the Minister for Agriculture) will publish a Provisional Koala Habitat Layer showing koala habitat that could fall into any of the four categories above.
- On land identified in the provisional layer, landholders cannot use Code. Landholders can use restricted allowable activities.
- Restricted allowable activities include sustainable grazing, environmental protection works, fencing, water, gas and electricity infrastructure and access tracks. This effectively enables continuing land management activities that do not require land use change.
- With the support of LLS, landholders can undertake site assessment to confirm the presence of koala habitat on their land and which category it falls into.
- If found to be medium or low value koala habitat, landholders can use the Code and the full range of allowable activities. The full range includes activities such as gravel pits, air strips and firebreaks.
- If found to be core koala habitat or high value koala habitat, landholders cannot use the Code and can continue use restricted allowable activities.