

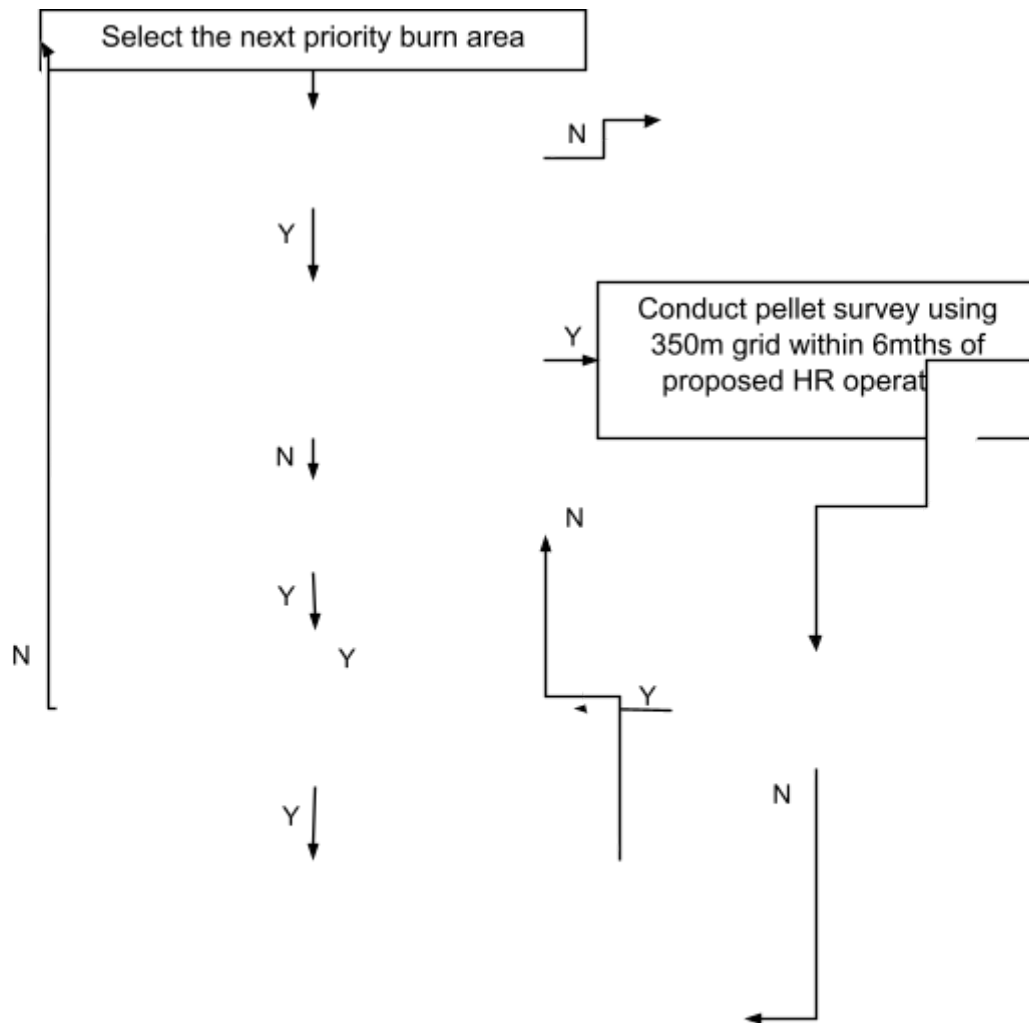
### Koala Management in Prescribed Burning Operations.

The Koala is listed as a vulnerable species on Schedule 2 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995).

A small low-density population of Koalas is scattered through public and private coastal forests from the Bega River north to Kooraban NP. Given the catastrophic declines in koala numbers in much of Queensland, tenuous conservation status of most koala populations in northern NSW and complex management issues regarding the management of translocated populations in Victoria, this population is nationally significant.

An extensive survey has documented the distribution and abundance of this population and confirmed there is a reasonable chance of recovery provided impacts on the habitat sustaining this population can be minimised. To assist recovery potential and improve knowledge about the distribution and abundance of this population the following decision tree will apply to prescribed burning operations for this population.

**Note:** A “3% Koala Activity Cell” is an area within which a survey has identified a probability of Koalas being found, a “10% Activity Cell” has an even higher probability of Koalas being found.



Does the burn area extend across a 3% Koala activity cell?

Prepare a burn plan using broader objectives of the burn. Koalas unlikely to be affected.

Were any Koala pellets found?

Prepare and implement a Burn Plan using Koala friendly prescriptions which may include, but not exclusively, the following:

- low fire intensity prescription
- not encircling the area on light up
- allow natural refuges within the burn area

Is it viable to modify burn area to exclude the activity cell where pellets found?

Is it more than 5 years since the last koala survey was conducted in that area?

Were any Koala pellets found in that survey?