

**Notification 2011-032: Voluntary reports for the in-depth review of implementation of the programme of work on island biological diversity**

**Party: AUSTRALIA**

**General Comment:**

Given the Aichi targets have been in place for less than a year, Australia provides an initial 'mapping exercise' which provides a snapshot of the synergy between the Aichi and Australian targets for island biodiversity, identifying activities and policies that Australia has undertaken to achieve progress towards the Aichi Targets. As such, please note that information added in the "Progress/Obstacles" column factually highlights Australia's activities, but does not measure Progress/Obstacles at this early stage.

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
<b>Strategic goal A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</b>	
<p><b>General awareness of biodiversity is achieved</b></p> <p>Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, all people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>	<p><b>ABCS<sup>1</sup> targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 1:</b> By 2015, achieve a 25% increase in the numbers of Australians and public and private organisations who participate in biodiversity conservation activities.</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.1.1:</b> An increase in public awareness of biodiversity.  <b>Outcome 1.1.2:</b> An increase in public participation in conservation activities  <b>Outcome 1.1.3:</b> An increase in participation by the private and primary industries sector in biodiversity conservation.  <b>Outcome 1.1.4:</b> An increase in the cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity conservation in public and private sector planning and management.  <b>Action 1:</b> Develop and implement information and communication programs to raise awareness of biodiversity and its values.  <b>Action 2:</b> Expand biodiversity coverage in school curricula.</p> <p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year community skills, knowledge &amp; engagement outcome:</b> Ensure the continued use, support, and reinvigoration of traditional ecological knowledge to underpin biodiversity conservation.</p>

<sup>1</sup> ABCS refers to *Australia’s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010 -2030* which was released on 27 October, 2010. The ABCS sets 10 national measurable targets for 2015.

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	<p><b>Indigenous participation target:</b> To resource at least 20 projects which directly involve Indigenous organisations or groups to achieve Caring for our Country outcomes.</p> <p><b>Five-year coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats outcome:</b> Increase the community’s participation in protecting and rehabilitating coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats. Increasing coastal community engagement target: To engage at least 500 community organisations in coastal and marine rehabilitation, restoration and conservation actions by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 300 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the environment.</p> <p><b>Sustainable farm practices target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)</b> will include questions on participation in biodiversity conservation activities in the next Multipurpose Household Survey (2011-12). This will help to measure progress towards Target 1 of the ABCS and the Caring for our Country targets and outcomes relating to community skills, knowledge and engagement.</p> <p><b>National Reserve System Strategy</b> Theme 6: strengthened partnerships and increased community support for the National</p>

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	<p>Reserve System and improved understanding of its primary role in biodiversity conservation in the broader context of integrated landscape management associated cultural values and socio-economic benefits.</p> <p><b><i>The Ramsar Convention's Program on Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA)</i></b> was established to help raise awareness of wetland values and functions. Australian support has included the development of online databases containing detailed information on Australia's Ramsar estate and nationally important wetlands, as well as publications such as the <i>Wetlands Australia</i> magazine and a schools kit on <i>Discovering Wetlands in Australia</i>.</p> <p><b><i>Species Profile and Threat</i></b> (SPRAT) database is a species profile and threats data base providing key biological, ecological and threat information on nationally listed species and ecological communities.</p> <p><b><i>Australian Sustainable Schools initiative</i></b> (AuSSI) is delivered in partnership with all states and territories and the Catholic and Independent schools sectors. The outcomes delivered through AuSSI represent tangible progress towards increasing the understanding of biodiversity in schools. 30% of all schools across Australia are involved with AuSSI. The Australian Government provides national coordination of the AuSSI, whilst individual jurisdictions implement AuSSI within their educational systems. Under AuSSI, schools undertake sustainability activities that link to curricula. In many cases, these activities have a clear biodiversity focus, and schools work on biodiversity projects or with local biodiversity conservation groups.</p>

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	Australia has an ongoing commitment to include sustainability as a cross curriculum priority in the <b>new Australian Curriculum</b> . This supports biodiversity issues being covered in school curricula.
<p><b>Biodiversity is mainstreamed into development strategies and plans</b></p> <p>Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 1:</b> By 2015, achieve a 25% increase in the numbers of Australians and public and private organisations who participate in biodiversity conservation activities.</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.1.3:</b> An increase in participation by the private and primary industries sector in biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.1.4:</b> An increase in the cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity conservation in public and private sector planning and management.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.2.1:</b> An improvement in the alignment of sectoral, regional and jurisdictional biodiversity conservation approaches with the ABCS.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.3.1:</b> An increased representation of biodiversity and ecosystem services and goods within national accounts.</p> <p><b>Action 3:</b> Incorporate information and approaches to meeting biodiversity responsibilities into corporate planning and annual reporting guidelines.</p> <p><b>Action 12:</b> Increase understanding and use of a whole-of-ecosystem approach in biodiversity management.</p> <p><b>Action 16:</b> Incorporate biodiversity conservation into land and fire management planning.</p> <p><b>Action 18:</b> Integrate biodiversity conservation into planning instruments including by implementing a decision making hierarchy for biodiversity management: the first aim is to avoid loss; if that is not possible, then aim to minimise loss; if biodiversity loss is unavoidable, impacts should be managed to maintain ecosystem functions, including, where feasible, through</p>

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	<p>the use of offsets.</p> <p><b>Action 20:</b> Develop a national biodiversity account, in conjunction with broader national environmental accounting and reporting systems.</p> <p><b>Action 25:</b> Progressively align and integrate reporting products across governments for effective biodiversity planning.</p> <p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Increase the number of farmers who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plans or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm.</p> <p><b>Landscape-scale conservation target:</b> To increase by 3700 the number of farmers adopting activities which contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 30 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the environment.</p> <p><b>Improving knowledge and skills target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Fisheries Management Act 1991 Sect 3A</i></p>

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	<p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999- <b>Strategic Environmental Assessments</b></i> conducted under s146 of the EPBC Act, provide for the assessment of policies, plans and programs (PPPs), and approval of related actions, that may have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. PPPs, normally developed and adopted by State and Territory Governments, can address a range of land use planning, resource development, infrastructure and natural resource management issues that may have an impact on biodiversity conservation. The Australian Government is undertaking strategic environmental assessments with all States and Territories (except the Northern Territory). Managing the impacts of PPPs through (in priority order) avoidance, mitigation and offset measures is a central feature of the strategic assessment process.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b><i>Marine Bioregional Planning Program</i></b> - The aim of marine bioregional planning is to improve the way Australia’s oceans are managed and ensure they remain healthy and productive. Marine bioregional planning focuses on the management of whole marine ecosystems, including the interactions of people and industry with our marine environment.</p> <p><b><i>Reporting – SOFR (NFISC/MIG)</i></b> - The State of the Forests report (SOFR) is a five-yearly report on the state of Australia’s forests mandated by the National Forest Policy Statement. SOFR provides comprehensive reporting on the conservation of biological diversity in Australia’s forests.</p>

<p align="center"><b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b>  <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Progress/Obstacles</b></p>
<p><b>Biodiversity incentives are used in policy (negative avoided, positive applied)</b></p> <p>Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 3:</b> By 2015, achieve a doubling of the value of complementary markets for ecosystem services</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.3.1.</b> An increase in use of markets and other incentives for managing biodiversity and ecosystem services;</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.3.2.</b> an increase in private expenditure on biodiversity conservation</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.3.3</b> An increase in public-private partnerships for biodiversity conservation</p> <p><b>Action 7:</b> develop and align, where appropriate, emerging markets for other ecosystem services</p> <p><b>Action 8:</b> Develop innovative mechanisms to encourage private investment and interest in biodiversity conservation</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p>Conservation covenants tax deductions under the <b>Income Tax Assessment Act</b> is an ongoing program that has provided tax incentives to encourage conservation on private land since 2002.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Environmental Stewardship Program</b> uses competitive auctions through which eligible private land managers can bid to provide a range of agreed management activities to protect, rehabilitate and improve particular ecological communities.</p> <p><b>Carbon Farming Initiative</b> - is a proposed Australian Government initiative to give farmers, forest growers and land holders carbon offset credits for undertaking eligible carbon pollution abatement</p>



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	<p>activities through legislation. The proposed initiative will promote the development of methodologies to accredit emission offset activities.</p> <p><b>Conservation Revolving Funds Program</b> involves revolving funds operating in Australia which sell high quality conservation lands with covenants to willing buyers.</p> <p><b>Investment in research and development of Australia’s biological resources</b> (genetic biochemical resources found in its native species) is encouraged. Australia seeks to be a leader in the dynamic field of biodiscovery in partnership with Indigenous people, biotechnology companies, and research scientists and manage biodiversity. The Australian, State and Territory Governments will ensure practices and advances in biodiscovery are sustainable, inclusive and rewarding.</p>
<p><b>Sustainable (biodiversity-friendly) production and consumption are in place</b></p> <p>Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 9:</b> By 2015, all jurisdictions will review relevant legislation, policies and programs to maximise alignment with Australia’s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.2.1:</b> An improvement in the alignment of sectoral, regional and jurisdictional biodiversity conservation approaches with Australia’s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.</p> <p><b>Action 24:</b> Develop in consultation with the private and primary industries sectors a nationally representative set of biodiversity indicators and monitoring protocols.</p>

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	<p data-bbox="1108 337 1871 367"><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p data-bbox="1108 402 1913 526"><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Assist at least 30 per cent of farmers to increase their uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices that deliver improved ecosystem services.</p> <p data-bbox="1108 561 1640 591"><b>Improving management practices target:</b></p> <ul data-bbox="1108 594 1906 945" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1108 594 1906 750">• To increase by 10 000 the number of farmers adopting management practices to improve soil health by reducing the risk of soil acidification, soil loss through wind and water erosion and/or increasing the carbon content of soils by June 2013.</li> <li data-bbox="1108 753 1906 847">• Improve the management practices of an additional 55 million hectares of land under cropping, horticulture and grazing by June 2013.</li> <li data-bbox="1108 850 1906 945">• To increase by 250 the number of commercial fishers and aquaculture farmers who have improved practices to optimise sustainability by June 2013.</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="1108 987 1906 1110"><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Increase the number of farmers who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plans or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm.</p> <p data-bbox="1108 1146 1906 1240"><b>Landscape-scale conservation target:</b> To increase by 3700 the number of farmers adopting activities that contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity by June 2013.</p> <p data-bbox="1108 1276 1913 1370"><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 30 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the</p>

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	<p>environment.</p> <p><b>Improving knowledge and skills target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Part 13A</i></p> <p><i>Regional Forests Agreement Act 2002</i></p> <p><i>Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 (Cth)</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p>The <b>Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy</b> was introduced in 2007. Its core objective is the sustainable and profitable utilisation of Australia’s Commonwealth fisheries in perpetuity through the implementation of harvest strategies that maintain key commercial stocks at ecologically sustainable levels and within this context, maximise the economics returns to the Australian community.</p> <p><b>Fisheries Assessments</b> - The <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) allows for the periodic assessment of the performance of fisheries against <i>Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable management of</i></p>

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	<p><i>Fisheries.</i> Assessments ensure that, over time, fisheries are managed in an ecologically sustainable way.</p> <p>The <b>Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry</b>, launched in 2006, supports the sustainable development of the Australian minerals industry. The thirteen Leading Practice handbooks provide the mining industry with practical guidance and case-studies relevant but not limited to biodiversity management and mine site rehabilitation.</p> <p>There is a process under way to establish a national regulator, to be known as the <b>National Offshore Petroleum, Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA)</b> for offshore petroleum activities under the <i>Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 (Cth)</i></p>
<b>Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use</b>	
<p><b>Rate of loss of all habitats are at least halved, fragmentation and degradation reduced</b></p> <p>Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 4:</b> By 2015, achieve a national increase of 600,000 km<sup>2</sup> of native habitat managed primarily for biodiversity conservation across terrestrial, aquatic and marine environments.</p> <p><b>Target 5:</b> By 2015, 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> of fragmented landscapes and aquatic systems are being restored to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Target 6:</b> By 2015, four collaborative continental-scale linkages are established and managed to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.1:</b> An increase in the number, extent and condition of ecosystems protected under secure conservation tenure.</p>

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	<p><b>Outcome 2.3.1:</b> A reduction in the impacts of priority threatening processes, including habitat loss and climate change.</p> <p><b>2011-2012 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Increase the number of farmers who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plans or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm.</p> <p><b>Landscape-scale conservation target:</b> To increase by 3700 the number of farmers adopting activities that contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 30 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the environment.</p> <p><b>Improving knowledge and skills target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 - Part 13, Division 1, Subdivision BA – <b>Protection of critical habitat</b></i></p>

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	<p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>National Reserve System Strategy</b> - By 2015, achieve a national target of examples of at least 80% of the number of regional ecosystems in each bioregion as a measure of comprehensiveness. Priority is being given to bioregions with less than 10% of their remaining area currently protected in the National Reserve System and building landscape resilience.</p> <p><b>Marine Bioregional Planning Program</b> - The aim of marine bioregional planning is to improve the way our oceans are managed and ensure they remain healthy and productive so we can continue to use and enjoy them into the future. Marine bioregional planning focuses on the management of whole marine ecosystems, including the interactions of people and industry with our marine environment.</p> <p><b>National Forest Policy Statement</b> - The management of Australia’s forests is guided by the 1992 National Forest Policy Statement (NFPS) which committed governments to the sustainable management of all Australian forests, whether the forest is on public or private land, or reserved or available for production. The NFPS’s consideration of conservation values of Australia’s forests includes maintaining a permanent forest estate and rehabilitating degraded lands.</p>
<p><b>Fish, invertebrates and aquatic plants are sustainable harvested</b></p> <p>Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Action 15:</b> Improve the management of aquatic habitats, including by reducing key threats to aquatic biodiversity.</p>

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<p>ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p>	<p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i></p> <p><i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 - <b>recovery plans</b></i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 - Part 13, Division 1, Section 180 – <b>Conservation dependent listing of native species of marine fish</b></i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Part 13A) - <b>Aquaculture Program, Wildlife Trade Operation</b></i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 –</i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 <b>Ramsar wetlands</b>. The Act establishes a framework for managing Ramsar listed wetlands through the Australian Ramsar Management Principles (ARMP). ARMP includes promoting the conservation and sustainable use of Ramsar wetlands for the benefit of humanity in a way that is compatible with maintenance of the natural properties of the ecosystem.</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b><i>Recovery plans</i></b> set out the research and management actions</p>

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	<p>necessary to stop the decline of, and support the recovery of, listed threatened species or threatened ecological communities. The aim of a recovery plan is to maximise the long term survival in the wild of a threatened species or ecological community.</p> <p>Recovery plans should state what must be done to protect and restore important populations of threatened species and habitat, as well as how to manage and reduce threatening processes. Recovery plans achieve this aim by providing a planned and logical framework for key interest groups and responsible government agencies to coordinate their work to improve the plight of threatened species and/or ecological communities.</p> <p>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (GBRMP) - The <b>Zoning Plan 2003</b> provides protection of representative areas of the GBRMP ensuring protection of the full range of biodiversity and ecosystem processes including inter-reefal habitats targeted for bottom fishing such as trawling.</p> <p>Under Part 13 A of the EPBC Act an <b>Aquaculture Program</b> is required by individuals or companies in Australia that are involved in aquaculture of native species and intend to export these species overseas for commercial purposes. Approval is not required for species that are on the List of Exempt Native Specimens.</p> <p>For individuals or companies that intend to export a species that is listed on <b>CITES</b> from their aquaculture operation, this cannot be done under an approved Aquaculture Program as this approval does not fulfil the requirements of CITES. In this situation individuals or companies will need to apply for approval as a Captive Breeding Program. <a href="http://www.environment.gov">http://www.environment.gov</a>.</p>



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	<p>au/biodiversity/trade-use/sources/forms/pubs/aquaculture-application.pdf</p> <p><b>Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy</b> September 2007 establishes guidelines for the safe harvest and, where necessary recovery, of marine fish stocks.</p> <p>Australia is implementing a coordinated, <b>ecosystem based fisheries management</b> (EBFM) approach across all its fisheries to ensure sustainable fisheries management. Implementation of EBFM has been focused through a number of key initiatives.</p> <p><b>Fisheries Assessments</b> - The <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) allows for periodic assessment of the performance of fisheries against <i>Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable management of Fisheries</i>. Assessments ensure that, over time, fisheries are managed in an ecologically sustainable way.</p>
<p><b>Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably</b></p> <p>Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.2:</b> An increase in the extent of private land managed for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.1:</b> A reduction in the impacts of priority threatening processes, including habitat loss and climate change.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.3:</b> An increase in the use of strategic and early interventions to manage threats to biodiversity including climate change.</p> <p><b>Action 16:</b> Incorporate biodiversity conservation into land and fire management planning.</p>

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	<p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b><i>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</i></b> Assist at least 30 per cent of farmers to increase their uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices that deliver improved ecosystem services.</p> <p><b><i>Improving management practices target:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase by 10 000 the number of farmers adopting management practices to improve soil health by reducing the risk of soil acidification, soil loss through wind and water erosion and/or increasing the carbon content of soils by June 2013.</li> <li>• Improve the management practices of an additional 55 million hectares of land under cropping, horticulture and grazing by June 2013.</li> <li>• To increase by 250 the number of commercial fishers and aquaculture farmers who have improved practices to optimise sustainability by June 2013.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</i></b> Increase the number of farmers who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plans or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm.</p> <p><b><i>Landscape-scale conservation target:</i></b> To increase by 3700 the number of farmers adopting activities that contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity by June 2013.</p>

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	<p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 30 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the environment.</p> <p><b>Improving knowledge and skills target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 :</i></p> <p><i>Regional Forests Agreement Act 2002</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p>The management of Australia’s forests is guided by the 1992 <b>National Forest Policy Statement</b> (NFPS) which committed governments to the sustainable management of all Australian forests, whether the forest is on public or private land, or reserved or available for production. The NFPS’s consideration of conservation values of Australia’s forests includes maintaining a permanent forest estate and rehabilitating degraded lands.</p> <p><b>Landcare</b> including the community groups, Landcare Australia Limited, Australian Landcare Council and network of facilitators to assist in the adoption of sustainable practices.</p>

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	<p><b>Ramsar ‘Wise Use’ principle:</b> under the Convention, parties agree to formulate and implement their planning so as to promote the conservation of the wetlands included in the List, and as far as possible the wise use of all wetlands in their territory.</p>
<p><b>Pollution and eutrophication are contained and controlled</b></p> <p>Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.1:</b> A reduction in the impacts of priority threatening processes, including habitat loss and climate change.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Water Act 2007, Water Amendment Act 2008</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>National Pollutant Inventory</b> - The desired environmental outcomes of the NPI program are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain and improve air and water quality</li> <li>• minimise environmental impacts associated with hazardous waste, and</li> <li>• improve the sustainable use of resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Marine Debris Threat Abatement Plan</b> provides a framework for a coordinated national approach to the prevention and mitigation of the impacts of harmful marine debris on vertebrate life.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Integrated Coastal Zone Management</b> - The Commonwealth, states and the Northern Territory have put in place the <i>Framework and Implementation Plan for a National Cooperative Approach to Integrated Coastal Zone Management</i> (ICZM Framework), which includes actions related to land-based pollution of the marine environment.</p> <p><b>Reef Water Quality Plan</b> - The Australian and Queensland governments have put in place a Reef Water Quality Protection Plan (Reef Plan) to address water quality pressures on the Great Barrier Reef.</p> <p>The <b>Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry</b>, launched in 2006, supports the sustainable development of the Australian minerals industry. The thirteen Leading Practice handbooks provide the mining industry with practical guidance and case-studies relevant but not limited to biodiversity management and mine site rehabilitation.</p>
<p><b>Invasive alien species identified, priority species controlled/eradicated, pathways contained</b></p> <p>Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 7:</b> By 2015, reduce by at least 10% the impacts of invasive species on threatened species and ecological communities in terrestrial, aquatic and marine environments.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.1:</b> A reduction in the impacts of priority threatening processes, including habitat loss and climate change.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.2:</b> A reduction in the impacts of significant invasive species on biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.3:</b> An increase in the use of strategic and early interventions to manage threats to biodiversity including climate change.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Action 17:</b> Develop tools to help guide and support priority setting for threat management at different scales.</p> <p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year biodiversity and natural icons outcome:</b> Reduce the impact of invasive species in at least four priority areas to be defined through the annual Caring for our Country business plans.</p> <p><b>Reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals target:</b> To reduce or manage the impact of vertebrate pest animals to maintain and improve biodiversity outcomes. This will allow regeneration and recovery of at least 10 000 hectares by June 2013 of high quality native habitat or vegetation that supports critically endangered, endangered and threatened species and communities.</p> <p><b>Reducing the impact of weeds target:</b> To reduce or manage the impact of Weeds of National Significance to maintain or improve biodiversity where the impact occurs in priority areas identified in nationally-agreed strategic plans for each Weed of National Significance on public and private land (including agricultural land). The impact will be reduced more effectively through collaborative activities that control outlier infestations, strengthen containment lines and/or bring core infestations under management control, or eradicate where feasible, to reduce the risk of new infestations.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) - <b>Threat Abatement Plans</b> under the Act provide a mechanism for addressing the impacts of invasive species.</p> <p><i>Quarantine Act</i> - The Act provides the legislative basis for human, plant and animal quarantine activities in Australia. It provides a national approach to the protection of Australia’s international borders from incursions by exotic pests and diseases. It protects Australian animals (including wildlife), plants (including native flora) and the environment from the impact of exotic pests and diseases.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Australian Pest Animal Research Program</b> – focuses on practical research to deliver ways to mitigate the impact of feral animals.</p> <p><b>National Weeds and Productivity Research Program</b> - in 2008, the Australian Government committed \$15 million over 4 years to establish the program which unites relevant stakeholders to find solutions to severe weed problems across Australia.</p> <p><b>Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity</b> - the Australian Government is currently negotiating the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity with the state and territory governments. This is a principle-level agreement, containing national goals and objectives to promote a cross sector approach</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>to biosecurity, including IAS management.</p> <p><b><i>The National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA)</i></b> - the NEBRA is a proposal to establish pre-agreed national cost-sharing arrangements for emergency responses to exotic pests and diseases that have significant impacts on environmental and/or social amenity, including marine pests. The NEBRA will aid national decision-making and help strengthen Australia’s biosecurity system by improving Australia’s capacity and capability to respond to the increasing biosecurity threats in a more systematic and timely manner. The NEBRA has been endorsed by the Ministerial Councils and is expected to be considered by the Council of Australian Governments in the near future.</p> <p><b><i>Australian Weed and Australian Pest Animal Strategies</i></b> - the Australian Weed and Australian Pest Animal Strategies provide a framework to establish consistent guidance, and identify priorities for weed or pest animal management across the nation with the aim of minimising the impact of these invasive species. Two full-time national coordinators are employed to encourage all parties to implement the Strategies.</p> <p><b><i>Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) Initiative</i></b> - the initiative coordinates national action to address the top 20 problem environmental weeds in Australia.</p> <p><b><i>National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions (the National System)</i></b> - the National System is being implemented by Australian and state/territory governments, along with marine industries and scientists, to protect our marine environment and industries. The National</p>



<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>System will provide effective and cost efficient measures to manage the threat of marine pest introductions and translocations (through ballast water and biofouling), provide ongoing management and control for pest species already established in Australia, and build an emergency response capability for new incursions.</p> <p><b>International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments</b> - the Australian Government has signed, subject to ratification, the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments.</p> <p><b>National Biosecurity System</b> - The national biosecurity system aims to control and eradicate incursions of exotic pests and diseases that have impacts on Australia’s plants, animals and ecosystems.</p> <p><b>Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS)</b> – A Commonwealth Government program focussed on the development and implementation of measures for the early detection of targeted pests, diseases and weeds that can arrive into northern Australia via uncontrolled (non-commercial) pathways. NAQS activities include the regulation of southward movements of live animals, live plants, and other quarantine risk materials potentially harbouring exotic (invertebrate) pest species, weeds and diseases into and between specified zones in Torres Strait. NAQS regulatory activities (supported by a targeted campaign of public awareness activity) indirectly contribute to biodiversity objectives on Torres Strait islands through helping to limit human-assisted movements of invasive species.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
<p><b>Pressure from ocean acidification and climate change on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems minimized</b></p> <p>Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.1:</b> A reduction in the impacts of priority threatening processes, including habitat loss and climate change.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.3.3:</b> An increase in the use of strategic and early interventions to manage threats to biodiversity including climate change.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 –</i></p> <p><i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Reef Water Quality Plan</b> - The Australian and Queensland governments have put in place a Reef Water Quality Protection Plan (Reef Plan) to address water quality pressures on the Great Barrier Reef.</p> <p><b>Great Barrier Reef</b> - The response to the 2009 Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report by the Australian and Queensland Governments identifies key actions the governments will take to ensure the Reef remains one of the world’s most significant natural assets.</p> <p><b>Marine Bioregional Planning Program</b> - The aim of marine bioregional planning is to improve the way Australia’s oceans are</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>managed and ensure they remain healthy and productive. Marine bioregional planning focuses on the management of whole marine ecosystems, including the interactions of people and industry with our marine environment.</p> <p><b>National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas Australia’s (NRSMPA)</b> The Australian Federal, State and Northern Territory governments are working together to establish a representative network of Marine Protected Areas throughout Australia’s marine environment by 2012.</p>
<b>Strategic goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</b>	
<p><b>17% terrestrial and 10% of coastal and marine areas are conserved in networks of protected areas</b></p> <p>Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 4:</b> By 2015, achieve a national increase of 600,000 km<sup>2</sup> of native habitat managed primarily for biodiversity conservation across terrestrial, aquatic and marine environments.</p> <p><b>Target 5:</b> By 2015, 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> of fragmented landscapes and aquatic systems are being restored to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Target 6:</b> By 2015, four collaborative continental-scale linkages are established and managed to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.1:</b> An increase in the number, extent and condition of ecosystems protected under secure conservation tenure.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.2:</b> An increase in the extent of private land managed for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.4:</b> A net national increase in the extent and condition of native habitat across tenures.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Outcome 2.2.1:</b> An increase in the connectivity of fragmented landscapes and seascapes.</p> <p><b>Action 9:</b> Enhance and expand the National Reserve System and the national system of Marine Protected Areas.</p> <p><b>Action 10:</b> Develop a national approach for off-reserve and multiple-use reserve conservation in priority areas.</p> <p><b>Action 13:</b> Identify landscapes and seascapes in which habitat linkages are important for biodiversity conservation and secure these areas through mechanisms such as complementary land-uses and partnerships between governments and private landholders.</p> <p><b>Action 23:</b> Implement and enhance biodiversity conservation models that apply a whole-of-ecosystem approach at landscape and seascape scales.</p> <p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year National Reserve System outcome:</b> Expand the area that is protected within the National Reserve System to at least 125 million hectares (a 25 per cent increase), with priority to be given to increasing the area that is protected in under-represented bioregions.</p> <p><b>Increasing the National Reserve System target:</b> To increase the area that is protected within the National Reserve System by five million hectares a year (including Indigenous Protected Areas) with a priority in under-represented bioregions.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i></p> <p><i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> - The entire Great Barrier Marine Park is protected under law; 33.3% of the area is in highly-protected 'no-take' zones, with a further 33% in habitat protection zones prohibiting trawling or other activities impacting the seabed.</p> <p><i>Fisheries Management Act 1991 (Part 1 Section 3)</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b><i>Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve</i></b> was proclaimed in 2002 and assigned the IUCN category 1a, strict nature reserve. The Reserve protects a terrestrial and marine area of approximately 65,000km<sup>2</sup>. The islands provide important breeding locations for seabird and seal species; surrounding waters provide foraging grounds for land-based marine predators, contain important benthic habitats, and unique and vulnerable marine species.</p> <p><b><i>National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas Australia's (NRSMPA)</i></b> – the Australian Federal, State and Northern Territory governments are working together to establish a representative network of Marine Protected Areas throughout Australia's marine environment by 2012.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Environmental Stewardship program</b> uses competitive auctions through which eligible private land managers can bid to provide a range of agreed management activities to protect, rehabilitate and improve particular ecological communities.</p> <p><b>Australia’s Ramsar Estate</b> - In 2010 Australia had 64 Ramsar Listed wetlands covering approximately 8.1 million hectares, an area larger than Tasmania. Wetlands are included on the List of Wetlands of International Importance because of their ecological, botanical, zoological, limnological or hydrological importance.</p> <p>Australia is implementing a coordinated, <b>ecosystem based fisheries management</b> (EBFM) approach across all its fisheries to ensure sustainable fisheries management. Implementation of EBFM has been focused through a number of key initiatives.</p>
<p><b>Extinction of all threatened species is prevented, conservation status is improved</b></p> <p>Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.3:</b> An improvement in the conservation status of listed threatened species and ecological communities.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) - <b>Part 13 Division 1 – Listing of threatened species and development/implementation of recovery plans</b></i></p> <p><i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983</i></p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b><i>National Reserve System Strategy</i></b> - By 2030, include critical habitats and core areas important for the survival of rare, migratory, threatened or other priority species and ecological communities, including those listed under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation in each bioregion.</p> <p><b><i>Cooperative Conservation Programs</i></b> – The Australian Seedbank Partnership is a cooperative of Australian Governments and NGOs conserving seeds of Australian native plants. Research has established breeding systems and genetic population structure studies and ex situ work around seed storage for many threatened Australian plant species.</p> <p><b><i>Captive Breeding Programs</i></b> - An agreement between Parks Australia and Taronga Zoo involves transfer of part of a Christmas island skink population to the Zoo under a captive breeding insurance program. This population complements the captive breeding population on island and maintains the species independent of factors such as environmental change or disease that may be contributing to the skinks’ decline on the island. There are also efforts underway on other listed species around research and monitoring to determine trends in population numbers and population status.</p>
<b>Breeds/varieties of cultivated animals and plants and their wild relatives are maintained, strategies for genetic erosion are in place</b>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b><i>Action 11:</i></b> Maintain and enhance in situ and ex situ conservation</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
<p>Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p>	<p>measures as part of an integrated approach to conserve species and genetic diversity.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>EPBC Act 8 (a) regulations</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b><i>Cooperative Conservation Programs:</i></b> The Australian Seedbank Partnership is a cooperative of Australian Governments and NGOs conserving seeds of Australian native plants. Research has established breeding systems and genetic population structure studies and ex situ work around seed storage for many threatened Australian plant species.</p> <p><b><i>Captive Breeding Programs</i></b> - An agreement between Parks Australia and Taronga Zoo involves transfer of part of a Christmas island skink population to the Zoo under a captive breeding insurance program. This population complements the captive breeding population on island and maintains the species independent of factors such as environmental change or disease that may be contributing to the skinks’ decline on the island. There are also efforts underway on other listed species around research and monitoring to determine trends in population numbers and population status.</p> <p>The <b><i>Australian National Botanic Gardens</i></b> supports ex situ plant collections (around 74,000 individual plants). It is the largest</p>



<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>scientific collection of Australian native plants in which the collection originates from plants sourced from the wild, accompanied by herbarium specimens for taxonomic study.</p> <p>Australian funding to the <b>Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDT)</b> supports the collection, conservation and sharing of plant genetic resources to future-proof crop diversity, particularly in the face of climate change. The focus has been on high yielding crops, particularly cereals, which is important for global food security and agriculture. The GCDT supports the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources.</p> <p>Australia supports the <b>International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</b> (the Treaty) as a binding international framework for the conservation, sustainable use and exchange of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Australia ratified the treaty in December 2005 and since this date has been an active member of the Treaty. Australia has funded capacity building projects in the Pacific, is a member of the Bureau and has contributed funding to the Treaty's benefit sharing fund.</p>
<b>Strategic goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</b>	
<p><b>Ecosystems that provide water, health, livelihoods and well-being are restored and safeguarded</b></p> <p>Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 5:</b> By 2015, 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> of fragmented landscapes and aquatic systems are being restored to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.1:</b> An increase in the number, extent and condition of ecosystems protected under secure conservation tenure.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>Outcome 2.1.4:</b> A net national increase in the extent and condition of native habitat across tenures.</p> <p><b>Action 4:</b> Extend opportunities for employing Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, including through the Indigenous Protected Areas program.</p> <p><b>Action 5:</b> Support long-term, two-way knowledge transfer and capacity building to enhance the role of traditional ecological knowledge in biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Action 6:</b> Support training programs that strengthen biodiversity outcomes in Indigenous land and sea management.</p> <p><b>Action 18:</b> Integrate biodiversity conservation into planning instruments including by implementing a decision making hierarchy for biodiversity management: the first aim is to avoid loss; if that is not possible, then aim to minimise loss; if biodiversity loss is unavoidable, impacts should be managed to maintain ecosystem functions, including, where feasible, through the use of offsets.</p> <p><b>2011-12 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Assist at least 30 per cent of farmers to increase their uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices that deliver improved ecosystem services.</p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Increase the number of farmers who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plans or other arrangements to improve the</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>environment both on-farm and off-farm.</p> <p><b>Landscape-scale conservation target:</b> To increase by 3700 the number of farmers adopting activities that contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Five-year sustainable farm practices outcome:</b> Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 30 per cent of land managers and farmers in managing our natural resources and the environment.</p> <p><b>Improving knowledge and skills target:</b> To increase by 15 000 the number of farmers and fishers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management by June 2013.</p> <p><b>Legislation</b></p> <p><i>Water Act 2007, Water Amendment Act 2008</i></p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>National Reserve System Strategy</b> - By 2030, include critical areas to ensure the viability, resilience and integrity of ecosystem function in response to a changing climate, including large and small refuges, critical habitats, broad landscape scale corridors, places of species and ecosystem richness, sites of endemism and sites that support threatened species and or ecological</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>communities, and places important for the stages in the life cycle of migratory or nomadic species, to act as core lands of a broader whole of landscape approach to biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Working on Country</b> - The Government’s Working on Country (WOC) program provides funding for the employment of Indigenous people to deliver environmental outcomes. The Indigenous ranger workforce employed through WOC is expected to grow to approximately 630 funded positions by the end of 2010.</p>
<p><b>Ecosystem resilience and carbon stocks from biodiversity are enhanced, at least 15% of degraded ecosystems are restored, promoting joint implementation of Rio Conventions</b></p> <p>Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 5:</b> By 2015, 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> of fragmented landscapes and aquatic systems are being restored to improve ecological connectivity.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.1.4:</b> A net national increase in the extent and condition of native habitat across tenures.</p> <p><b>Action 14:</b> Identify and protect climate change refugia to strengthen opportunities for genetic and ecological adaptation.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Indigenous Fire Management in Northern Australia</b> - focuses on implementing traditional, mosaic-style fire management practices to deliver biodiversity and potential carbon market benefits. As a result of this investment, 100,000 square kilometres of savanna land is now under traditional fire management across four project areas and research is informing the potential development of a savanna offsets methodology under the Carbon</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	Farming Initiative.
<b>Nagoya protocol on ABS is in force and operational</b>  Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.	<b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b>  Australia ensures it is compliant with international obligations it assumes through ratification and/or accession prior to formalising such status. Consultations are being held with key stakeholders.
<b><i>Strategic Goal E: Enhance Implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</i></b>	
<b>All Parties have an effective and updated NBSAP produced in a participatory manner</b>  Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	The 2010 revised and adopted <b><i>National Biodiversity Strategy, Australia’s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030</i></b> delivers Australia’s implementation of this target.
<b>Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of ILC, customary use, are respected and integrated into the Convention, ILCs participate at all relevant levels</b>  Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	<b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b>  <b>Target 2:</b> By 2015, achieve a 25% increase in employment and participation of Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation. <b>Outcome 1.2.1:</b> An increase in the employment and participation of Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation activities. <b>Outcome 1.2.2:</b> An increase in the use of Indigenous knowledge in biodiversity conservation decision making. <b>Outcome 1.2.3:</b> An increase in the extent of land managed by Indigenous peoples for biodiversity conservation. <b>Action 4:</b> Extend opportunities for employing Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, including through the Indigenous

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>Protected Areas program.</p> <p><b>Action 5:</b> Support long-term, two-way knowledge transfer and capacity building to enhance the role of traditional ecological knowledge in biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Action 6:</b> Support training programs that strengthen biodiversity outcomes in Indigenous land and sea management.</p> <p><b>2011-21 Caring for our Country targets and outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Five-year community skills, knowledge &amp; engagement outcome:</b> Ensure the continued use, support, and reinvigoration of traditional ecological knowledge to underpin biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Indigenous participation target:</b> To resource at least 20 projects which directly involve Indigenous organisations or groups to achieve Caring for our Country outcomes.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p><b>Working on Country -</b> The Government’s Working on Country (WOC) program provides funding for the employment of Indigenous people to deliver environmental outcomes. The Indigenous ranger workforce employed through WOC is expected to grow to approximately 630 funded positions by the end of 2010.</p>

<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p><b>National Reserve System Strategy</b> - Collaborate with Traditional Owners to enhance their active participation in protected area management and in other ways that value, recognise and use their local knowledge expertise and skills in the development of the National Reserve System</p> <p><b>National Indigenous Forest Strategy</b> seeks to encourage Indigenous participation in the forest industry by forming business partnerships with the forestry industry to provide long-term benefits to Indigenous communities, as well as to the forest and wood products industry. Initiatives with industry could be associated with forest plantations and timber processing. Other initiatives could involve cultural and eco tourism, bush tucker, traditional medicines bee keeping and other forest based ventures.</p> <p><b>Indigenous Advisory Committee</b> advise the Minister on the operation of the <b>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act)</b>, taking into account the significance of Indigenous people's knowledge of the management of land and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and Indigenous Protected Areas.</p> <p>Model-benefit sharing arrangements have been developed in consultation with research and industry stakeholders, and in accordance with the principles outlined in the <b>Nationally consistent approach for access to and the utilisation of Australia's genetic and biochemical resources</b>. Through these agreements, Australia is meeting its obligations for access and benefit sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 15).</p>

<p align="center"><b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b>  <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Progress/Obstacles</b></p>
<p><b>Biodiversity science and technology are improved, shared and applied</b></p> <p>Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p>	<p><b>ABCS targets, outcomes and indicative actions</b></p> <p><b>Target 8:</b> By 2015, nationally agreed science and knowledge priorities for biodiversity conservation are guiding research activities.</p> <p><b>Target 10:</b> By 2015, establish a national long-term biodiversity monitoring and reporting system.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.1.1:</b> An increase in the accessibility of science and knowledge for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.1.2:</b> An improvement in the alignment of research with biodiversity conservation priorities.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.1.3:</b> An increase in the application of knowledge of biodiversity conservation by all sectors and communities.</p> <p><b>Action 19:</b> Complete assessments at national, state and regional levels to identify knowledge needs and gaps and to set research priorities for biodiversity conservation at all levels.</p> <p><b>Action 21:</b> Undertake systematic time-series surveys through the ABS to measure community awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation associated behavioural change and engagement in biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><b>Policies, Programmes and Plans</b></p> <p>The <b>National Environmental Research Program (NERP)</b> will provide environmental research to improve our capacity to understand, manage and conserve Australia's unique biodiversity and ecosystems. It will provide a strong foundation for determining science priorities for biodiversity conservation.</p>



<b>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”)</b> <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i>	<b>Progress/Obstacles</b>
	<p>The <b>Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)</b> provides observation sites, standardised measurement methodologies, equipment and data, and information services for terrestrial ecosystem research and natural resource management in Australia.</p> <p>The <b>Environmental Resources Information Network (ERIN)</b> and the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) provide an existing national data and reporting system.</p> <p><b>National Reserve System Strategy</b> - Invest in the best available science, data and knowledge to underpin protected area design and assessment of management effectiveness, including comprehensive biological surveys, cultural value assessment, ecosystem and vegetation mapping and related information systems to support systematic conservation planning.</p> <p><b>Marine Bioregional Planning Program</b> - The aim of marine bioregional planning is to improve the way Australia’s oceans are managed and ensure they remain healthy and productive. Marine bioregional planning focuses on the management of whole marine ecosystems, including the interactions of people and industry with our marine environment.</p> <p><b>Reporting – SOFR (NFISC/MIG)</b> The State of the Forests report (SOFR) is a five-yearly report on the state of Australia’s forests mandated by the National Forest Policy Statement. SOFR provides comprehensive reporting on the conservation of biological diversity in Australia’s forests.</p>

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	<p><b><i>The National Weeds and Productivity Research Program R&amp;D Plan 2010 to 2015</i></b> vision is that “Australia is equipped with the knowledge, resources and technology to successfully prevent, mitigate or adapt to weeds in our agricultural systems, ecosystems and landscapes.”</p> <p>The <b><i>Australian Research Council</i></b> administers the Australian Government’s National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP) which comprises the Discovery and Linkage Programs. Discovery has emphasis on innovative, researcher inspired research. Linkage encourages collaboration between researchers, institutions, industry and end-users. Under the NCGP; funding is allocated competitively on the basis of research excellence determined by peer review. The ARC supports research across all disciplines with the exception of research and/or training which, in the opinion of the ARC, has a significant focus on near-term clinical medical (including dental) outcomes. The only exception to this is the <i>Future Fellowships</i> scheme. Research funded includes projects relevant to island biodiversity. As an indicator of its funding in this area the ARC would be able to provide data on funding allocated to the National Research Priority area of Safeguarding Australia.</p> <p>The <b><i>Atlas of Living Australia</i></b> - The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) project is building a biodiversity information platform to provide scientists and others with the information they need now and in decades to come. The ALA is a unique five-year partnership between the CSIRO, Australia’s national science agency; the Australian Government and Australian museums, herbaria and other biological collections. It was created in response to the need for more comprehensive and accessible information on Australia’s biodiversity. To achieve this, the ALA</p>

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	and its partners are making a wide range of biodiversity data and datasets more accessible and useable online through the ALA website, and developing new tools for research and analysis.
<p><b>A substantive increase in financial resources invested in biodiversity is achieved</b></p> <p>Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.</p>	Australia is investing in biodiversity activities through the <b>Global Environment Facility (GEF)</b> . To date, the GEF has targeted approximately one-third of all funds to biodiversity objectives. In 2010, the GEF agreed a record resource envelope of \$US4.34 billion for work in the 2010-14 period (fifth replenishment), constituting a 54 per cent increase on funds committed under the previous replenishment. Australia’s contribution to the fifth replenishment is AU\$105 million. This brings Australia’s total contribution to the GEF to \$335 million since its inception in 1991.