

Bush Heritage announces science scholarships to fund climate change solutions

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National conservation not-for-profit [Bush Heritage Australia](https://www.bushheritage.org.au) announced today during National Science Week that it is boosting its scientific investment with a focus on supporting young scientists and encouraging collaboration.

Bush Heritage, which buys and protects land, and partners with Aboriginal people, is focusing on three key areas of investment: a Scientist in Residence program, Healthy Country Fellowships for PhD students and more internships to give future scientists invaluable field experience.

In 2021 Bush Heritage is welcoming six PhD students, eight interns and 10 placement students.

Bush Heritage's Executive Manager for Science and Conservation Dr Rebecca Spindler said Bush Heritage recognised the urgent need for more investment in science in Australia.

"We need innovation to sustain our impacts. If we're serious about having thriving landscapes into the future, we need more science, and we need more scientists," Dr Spindler said.

"This investment allows Bush Heritage to expand the reach, impact and awareness of our national science program like never before. We will boost collaboration to answer critical conservation questions on all levels and our support of young and emerging scientists will nurture the best and the brightest at the earliest opportunity."

Healthy Country Fellows

Early career scientists will have the chance to do their PhD on Bush Heritage reserves or partnerships, co-supervised by Bush Heritage staff. Topics include investigating the critically endangered Plains-wanderer and using drones and audiometry for conservation monitoring. Six new Fellows have been generously funded for three years by long-term Bush Heritage supporters Chris and Gina Grubb.

Scientist in Residence

Science academics from a range of disciplines on sabbatical or with a leave of absence can apply to become Bush Heritage Scientists in Residence for up to six months. Bush Heritage will make its reserves and resources available, cover expenses and project costs and provide cultural competence training.

More internships

An expanded internship program will provide valuable industry experience for scientists seeking to establish themselves in their fields. Interns can gain hands on experience in one of many aspects of the organisation including ecology, GIS mapping, field work, fundraising, safety and can be based at home, the office or in the field, depending on the project.

Find out more at www.bushheritage.org.au/what-we-do/science or contact: science@bushheritage.org.au