Kinchela Forest Regeneration Project

Protection & regeneration of Australian bush land

The Kinchela Forest Regeneration Project is located approximately 60km south of Bourke in northwest NSW. The land here was once degraded by feral animals and sheep grazing. But the development of the carbon farming project has seen native vegetation thrive on the property.

Kinchela was first taken up in the 1920's by Donald Fraser who received a soldier settler block of 10,200 acres. Mr. Fraser was a Gallipoli veteran and survivor of the Western Front. Upon his death the property was taken over by two of his sons, Ian and Malcolm who lived at Kinchela until 2007 when the property was purchased by John Cliveden Bull and John Henry Marshall Bull. Today Kinchela totals 16,100 hectares in size, with the regeneration project comprising of 13,083 hectares.

The Fraser family traditionally stocked Merino sheep in Kinchela. However, these were replaced by cattle as the main enterprise in 2009. Around this time 2032 feral goats were also removed from the land. This paved the way for the development of the Kinchela Regeneration Project.

Fast forward to the present day and vegetation is thriving on the Kinchela property. Tree species include bimble box, beefwood, leopardwood, ironwood, wild orange, belah, brigalow, rosewood, wilga and mulga. Grass species include woolybutt, windmill, wire, mulga oats, button and pigweed. This regenerated vegetation plays a pivotal role, because it provides the means by which carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere.

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Additional project benefits

The carbon farming project in Kinchela has a number of co-benefits beyond carbon absorption. These benefits range from preserving habitat for native species, to economic and social impacts in and around Bourke.

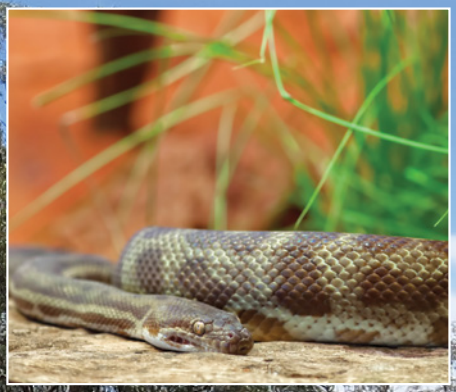
Kinchela and the surrounding region are home to a number of species listed as vulnerable in NSW. The grey-crowned babbler is one such species. The eastern subspecies of this bird (Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis) is listed as vulnerable in NSW. This bird is not a strong flyer, and finds it difficult to cross large open areas, like farms. Clearing of woodland remnants and heavy grazing both represent threats to this bird. Kinchela provides a habitat where those threats are minimised.

Another species found in the region is Stimson's python (Antaresia stimsoni). This non-venomous snake is listed as vulnerable in NSW. It is active at night, and prefers habitats which provide good cover. For these reasons it is hard to come by. However, it is known to inhabit the immediate area surrounding Kinchela, and is believed to be present on the property as well. Kinchela's regenerated vegetation offers shelter from threats like clearing and habitat degradation.

Kinchela also provides important financial benefits to the region. Carbon farming programs provide much needed cash flow to landholders during periods of drought. This has the potential to reduce or even eliminate the need for government assistance during difficult drought periods. This, in turn, can then stimulate the local economy. Bourke has very high rates of Indigenous disadvantage and economic prosperity would lead to more job opportunities.

Project snapshot

Name	Kinchela Forest Regeneration Project
Location	north western New South Wales, Australia
Type	Forest Regeneration
Emissions prevented	20,000 tonnes of CO_2e per year
Standard	Human-Induced Regeneration Methodology
Project developers	Climate Friendly and Australian Carbon Traders



"I believe [carbon farming is] the answer to the difficult question of drought support funding in these regions i.e. they take away the need for government assistance at these times. This money allows farmers to keep spending in local communities therefore providing jobs for local people."

John Cliveden Bull, Kinchela Landowner

Australian Carbon Traders ACT

For more information

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