

Conservation Tender

Paroo and Warrego Catchments

Do you want to earn annual payments for ensuring the survival of native biodiversity on your land?

The NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) is calling for expressions of interest from landholders in the Paroo and Warrego Catchments with native vegetation on their land.

Through this tender, eligible landholders are given the opportunity to set their own price to protect and manage native vegetation on their land. Bids will be ranked on a best biodiversity value for money basis. Successful bidders will receive annual, ongoing payments for implementing an agreed management plan under a conservation agreement which is registered on the property title.

Why the Paroo and Warrego Catchments?

The BCT opens conservation tenders in high priority areas periodically throughout the year. The areas are selected for their important biodiversity and its potential looming threats.

The tender area contains wetlands of regional, national and international significance, which provide habitat for many threatened plants and animals

including the kultarr, stripe-faced dunnart and the Australian bustard. A number of endangered ecological communities also occur within the tender area including the critically endangered Artesian springs.

The Paroo and Warrego Catchments conservation tender will focus on securing large sites of native vegetation, important wetlands and artesian springs. The tender will enable successful landholders to be paid annual conservation management payments to conserve and manage these important areas.

This tender has been developed in collaboration with Western LLS, Western Landcare, Bush Heritage Australia and the NSW Government's Saving Our Species Program.

How do I know if I'm eligible?

To be eligible for this tender, the part of your land that you wish to have considered for conservation needs to:

- Be within the tender area shown on the map on this factsheet.
- Contain a single patch of at least 100 hectares of native vegetation or contain an important wetland or Artesian Spring.

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- I Have native vegetation that is in moderate to good condition (this will be determined by the BCT during the site assessment).

What is the process?

You can apply to participate by sending a completed Expression of Interest (EOI) form to the BCT via info@bct.nsw.gov.au or call the us on **1300 992 688**. The form can be found on the BCT website.

EOI forms must be received between 28 June and 6 August 2021 (inclusive).

Expressing an interest in the program does not create a binding obligation to proceed with participating in the program.

Once the EOI period closes, EOIs will be prioritised for site assessment with site visits being offered to the highest-ranking sites.

At the site visit, the BCT will confirm eligibility to participate in the tender and the values of your site will be assessed.

BCT field staff and ecologists will work with you to identify the potential conservation area and agreement management actions in a draft Conservation Management Plan.

Once this is complete, you will be invited to submit a tender or 'bid' which includes the conservation management plan and a schedule setting out the annual payments you wish to receive to implement the plan.

As part of your bid you can choose the term of the resulting conservation agreement which can be either in-perpetuity or for a fixed term (minimum of 15 years).

All bids are then ranked on a best value for money basis and successful landholders will be invited to enter into a funded conservation agreement with the BCT.

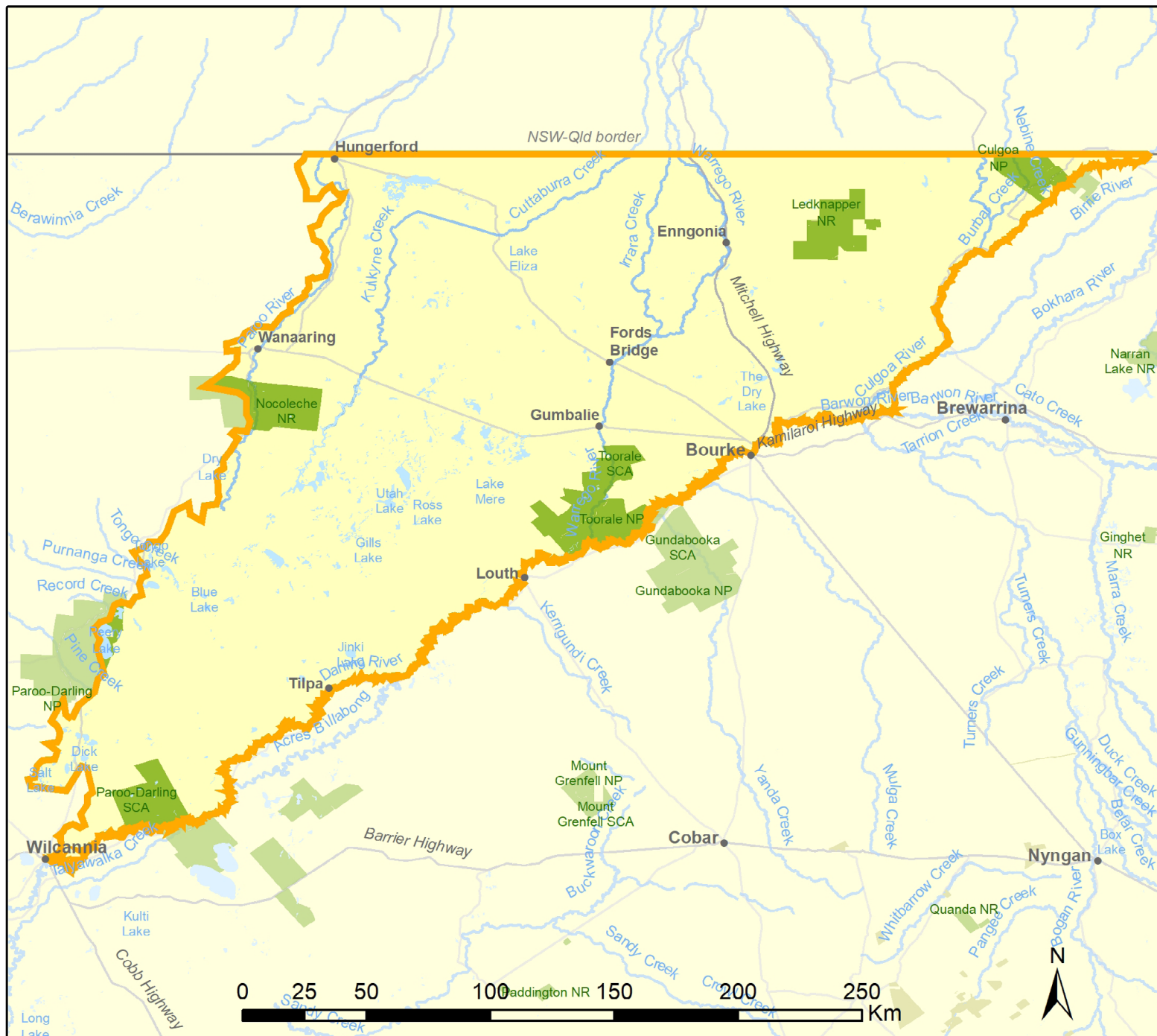
Who is the BCT?

The BCT is a statutory organisation within the NSW Government that was established in 2017 to protect and enhance biodiversity in NSW. We do this by supporting, facilitating and encouraging landholders to conserve biodiversity on their land, for the long term.

The BCT provides a unique opportunity for private landholders to secure an additional revenue stream to conserve and manage the native biodiversity on their land.

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Paroo and Warrego Catchments conservation tender map



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