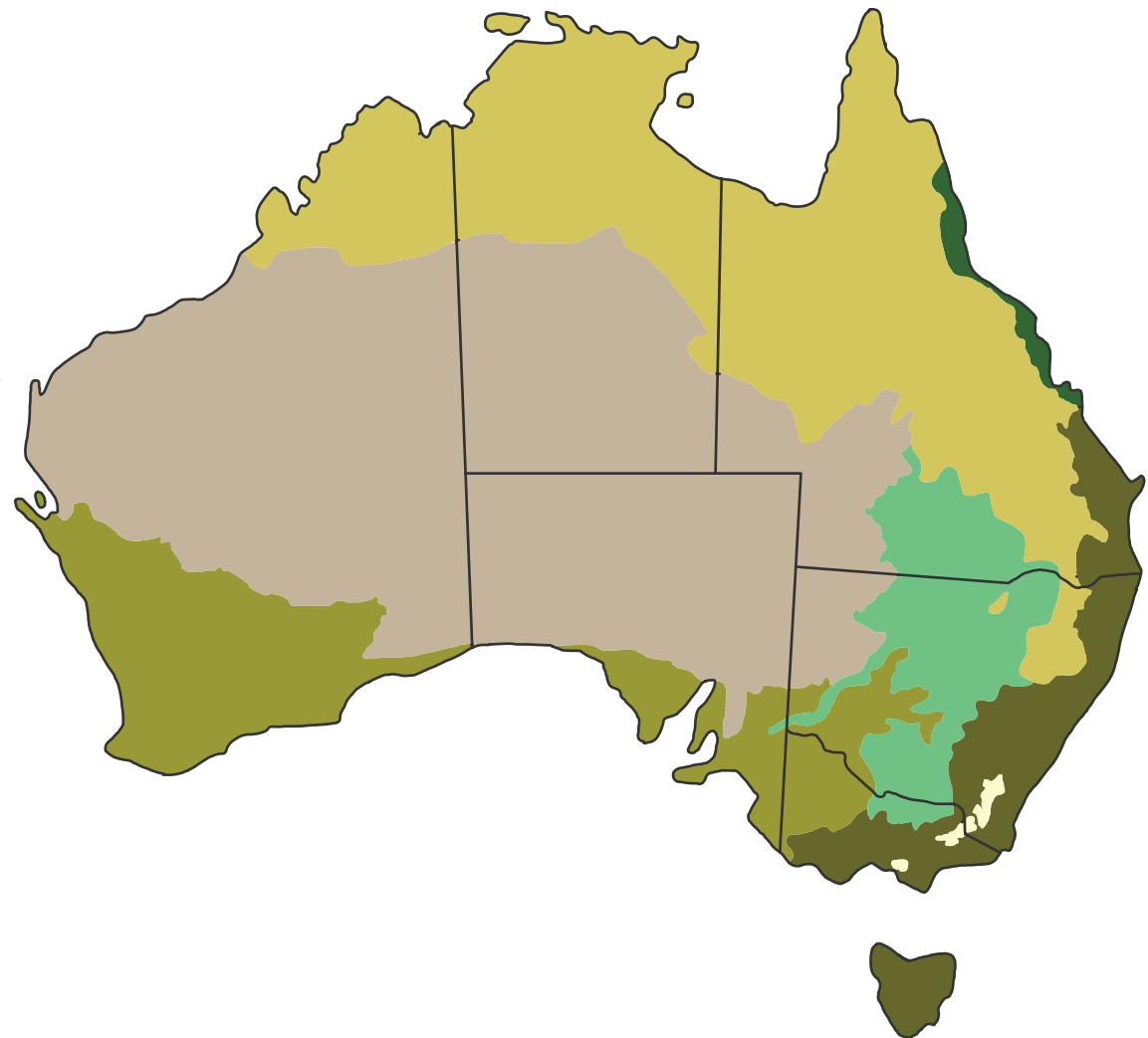
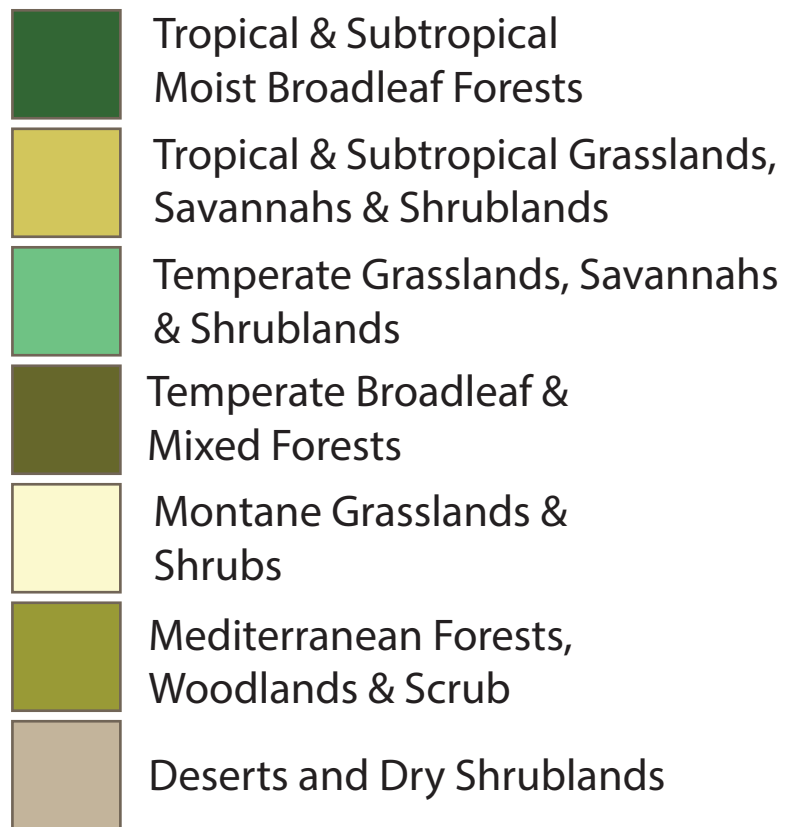


# How has human impact throughout Australia's history changed the environment ?



What impact do you think humans have had on the habitats of Australian animals?



How has agriculture affected the land?



The city of Sydney has spread over the last two hundred years. Vast areas of land have been cleared for urban development in all states.



Many species of native plants and animals have declined since European colonisation began in 1788. Many have become extinct and many are critically endangered.

The Australian Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 was introduced to prevent further loss of species.

### *Numbers of Threatened and Extinct Australian Species:*

	<i>extinct</i>	<i>critically endangered</i>	<i>endangered</i>	<i>vulnerable</i>
<i>fish</i>	1	8	16	24
<i>mammals</i>	27	6	38	64
<i>birds</i>	22	16	49	68
<i>frogs</i>	4	5	14	10
<i>reptiles</i>	0	9	18	33
<i>other animals</i>	1	25	19	11
<i>plants</i>	36	148	527	588

Source: 'EPBC Act List of Threatened Species' [www.government.gov.au](http://www.government.gov.au)



Indigenous people lived in Australia for 40 000 years before European colonisation.

What methods did they employ to protect the environment?

What can we do to protect the future of Australia's unique environments?