

NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT)

Fieldwork and Desk-based Internships

Internship available for Semester 1, 2023

The [NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust](#) (BCT) is a statutory (NSW Government) not-for-profit body established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, which commenced operating in 2017. The BCT is within the portfolio of the NSW Minister for Energy and Environment, and is investing \$70 M/year in private land conservation across priority landscapes in NSW.

A key project of the BCT is the [Ecological Monitoring Module](#) (EMM). The EMM seeks to measure state and change in biodiversity on BCT agreement and control sites across NSW, in order to evaluate conservation outcomes and inform adaptive management. The EMM methodology uses vegetation integrity as a surrogate for biodiversity value and is centred around the [Biodiversity Assessment Method](#).

Internship projects

1. Internships may involve fieldwork implementing the EMM at a variety of agreement and/or control sites within a particular BCT region (see map below), undertaking plot-based vegetation surveys under the supervision of a BCT ecologist. Each project will also include an independent research component, where interns will collect and analyse data on a complementary biodiversity value (e.g. bird or reptile diversity) at the same set of sites. The BCT will cover all costs (e.g. travel and accommodation) associated with undertaking fieldwork in different regions.
2. Internships may focus on a variety of desktop-based projects related to analysis and interpretation of ecological data, developing conservation management guidelines for landholders, or spatial data management and analysis (e.g. ArcGIS).

Internship details	
Internship Availability	Semester 1, 2023
Internship Discipline/s	Environmental/Conservation Science; Land Management
Internship Level	2 nd yr or 3 rd yr Undergraduate; Postgraduate Coursework
Available to International Students	Yes
Preferred Project Skills:	As relevant to choice of project eg

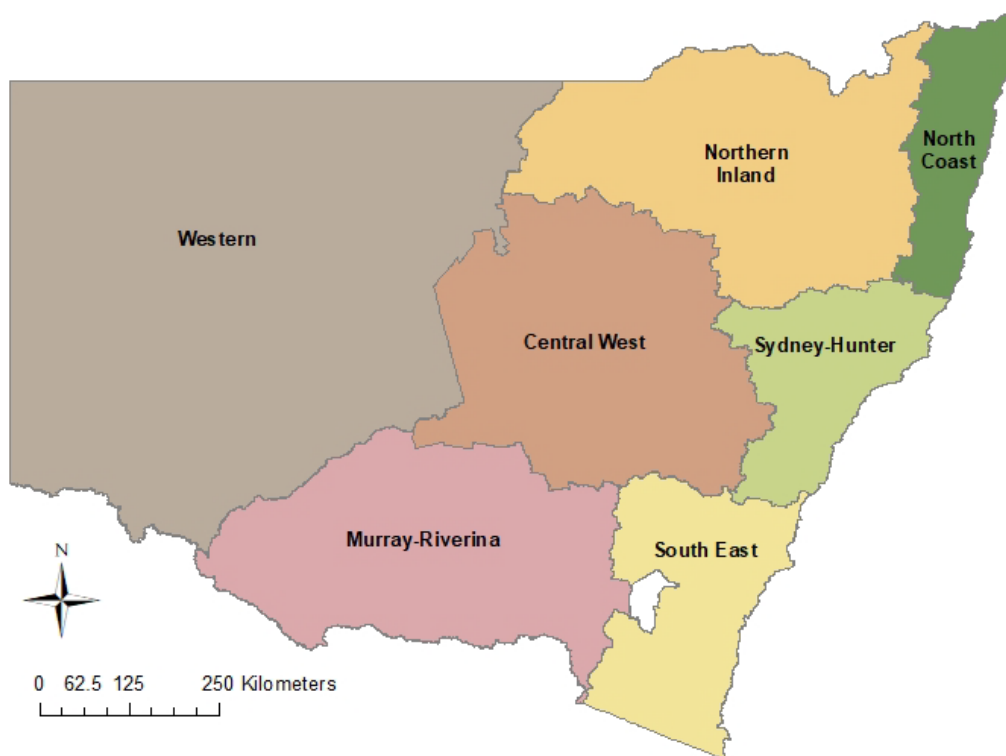
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate-level understanding of ecology and ecological field skills • Demonstrated interest in ecological fieldwork • Capacity to undertake physical, outdoor activity • Basic scientific analysis and writing skills
Clearances Required	Potentially confidentiality agreement
Host Supervisor	TBD project-dependent
Location	Various locations throughout NSW, project-dependent
Project Opportunities/Benefits for the Intern	Project-dependent eg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General ecological fieldwork skills • Collection of biodiversity data • Application of the statutory NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) • Plant species identification skills • Ecological data analysis and interpretation • Interaction with environmental policy • Experience in administering government programs

Summary:

Opportunities for internships over the next 12 months include the following dates and locations:

BCT Region	BCT Primary Office Location(s)	Proposed Available Dates
Central West/Western	Orange / Dubbo	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023
Murray-Riverina	Wagga Wagga	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023
Northern Inland	Inverell / Armidale	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023
Sydney-Hunter	Sydney / Newcastle	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023

South East	Queanbeyan	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023
North Coast	Coffs Harbour	March-May 2023 / September-November 2023
Desk-based internships	Office in Queanbeyan, but project and Host supervisor may be based in another region	Ongoing, case-by-case



How to apply:

- Submit your [Expression of Interest](#) for Semester 1, 2023 by **2 October**.
- After you receive confirmation of your eligibility from the Science Internships Office, complete your application by following the link sent to you via email and upload your resume, one-page Statement of Interest and Suitability and any other documents as advised by the Science Internships Office by **9 October**.
- In your Statement of Interest and Suitability, indicate your preference for a **fieldwork or desk-based** placement.
- If fieldwork, indicate your region/s in order of preference.

- Your eligibility will be assessed, and if your application progresses to the shortlist, an interview may be required.