

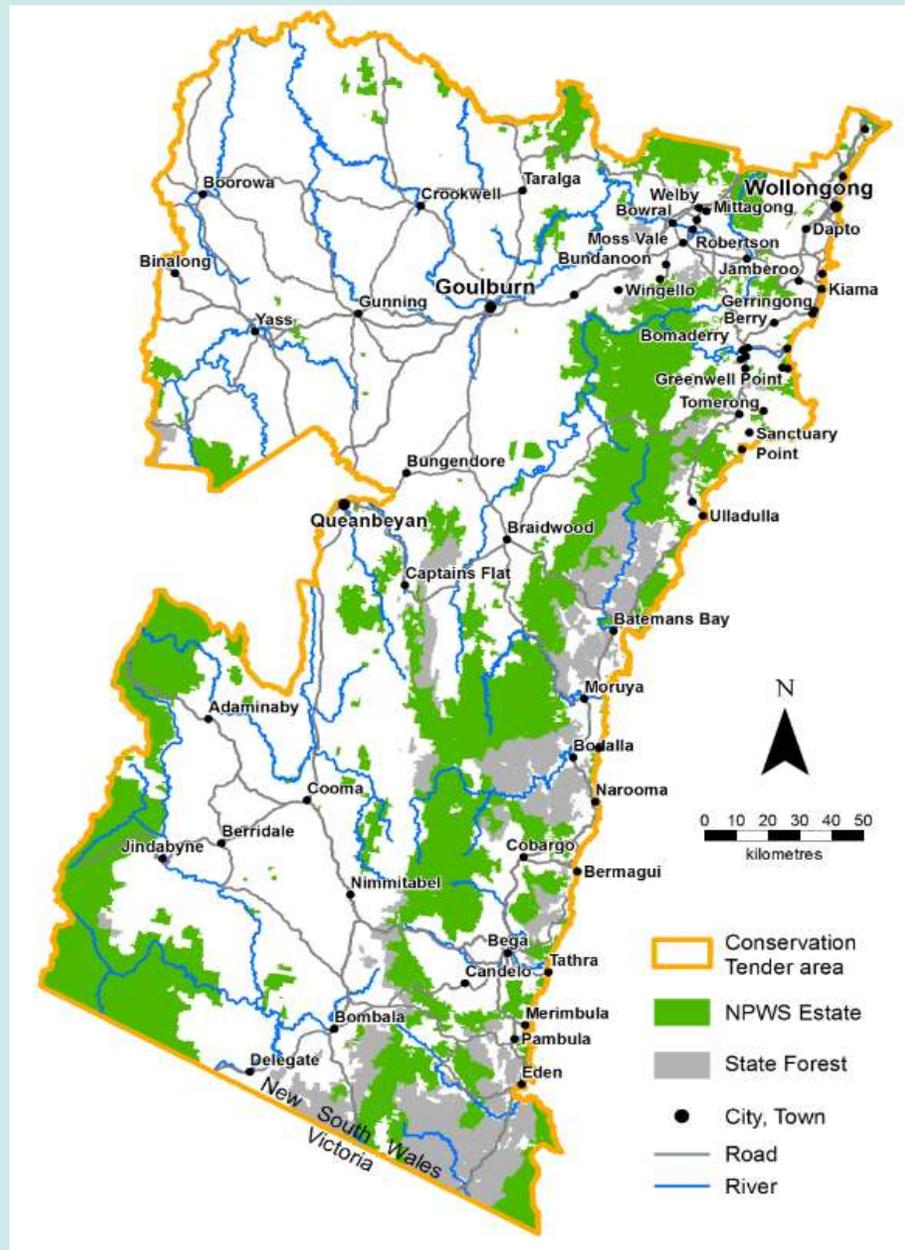
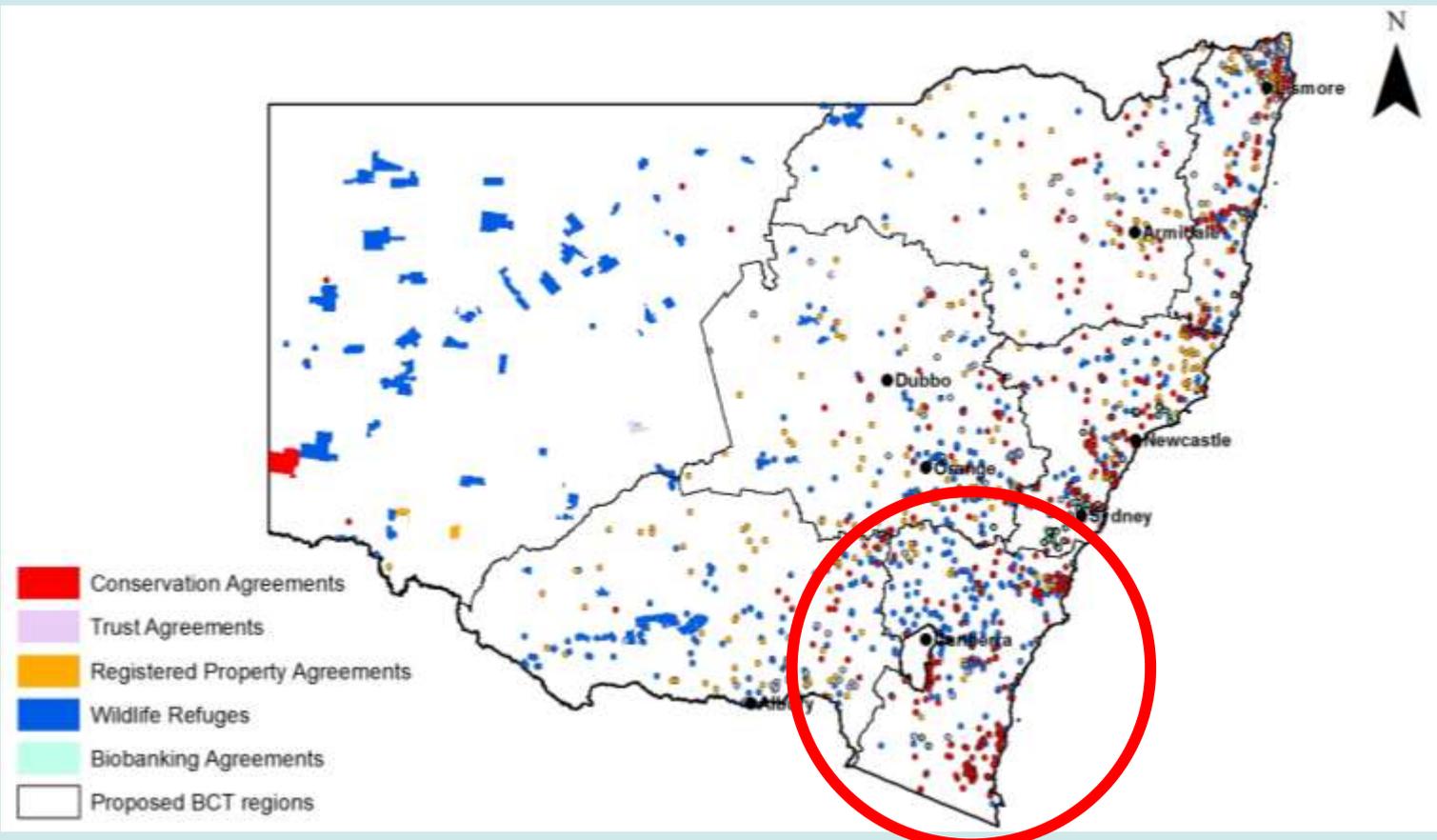
Biodiversity Conservation Trust

- General BCT overview
- Latest on BCT Programs
- How can we work together

Our Purpose and Goals

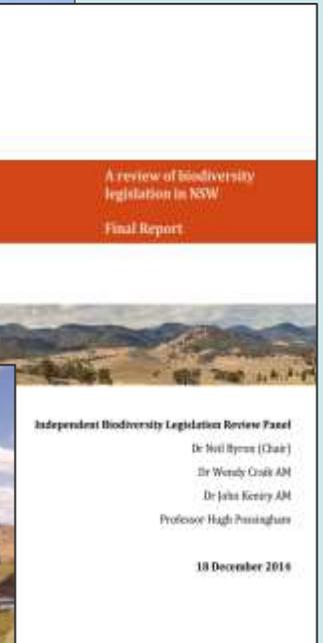
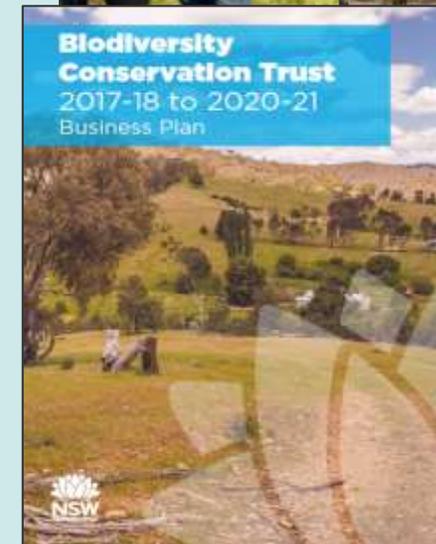
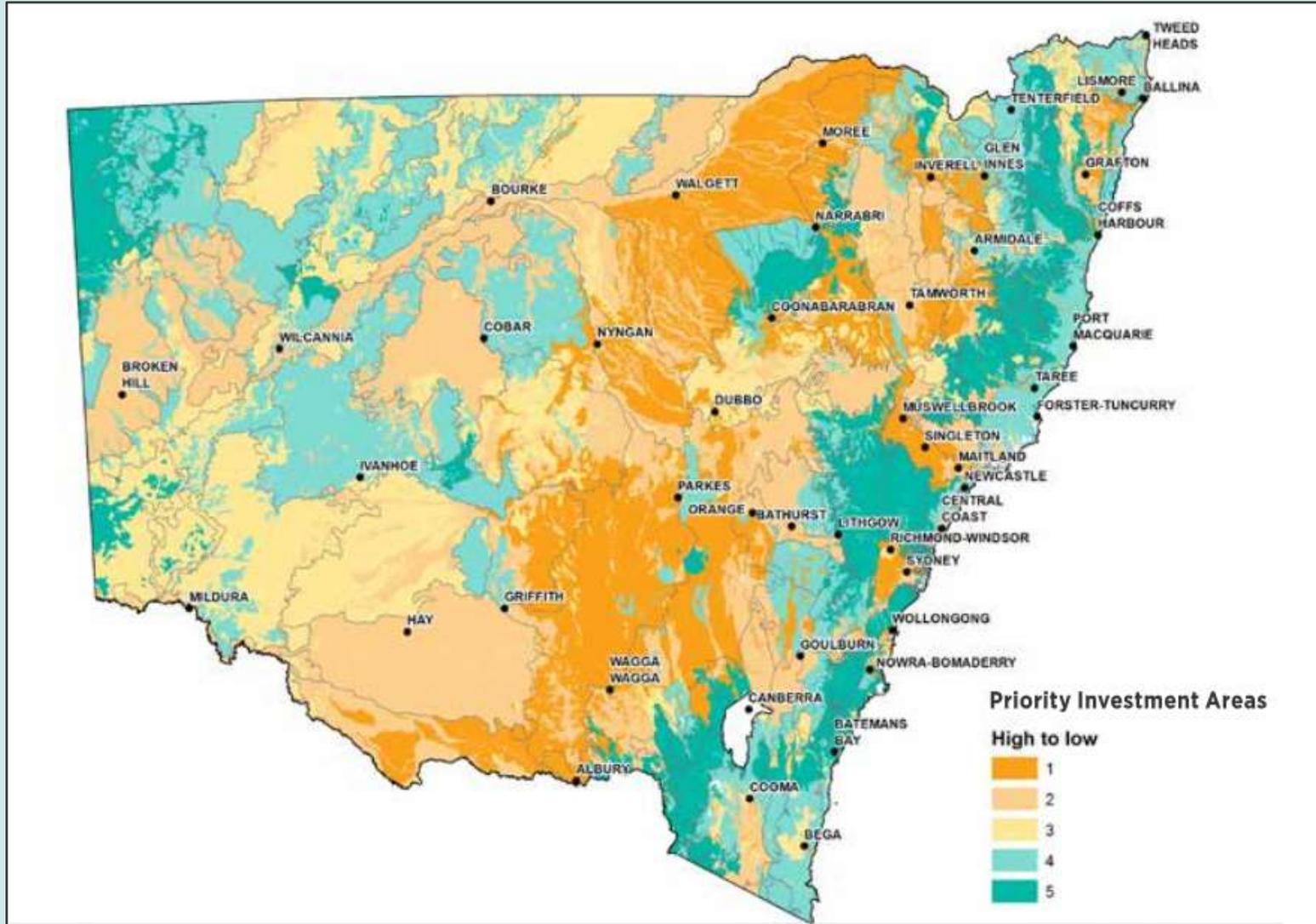


1. **Encourage landholders** to enter agreements to conserve biodiversity and support productive landscapes
2. Deliver a strategic **biodiversity offsetting** service.
3. **Support our landholders** to support biodiversity on their land.
4. Promote public knowledge, appreciation and understanding of the **value of biodiversity conservation**.
5. **Invest in our people** to build an engaged, professional, customer-oriented and high-performing organisation.



Agreement Type	Number
Voluntary Conservation Agreements	184
NCT Trust Agreements	16
Registered Property Agreements	24
Bio-banking & Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements	32
Wildlife Refuges	175
TOTAL	~450

Guiding documents



BCT Structure

BCT Board and Executive

Programs and Technical Services

- Development of major programs
- Planning and evaluation
- Agreement administration
- Technical services

Regional Delivery

- Delivery across 6 regions
- Primary contact for landholders
- Site assessments
- Landholder Support

Business Enablers

- Communications, Engagement, Education
- Finance
- Governance
- BCT board support
- 1300 992 688

BCT Regional Delivery – south east

Regional Manager
Paula Pollock (Narooma)

Senior Landholder Support Officer
Adam Hook (Fitzroy Falls)

Landholder engagement, and support to landholders with agreements

Senior Ecologist
Donna Hazell (Queanbeyan)
Tobi Edmonds (Queanbeyan)

Provides technical advice and guidance for ecological assessment and monitoring

Program Support Officer
Sarah Sahlqvist (Queanbeyan)

Administrative support, data and records management

Additional contractors and temporary staff for specific program delivery

South east service areas



Legend

- Adam
- Tobi
- Donna
- LGAs_SouthE

SE Region Area allocations

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**Biodiversity
Conservation
Trust**

0 30 60 90 120

Kilometers

Datum/Projection: GCS GDA 1984



BCT Programs



- Landholder applications
 - Partner-funded agreements
 - Partner Programs

- Conservation agreement
- Wildlife Refuge agreement



- Fixed Price Offer
- Conservation Tender
- Revolving Fund

Conservation Agreement



- Manage Biodiversity Conservation Fund
- Develop and administer Stewardship agreements

Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement

Landholder Technical Support

Biodiversity Education



Statewide Outcomes

In just over a year, the BCT has entered **84 new conservation agreements** with private landholders in NSW, covering more than **19,000 hectares** and representing an investment of over **\$55 million** for the BCT. In this time the BCT has also made **36 grants** to existing agreement-holders to help them maintain the ecological values of their properties.

Many rare or threatened species, ecosystems and **29 priority NSW landscapes** are being conserved under these agreements. Examples of **threatened fauna species** in these landscapes are:

Koala



Regent honeyeater



Squirrel glider



Scarlet robin



Activities in the south east region April 2019

- Attempted contact with ~450 agreement holders
- 21 new conservation agreements, 20 in preparation, 10 on-hold (1153 hectares under conservation management)
- 17 grants being processed
- Exploring partnerships – assistance to roll out programs
- Strategic planning for the next 18 months
- Education strategy in development
- Wildlife Refuge review (174; 26% of total in NSW)
- Offset Program – establishing credit supply

Working together...

- Get in touch with your regional BCT office
- Subscribe to Understory – our newsletter
- Get to know our website – be in the know which offers and programs are active in your area
- Landcare refer landholders with high conservation value land to the BCT - BCT refer new landholders to Landcare
- Cross promotional activities relating to biodiversity conservation
- Working together on site specific issues e.g. erosion control
- Supporting landholders
- State Level Memorandum of Understanding between BCT and Landcare





Conservation outcomes

Prior to August 2017

- 1700 agreements
- 270,000 ha under conservation management

Since August 2017

- 84 agreements
- 19,000 ha under conservation management
- >\$55m invested

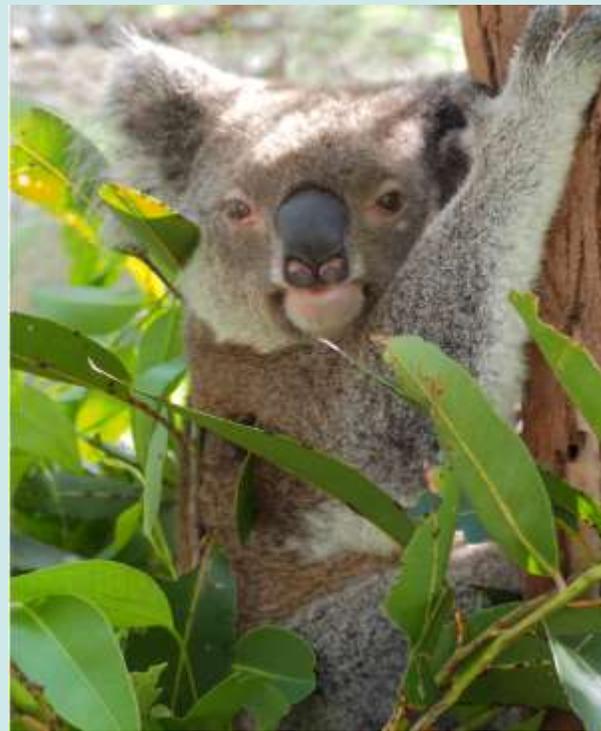
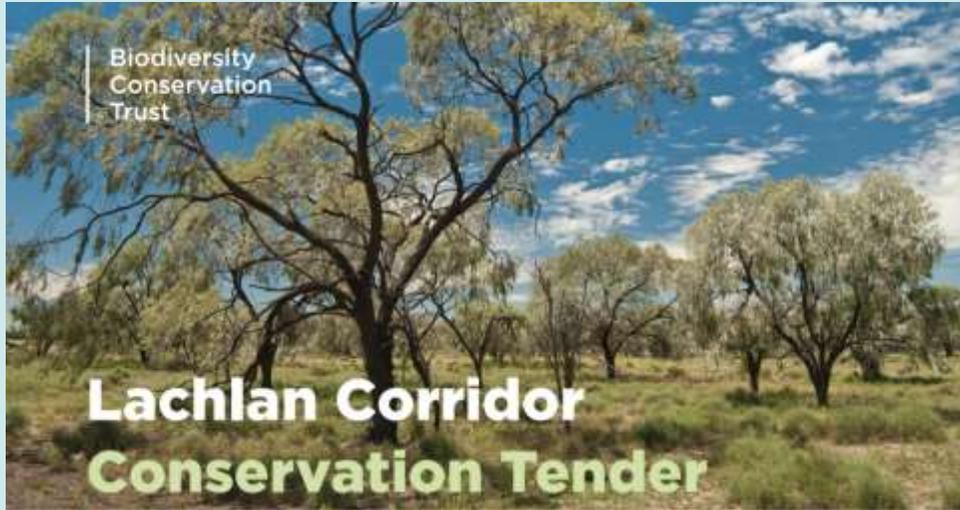
Conservation Tenders

region	agreements	Investment (million)	Area (hectares)
Northern Inland	12	\$4.7	2,700
Murray-Riverina	11	\$13.1	5,000
Central Tablelands	13	\$14.4	3,400
Nth Koala	5	\$6.3	178
Monaro	9	\$11.3	1700

Fixed Price Offer

9 agreements, 3460 ha, \$5.95M \$9-\$60/ha per annum





In scope...



- Important wetlands
- Threatened ecological communities
- Threatened species habitat
- Landscape linkages
- Under reserved landscapes and ecosystems
- Over-cleared vegetation types
- Climate refugia
- Littoral rainforest
- Old growth forest
- Conservation assets under pressure





Out of scope...



- Low condition sites or vegetation
- Large scale rehabilitation areas
- Small areas
- Sites that are isolated and under high pressure
- Agricultural extension



Conservation Partners Program:

- In perpetuity Conservation Agreement or Wildlife Refuge
- To be eligible for a Conservation Agreement: Sites must be over 20 hectares in size and in good to moderate condition
- Benefits:
 - ✓ Recognised permanent protection
 - ✓ Rate relief
 - ✓ Possible land tax benefits
 - ✓ Apply for Grants: up to \$15,000 per year for three years
 - ✓ Landholder technical support



BCT Grants Program

- 1. Up to \$15,000 per year for up to three years for landholders with:**
in-perpetuity Conservation Agreements, Trust Agreements, Registered Property Agreements
- 2. Up to \$8,000 per year for up to three years for landholders with:**
a term Registered Property Agreement
- 3. Up to \$2,000 per year for up to three years for landholders:**
with a Wildlife Refuge, or who are members of Land for Wildlife or Wildlife Land Trust

The following activities are supported:

- Fencing—installation, repairs or replacement of wildlife-friendly conservation-related fencing Weed control
- Introduced pest animal control
- Supplementary planting, revegetation or vegetation enhancement
- Habitat restoration
- Other maintenance—such as tracks or erosion control needed to maintain a conservation value



Biodiversity Offset Program

- **Biodiversity credit conservation tenders**
reverse auction process.
Landowners bid to sell credits to BCT.
Established and new BSA holders may be eligible.
- **Biodiversity credit fixed price offers**
BCT publishes fixed price for sought-after credits.
BCT will buy credits from first offer at advertised price (subject to eligibility requirements).

The BCT will release detailed information regarding tenders and fixed price offers via website and direct notifications to BOS participants.

Registering an EOI is a good way of ensuring you are notified about upcoming tenders and fixed rate offers.



Conservation Management Program:

Protects landscapes that are unrepresented and inadequately reserved, and diversifies income for landholders

- **Conservation Tenders:**

A 'reverse auction' where landholders are invited to submit bids and set their own price
Successful applicants put forward the highest value conservation area for the best price

- **Fixed Price Offer:**

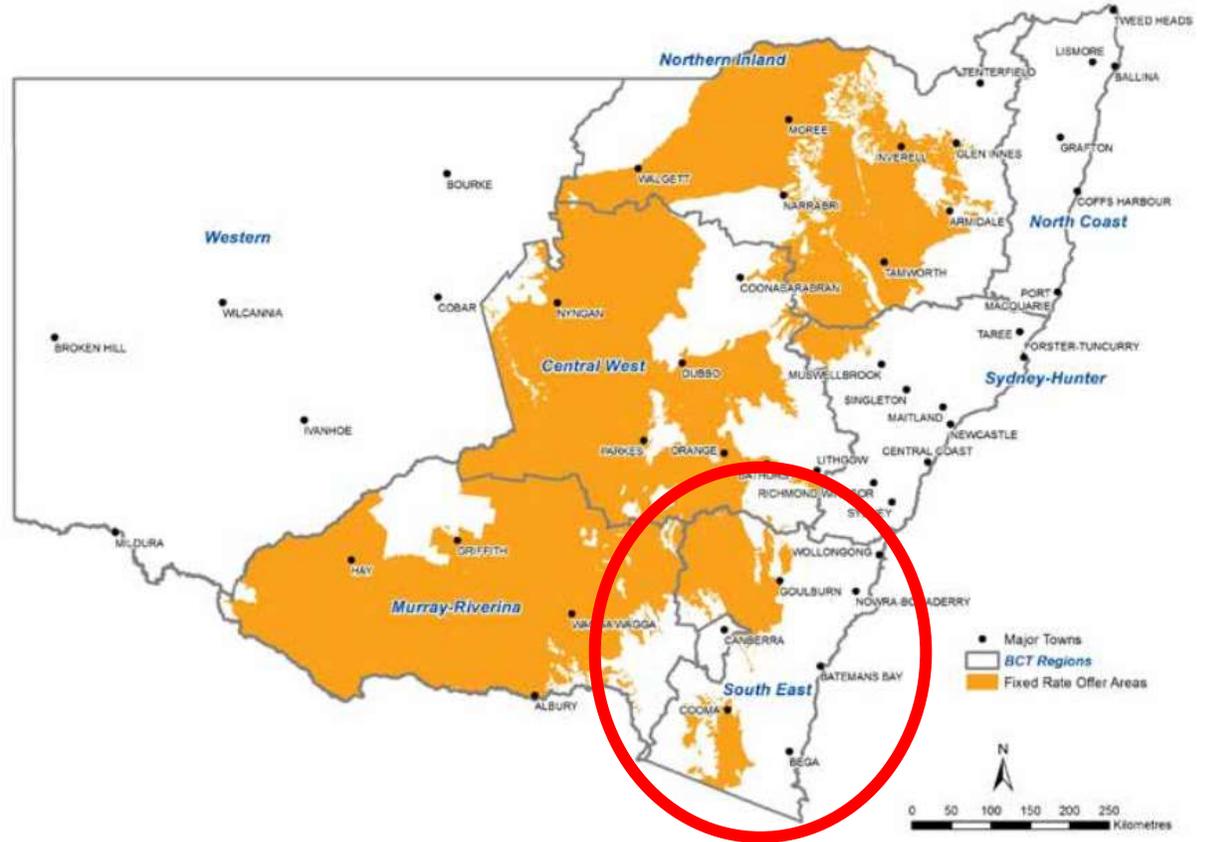
Targeted fixed price per hectare based on Land Capability Class
Minimum 50 hectare in perpetuity Conservation Agreement
High conservation Value and Vegetation in good to moderate condition

- **Revolving Fund**



Fixed Price Offer

- Targeted application of a fixed rate per hectare per year set by the BCT
- Highest priority NSW landscapes within biogeographic subregions that are least protected in NSW
- Minimum size of 50 hectares
- Contain high conservation value assets
- Moderate to good condition
- In-perpetuity agreement that must be registered
- Schedule on website; rates set by land capability class (1-8)



LGA	Rate (1-3)	Rate (4-6)	Rate (7-8)
Goulburn	\$97.92	\$44.46	\$18.00
Hilltops	\$97.92	\$48.96	\$19.98
Upper Lachlan	\$86.40	\$39.96	\$18.00
Queanbeyan Palerang	\$136.80	\$66.60	\$22.14
Snowy Monaro	\$90.00	\$36.00	\$18.00
Yass Valley	\$108.00	\$36.00	\$19.98