Itinerary for Eminent Speaker Tour of Australia
(4th to 21st November 2027)

Delivered by Prof Ben Groom
Dragon Capital Chair in Biodiversity Economics

Day (November)	Event	Talk title
Melbourne		
Thu, 5th 18:00-19:30	Public lecture, Melbourne CBD	**Nature Markets: Are they a solution for environmental degradation?** Ben Groom (Dragon Capital Chair of Biodiversity Economics, LEEP, University of Exeter) Economists often frame the problem of environmental degradation and biodiversity loss as a problem of "missing markets". This suggests that market creation for ecosystem services and biodiversity is an obvious solution. Yet the conditions under which markets work well as allocation devices are numerous and require strong institutions. The lecture will explore whether these principles of market design are easy to apply to nature markets, the successes and failures of nature markets and some guidance for future policy.
Fri, 6th 13:30-14:30	Department Seminar, Caulfield Meetings with staff & PHD students	**Empirical Extinction Risk** by Loris Andre (PSE), Ben Groom (Exeter) and Frank Venmans (LSE). Summary

Day (November)	Event	Talk title
Mon, 9th	Meetings with staff & PHD students	**Topics for discussion include:** • Biodiversity Economics • Climate Economics • Social Discounting • Carbon Removals/Offsets Anything from the website
Tues, 10th (time tbc)	ANU: ACDE Seminar, Crawford School of Public Policy	**Empirical Extinction Risk** by Loris Andre (PSE), Ben Groom (Exeter) and Frank Venmans (LSE). Summary
Sydney		
Wed, 11th 13:00-14:00	USYD seminar	**Empirical Extinction Risk** by Loris Andre (PSE), Ben Groom (Exeter) and Frank Venmans (LSE). Summary
Fri, 13th 11:00-12:30	UNSW seminar	**Academic Seminar:** **Empirical Extinction Risk** by Loris Andre (PSE), Ben Groom (Exeter) and Frank Venmans (LSE). Summary **HM Treasury Social Discount Rate Review** by Mark Freeman (York) and Ben Groom (Exeter)
Brisbane		
Tue, 17th (time tbc)	UQ: Applied lecture series	**HM Treasury Social Discount Rate Review** Mark Freeman (York) and Ben Groom (Exeter)

Perth		
Thu, 19th (time tbd)	UWA: Policy Impact workshop	**Nature Markets** 1. **Intro** (30 mins): How can markets for nature work? **Key market requirements**: Commodity (e.g. property rights, public good, biodiversity metrics), institutional, policy and market characteristics; **Types of market mechanism**: Compliance cap and trade, ITQs, auctions, carbon and biodiversity offset markets (e.g. BNG in the UK), PES **Material**: Nature Market report, Nature market papers (Hanley et al. 2025; zu Ermgassen et al., 2026; Balmford et al 2025), Carbon offset papers (Groom and Venmans 2023; Lee et al., 2026 (Carbon at Risk), Additionality and Transparency (Delacote et al 2025, 2024). 2. **Discussion** (1 hour): **Possible Topics**: - What roles do economists need to play in the design and implementation of nature markets? - What do successful nature markets look like? - Lessons from UK and other experience 3. **General Lessons, also for Australia** (30 mins): - Discussion
Fri, 20th (time tbd)	UWA: Business school lecture	**Carbon Removals and Additionality in Dynamic Forests** Groom and Venmans (2023). Ville Inkinen (ECHA), Ben Balmford (Exeter), Sarah Meier (ETHZ), Ben Groom (Exeter) et al. (2026) Lee et al., (2026). Credibility in carbon offsets fell in 2023 when evidence showed that tropical forest carbon offsets had questionable additionality, were risky in general and were impermanent. Yet temporary carbon removals have a valuable cooling effect, are potentially competitive if only measurement of additionality and risks is possible. These issues are explored. • Summary of Social Value of Offsets • Summary of Additionality in Dynamic Forest • Summary of Carbon at Risk (forthcoming)