



International Environmental Weed Foundation

ABN 96 105 174 678

Habitat Network

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
Conservation Programs Branch

Submission re draft Biodiversity Conservation Investment Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your time on 5th December with Landcare NSW.

The points I wish to cover stem from my being a landholder with a property under a Voluntary Conservation Agreement

Note I am also on the Landcare NSW executive and Greater Sydney Landcare Network management committee.

There is considerable concern that some landholders are going to take the opportunity to do land clearing before all maps and detail are in place and then plead lack of information available. Checks and balances need to be in place sooner rather than later.

Communications are important to ensure all activities are transparent.

Landcare NSW including its regional bodies has the capacity to assist and partner with BCT and LLS in aspects of delivery of this program across NSW including Greater Sydney – such a relationship would be a positive move to build community confidence and for transparency.

With the rapidly expanding population in Greater Sydney it would be beneficial if privately owned native remnants within Greater Sydney could be conserved under BCT especially where they are a connection within the Greater Sydney Commissions green network. These remnants are rapidly vanishing.

BCT investments and conservation activities appear to be landholder and site specific. Habitat corridors are across regions and should be considered. Regional connectivity is very important across rural and urban areas. Both high and low value vegetation areas are integral to the functioning of habitat and biodiversity conservation corridors. Established and new plantings to improve across farm landscapes should also be recognised as important areas for our native fauna.