

## Biodiversity overlay

### What is the Biodiversity overlay?

The Biodiversity overlay identifies areas of environmental significance and provides additional measures for development to avoid, minimise, and mitigate impacts on these areas. Council's Biodiversity overlay advances the State Planning Policy state interest for Biodiversity.

The Biodiversity overlay has 3 overlay maps:

- Biodiversity overlay map
- Biodiversity overlay - Koala habitat map
- Biodiversity overlay - Wetlands map

The Biodiversity overlay code also includes measures related to buffers to watercourses and waterbodies shown on the Catchment management overlay map.

The Biodiversity overlay maps include:

- Matters of State Environmental Significance
  - ◊ Legally Secured Offset Areas
  - ◊ Protected Areas
  - ◊ Regulated Vegetation
  - ◊ Wildlife Habitat
- Regional Biodiversity Corridors

The Biodiversity overlay – Wetlands map includes:

- Matters of State Environmental Significance
  - ◊ High Ecological Significance Wetlands and buffer areas
  - ◊ High Ecological Value Waters (Wetlands) and buffer areas

These maps are sourced from the Queensland Government, with identified buffer areas set by Council as required by the State Planning Policy.

The Biodiversity overlay - Koala habitat includes areas that potentially contain koala habitat. For more information about changes to Koala habitat requirements, please see the Biodiversity overlay - Koala habitat information sheet.

The Biodiversity overlay code has measures to:

- ensure environmentally significant areas are identified and protected
- maintain and improve ecological connectivity
- maintain, rehabilitate and enhance watercourses and wetlands
- protect significant species

### What changes are proposed?

The Biodiversity overlay map and Biodiversity overlay - Wetlands map have not been updated as part of this amendment package.

The table of assessment for the Biodiversity overlay has been redrafted to improve clarity.

The Catchment management overlay table of assessment has been amended to clarify that parts of the Biodiversity overlay code apply to development in proximity to watercourses and waterways.

The Biodiversity overlay code has been amended in response to changes to koala habitat requirements (refer to the Biodiversity overlay - Koala habitat information sheet).

Council is also proposing amendments to the standard exemptions for clearing native vegetation under the planning scheme. For more information, refer to the Vegetation Clearing information sheet.

### Where can I find these changes?

Table 5.9.3—Biodiversity overlay  
Table 5.9.5—Catchment management overlay  
Section 7.2.3 Biodiversity overlay code  
Schedule 1 definitions  
Biodiversity overlay map  
Biodiversity overlay - Koala habitat map  
Biodiversity overlay - Wetlands map