

18 June 2025

Melva Hobson
Organisation Sunshine Coast Association of Residents (OSCAR)
COOLUM BEACH QLD 4573

Email: president@oscar.org.au

Dear Melva,

Help shape the future of our night skies

Sunshine Coast Council is continuing its journey to preserve our night skies and we would love your input.

We are proposing to establish a Dark Sky Reserve in the hinterland under the International Dark Sky Places Program. The proposed reserve would encompass the Mary River catchment and adjoining State protected areas within the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area and includes (but not limited to) townships such as Maleny, Mapleton, Montville, Witta, Flaxton, Kenilworth and Conondale.

Project update

Since our last community consultation in May 2024, the project remains in Phase 2: Phased Community Engagement and Supporting Technical Documentation. This has included:

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Collection of night sky quality measurements
- Preparation of lighting inventories
- Preparation of a Draft Lighting Management Plan.

What is the Draft Lighting Management Plan?

The Draft Lighting Management Plan is a requirement of Dark Sky International for any Dark Sky Reserve designation. The Draft Plan guides the selection, placement, installation, and operation of new and replacement/retrofitted lighting in the proposed Dark Sky Reserve.

Find out more and have your say

Your feedback on this proposal is important. Have your say via the [online survey](#) by 5pm, Friday 11 July 2025.

More information on the project and what it means for the Sunshine Coast can be found on Council's website at www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

Key stakeholder support

Your support for this region-shaping initiative is appreciated. To demonstrate the collective commitment of Council, stakeholders and the broader community to preserve our night skies and strengthen any future application to Dark Sky International, a formal letter of support for the project from OSCAR would be appreciated.

If you have any questions in regard to the project, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Moore', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr David Moore

MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY