



THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP
Minister for the Environment and Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

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**ANNOUNCEMENT OF DR SALLY BOX
AS NEW THREATENED SPECIES COMMISSIONER**

The Turnbull Government is pleased to appoint Dr Sally Box as Australia's new Threatened Species Commissioner.

The Threatened Species Commissioner champions the implementation of the Threatened Species Strategy and practical conservation actions to recover our most threatened plants and animals. Using the principles of science, action and partnership, the Commissioner works with conservation organisations, governments, community and the private sector to improve the trajectory of our threatened species.

“Dr Box will continue the excellent work already underway, develop new initiatives and approaches and increase momentum for threatened species conservation,” said Minister for the Environment and Energy, the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP.

Dr Box has a PhD in Plant Sciences and began her career in the Department of the Environment and Energy working on threatened species assessments. Since, she has worked with the community to design and deliver programs focused on threatened species conservation, including through her leadership of the Green Army.

Dr Box has also worked in partnership with scientists and landholders to deliver the Emissions Reduction Fund and most recently worked on the Paris Agreement in the Department's international climate change area.

“Since the appointment of Gregory Andrews as Australia's first Threatened Species Commissioner, the Turnbull Government has mobilised more than \$237 million for more than 1,000 projects that are supporting threatened species outcomes,” said Minister Frydenberg.

“My predecessor, Minister Greg Hunt, appointed Mr Andrews and together they developed the world leading Threatened Species Strategy, under which the recovery of species like the helmeted honeyeater, warru and magenta lilly pilly is already improving. Their initiative and the contribution they have made has been very significant.”

“As the new Commissioner, Dr Box will continue to implement Australia's Threatened Species Strategy and deliver practical, evidence-based approaches which ensure the Government's conservation efforts and investments are targeted, coordinated and effective.”

Dr Box will take up the position of Threatened Species Commissioner in late January 2018.

For more information, visit: www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/commissioner/about

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