

Sunshine Coast koala population on 'knife's edge'

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Posted Tue Sep 25, 2012 11:53am AEST

A new report on koala populations on Queensland's Sunshine Coast has found the marsupial could face localised extinction within three years.

The report was prepared after a two-day koala summit last month and were presented to the Sunshine Coast Council today.

It outlines several key recommendations including the appointment of a dedicated short -term koala officer to council and efforts to reduce koala road casualties.

Summit spokeswoman Carolyn Beaton says the council is running out of time.

"We are expecting localised extinctions to occur at Caloundra, Peregian Beach, Sunshine Beach and the headlands section of the Noosa National Park within the next three years," she said.

"Koala populations are really at a knife's edge - in fact we have lost two koalas just in the last week from the Noosa area."

The report also recommends greater cooperation between the state and federal governments on partnerships and funding opportunities.

Topics: marsupials, endangered-and-protected-species, activism-and-lobbying, maroochydore-4558, noosa-heads-4567, peregian-beach-4573, caloundra-4551, sunshine-beach-4567