



25 August 2024

Media Release

Federal Court Upholds Injunction: Wallum Safe from Bulldozers—for Now

In a significant win for nature, the Federal Court has upheld the Stop Work Injunction on the proposed Wallum housing development in Brunswick Heads. Justice Bromwich's decision, handed down on Friday afternoon 23 August, will assure bulldozers are kept at bay until the matter is determined by the court. The trial is scheduled to begin 14 October 2024.

The main contest before the Court at the further hearing of Save Wallum Inc's interlocutory injunction application was the controversial construction of nine artificial frog ponds, which are proposed as part of the early development works. Justice Bromwich accepted that the construction of these ponds may pose a risk to the site's Wallum Sedge Frog population and has blocked any construction of the proposed ponds until a final determination of the matter. The Orders otherwise permit very limited works including installation of bunting, regeneration of the seed bank along sandy tracks and weed maintenance - strictly without the use of weedicides.

This ruling represents another positive step forward in the fight to preserve 30 hectares of rare coastal Wallum heath and woodlands—home to nine federally listed threatened species.

Save Wallum advocates are celebrating Friday's outcome, viewing it as a critical step toward protecting one of the last intact Wallum Heathland ecosystems in the Byron Shire.

Ms Pitman remarked, "*This is another major win for our community and for the race to save this unique Wallum ecosystem. The high ecological value of this area is undeniable, with its floristic diversity, absence of invasive weeds, and the presence of so many threatened species.*"

She continued, "*Australia has the [highest rate of mammal extinction globally](#), and in the Northern Rivers, we are on the frontline of the Climate Crisis. It's heartening to see the court's decision ensuring that no destructive works can proceed at this stage.*"

**For further information, hi-res images, video footage or to arrange interviews please contact:
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Campaign spokesperson Svea Pitman with federal Senator, Peter Whish-Wilson at Wallum Brunswick Heads, 18th August 2024



Wallum Heath, hidden behind the Clarence Property fences, currently flowering throughout Wallum Brunswick Heads 24th August 2024 - this clearly NOT a degraded area, and indeed regenerating rapidly. Image credit Beverley Callow.