



Biodiversity & Threatened Species

The world is facing an extinction crisis of disastrous proportions and Queensland is not immune - our biodiversity is in poor condition and continues to decline. Hundreds of critters face an immediate threat of extinction, with thousands of others in danger. Biodiversity protection is piecemeal - our unique plants and animals face death by a thousand cuts. This crisis doesn't just mean less precious creatures, but threatens human life too. By accounting for whole-of-landscape development impacts, and proactively planning to protect biodiversity, we could ensure a safe future for all who call Queensland home.

Suggested policy solutions for the next Queensland government:

In addition to the vital legal reforms outlined in 'Stronger Environment & Planning Laws' section, we are calling for the next Queensland Government to take the following steps to urgently reverse the decline of biodiversity and the loss of threatened species in Queensland:

- Develop implement and fund a biodiversity strategy as recommended by the Qld Audit Office¹⁰.
- Monitor and report on the population and trends of threatened species.
- Develop recovery plans for all threatened species.
- Map and protect koala habitat across Queensland. Extend the current SE Qld Koala Conservation Strategy across the state, particularly in the Wide Bay Burnett and Gladstone Regions¹¹.
- Resource better enforcement of our environmental laws and increase penalties for offences.
- Annual release of State of the Environment Report.

No backwards steps:

- Implement all the recommendations of the Qld Audit Office Report on Conserving Threatened Species.

¹⁰ <https://www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/conserving-threatened-species>

¹¹ Koala Expert Panel 2017