

NSW Biodiversity Conservation Advisory Panel (BCAP)

Held on: 13 February 2024 – 3:00pm to 5:00pm

At: Room 14.11, level 14, 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy St, Parramatta NSW and via
Microsoft Teams

BCAP members

Chairperson: Dr Ian Cresswell

Mr Kerry Doss

Prof Michelle Leishman

Dr Ben Milligan

Prof Angela Moles

Dr Kate Wilson

Departmental and Secretariat attendees:

Steven Cox, Director, *Land, Planning & Place (LPP)*

Neil Gemmell, A/Principal Policy Officer *LPP*

Brendan Bruce, Deputy Secretary, *Biodiversity Conservation and Science (BCS)*

Sharon Molloy, Executive Director, *Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD), BCS*

Tamsin Lloyd, Deputy Chief of Staff, *Ministers Office Sharpe*

Emily Dyball, Advisor, *Ministers Office Sharpe*

Nicholas Cobb, Director, *Legislative Review Response, BCD*

Louise Pastro, A/Director, *Conservation Policy and Strategy, BCD*

Anthony Lean, Secretary, *Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)*

Minutes

Item 1. Welcome and introductions, Acknowledgement of Country

The BCAP:

- Acknowledged the First Nation custodians of the lands on which the meetings took place.
- Noted BCAP as an important advisory body to DCCEEW and Minister Sharpe.
- Acknowledged significant reforms coming, especially the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act).
- Introduced themselves and discussed their expertise.

- Discussed process of providing advice.

Item 2. Terms of Reference

The BCAP:

- Noted waiting on appointment of Aboriginal representative(s).

Item 3. Draft BCAP Workplan February to June 2025

The BCAP:

- Noted advice can be provided in various forms e.g., written, verbal, attending workshops.
- Noted the Minister has final approval of the BCAP workplan.
- Noted duration of elements within the BCAP workplan is variable, and the current workplan is set for remainder of this financial year.
- Noted topics on the workplan can come from the Minister, Minister's Office, DCCEEW or BCAP. Topics can be broad or specific, and program areas will inform workplan topics.
- Discussed opportunities to be involved with the government response to the five-year statutory review of the BC Act.
- Discussed opportunities to provide advice in relation to the Government's election commitment to stop excess land clearing.
- Discussed opportunities to provide advice on national targets and frameworks relating to the Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Noted the Government is preparing a response to the five-year statutory review of the BC Act and Part 5A of LLS Act.

Item 4. BCAP lessons learnt from previous panel

The BCAP:

- Noted the need to determine how the BCAP will work together most effectively.
- Agreed the need to be proactive in providing advice to the Minister, as well as maintaining regular contact.