

## Landholder Information Summary Sheet

# RANGELANDS INCENTIVES STRATEGY (RIS)



The Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority (LMD CMA) has adopted a Rangelands Incentive Strategy (RIS) for the provision of incentives for landholders. In order for landholders to input into the funding allocation process, a two-stage approach has been adopted.

This Landholder Information Sheet outlines the range of possible incentives to be considered by LMD CMA, and the priority vegetation communities and vegetation targets from the LMD Catchment Action Plan (CAP) 2006.

Proposals that best address the Catchment Action Plan (2006) Targets will be considered most favourably. LMD CMA and sponsors shall be recognised through signage and/or promotion.

### ***HOW CAN YOU AS A LANDHOLDER BE INVOLVED?***

Do you have an area of high quality native vegetation on your property you would like to see conserved?

Would you like to improve the overall condition of your property?

If so, this program may be able to provide assistance to carry out on-ground works to protect areas of native vegetation eg. Fencing and/or alternative water point installation, or provide incentive funding eg. Funding for management agreements to achieve conservation, rehabilitation, and/or sustainable grazing.

### ***WHERE TO FROM HERE?***

If you are interested in the use of these funds to help improve your land management, please contact LMD CMA on (03) 5021 9460.



### VEGETATION TARGETS

The Rangelands Incentives Strategy (RIS), delivered by the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority (LMDCMA), aims to achieve the following *Lower Murray Darling Catchment Action Plan (2006)* Vegetation Targets:

- V2** Increase by 171,000 hectares the area of permanent conservation reserves in the catchment by 2015 as a contribution towards achieving the permanent reservation of 20% of each vegetation community by 2054.  
**V3** Improve the condition of each vegetation community at 90% of sites by the year 2015.

The RIS aims **to increase the area actively managed for conservation** in the Lower Murray Darling (LMD) Catchment, and **improve vegetation condition** across the LMD catchment. This will lead to an overall improvement in landscape health, and ultimately to benefits to agricultural production.

The incentives offered in this strategy specifically address factors that are presently retarding progress towards the improvement of the conservation status and condition of native vegetation in the Lower Murray Darling Catchment.

### PRIORITY VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

Whilst all native vegetation communities may be considered, preference will be given to the following priorities:

-

Belah Rosewood	Red Gum Woodland	Cypress Pine	Acacia Shrubland
Black Box	Chenopod Mallee	Lignum Shrubland	Mulga Shrubland
Mallee Mosaic	Wetland	Cane Grass	River Redgum

### ELIGIBILITY

Application for incentives for landholders and groups within the Lower Murray Darling Catchment of NSW who have natural resource management responsibilities. Proposals should be submitted on the LMD CMA incentive Expression of Interest form.

**Activities previously funded by Government programs are ineligible for repeat funding. Works must be approved by LMD CMA prior to being undertaken. Offsets required under a Development PVP are NOT eligible for incentives.**

*All relevant legislation, permits and licenses that may be required to complete the proposed projects must be adhered to. All relevant permit and licenses are the responsibility of the landholders to obtain before any works are carried out.*

### DELIVERY MECHANISMS

**Property Vegetation Plans (PVP)** or **PAMS Management Agreement (MA)** will be the primary delivery mechanism for most incentives.

For those proposals that fit within CMA guidelines/priorities based on the scored environmental outcomes, a formal PVP is to be prepared, documenting the agreed actions and duration period, so that they can be audited and verified at a later date, in a format to be determined by LMD CMA. A MA will only require a simple map with little or no field assessment.

The RIS will complement other programs and is a means of achieving outcomes that will contribute towards achieving the LMD CMA CAP Vegetation Targets (listed above).

### COST SHARING

All incentives require a minimum of 50% applicant contribution. A landholder's labour/time component (at \$30/hr) and use of their own machinery (at 80% of a contractor's rate) will be considered as in-kind contribution to a project. Maintenance of works is the responsibility of the landholder.

### **CONSERVATION RESERVES SCHEME (FOR NEW RESERVES)**

Fact Sheet O39 – “Establishment of Conservation & Grazing Reserves”

A Stewardship payment to eligible landholders that wish to permanently manage an area of their property for conservation according to an agreed Property Vegetation Plan.

***Criteria:-***

- **Conservation area is reserved.**
- **Only management activities that maintain and improve ecosystem functions are permitted in a conservation reserve.**
- **Conservation reserve must be adequately fenced to control entry of domestic stock.**
- **Complete training workshop on Biodiversity Assessment, with annual monitoring to be undertaken by the landholder and submitted to the LMD CMA.**

**Note:** Landholders may also be eligible for a \$0.40/ha Rehabilitation Rebate from the Western Lands Commissioner.

### **SUSTAINABLE GRAZING SCHEME**

Fact Sheet O36 – “Incentives to Establish Sustainable Grazing Schemes”

This incentive is offered to eligible landholders in line with the LMD CMA's *Drought Management Guideline*. It provides an incentive for the improvement and maintenance of a minimum of 40% groundcover across an entire property, through control of total grazing pressure. Groundcover components may include perennial plants (grasses and ground cover species) and cryptogams (mosses and lichens etc).

***Criteria:***

- **Implementation of management plan for an agreed term**
- **Completion of an approved Sustainable Grazing Management Course**

### **RIVER AND FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT**

Fact Sheet O38 – “River and Floodplain Management”

Funding for fencing of conservation reserves, riparian reserves, riverine frontage, and wetlands. Total grazing exclusion fencing is only available for specified vegetation community types including Cypress Pine and Belah Rosewood.

**Standard fencing: up to \$1500/km      Total grazing exclusion fencing: up to \$2700/km**

### **WATER POINT MANAGEMENT**

Fact Sheet O35 – “Water Point Management”

Funding for the removal or decommissioning of ground tanks/dams, and the provision of controlled water points. Includes provision of an alternative watering point in conjunction with fencing of riverine frontage.

**Conservation Reserves**

- Removal/decommission of an open water point: **up to \$1500**
- Provision of a tank & trough: **up to \$2600**

**Riparian Reserves**

- Provision of a tank, trough, pipeline, & solar pump (in conjunction with fencing of riverine frontage) **up to \$4000**

**Other areas (non reserves)**

- Decommission dam, provision of tank, trough **up to \$2600**
- Total exclusion fencing on functioning dam, goat trap gate, pump and trough **up to \$2600**

## PEST CONTROL

Fact Sheet O33 – "Goat Trap Incentives"

Funding for rabbit control works. Areas previously treated under the South West Rabbit Control Program from 1996-2002, or other government funding, are not eligible for further funding from these Incentives.

**Ripping: up to \$10/ha**

**Baiting: up to \$8/km**

**Fumigation: up to \$10/ha**

Funding for goat traps: **up to \$1700 each**. Funding for carnivorous pests –via Balranald/Wentworth RLPB

## WEED CONTROL

Funding for the control of exotic weeds within conservation reserves, as identified the *Regional Weed Strategy – Lower Murray Darling Catchment* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2006) **up to \$10/ha**

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Funding to cover the cost of training courses endorsed by the Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority, including Biodiversity Assessment and Sustainable Grazing Management training, (options of Holistic Management, Tactical Grazing Management) and "*Plan to Profit*" (P2P™).

**Full payment of course costs only (all costs for travel to the training venue and accommodation etc is the responsibility of the participating landholder)**

## WETLAND MANAGEMENT

Funding for on-ground works contributing to improved wetland management or rehabilitation is available through the NSW Murray Wetlands Working Group.

**Wetlands Incentive Scheme: for projects up to \$10,000**  
**Wetlands Rehabilitation & Investigations Program: for projects more than \$10,000.**

### **For further information**

Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority

(Quote: *Rangelands Incentives*)

PO Box 363, Buronga NSW 2739

Ph (03) 5021 9460 Fax (03) 5021 1308

Website - [www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au)

Sponsored by:-

State  
Sustainability  
Fund



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
National Landcare Program



Lower Murray Darling CMA

Respect for our communities  
& the environment



**NOTE – This document was current at time of production. Please check latest details with LMD CMA.**

Created on 08/02/2006

Modified on 11/4/2007

G:\CMA\Education & Media Relations\Fact Sheets\014ar6) LMD CMA Rangelands Incentives Strategy RIS Landholder information 11 April 2007.doc