

Green Army. Collaborating and supporting Environmental Projects.

Koalas of Neville

Issue:

A family photograph of Hugh Scott in 1930 showed him holding a Koala whilst in the Neville State Forest. Since then, there have been basically no sightings of Koalas around the Neville, Carcoar, Mandurama regions, even though there are known populations closer to Newbridge and Caloola.

Project:

Neville and Region Landcare was incorporated in 2014 and since this time, the local community has notified the group of several Koala sightings across the landscape from 2010 near the outskirts of Neville Village and Carcoar.

3 Koalas were spotted near Mount Macquarie during the 2014 breeding season with two of these being taken to vets in Blayney for health checks and later released back into the local landscape. Another Koala was seen moving across the road from Mount Macquarie into remnant vegetation.

This, along with the history of populations within the Neville, Pennsylvania and Rosberg State forests. Copperhanna Nature Reserve and Abercrombie National Park, prompted the local Landcare group to seek funding from the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative - Kanagara Boyd to Wyangala Link (GER K2W) and National Parks Foundation

The funding will result in a corridor project that improves the habitat connectivity for those Koalas in a landscape that currently has fragmented vegetation. The first two stages of planting have occurred with the help of local landholder Ray Hall, his family and friends supported by the **Central Tablelands Green Army Team**.

The Central Tablelands Green Army Team assisted in planting a large proportion of the trees specifically chosen for Koalas which will also assist other native animals moving across the landscape.

The Green Army is an Australian Government programme for young Australians aged 17–24 years who are interested in protecting their local environment.



Australian Government



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Connecting you to local conservation projects.

This project will be on-going with another community planting day planned in October with GER K2W and the local community.

The most extensive part of this connectivity project will occur in the planting season of 2016 when approximately 7kms of corridor will be planted from Mount Macquarie to Neville State forest across many landholders' properties.

Outcomes:

This project highlights how the Green Army can facilitate greater community collaboration to deliver long-term environmental outcomes.

The future of the natural habitat will strengthen with time with already promising signs in the last Koala breeding season.

Green Army project participants gain valuable practical skills in the fields of conservation, biodiversity and climate control. Each project exposes them to hands-on training across a diverse range of tasks.

Key Organisations:

Other key organisations critical to this project have been the National Parks Foundation, GER K2W, NSW Forestry Corp, Central Tablelands Local Land Services and Mid Lachlan Landcare.