

Introducing



JALIIGIRR

Biodiversity Alliance



**THE GREAT
EASTERN RANGES**

connecting people...connecting nature



Jaliigirr's Partnership approach

The Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance (Jaliigirr) is a voluntary partnership of more than 20 key natural resource management groups and government agencies, working together to rebuild important corridors and to maintain biodiversity of the landscapes between the Dorrigo Plateau and the coastal plains of the upper Mid North Coast of NSW.

Environmentalism, Julie Woodroffe was the driving force behind the development of Jaliigirr in 2012. She recognised the need to align with the important Jaliigirr areas as part of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative— one of the largest connectivity conservation projects in the world.

Tragically, Julie passed away in Dec 2019 and Jaliigirr remains her enduring legacy. Jaliigirr's overarching objective is to protect and enhance the rich biodiversity of our landscapes in a changing climate, with respect and appreciation for the cultural connections of the Gumbaynggirr People to country and, as Jaliigirr partners, with whom we consult and work extensively.

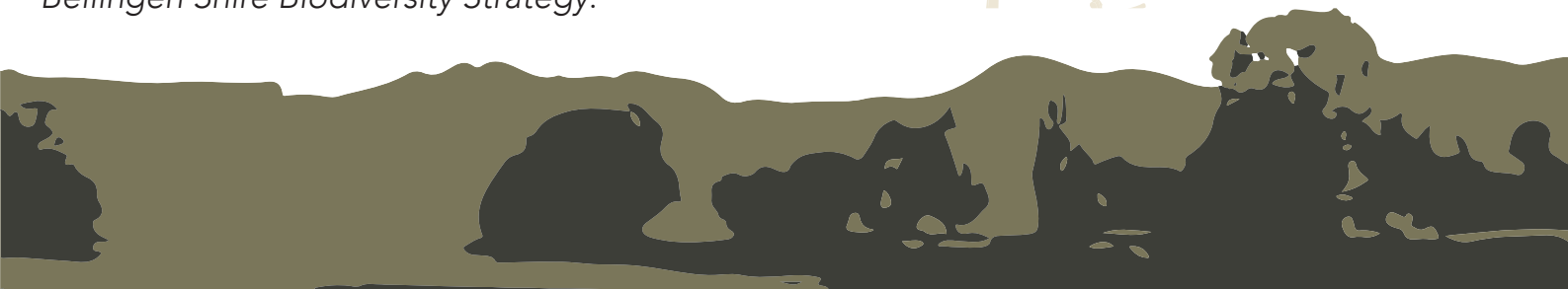


Photo © NSW OEH

Where we work

Jaliigirr supports the voluntary contributions of organisations, landholders, community and First Australians to improve and protect the biodiversity of the hinterland and coastal plains. The Jaliigirr region covers an area of approx. 337,000 hectares which encompasses Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and the Upper Nymboida-Dorrigo Plateau in the NSW North Coast Bioregion. Stretching from the plateau to the coast, it includes an altitudinal range of >1,500 metres and amongst the highest rainfall in NSW. With annual rainfall in some areas averaging 2,000-2,500mm, the region is renowned for its clean, clear waterways. Located within the tropical-sub-tropical-temperate convergence zone, the area contains a unique ecological diversity and complexity.

The region's values include 100 vegetation communities, 102 threatened animal species, more than 50 threatened plant species, 13 endangered ecological communities and extensive areas of the World Heritage Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, and is home to a nationally significant, stable population of Koalas unaffected by recent fires. These values have been recognised in a number of local and regional plans and strategies. These include the *Northern Rivers Regional Biodiversity Management Plan*, the *Northern Rivers Catchment Action Plan*, several Reserve Plans of Management, *The Gondwana Rainforests of Australia*, Threatened Flora and Fauna Plans of Management, the *Coffs Harbour Biodiversity Action Strategy* and the *Bellingen Shire Biodiversity Strategy*.



Jaliigirr has a proven track record

Since inception, Jaliigirr has managed project funding of >\$4.5 million with a strong governance and delivery culture. We are incorporated, registered for GST and with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). We have a 10-member executive management committee which oversees all governance, controls finances and determines strategic direction. Jaliigirr's Working Group is mainly responsible for enacting strategy and project oversight, implementation and delivery. Jaliigirr has an excellent reputation amongst government agencies and non-government organisations alike for its reliability in NRM strategy, implementation and delivery.

Important role for Jaliigirr post-fire

Recent severe drought and ensuing catastrophic fires in the Australian landscape serve to highlight the importance of protecting, enhancing and increasing biodiverse connectivity and refugia. Jaliigirr's region is only one of two of the 13 Great Eastern Ranges alliance areas that has not been impacted by fire, and contains some of the largest remaining expanses of unburnt forests in the NSW North Coast Bioregion.



Fire affected Lowland Subtropical Rainforest EEC in Thora, NSW

Jaliigirr partners and landholders have been reporting increased wildlife activity in the region following the severe and prolonged drought to our west and especially post fire. This activity includes Glossy Black-Cockatoos (NSW Vulnerable species), seen regularly in unusually large numbers. This migration will likely increase as resource scarcity continues to place pressure on wildlife.

Being virtually free of fire and with none of our 7 years of work sites burnt or threatened, we believe strongly that the Jaliigirr region is now and will become an even more important refuge for our flora and fauna. None of the Jaliigirr region's primary Koala habitat has been burnt, nor has its priority conservation corridors ⁽¹⁾

The National Environmental Science Programme's Threatened Species Recovery (TSR) Hub has identified that a priority action is to locate key refuge sites within and adjacent to burnt areas. The Jaliigirr region is now also an important refuge site adjacent to areas experiencing broadscale impacts from fire. An additional priority management action of the Hub is the implementation of intensive control of weeds at key sites (mostly unburnt refuges). The Jaliigirr region is now a significant unburnt refuge in a highly burnt landscape.

The Jaliigirr region is now also a refuge for species which were once common but are likely to have experienced declines in population or range due to fire, for example, the Superb Lyrebird.



Jaliigirr capabilities - What we can do; how we can improve outcomes for biodiversity

In addition to our history of habitat restoration and protection ⁽²⁾, Jaliigirr has commenced the following priority actions:

- Mapping of burnt areas and identifying and refining unburnt refuges using the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE) burnt area maps and field assessments.
- Partners are conducting post fire assessment of affected Jaliigirr sites and monitoring to devise potential interventions such as post fire weed control in rainforest and sclerophyll forest.
- Jaliigirr partners are collecting seed to store and propagate for use in rehabilitation of priority habitat.
- Working with NSW DPIE, NSW North Coast Local Land Services (LLS) and other organisations to prioritise potential species, sites and actions within the Jaliigirr region.
- Working extensively in habitat restoration in unburnt refugia in the Jaliigirr region through ongoing projects with NSW Environmental Trust, North Coast LLS, WWF Australia, Great Eastern Ranges Ltd and Taronga Conservation Society.
- Identifying threatened species occurring within the Jaliigirr region which have recorded fire impacts across the state.

Additionally, Jaliigirr has the capacity to:

- Work with Jaliigirr partner Canines for Wildlife using highly trained detection dogs to conduct Koala and other wildlife surveys to identify populations in burnt areas and to assess the health and genetic diversity of impacted, new and existing populations in unburnt refugia.
- Implement and monitor intensive control for introduced predators and herbivores at key sites (mostly unburnt refuges as identified by TSR Hub) in collaboration with landholders and partner organisations.
- Plan and undertake cultural and ecological burning with Jaliigirr partners, the Gumbaynggirr nation.
- Implement a series of field-based information days for late primary and early secondary school children in the Jaliigirr region to increase awareness of the importance of their region's refugia.



Koala detection dog working at a JBA site in Coffs Harbour. Image - Lynn Baker

(1) Jaliigirr conservation corridors based on Fauna Corridors NE NSW, Scotts 2003

(2) Refer attached summary of Jaliigirr project delivery and key outputs achieved

List of attachments

- **Introducing Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance**
- **Our partners**
- **Our structure – our collaborative cloud**
- **Where we work – the Jaliigirr region map**
- **Where we work – post fire GEEBAM map**
- **Key outputs – pictorial representations of key project outputs**
 - **Connecting Communities and Cultures through Corridors (C4)**
 - **Environmental Trust Bush Connect and Koala project**
 - **Protecting Priority Terrestrial Ecosystems (NC LLS) project**



Our Partners



Local Land Services
North Coast



Office of Environment & Heritage



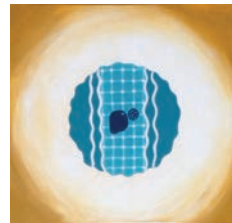
Nature Conservation Council
The voice for nature in NSW



Bellingen Shire COUNCIL



Coffs Harbour & District LALC



Dorrigo Plateau
Local Aboriginal
Land Council

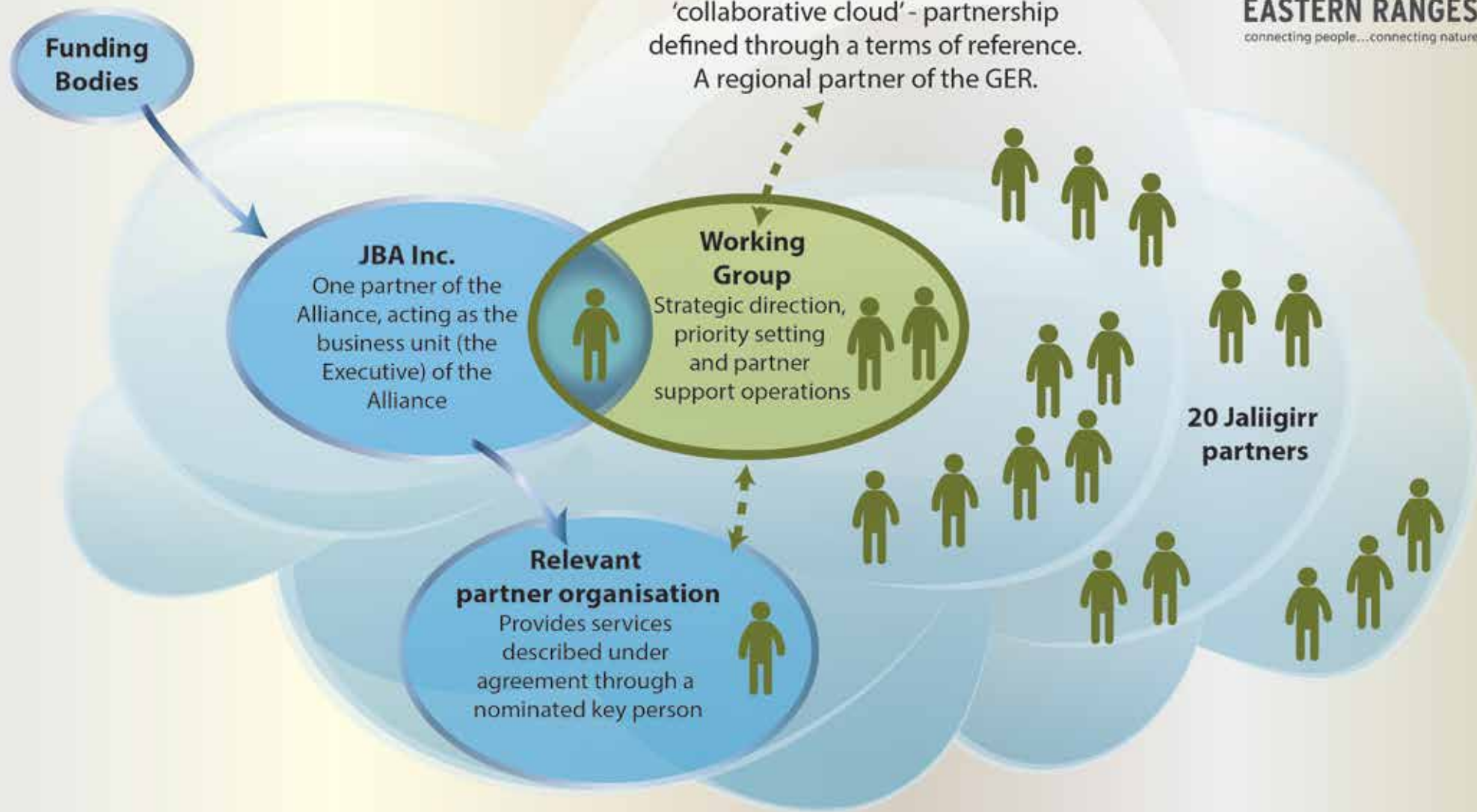


OUR COLLABORATIVE CLOUD

Contract flow



Relationship flow

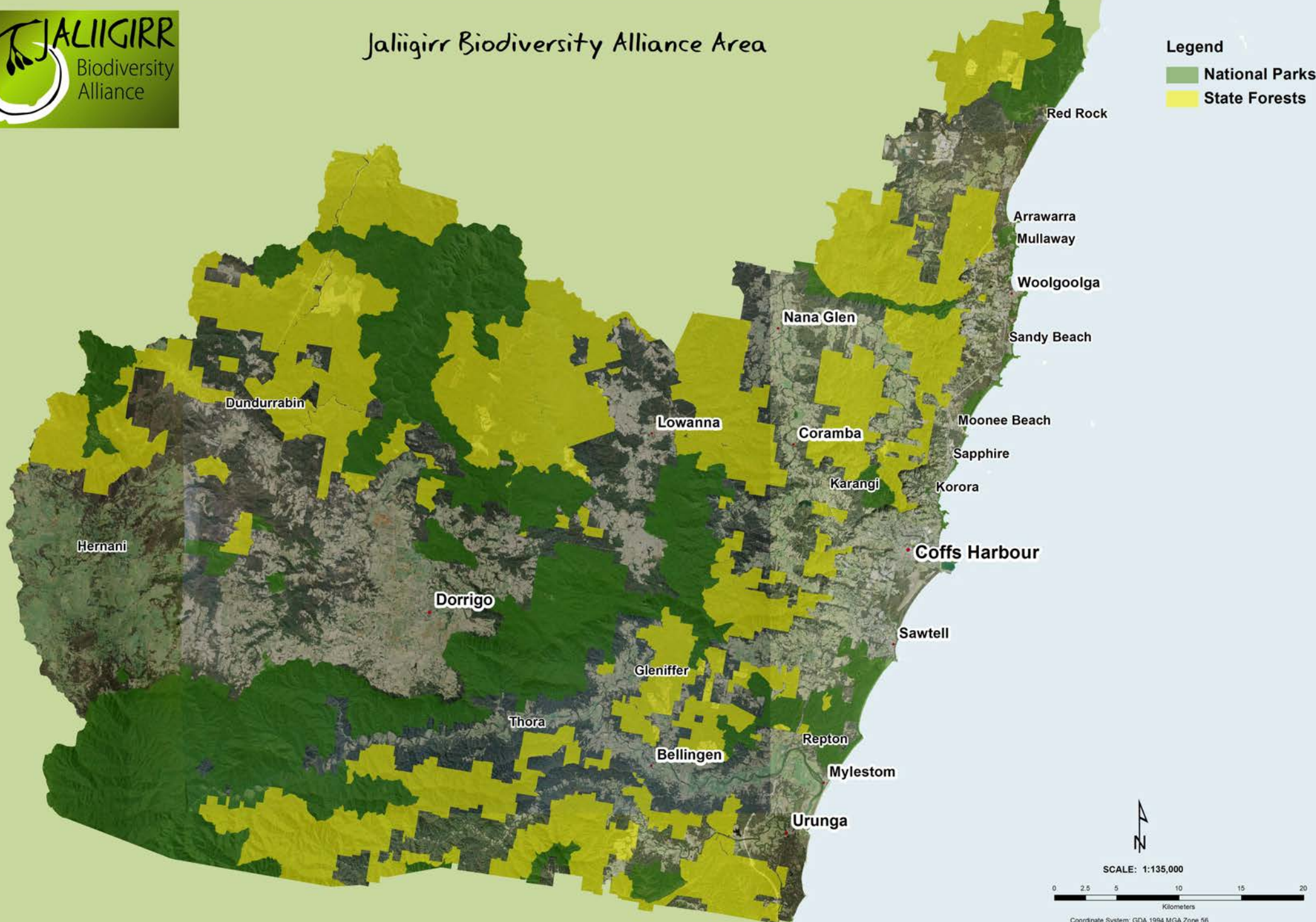




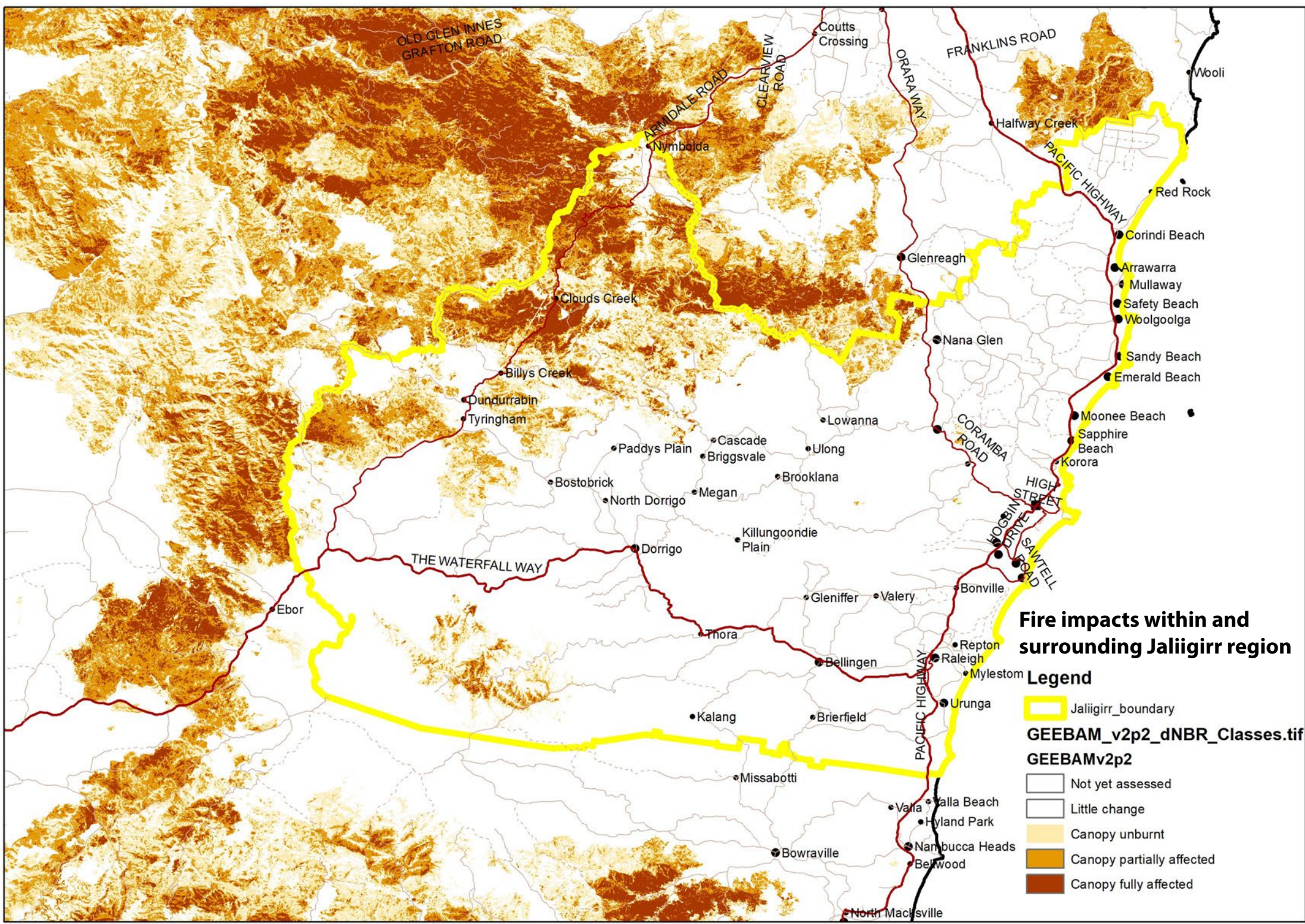
Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance Area

Legend

- National Parks
- State Forests



SCALE: 1:135,000
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: GDA 1994



Fire impacts within and surrounding Jaliigirr region

Legend

- Jaliigirr_boundary
- GEEBAM_v2p2_dNBR_Classes.tif**
- GEEBAMv2p2**
- Not yet assessed
- Little change
- Canopy unburnt
- Canopy partially affected
- Canopy fully affected

OLD GLEN INNES
GRAFTON ROAD

ARMDALE ROAD
Nymboida

CLEARVIEW ROAD

Coutts Crossing

ORARA WAY

FRANKLINS ROAD

Halfway Creek

PACIFIC HIGHWAY

Red Rock

Corindi Beach

Arrawarra

Mullaway

Safety Beach

Woolgoolga

Sandy Beach

Emerald Beach

Moonee Beach

Sapphire Beach

Korora

CORAMBA ROAD

HIGH STREET

HOGBIN DRIVE

SAWTELL ROAD

Bonville

Repton

Raleigh

Mylestom

Urunga

Valla

Valla Beach

Hyland Park

Nambucca Heads

Belwood

North Macksville

THE WATERFALL WAY

Ebor

Dorrigo

Killungoondie Plain

Brooklana

Ulong

Briggsvale

Cascade

Paddys Plain

Bostobrick

Megan

Billys Creek

Clouds Creek

Glenreagh

Nana Glen

Lowanna

Dundurrabin

Tyringham

North Dorrigo

Gleniffer

Valery

Kalang

Brierfield

Missabotti

Bowraville

Nambucca Heads

Belwood

Bellingen

Thora

Gleniffer

Valery

Repton

Raleigh

Mylestom

Urunga

Valla

Valla Beach

Hyland Park

Nambucca Heads

Belwood

North Macksville

Connecting Communities and Cultures through Corridors

5 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT

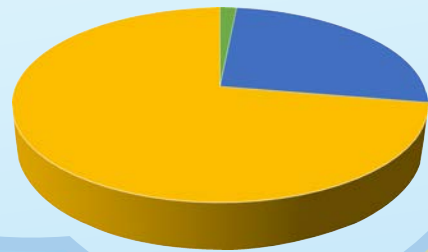


On ground works undertaken within 12 Jaliigirr Strategic Corridors



Areas worked on Total - 2,199 ha

- Biodiverse planting - 34 ha
- Protection and enhancement 574 ha
- Managing invasive threats -1,591 ha



Plants and Weeds

Number of weed species treated

50



Number of plants planted

55,265

Number of species planted of local provenance

120

Land Tenure Involved



Investment

Commonwealth	\$3,000,000
In-kind	\$3,023,343

PLACES MONEY

Public sites	90
Private sites	102

NSW Environmental Trust Bush Connect - Jaliigirr Connections in the Great Eastern Ranges

Environmental Rehabilitation over 10 years in priority Ecosystems

On ground works undertaken within 12 Jaliigirr Strategic Corridors



Areas worked on Total - 292 ha

- Biodiverse planting - 5.3 ha
- Native Regeneration 77.5 ha
- Area of aboriginal Land or sites of cultural significance rehabilitated -50 ha

Plants and Weeds

Number of weed species treated

40



Number of plants planted

5,300

Number of species planted of local provenance

100

Land Tenure Involved



Investment

MONEY

NSW ET Funding	\$596,500
In-kind	\$525,400

JBA and NSW North Coast Local Land Services

Protecting Priority Terrestrial Ecosystems in the North Coast over 3 years

On ground works undertaken on 33 sites across multiple tenures



Areas worked on Total - 320 ha

- Biodiverse planting - 10 ha
- Pest plant control 220 ha
- Area of aboriginal Land or sites of cultural significance rehabilitated - 9 ha
- 2km Stream fenced and protected

Plants and Weeds

Number of weed species treated

40



Number of plants planted

3,000

Number of species planted of local provenance

50

Land Tenure Involved



MONEY

Investment

NC LLS Funding	\$475,000
In-kind	\$475,000



Local Land Services