

Victoria's BushTender — Reverse-Auction Payments for Biodiversity Management

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Australia

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Piloted in 2001, Victoria's BushTender let private landholders competitively bid to manage native vegetation for public payment — a reverse-auction PES mechanism shown to buy the same biodiversity outcome at roughly one-seventh the cost of a fixed-price grant scheme.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action \(DEECA\), formerly Dept of Natural Resources and Environment, State of Victoria](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[Victoria DEECA — BushTender programme page](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[Victoria DEECA — EcoTender programme page](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[ADB \(2010\) — Eco-Compensation Policy Framework for the PRC \(cites BushTender as reference case\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

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