

PLC Case Study

TALLOWFIELD



Bruce & Lesley, Pindimar

Bruce and Lesley Lane are the owners of a 16.4Ha Property under Land for Wildlife Conservation Agreement, in Pindimar, NSW.

Bruce and Lesley bought the property in 1986 and moved in 1992. The couple have been actively engaged in conservation both on their own property and within the local community ever since.

The property contains significant stands of Swamp Sclerophyll Forest (EEC), has abundant koala food trees, and is utilized by several endangered species, such as the Powerful Owl, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Koala, and several species of micro bat. The endangered *Tetratheca juncea* is also found on the property. Hollow-bearing trees abound within their forest, and it also contains *Eucalyptus rudderi* - a ROTAP species which is uncommon in the Mid Coast Region.

Early adopters of private land conservation instruments, they signed up for a NPWS Wildlife Refuge, proclaimed by Marie Bashir, NSW Governor in 2005; and then Land for Wildlife in 2018. They are beginning the process of entering a Conservation Agreement with BCT.

Highlights

Educating neighbours and bringing friends on board with conserving habitat on their properties.

Banding together with local community to fight big developers in the area.

Actively involved in the Friends of Fame Cove to secure 100 acres of regionally significant land for National Park.

Myall Coast Koala Corridor Project – The Lane's were one of three properties to participate in a multi-tenure study (>800Acres) which found 3 koalas, 8 endangered bats and several gliders.

“Buying the property in 1986, it felt like home at first sight”



A PARTNERING IN PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATION PROJECT
Landcare NSW is working in partnership with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust to work together to raise awareness and support private land conservation efforts across the state.



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The Issues

Besides the usual weedy problems, the main threat to Bruce & Lesley's conservation aspirations has been inappropriate development in the local area:

- a Land Based Commercial Abalone Farm at Pig Station Creek
- illegal and unauthorized large scale land clearing in the bioregion of Fame Cove.

The decline in local koala population and subsequent listing as an Endangered Population on the NSW Threatened Species Act has been a constant point of focus on Tallowfield.

Weed species, such as Bitou Bush, Lantana, Slash Pine, Blackberry and Senna, continue to present management challenges for Bruce and Lesley.

The Solution

Bruce and Lesley have been proactive in the formation of the Pindimar-Bundabah Community Association which attracts like-minded people in the area and promotes the protection and enhancement of connectivity between private landholders.

Weed control works have been an on-going part of their land management strategy and they continue to work to protect the significant habitat found on their property.

