

2026/27 ENVIRONMENT LEVY PROGRAM

PROJECT	PURPOSE	Funding Theme	Endorsed Program 2026-27
CONTINUING PROJECTS			
Transformational Action 6: Conserving our biodiversity			
Land Acquisition Program	Identify and purchase priority lands throughout the LGA to support the delivery of strategic natural environment outcomes.	Land Acquisition	\$0
Planning and Legal for EL Land Acquisitions	Undertake the planning and legal requirements and works to protect acquired lands in perpetuity.	Land Acquisition	\$5,000
Establishment of Environment Levy Acquired Properties	Undertake planning and on-ground actions to establish Environment Levy acquired properties.	Land Acquisition	\$600,000
Maintenance of EL Conservation Estate	Undertake ongoing maintenance of acquired Environment Levy properties to endorsed service levels.	Environmental Operations	\$1,821,000
Environmental Operational Expenses	Support salaries and wages, education facilities, conservation estate management and Community Conservation Partnerships.	Environmental Operations	\$1,683,204
Environment Levy Partnerships	Funding towards operational expenses to not-for-profit community organisations whose operations and/or services contribute to the enhancement and protection of the environment.	Community Engagement and Support	\$668,000
Environment Levy Grants	Assistance for not-for-profit community-based organisations to undertake on-ground projects that make a positive and ongoing contribution to the region's biodiversity and waterways values.	Community Engagement and Support	\$15,000
Landholder Environment Grants	The purpose of the grants is to protect and enhance the natural assets and biodiversity of the Sunshine Coast and promote ecologically sustainable management of the region's environmental values.	Community Engagement and Support	\$330,000
Land for Wild Incentives	To provide Land for Wildlife members with native plants, nest boxes and monitoring, weed control training, and reference and other materials to increase environmental outcomes across Land for Wildlife properties.	Community Engagement and Support	\$110,000
Voluntary Conservation Agreement Initiatives	Provide support to establish vegetation protection covenants and Voluntary Conservation Agreements and ongoing maintenance on environmentally significant private land.	Community Engagement and Support	\$550,000
Shorebird Conservation	Understand habitat use, population dynamics, and threats of migratory and resident shorebirds in the SCC LGA; raise the profile and increase awareness of migratory and resident shorebirds; provide safe roosting, feeding and nesting areas to improve conservation outcomes for these protected species.	Major Projects	\$80,000
Koala Conservation and Management	Implement the Sunshine Coast Koala Conservation Plan through on-ground actions, education and research.	Major Projects	\$60,000
Macropod Conservation and Management	Implement the Sunshine Coast Macropod Conservation Plan.	Major Projects	\$32,500
Planning for Improved Fauna Movement	The purpose of this project is to better understand the impact of road infrastructure on fauna movement, and to plan and implement the recommendations—improving fauna movement between priority habitat areas across the Sunshine Coast Council local government area.	Major Projects	\$35,000
Flying fox research and education	Develop and deliver an annual program of research, monitoring and education to support effective long term management and conservation of local Flying Fox species.	Environmental Operations	\$48,000
Marine Turtle Conservation Plan	Implement the Marine Turtle Conservation Plan.	Major Projects	\$120,000
Our Environment Forum	Funding to support a networking event for all involved in environmental conservation on the Sunshine Coast to learn about current issues, management approaches and work towards a sustainable future.	Community Engagement and Support	\$45,000
Operational Fire Management	Risk management activities including fire break maintenance and fuel reduction to improve resilience of the environment reserve network.	Environmental Operations	\$300,000
Transformational Action 7: Keeping our waterways and wetlands healthy			
Construction management and waterway improvement	Improve construction management practices and erosion and sediment control compliance to improve waterway health.	Environmental Operations	\$266,030
Mary River Water Quality Monitoring Program	Assess the ecological health of the upper Mary River and its catchment area to track progress against our ELS target and guide local management actions.	Major Projects	\$60,000
Resilient River Initiative partnership	Partnership support for regionally coordinated catchment planning and management initiatives.	Major Projects	\$357,095
Moreton Mill Fishway	To contribute to the successful \$2 million grant through the Australian Government's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, to remediate Moreton Mill weir by installing rock ramp fishway.	Major Projects	\$400,000
Transformational Action 10: Healthy Coast			
Coastal Dunal Rehabilitation	Undertake coastal rehabilitation through on-ground ecological restoration works across dunes and rocky headlands.	Major Projects	\$990,000
Shoreline Erosion Management	Undertake targeted coastal dunal rehabilitation works that support implementation of the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan.	Major Projects	\$120,000
Coastal Health Monitoring Program	Undertake baseline coastal ecological monitoring to understand local variability and external reference conditions	Major Projects	\$200,000
Coastal Education and Engagement	Engage the Sunshine Coast community and students through education and interpretive programs to support and achieve effective coastal management.	Community Engagement and Support	\$125,000
Beach Renourishment and Foreshore Protection	Undertake risk management activities including beach renourishment and dredging activities to improve resilience of coastal areas.	Environmental Operations	\$1,500,000
Regional Sand Sourcing and Nourishment Program Study	Investigate and gain approvals for an offshore sand source in the Sunshine Coast region to support future nourishment campaigns at Mooloolaba Beach and other open coast locations.	Environmental Operations	\$693,676
Coastal Process Model - Disaster Management Capability	Create a model for use during disaster events to run erosion predictions with predictions from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) to ascertain where the region may be at risk during the event.	Environmental Operations	\$100,000
ICOLL Management	Undertake activities to support the ongoing, risk based management of Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons across the Sunshine Coast.	Environmental Operations	\$80,000
Transformational Action 11: Expanding our green space			
Blue Heart Major Green Space	Support implementation of the Blue Heart Implementation Plan through targeted planning, research and activation projects	Major Projects	\$180,000
Sunshine Coast Ecological Park	Support research, planning and delivery for the Mountain View major green space including the lands of the Sunshine Coast Ecological Park.	Major Projects	\$320,000
Transformational Action 13: Managing our invasive plants and animals			
Pest management operational expenses - project management	To fund three officers to support meeting Council's legislative responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act 2014 and safeguarding our economy, agricultural and tourism industries, environment and way of life to address biosecurity threats, including invasive plant and animal management.	Environmental Operations	\$423,195
Pest Action and Engagement Program	To support biosecurity measures to address invasive plant and animal management on the Sunshine Coast. This meets council's legislative responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act 2014 and safeguards our economy, agricultural and tourism industries, environment and way of life from the biosecurity threats.	Community Engagement and Support	\$100,000
Invasive Weed Project - Phase 2	Undertake a variety of weed management options at key locations, present outcomes through education and extension to the community, and explore alternative weed management practices, including innovative technology, management, monitoring and surveillance.	Environmental Operations	\$300,000
Transformational Action 14: Celebrating people and nature			
Sunshine Coast Kids in Action Program	KIA is a true multi-award-winning legacy initiative, connecting schools with local environment groups, and promoting learning exchanges between future and current environmental custodians.	Community Engagement and Support	\$155,000
Transformational Action 18: Building our knowledge			
Healthy Land and Water Partnership	Support regionally coordinated catchment and waterway health assessment and reporting and regional catchment and waterways research, planning and management initiatives.	Major Projects	\$160,000
Fire Management Planning and Ecological Monitoring	Environment Reserve Digital Fire Management Plans & Fire Ecological Monitoring.	Environmental Operations	\$64,500
Cultural Burn Workshops	Engage with Kabi Kabi and Jinibara First Nations People and other regional First Nations groups to deliver an annual Cultural Burn Workshop to heal country and provide knowledge sharing and capacity building opportunities for our First Nations and wider communities and council staff.	Community Engagement and Support	\$31,000
TOTAL			\$ 13,128,200