



March  
2021

# Agriculture Stewardship package

## Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot



**Australia's agriculture industry depends on a biodiverse and well-managed natural resource base.**

**The \$34 million Agriculture Stewardship package aims to incentivise adoption of improved on-farm land management practices and develop a mechanism where farmers are rewarded for their efforts in delivering biodiversity and sustainability services that benefit their farms and the broader community.**

The Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot will trial a market based mechanism to reward farmers for increasing biodiversity.

Farmers who undertake plantings for carbon can receive additional payments for maximising the biodiversity benefits from these plantings by:

- planting a mix of species
- managing and looking after vegetation.

Plantings can also benefit farmers by:

- providing shelter for animals
- protecting dams and waterways
- reducing erosion.

Payment for biodiversity and other environmental services can supplement traditional farm income.

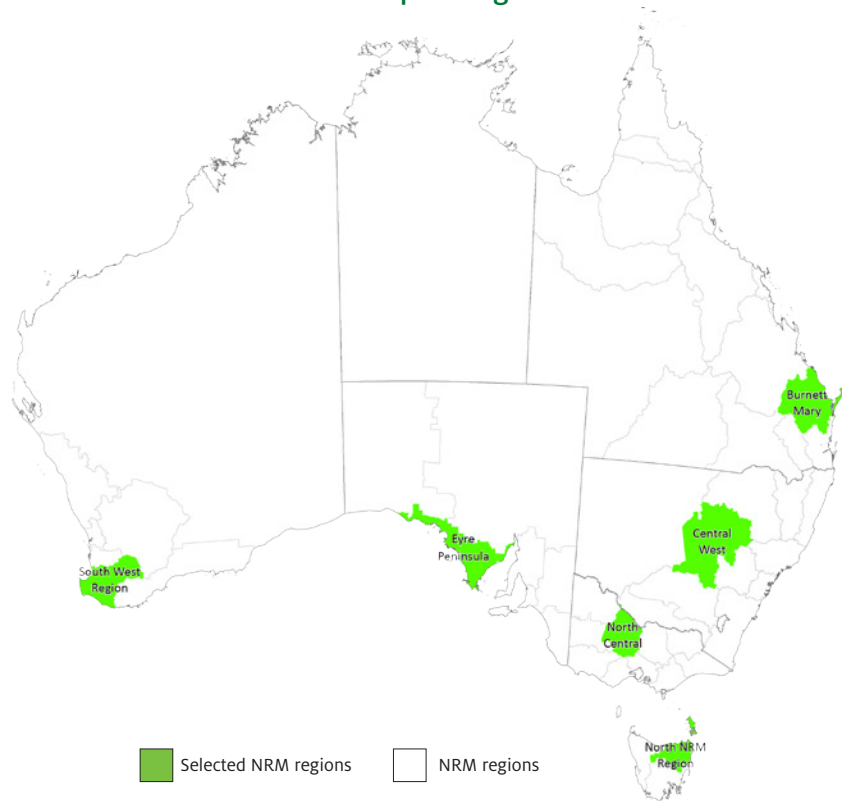
## Pilot regions

The Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot is seeking applications for projects to fund from 2021 to 2023.

The Pilot will run in 6 Natural Resource Management Regions to test the biodiversity protocols.

- Burnett-Mary in Queensland
- Central West in New South Wales
- North Central in Victoria
- NRM North in Tasmania
- Eyre Peninsula in South Australia
- South West in Western Australia

## Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Pilot Round 1 pilot regions



### Rewards for biodiversity outcomes

The pilot will trial a market based mechanism to reward biodiversity outcomes in combination with carbon planting projects under the Emissions Reduction Fund.

Participating farmers will:

- receive payments for increasing biodiversity
- establish new plantings in line with biodiversity protocol
- report biodiversity outcomes and allow monitoring and verification
- register the new plantings under the Emissions Reduction Fund and meet their requirements
- manage and maintain plantings for at least 25 years.

### Be Informed

For more information, visit our website at [agriculture.gov.au/agriculturestewardship](https://agriculture.gov.au/agriculturestewardship). Enquiries about the program can be directed to [agstewardship@awe.gov.au](mailto:agstewardship@awe.gov.au) or the department's contact number at **1800 900 090**.

