

MEDIA RELEASE

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SUPPORTING FORESTRY AND TOURISM JOBS IN REGIONAL NSW

The 2017-18 Budget invests in Crown lands and forestry activities to support jobs and community-building activities across NSW, Minister for Lands and Forestry Paul Toole said today.

In addition to supporting jobs growth, through infrastructure projects vital for tourism and continuing support for the forestry industry, this year's Budget also continues the reform of Crown lands, giving it a modern management framework.

"Investing in marine infrastructure is vital for tourism, jobs and economic development in regional towns along the coast," Mr Toole said.

"The Eden Breakwater Wharf Extension Project will be a marquee project for the far South coast, generating tourism and activity for Eden and surrounding communities."

"The Budget also provides \$2.5 million towards the Coastal Dredging Strategy to improve safety and maintain access for commercial and recreation vessels, which is vital for coastal tourism in regional NSW."

Initiatives in the 2017-18 Budget include:

- \$26 million for the planning and delivery of the Eden Wharf Extension project to develop a facility to cater for visiting cruise ships
- \$15 million for the Public Reserves Management Fund to provide grants and loans to reserve trust managers for the development, maintenance and improvement of public reserves across NSW
- \$16.2 million to implement reforms to Crown land management, delivering a single modern framework that enhances transparency and community engagement
- \$9.8 million for coastal infrastructure projects to repair and upgrade breakwaters and training walls, wharves and jetties, and routine maintenance
- \$2.5 million for dredging works in priority regional locations to maintain navigational access to state-owned maritime infrastructure
- \$1.7 million to continue vital policy work for a sustainable forestry industry

- \$2.5 million in continuing funding for the Bushfire Mitigation Program, to mitigate and manage bushfire risk on Crown land
- \$3.9 million in funding for repair and maintenance of the Meadowbank Railway (John Whitton) Bridge

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