



Koala emergency response plan



→ Triage

If you see a koala at any time:

STOP any machinery or operations near the koala.

PROTECT the koala by establishing a temporary 25-metre radius exclusion around the koala. Do not attempt to move the koala.

REPORT the sighting to the Forestry Corporation Harvesting Supervisor who will report to ecologists.

SEARCH the exclusion zone. If the koala moves on from the exclusion zone, operations may resume in the area only after the completion of a thorough search coordinated by Forestry Corporation staff, unless a permanent exclusion is created by Forestry Corporation. Operations may not resume without the explicit approval of Forestry Corporation.

If the koala:

- has no visible injuries
- is moving around normally
- is small cat sized or bigger.

IT DOES NOT NEED ASSISTANCE.

If the koala:

- has weeping eyes
- has a brown stain on bottom
- is not placing weight on limb(s)
- is in poor body condition
- is displaying unusual behaviour (e.g. restricted movement, unusual posture)
- is smaller than 6-week old kitten.

→ **IT NEEDS ASSISTANCE. Follow the emergency response plan to assist in immediate veterinary care.**

If the koala is deceased:

- and not too decomposed, collect and provide to koala care group.
- is too decomposed, take note of its age, sex and other details and provide information to Forestry Corporation.

→ Koala emergency response plan

For the care and transport of a sick or injured koala

→ **Step 1** – If a koala needs assistance, immediately call Forestry Corporation who will advise if a koala care group or Forestry Corporation ecologist can attend.

→ **Step 2** – Contain on ground using blanket.

→ **Step 3** – If koala care group or Forestry ecology staff unavailable, catch koala and transport safely to koala group.

If transporting a koala:

- Place a blanket over the koala.
- If available, prepare a holding container that allows easy access to get the koala in and out, have enough space so the koala can sit up, provide adequate ventilation.
- Line the bottom of the container with towels.
- Move the koala into the container and place gum leaves in with it to reduce stress.
- Keep the area quiet and shaded.
- Transport the koala directly to a koala care group or veterinary hospital.
- Do not expose or show koala to colleagues as this is stressful for the animal and can cause further issues.
- Contact Forestry Corporation as soon as practical.