



Australian Government

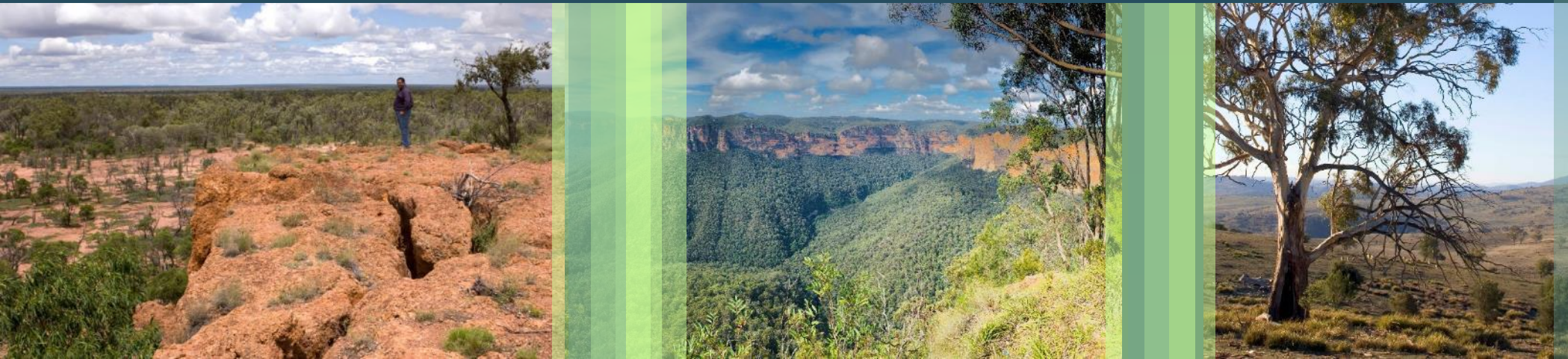
Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Threatened species recovery action

Led by the Australian Government

Dr Fiona Fraser

Threatened Species Commissioner



Australia's biodiversity

- Our ecosystems and biodiversity are globally unique and significant
- 85% of plant species are endemic
- Home to half the world's marsupials



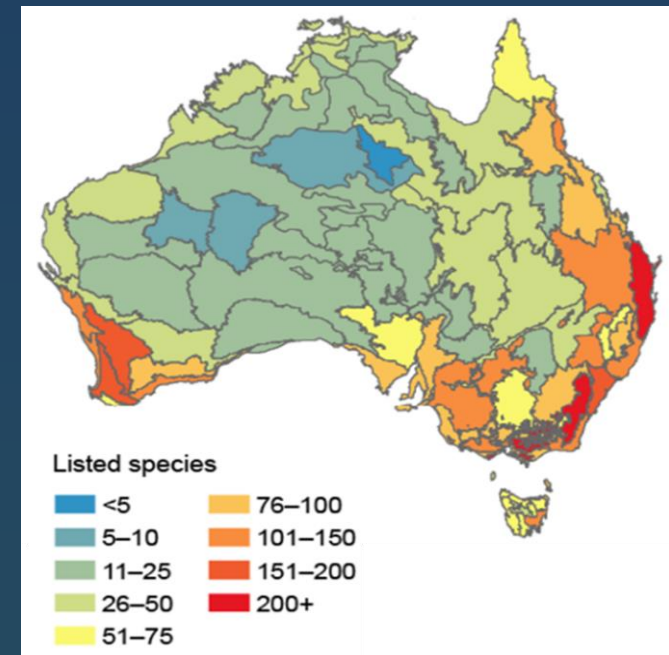
State of the Environment Report

Environment deteriorating and biodiversity declining

- >100 species extinct
- >1900 threatened plants and animals
- >85 threatened ecological communities

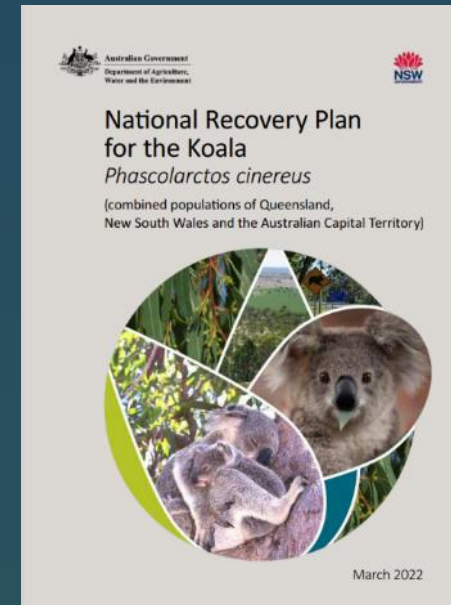
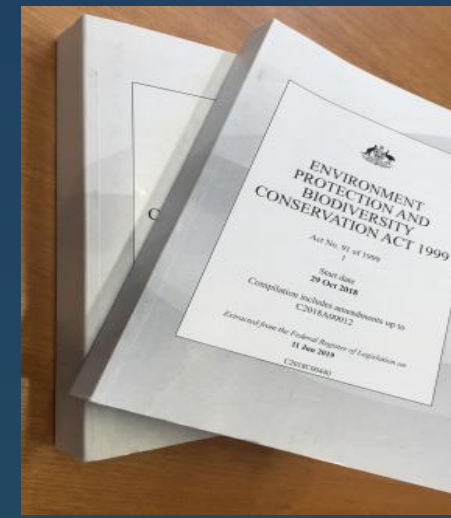
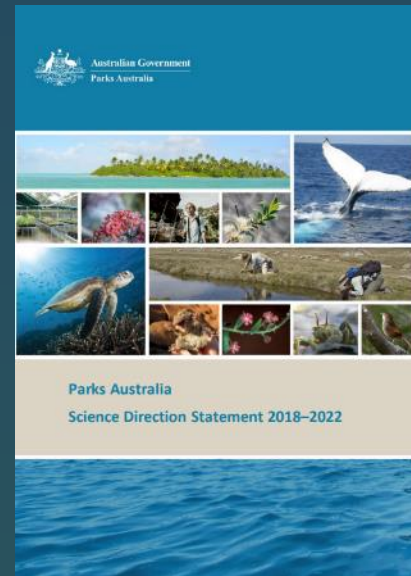
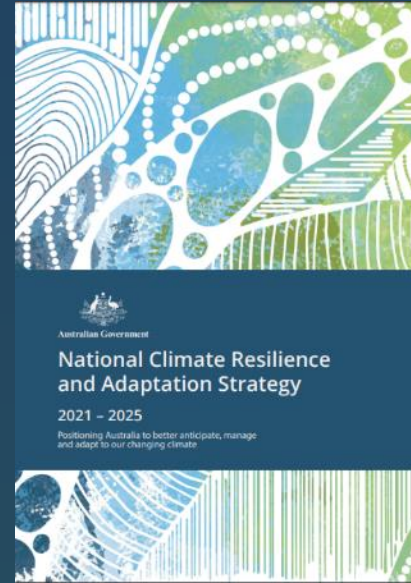
Impacts of biodiversity loss

- Biodiversity is central to First Nations peoples
- Biodiversity underpins our wellbeing, health, economy, climate



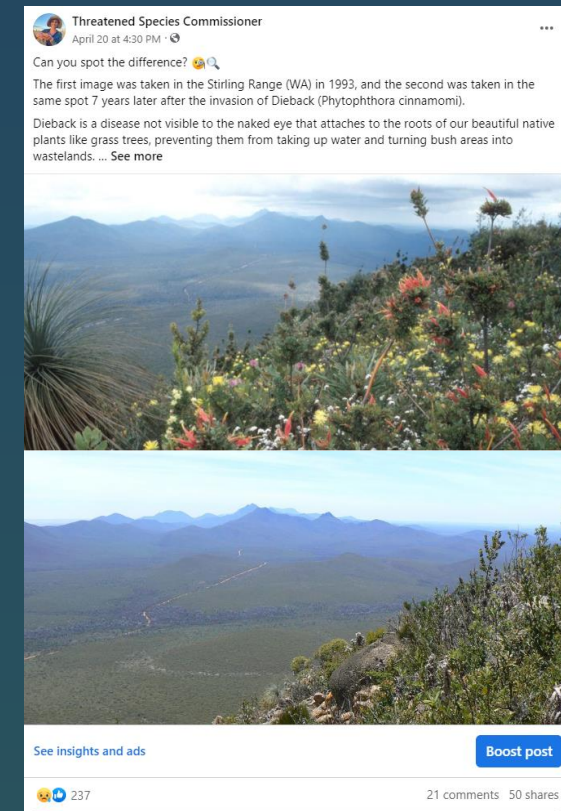
Role of the Australian Government

- Regulatory protection
- National policy leadership
- Investment in on-ground action
e.g. Saving Native Species, next phase of the Natural Heritage Trust
- Research
e.g. National Environmental Science Program
- Management of Commonwealth areas e.g. National Parks, Defence estate
- Partnering with other governments and sectors, including the community



Threatened Species Commissioner

- A national focus to Australia's threatened species
- Science, action and partnership
- Awareness raising
- Action Plan that prioritises species, places, threats and actions to focus on where we can make a difference



2022-2032 Threatened Species Action Plan

TOWARDS ZERO EXTINCTIONS



Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032

- Objectives
 - Extinction risk reduced for priority species
 - Condition improved in priority places
 - No new extinctions
 - 30% land mass protected and conserved
- 22 measurable targets
- 2-5 actions to help meet targets
- Reporting
 - 5-year report against targets in 2027
 - Progress report in 2025



MacDonnell Ranges Cycad (Natalie Tapson)



KI Assassin Spider (Jess Marsh)

110 priority species

Birds (22)

Australasian Bittern
Black-eared Miner
Carnaby's Cockatoo
Christmas Island Goshawk
Eastern Curlew
Golden-shouldered Parrot
Hooded Plover (eastern)
King Island Brown Thornbill
King Island Scrubtit
Malleefowl
Night Parrot
Noisy Scrub-bird
Norfolk Island Green Parrot
Orange-bellied Parrot
Plains-wanderer
Princess Parrot
Red Goshawk
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (SE)
Regent Honeyeater
Swift Parrot
Western Ground Parrot
White-throated Grasswren

Mammals (21)

Australian Sea-lion
Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby
Central Rock-rat
Chuditch
Eastern Quoll
Gilbert's Potoroo
Greater Bilby
Kangaroo Island Echidna
Koala (Qld, NSW, ACT)
Leadbeater's Possum
Mountain Pygmy-possum
New Holland Mouse
Northern Brushtail Possum
Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat
Northern Hopping-mouse
Northern Quoll
Numbat
Quokka
Southern Bent-wing Bat
Spectacled Flying-fox
Western Ringtail Possum

Fish (9)

Freshwater Sawfish
Grey Nurse Shark (eastern)
Maugean Skate
Murray Hardyhead
Red Handfish
Redfin Blue-eye
Stocky Galaxias
Swan Galaxias
White's Seahorse

Invertebrates (11)

Ammonite Snail
Cauliflower Soft Coral
Eltham Copper Butterfly
Giant Gippsland Earthworm
Glenelg Freshwater Mussel
Kangaroo Island Assassin Spider
Lord Howe Island Phasmid
Margaret River Burrowing Crayfish
Mt Lidgbird Charopid Land Snail
Pink Underwing Moth
Tas. Giant Freshwater Crayfish

Frogs (6)

Growling Grass Frog
Kroombit Tinker Frog
Mountain Frog
Mountain-top Frog
Southern Corroboree Frog
White-bellied Frog

Reptiles (11)

Adorned Delma
Arnhem Land Gorges Skink
Bellinger River Snapping Turtle
Canberra Grassland Earless Dragon
Great Desert Skink
Green Turtle
Olive Ridley Turtle
Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard
Short-nosed Sea Snake
Western Swamp Tortoise
Yinnietharra Rock-dragon

Plants (30)

Adamson's Blown-grass
Angle-stemmed Myrtle
Arckaringa Daisy
Bolivia Hill Rice-flower

Border Ranges Lined Fern
Bulberin Nut
Carrington Falls Pomaderris
Davies' Waxflower
Foote's Grevillea
Forked Spyridium
Giant Andersonia
Gorge Rice-flower
Graveside Leek-orchid
Imlay Mallee
King Blue-grass
Lax Leek Orchid
Little Mountain Palm
MacDonnell Ranges Cycad
Narrow-leaf Eremophila
Native Guava
Scaly-butt Mallee
Small-flowered Snottygobble
Smooth Davidson's Plum
Stiff Groundsel
Stirling Range Dryandra
Tangled Wattle
Waddy-wood
Wollemi Pine
Wongan Eriostemon
Woods Well Spyridium



6 priority islands

- A** Bruny Island, Tasmania
- B** Christmas Island, Indian Ocean
- C** French Island, Victoria
- D** Kangaroo Island, SA
- E** Norfolk Island, Tasman Sea
- F** Raine Island, Queensland

14 priority mainland places

- A** Eastern forests of Far North Queensland
- B** Brigalow country, Queensland
- C** Greater Blue Mountains, NSW
- D** Australian Alps, NSW, Victoria and ACT
- E** South east coastal ranges, NSW and Victoria
- F** Southern Plains, including the Western Victorian v
plain and karst springs, SA and Victoria
- G** Midlands region of central Tasmania
- H** Giant Kelp Ecological Community, Tasmania
- I** Mallee Birds Ecological Community, South Austral
- J** MacDonnell Ranges, Northern Territory
- K** Kakadu and West Arnhem, Northern Territory
- L** Yampi Sound and surrounds, Western Australia
- M** Remnant wheatbelt woodlands, Western Australia
- N** Fitz-Stirlings, Western Australia

Priority places

Plant focused targets

Insurance targets

Target 13. At least 80% of nationally listed threatened plant species are secured in insurance collections

Target 14. All nationally listed threatened plant species affected by Myrtle Rust are secured in insurance collections and populations



Threat targets

Target 10. Gamba Grass is reduced to an area less than its 2022 range



Target 11. Introduction and establishment of new exotic environmental pests, weeds and diseases is reduced



Plant project example

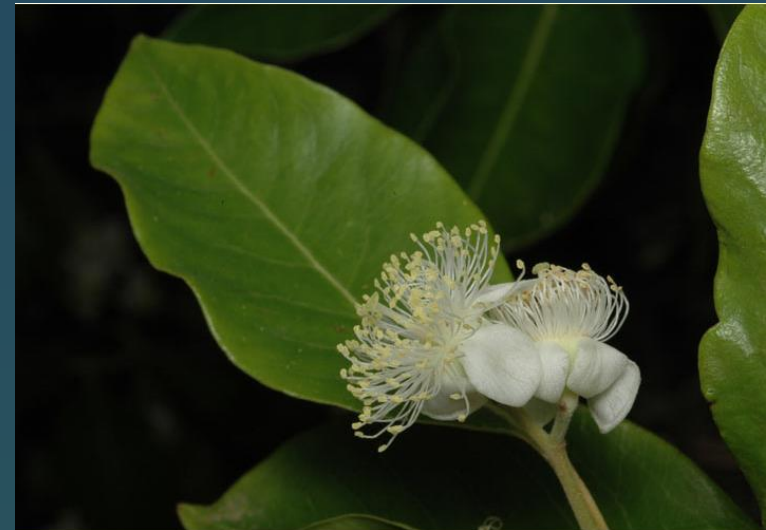
Safe custody for Native Guava

Ex-situ conservation to provide insurance against extinction.

Collections also valuable for research into Myrtle Rust-resistant strains of Native Guava and potential RNAi vaccines.



Myrtle Rust infected
Native Guava image by
Geoff Pegg



Native Guava images by M Fagg ANBG

Action Plan implementation

- Delivering Australian Government programs to implement the Action Plan
- Identifying baseline information and key actions for species and places
- Working with partners



In closing...

- We are at a critical point in time in the recovery of our threatened species
- The challenge is enormous, but ambition and opportunity is high
- Australian Government has an important role to play but cannot do this alone
- Conservation is everyone's responsibility



Questions?

