

Fixed price offer Western NSW

What are fixed price offers and how do they work?

Fixed price offers are a key way for interested landholders to enter a funded conservation agreement. A conservation agreement will require you to actively manage an area of your land for biodiversity conservation in accordance with an agreed management plan. Generally, this will include limiting or excluding domestic stock, and active management of weeds and pests such as feral goats.

A map (shown overleaf) shows the parts of Western NSW (bounded by the Western Lands Division) where the BCT fixed price offer is open. If you live and / or own land in the coloured area and think you have important native plants and animals on parts of your property you may wish to participate.

You can visit the BCT website and view regional maps or try our online interactive map to see if you are in an eligible area. Alternatively, you can call us using the details at the bottom of the page.

Fixed price offers focus on the highest priority NSW landscapes and are offered within subregions that are the least protected within NSW. Within these areas the BCT is looking to work with landholders to protect the biodiversity on their land forever, including:

- threatened species and their habitats, listed under either NSW or Commonwealth legislation; and/or
- threatened ecological communities listed under either NSW or Commonwealth legislation; and/or

- important wetlands, shown on the Directory of Important Wetlands, including Ramsar wetlands identified by the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention 1971).

If you have native vegetation and/or important wetlands on your property, the BCT is offering you an opportunity to diversify your income by conserving them.

How do I know if I am eligible?

To be eligible for a fixed price offer, the part of your land that you wish to have considered for conservation needs to:

- be in the area of the fixed price offers shown on the map on this factsheet (you can access more detailed maps on the BCT website: www.bct.nsw.gov.au).
- have a minimum size of 500 hectares proposed to be conserved and managed for biodiversity.
- contain threatened species and/or habitat for threatened species (you do not need to know if you have these types of plants and animals to submit an expression of interest (EOI) for a site assessment; the BCT will determine if you have these plants and animals during the site assessment).
- be in moderate to good ecological condition (this will also be determined by the BCT during the site assessment).

The BCT would like to work with landholders to conserve threatened ecological communities and important wetlands and recognise these may exist in smaller patches.

If the part of your land that you wish to have considered for conservation is in the area of the fixed price offers AND a) contains an identified threatened ecological community(s) the minimum size requirement is 20 hectares, OR b) contains an identified wetland where there is no minimum size requirement. The presence of these conservation assets will be confirmed by BCT during the site assessment

How do I participate?

You can apply to participate by sending a completed expression of interest (EOI) for a site assessment to the BCT or by calling the BCT on **1300 992 688**. You can submit an EOI at any time. The BCT will prioritise EOIs for site assessments in March 2023.

The EOI form can be found on the BCT website www.bct.nsw.gov.au. Expressing an interest does not create a binding obligation to proceed with participating in an agreement. EOIs will be prioritised for site assessment with site visits being offered to the highest-ranking sites.

At a site visit, the BCT will confirm eligibility to

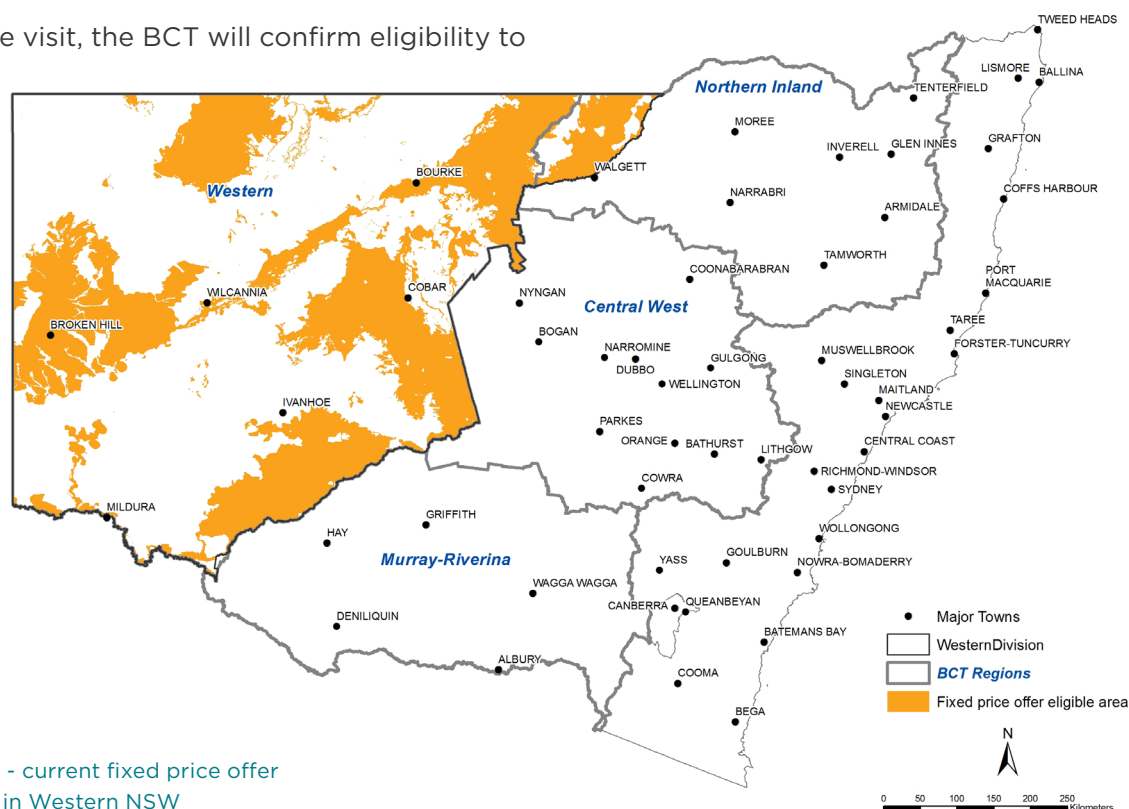
participate in the fixed price offer and the values of your site will be assessed.

How do I receive a Fixed Price Offer?

If your site is eligible, BCT field staff and ecologists will work with you to identify the potential conservation area and management actions in a draft conservation management plan. You will then be invited to apply for a fixed price offer.

If your site requires conservation fencing to manage total grazing pressure, you may have the option to request a contribution from the BCT to the cost of installation and/or essential repairs to bring it up to the standard required. If successful, this will be a one-off payment to secure your conservation area.

Applications are ranked on a best value for money basis. Successful sites will be offered conservation management payments at a fixed price (\$/hectare/year) in-perpetuity.



Map 1 - current fixed price offer areas in Western NSW