SUPPORTING CLIMATE ADAPTATION FOR BIODIVERSITY IN NSW'S NORTHERN RIVERS

How can the Northern Rivers and its unique biodiversity best adapt to the impacts of climate change?

One part of the puzzle is to develop a decision support platform.

This platform will help the Northern Rivers region with its climate change adaptation planning and the management of focal species and ecosystems.

Creating this platform is part of a 2.5-year collaborative research project, funded by the National Environmental Science Program's (NESP) Resilience Landscapes Hub in collaboration with the NESP Climate Systems Hub. The project is led by Griffith University and the Jagun Alliance Aboriginal Corporation.



Map: The boundaries of the Northern Rivers project area



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The project is applying a community-centred approach, working with Indigenous organisations, environmental groups, local Landcare and species monitoring groups, local NRM groups, NSW North Coast Local Land Services (LLS), The Great Eastern Ranges (GER) and various local, state and federal government agencies.

Through this project, we will generate:

- Detailed information on the current distribution and condition of biodiversity in the Northern Rivers.
- Assessment of climate-related risks to biodiversity, considering the region-specific climate hazards, exposure vulnerabilities, and non-climate stressors.
- A community-centred plan for adapting to climate change, including spatial models highlighting feasible and socially acceptable adaptation options.
- A decision-support tool to share knowledge, data and tools, which will aid community members and stakeholders in their climate adaptation planning.

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