

Draft Squirrel Glider Species Management Plan

Engagement summary



The Squirrel Glider Species Management Plan (SMP) has been developed to help ensure our local bushland will continue to support this threatened species.

The Squirrel Glider is threatened with extinction in NSW, mainly because much of the original bushland areas where the species lived has been cleared.

On the Central Coast, the Squirrel Glider faces pressure from urban development including clearing of habitat and predation by domestic cats.

Over the last five years Council has undertaken several specialised studies to better understand where the Squirrel Glider occurs on the Central Coast and their habitat requirements. The results of these studies are summarised in the SMP, including identification of areas of suitable habitat.

Public exhibition to collect feedback on the SMP ran from 20 August until 16 September 2025.

Key feedback

Out of the 10 identified recovery actions, which do you think are the top three most important for Council to implement?

	Count	%
Artificial hollow creation in Council	11	17%
Identify missing wildlife corridor links and revegetate missing links	25	39%
Ensure adequate wildlife corridors are conserved during planning proposals and development applications	41	65%
Ensure mapping of Squirrel Glider modelled habitat is available to the public	2	3%
Ensure conservation agreements or land dedication to Council is achieved for planning proposals and development applications that contain Squirrel Glider habitat	34	54%
Ensure retirement of Squirrel Glider species credits under the biodiversity offset scheme occurs when Squirrel Glider habitat is impacted	1	1.5%
Improve quality of Squirrel Glider habitat through bush regeneration	21	33%
Increase community awareness of the Squirrel Glider	6	10%
Identify locations for wildlife crossing structures across roads	6	10%
Ensure the maximum amount of Squirrel Glider habitat is conserved during planning proposals and development applications	42	67%

How you connected



Your Voice Our Coast
456 views



A total of **64**
responses received
via our online survey



Coast Connect printed
newsletter total of
62,000+ reach



eDM (direct email)
reach of **1500+**



Organic social -
Reach of 6,894 and
120 interactions



Coast Connect
eNewsletter
5,392 reach



Media release with
120 contacts reached

You said...

Of these themes, respondents said of their top three most important areas of consideration:

Theme	Quote
1. Ensure the maximum amount of Squirrel Glider habitat is conserved during planning proposals and development applications	"Far too much habitat is being lost to development or proposed to be lost within upcoming DAs. A significant portion of Squirrel Glider records occur in the northern part of the region, precisely where council has rezoned land for development and continues to approve clearing." "Wildlife corridors need to be kept on properties and not allowed to be cut down to build massive residences for humans."
2. Ensure adequate wildlife corridors are conserved during planning proposals and development applications	"I have seen the glider corridors on the Central Coast, and they aren't sufficient in comparison to the vegetation that is lost to approved developments." "Please keep high priority on wildlife corridor preservation - there are too many developers and anti-wildlife/nature agitators on the coast who only care about money they can make now and no care for future generations."
3. Ensure conservation agreements or land dedication to Council is achieved for planning proposals and development applications that contain Squirrel Glider habitat	"Wildlife corridors need to be kept on properties and not allowed to be cut down to build massive residences for humans."

Of the 64 respondents, 17 people expressed concerns about the detrimental effect of cats and dogs on the Squirrel Glider population:

"Cats should be required to be kept indoors, especially at night. We see many roaming right next to the Wadalba Wildlife corridor."

"The Kuring Gai Council requires domestic cats to be kept indoors at night. I think that the Central Coast Council should also require domestic cats to be kept indoors at night."

"Please build a huge awareness campaign to hold pet owners accountable for wildlife losses."

"Cats are a major contributor to native animal losses. They are known to hunt 24/7 and so should be contained either in the home or in a dedicated cat enclosure."

What's next?

In consideration of the results from the community consultation, a report is being prepared for Council to determine the next steps for the project.

Further updates will be made available following the decision from Council in the coming months.