



**The Hon. David Littleproud MP**  
**Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia**  
**Deputy Leader of the Nationals**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## **Carbon and biodiversity world leaders in the Goulburn Valley**

The Nationals' world-first Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Package is set to take off in Victoria's Goulburn Broken region.

"The Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Package rewards farmers with a passive income stream from biodiversity outcomes and carbon abatement," Minister Littleproud said.

"Farmers have stewardship of over 50 per cent of Australia's landscape, and it is about time they get rewarded for the care of their land.

"The Liberal and Nationals Government is delivering \$91.6 million for the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Package."

This includes conducting pilots such as the Carbon + Biodiversity pilot here in the Goulburn Broken region with 17 farmers receiving monetary offers.

We have established a trading platform that assists with project planning and matches buyers and sellers and are investing a further \$13 million to make it an e-bay style deal done online.

To assist farmers participate we are providing \$15 million to put people into the Natural Resource Management regions to assist with application forms and with the design of their projects on their farm.

This is a practical measure, where agriculture extension officers will sit around with the farmers at their kitchen table, talk about their projects, and walk them through the process.

"This will bring about the best outcomes for the farmers and the environment.

"The Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Market Bill 2022 was introduced into Parliament and has \$13.2 million committed for its implementation.

"The farm in the Goulburn Broken region is the perfect example of how a farmer is managing the precious resource of land and preserving the environment."

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