Degradation of important native vegetation for the past 30 years has been caused by key threats including: weed invasion and pest animals, illegal dumping, clearing of key habitat areas, and frequent or deliberate lighting of fires.

Regent Honeyeaters are found in a variety of woodland and forest areas containing River She-oak, White Box, Yellow Box and Mugga Ironbark in the Upper Hunter. Their decline over the last 30 years has been caused by key threats including: weed invasion and pest animals, illegal dumping, clearing of key habitat areas, and frequent or deliberate lighting of fires.

The Regent Honeyeater is a medium-sized bird, with yellowish grey plumage, a long tail and distinctive crest. They mainly feed on insects and birds, including the critically endangered Swift Parrot.

Important habitats in the Hunter

Lower Hunter forests contain one of four key breeding areas for Regent Honeyeaters in Australia as well as vital feeding habitats.

The Hunter Valley also contains important woodland bird habitats in the Lower and Upper Hunter, in Box Gum Grassys Woodlands and Central Valley Hunter Eucalypt Forests (Spotted Gum-Ironbark forests), and mature She-Oaks in the Upper Hunter.

These habitats are degraded from past clearing and fragmentation. Some of the best remnants and priority habitat areas occur on private land.

We need your help to protect the Regent Honeyeater and ensure their long-term survival!

Help us to repair woodland bird habitats!

Not only will you be helping the Regent Honeyeater but also 28 other local vulnerable or threatened woodland bird species in decline Australia wide, including critically endangered Swift Parrot.

About Regent Honeyeaters

The Regent Honeyeater is a critically endangered woodland bird with less than 400 individuals left in the wild, broadly inhabiting the east coast of Australia. They rely heavily on mistletoe for nectar and nesting and can be found in Spotted Gum-Ironbark and Swamp Mahogany forests in the Lower Hunter and a variety of woodland and forest areas containing River She-oak, White Box, Yellow Box and Mugga Ironbark in the Upper Hunter.

Regent Honeyeaters can be found feeding and breeding in:
- Cessnock forests and surrounds
- Merriwa Plateau-Box Woodlands
- Goulburn River
- Edges of the Blue Mountains World Heritage area and associated valleys
- Coastal areas of the Hunter and Mid Coast

Hunter LLS project and priorities

Hunter Local Land Services (Hunter LLS) is working closely with experts from BirdLife Australia and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, to deliver a 5-year program to improve the long-term recovery of the Regent Honeyeater and associated threatened woodland birds, including the critically endangered Swift Parrot.

The project is focusing on two key biodiversity areas for the Regent Honeyeater around Cessnock and Goulburn River National Park.

Hunter LLS will provide landholders with technical advice and support, and, for those in priority areas, options for on-ground restoration activities through incentive funding to protect and restore significant remnant woodland bird habitat by:
- improving the condition of remnant habitats
- protecting remnants
- extending remnants through revegetation and regeneration
- enhancing canopy diversity through planting

Report a Regent! Spot a Swiftie!

If you see a Regent Honeyeater or Swift Parrot please report it to BirdLife Australia on 1800 621 056 or email mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au dean.ingwersen@birdlife.org.au

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Help us restore important habitats- REVEGETATION

**Hunter Local Land Services is offering incentives to land managers for revegetation or native canopy enhancement projects that protect and connect** Box Gum Grassy Woodland remnants in the Upper Hunter: southern Merriwa plateau, Goulburn, Hunter Rivers, lower Halls and Wybong catchments, Martindale, Widden and Baeremi valleys, valleys adjoining Blue Mountains World Heritage Areas and Goulburn NP and Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt forests remnants in the Lower Hunter in Cessnock and surrounds, Wollombi, Howes, Congewai and Putty Valleys, and Mt View.

**ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**

We are looking to partner with land managers within the areas above who have existing areas of Box Gum Grassy Woodland or Central Valley Hunter Eucalypt forests (Spotted Gum-Ironbark) on or adjoining their property, including areas with existing large trees and/or areas with a diversity of native groundcover/shrub species. Eligible projects include:

- Protecting existing remnant areas by fencing to exclude stock.
- Enhancing existing remnant areas by fencing to excluding stock and/or planting trees and shrubs to increase diversity.
- Connecting existing remnant areas by fencing and planting large blocks of trees, tree lanes, clusters and/or paddock trees or around dams. This may include connecting to areas that aren’t on your property such as neighbouring remnants on roadsides, public and private land.
- Protecting or connecting remnant riparian vegetation by fencing and planting.

Key species we are looking to reinstate and protect (in or near remnant vegetation) through revegetation or regeneration are:

- Spotted Gum
- Swamp Mahogany
- Broad-leaved Ironbark
- River She-oak
- Native mistletoe
- Stringybark
- Mugga Ironbark
- Grey Gum
- Yellow Box

**MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY**

Hunter LLS staff can also assist with other technical advice, including a property based weed or revegetation plan, species lists and connection to nurseries and other providers. We also run regular training and workshops to support you on your property, keep watch of our events page or Facebook @HunterLLS page.

For landholders or community groups in the target areas, you can submit an easy online expression of interest (EOI) form through our incentives page. Scan the QR code to the right or go to our web page: www.lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/hunter/grants-funding-scholarships

**CONTACT:** Carolyn Jenkinson (Lower Hunter) carolyn.jenkinson@lls.nsw.gov.au or Catherine Conroy (Upper Hunter) catherine.conroy@lls.nsw.gov.au 
Carolyn 0408 162 174, Catherine 0427 578 937 or Free Call: 1300 795 299

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