

**National Environmental Science Program – A Message from the Minister**

I am pleased to announce an investment of $149 million by the Morrison Government for the second phase of the National Environmental Science Program.

The National Environmental Science Program is Australia’s flagship research program delivering applied scientific knowledge, decision tools and practical management options to support environmental commitments made by all levels of Government and other end-users.

This next phase of the National Environmental Science Program will build on our past achievements through multi-disciplinary and applied research that will be consolidated into four hubs and delivered through regional nodes where appropriate.

* The Resilient Landscapes hub will draw together a wide range of expertise to provide advice on increasing the resilience of our natural landscapes and biodiversity at continental, regional and local scales. The hub will provide national leadership on threatened species and will play a crucial role in bushfire preparedness and recovery of biodiversity and habitat.
* The Marine and Coastal hub will integrate our national temperate and tropical marine research capacity. It will deliver research on our marine, coastal and estuarine environments and address challenges like how to protect communities from storm damage and sea level rise while maximizing opportunities for blue carbon.
* The Sustainable Communities and Waste hub will deliver cutting-edge research on how to improve the liveability of our urban and rural environments while delivering critical advice on how to reduce the impact of waste, chemicals and air pollution on the environment, communities and the economy.
* The Climate Systems hub will provide fundamental and applied science to inform our understanding of our changing climate. The hub will focus on climate events such as rainfall and drought, heatwaves, fire weather, storms, flood and cyclones in our region.

All hubs will deliver on four cross-cutting missions: threatened and migratory species and threatened ecological communities, climate adaptation, protected places, and waste. These missions will bring together scientists, economists, climate experts, Indigenous Australians and natural resource managers across the research portfolio.

Applications are sought from collaborative and multi-disciplinary groups or consortia. If you would like to participate in the next phase of the Morrison Government’s National Environmental Science Program, please access the Grant Opportunity Guidelines with applications closing on 30 June 2020.

SUSSAN LEY

*The Hon Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment*