



Sutherland Shire Environment Centre

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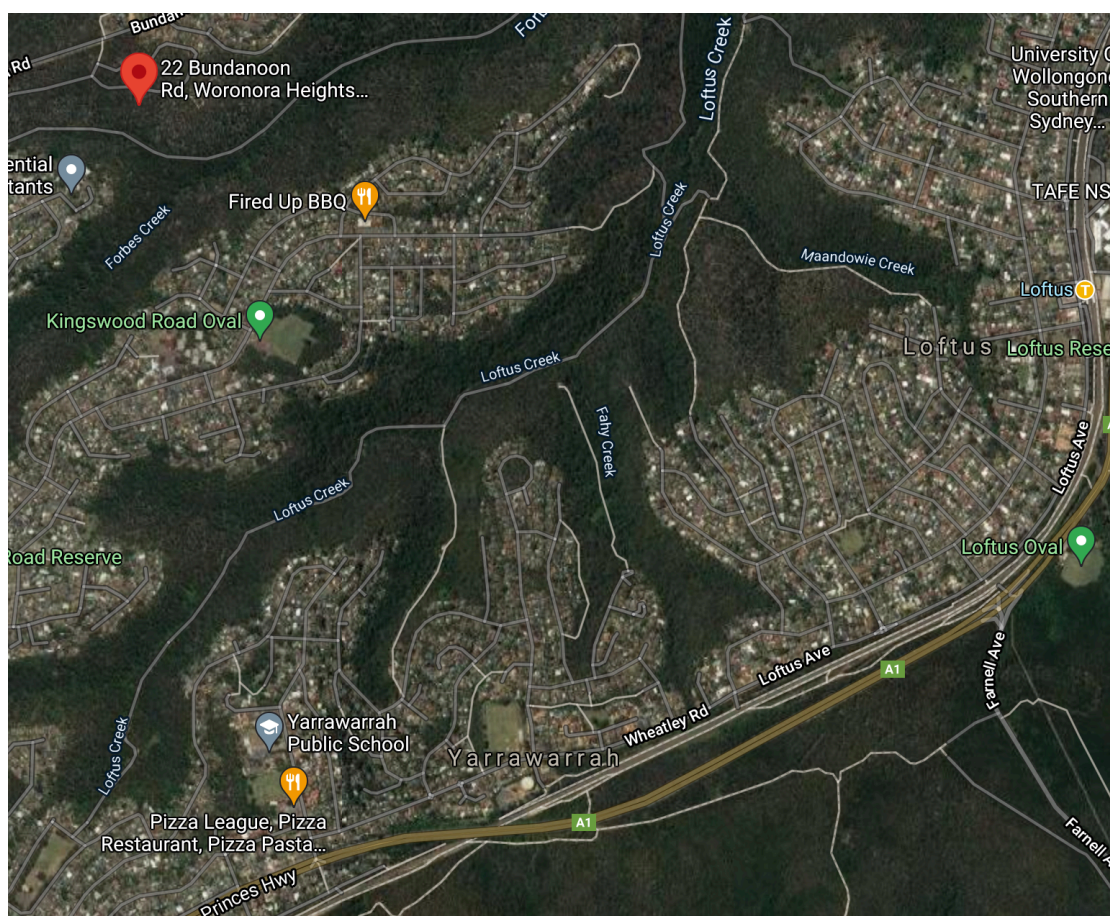
4 June, 2021

Sutherland Shire Council
General Manager
4 - 20 Eton Street
Sutherland NSW 2230

Re DA 21/0336

Sutherland Shire Environment Centre is writing to oppose the proposed subdivision by Sydney Water at 22 Bundanoon Road Woronora Heights, DA 21/0336.

We have reviewed the objection submitted by Glendemo Pty Ltd and concur with all points raised in that submission. Bionet records show the area is koala habitat. We further note that the area is part of a koala corridor from the Woronora River which leads through to Forbes Creek, then Loftus Creek, and the one remaining site in Loftus adjacent to the A1 which would be suitable for a wildlife overpass through to the Royal National Park.



A report by the Chief Scientist in 2020 recommended koala corridors be 425m wide, and that Every opportunity to maintain or increase the width of corridors should be taken and work to understand whether there is a minimum width to make a viable corridor, as well as how this minimum is affected by vegetation density of the corridor and urban density of the surrounding developments.

https://chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/318830/Koalas-Advice-Final.pdf p.ix

The proposed development will impact on the current corridor considerably, reduce connectivity, and fatally impair its use for koalas.

We further note that the development site is 1.5229ha and as such, must also be considered in relation to the new State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019 (new Koala SEPP) <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2019/658>

We have so few koalas left in NSW, they are faced with the prospect of extinction.

We ask Sutherland Shire Council to refuse the proposed subdivision.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Catherine Reynolds
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre