

# PROTECTING AND CONNECTING ENDANGERED WOODLANDS IN THE ACT.



In 2019, ACT Natural Resource Management Programs (ACT Government) secured \$1.5 million in funding for five years (2019 – 2023) to invest in Protecting and Connecting Endangered Woodlands in the ACT. Box Gum Woodland is the typical woodland of the lowlands of the ACT and is an Endangered Ecological Community. The ACT Government and Greening Australia have been working with rural landholders to:

- ensure continuing good management of Box Gum Woodland;
- help rural landholders connect patches of woodland habitat; and
- to establish the next generation of paddock trees.

## Progress so far.....



*14 landholders engaged for on-ground works*



*195 ha fenced to protect vegetation*



*245 ha of revegetation established*



*595 ha of weed control*

## Why get involved?

Woodlands play an important role in maintaining the productivity of agricultural land, as well as providing habitat for native species. Paddock trees are disappearing from the ACT at an alarming rate due to old age, dieback (early death), woodland fragmentation (break up of patches), high intensity fire, clearing and urban development. It is essential we retain paddock trees and woodlands for agriculture and biodiversity and to increase resilience to climate change as well as establish a new generation of replacement trees.

### Large trees:

- *provide habitat* for birds, bats and small mammals which control pest insects and pollinate plants
- produce a *seed source* for the next generation of trees
- provide *shelter* from wind, heat and cold for pastures, crops and stock

### Shrubs, grasses and forbs:

- *protect soil surface* from sun, wind and rain
- Reduce erosion
- Provide important habitat for a range of woodland species, including many native bird

### Tree roots:

- reach deeper into the soil to *bring nutrients to the surface* in reach of pastures
- *Reduce salinity and erosion*

## What assistance will I receive?

Funding can support:

- *Revegetation* (and fencing) - around paddock trees, to replace a missing shrub layer and along fence lines and creek lines to connect woodland patches
- *Fencing* of high quality woodland patches to exclude livestock
- *Whole of Paddock Rehabilitation* (stewardship payments to landholders to offset stock removal and revegetation)
- *Management of large paddock trees*
- *Advice on strategic grazing* options to protect native grass species
- *Threat management and advice* (including weeds and pests)
- Exploration of *prescribed burns* as a management tool
- Access to *wildlife cameras* to document native wildlife and pest animals
- *Information on your native plants and animals*



Contact us to confirm whether your property has or is close to Box Gum Woodland and we'll arrange a site visit to talk through available options.

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