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Minister for the Environment and Energy

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Senator for New South Wales

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE PROTECTION FOR CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND

The Coalition Government has secured an additional 5.8 hectares of nationally threatened Cumberland Plain Woodland, delivering on its 2013 and 2016 election commitments to establish a Cumberland Conservation Corridor in Western Sydney, New South Wales.

Two blocks acquired in Ninth Avenue, Llandilo, and in Jockbet Street, Agnes Banks, provide important links between isolated areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland, where less than 10 per cent of the woodland remains. The sites will provide protection for threatened species, including the critically endangered Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot.

The Ninth Avenue block is a relatively undisturbed site approximately five kilometres north-east of Penrith CBD. Home to a suite of federal and state-listed threatened species, the land provides an important link to Wianamatta reserve areas both north and south of the block. Without this link, the Wianamatta Reserve could become further isolated as more urban development occurs.

The Jockbet Street land forms part of a narrow corridor linking two of the largest remnant bushlands in Western Sydney – the Western Sydney University Farm and the area known locally as Londonderry Forest. The land also provides direct connectivity for threatened species offering ideal foraging and habitat.

Senator for Western Sydney, Marise Payne, welcomed the Coalition Government's announcement.

“Green corridors such as the Cumberland Plain Woodland are absolutely vital for preserving and protecting our valuable habitat in Lindsay and throughout Western Sydney,” Senator Payne said.

“This announcement is a major boost for conservation and the local groups committed to the preservation of green spaces. We have seen the positive results and development of this corridor over the past 10 years and it is a pleasure to be on board with this announcement.”

With the addition of these two blocks, more than 50 hectares of land has been secured for the Cumberland Conservation Corridor. Each block is protected by in-perpetuity conservation covenants. The land will be managed by the Cumberland Land Conservancy in consultation with Conservation Volunteers Australia.

This announcement is part of the Coalition Government's \$15 million election commitment to restore and protect significant areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland in Western Sydney through land acquisition, covenants and management plans for each property. This demonstrates our commitment to preserve urban green spaces in Western Sydney.

Ends

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