

# 2009–10 Investment Proposal



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY

This form is only for Caring for our Country funding proposals.  
The closing date for this proposal is 6 March 2009. You are encouraged to read the *Instructions for preparing Caring for our Country proposal* and the *2009-10 business plan* available at [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) before you commence this form.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

### Proponent name

Landcare NSW Incorporated.

### Proposal title

Please provide a title which clearly indicates what your proposal will achieve (maximum 15 words).

*“Communities in Landscapes”*: [Working together to integrate conservation and production](#) across Box-Gum [Woodlands](#).

### Proposal summary

Please provide a short description of your proposal (maximum 150 words).

The *“Communities in Landscapes”* [proposal uses the logic that landscape-scale change can be achieved by working with farmers and their communities to identify and advise on management practices that will benefit ecosystem function in Box-Gum Woodlands, have positive outcomes for production, and increase community capacity to carry on these practices beyond the life of the project.](#)

[The proposal focuses on three key service areas:](#)

- [1. Improved targeting of information and management support for land-managers and community groups;](#)
- [2. Improved knowledge base to inform and support management decisions in Box-Gum Woodland landscapes;](#)
- [3. Implementation of integrated on-ground activities across properties in six priority local landscapes.](#)

[The nine proposal partners come from community, conservation, production and research sectors. The range of networks, skills and opportunities provided by these partners and the collaborative model set-up within the proposal ensures strategic, co-ordinated, extensive and efficient delivery of the proposal's services.](#)

### Proposed budget

\$

### Proposed duration

Proposed start date (month, year)

Proposed completion date (month, year)

### Proposal type

[www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) 1800 552 008

## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

Please select the relevant category(s) for your proposal.

- ☐ Small-scale proposal
- ☒ Medium-scale proposal
- ☐ Large-scale expression of interest
- ☐ Acquisition of land for the national reserve system

### **Priority area**

Please select the relevant Caring for our Country priority area(s) that your proposal addresses.

- ☐ National Reserve System
- ☒ Biodiversity and natural icons
- ☐ Coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats
- ☒ Sustainable farm practices
- ☐ Natural resource management in northern and remote Australia
- ☒ Community skills, knowledge and engagement

# Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal

## SECTION 1: PROPONENT DETAILS

The *Proponent Details* are required for the legal entity with whom the Australian Government will form a contract, if this proposal is successful.

### 1.1 (a) Organisation details

Organisation name	Landcare NSW Incorporated
Organisation/Company ABN	24 958 819 359
Organisation/Company ACN	
Is your organisation registered for GST?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### 1.1 (b) Organisation address details

PO Box/Street Address	PO Box 777 35-37 Abbott Street		
Town/City	Gunnedah		
State	NSW	Postcode	2380

### 1.1 (c) Entity type

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Incorporated group or organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incorporated Aboriginal or Torres Strait organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional natural resource management organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Australian public or private company
<input type="checkbox"/>	Registered business partnership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	State or Territory Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Australian Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trustee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Educational Institution

### 1.1 (d) Proponent contact information—person who will sign the contract

This is the person with power to bind the organisation in a contract for the value of this proposal.

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	Mr	David	Walker
Position in organisation	Chairman		
Business phone number	02-6741 8332		

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After hours phone number	<input type="text" value="0428 418 332"/>
Fax	<input type="text" value="02-6742 2940"/>
Mobile	<input type="text" value="0428 418 332"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="dwalker@landcarensw.org.au"/>

### **1.1 (e) Proponent contact information—primary contact person**

The primary contact person should be a person in the lead organisation who is readily contactable in March–May 2009 during the proposal assessment period and will be involved in the day-to-day management of the project.

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	<input type="text" value="Ms"/>	<input type="text" value="Marion"/>	<input type="text" value="Benjamin"/>
Organisation	<input type="text" value="Landcare NSW Incorporated"/>		
Position in organisation	<input type="text" value="Executive Officer"/>		
Business phone number	<input type="text" value="02-69257718"/>		
After hours phone number	<input type="text" value="0431 953 778"/>		
Fax	<input type="text" value="02-69257807"/>		
Mobile	<input type="text" value="0431 953 778"/>		
Email	<input type="text" value="mbenjamin@landcarensw.org.au"/>		

### **1.1 (f) Proponent contact information—secondary contact person**

The secondary contact person should be a person who is readily contactable in March–May 2009 and will only be contacted where the primary contact person is unavailable.

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	<input type="text" value="Mr"/>	<input type="text" value="David"/>	<input type="text" value="Walker"/>
Organisation	<input type="text" value="Landcare NSW Incorporated"/>		
Position in organisation	<input type="text" value="Chairman"/>		
Business phone number	<input type="text" value="02-6741 8332"/>		
After hours phone number	<input type="text" value="0428 418 332"/>		
Fax	<input type="text" value="02-6742 2940"/>		
Mobile	<input type="text" value="0428 418 332"/>		

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

Email

dwalker@landcarensw.org.au

### **1.2 REFEREES**

Nominate two referees who can attest to your organisation's capacity to undertake the work set out in this proposal. Referees must not have any financial or contractual interest in this proposal.

#### **1.2 (a) Referee 1**

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	Dr	John	Williams
Organisation	Natural Resources Commission		
Position in organisation	Commissioner		
Business phone number	02 – 8227 4300		
Fax	02 - 8227 4399		
Mobile			
Email	John.williams@nrc.nsw.gov.au		

#### **1.2 (b) Referee 2**

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	Ms	Sam	Robinson
Organisation	Conservation Volunteers Australia		
Position in organisation	Corporate & Government Affairs Manager		
Business phone number	02 – 6553 8900		
Fax	02-6553 8900		
Mobile	0404 828 930		
Email	SRobinson@cva.org.au		

# Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Proposal detail

Provide a detailed description of the proposal, detailing the issues it will address, what the project will achieve, how it is addressing landscape scale change and the logic showing that these activities will deliver the targets (maximum 800 words).

This proposal achieves *Caring for Our Country* targets by increasing native habitat and landscape scale conservation within national priority White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands (Box-Gum Woodlands) in all its conditions through community engagement and participation and in ways that benefit both the ecosystem and agricultural production.

Proposal partners are Landcare NSW Inc, Grassy Box Woodland Conservation Management Network, Stipa, CSIRO, University of NSW, Department of Primary Industry and Department of Environment & Climate Change (DECC), World Wildlife Fund, Birds Australia and Greening Australia/Flora Bank. The range of networks, skills and opportunities provided by these partners and the collaborative model set-up within the proposal will ensure strategic and efficient delivery of services.

The proposal uses the logic that landscape-scale change can be achieved by engaging and advising farmers and their communities on practices that; are known to benefit resilience in Box-Gum Woodlands landscapes; have positive outcomes for production; and increase community capacity to carry on these practices beyond the life of the project.

The proposal focuses on three key service areas:

1. Improved targeting of information and management support for land-managers and community groups;
2. Improved knowledge base to inform and support management decisions in Box-Gum Woodland landscapes;
3. Implementation of integrated on-ground activities across multiple properties in priority local landscapes.

#### Information and Management Support

The major threat to the resilience of Box-Gum Woodlands is the gradual degradation of sites in all conditions through management actions including heavy or seasonally unsuitable grazing, fertiliser and herbicide application techniques, weed invasion and ground litter removal. Relatively simple changes in mind-set have already resulted in enhanced ecosystem function in many locations, and with coordinated effort this can be extended across large extents of the Box-Gum Woodland landscape with both private and public benefit.

Currently land-management information is delivered via specific interest groups. This proposal will expand the Box-Gum Woodland information delivery network by working with project partners and other agencies with established members or clientele including Landcare NSW Inc, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Stipa and Catchment Management Authorities, to incorporate Box-Gum Woodland management information into their conservation and/or production focussed programs and ensure management advice is consistent with maintaining and improving Box-Gum Woodlands of all conditions.

The proposal's second information focus is those land-managers already working on achieving

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improvement in their woodlands, either through self-interest or, importantly, through funded programs such as an Environmental Stewardship Agreement. This proposal ensures these land-managers have access to best-management-practice advice in order that they may adapt their management techniques to achieve best-possible outcomes for both their production enterprises and to fulfil their agreement responsibilities.

The proposal will also raise broader awareness of Box-Gum Woodlands through rural and urban media opportunities.

### **Improved knowledge base**

To influence land-managers to change their management practices information needs to address land-holder priorities and be clear about implications for their enterprise and the effectiveness of on-ground outcomes. This proposal works closely with partners to ensure research activity is confined to assessing the effectiveness of activities that improve Box-Gum Woodland functionality that are likely to be implemented by land-managers. In addition to trial sites on land-holder properties the proposal includes three demonstration sites with different core management objectives (production, biodiversity and cultural heritage) where identified best-practice-management is applied, consistent with property objectives and constraints to serve as educational sites for partners and community groups.

Currently there are issues regarding the management of Box-Gum Woodlands data which impacts on the ability of the Commonwealth to monitor improvements or declines in extent and condition. The proposal will assist DECC with their work to build an accessible database of existing government, NGO and private monitoring and management data. This will enable everyone involved in research or management of Box-Gum Woodlands (including the Commonwealth through ERIN and the Recovery Planning process) to input, access and utilise this resource in order to track recovery of the ecosystem.

To understand the processes that lead to land-managers making decisions that will improve resilience of Box-gum Grassy Woodlands, the proposal will also monitor and evaluate behaviour change amongst landholders to understand the effectiveness of the different engagement approaches used within and beyond the proposal. Through the benchmark survey, it will also access land-managers who have already adopted innovations that have successfully integrated production and conservation. Through both in depth interviews and on-ground measurement, it will provide data and insights into adoption pathways and the actual benefits of specific strategies.

### **Integrated on- ground works across multiple properties in priority local landscapes**

Given that Box-Gum Woodlands exist within a complex geographic and land-management matrix, efforts to build ecosystem resilience need to work across property boundaries to ensure practices on one property are not affecting conservation outcomes on another. To address this issue the proposal will develop six cross-property conservation plans with groups of 10 or more land-managers. To engage participants in this planning process the proposal will identify landscapes where high priority Box-Gum Woodlands overlap with active or potentially active community groups and landholders. Incentives to participate will include funded training and support opportunities with proposal partners, funded connectivity plantings and access to seed-money delivered on completion of the plans to begin implementation.

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### 2.2 Targets addressed by proposal

Detail the Caring for our Country targets that your proposal will contribute to achieving.

Caring for our Country target(s)	Quantity of target to be delivered	Milestones (measures of progress)	Timeframe for each milestone
400 000 ha increase in area of native habitat managed to reduce critical threats	55390 ha increase in area of native habitat (Box-Gum Woodland) managed to reduce critical threats <i>(where management change implemented by farmers after attendance at field day – 1ha per person – training event, 10 ha per person, conservative estimate based on surveys conducted in 2009)</i>	9 Woodland management field days	July 2009 - June 2010
		9 Woodland management field days	July 2010 - June 2011
		Management trial workshop	By Dec 2011
		Management trial workshop	By Sept 2112
		2 benchmark project results workshops	By June 2011
		3 demonstration property field days	Held by 30 June 2011
		9 Conservation, planning, management & monitoring training events	By June 30 2010
		3 Flora & Fauna ID training events	By Nov 30 2010
		3 Frog habitat recognition training events	By June 2010
		3 Frog habitat recognition training events	By June 30 2011
		2 DPI staff conservation training events	By June 30 2011
		Direct contact by proposal partners with 2000 landcare members, members of community environment groups and farming community leading to changes in management practices to improve all condition Box-Gum Woodlands.	June 30 2010
		Direct contact by proposal partners with 2000 landcare members, members of community environment groups and farming community leading to changes in management practices to improve all condition Box-Gum Woodlands.	June 30 2011.
		30 CMN member and other partner project sites surveyed	Dec. 2009
		30 CMN member and other partner project sites surveyed	Dec 2010
Continued: 400 000 ha increase in	Continued: 55390 ha increase in area	30 management trial sites surveyed	By June 30 2010



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area of native habitat managed to reduce critical threats	of native habitat (Box-Gum Woodland) managed to reduce critical threats <i>(where management change implemented by farmers after attendance at field day – 1ha per person – training event, 10 ha per person, conservative estimate based on surveys conducted in 2009)</i>	20 benchmark properties surveyed	By June 30 2010
		30 site frog surveys	By mid Jan 2010
		30 site frog surveys	By mid Jan 2011
		3x Seed Supply Strategy plans delivered;;	By 30 June 2010
		6 Seed Supply Strategy plans + 1 st monitoring/evaluation report for Florabank Seed Supply Strategy plans	By 30 June 2011
		2nd Seed Supply Strategy report	By 31 Dec 2011
		Targeted Threatened Species works, At least 10 people trained, on-ground tasks to protect at least three national priority threatened woodland flora species.	By June 30, 2011
		Implementation of on-ground change as part of 3 cross-property management plans (see Increase landscape scale conservation target).	End of year 2
		Implementation of on-ground change as part of 3 cross-property management plans (see Increase landscape scale conservation target).	End of year 2
		30 grants to community groups for on-ground work	30 June 2010
		30 grants to community groups for on-ground work	30 June 2011
		Implement specific strategies on three demonstration properties.	30 June 2011
		Develop and expand Dananbilla Illunie Protected Area network through partnerships and conservation mechanisms including covenants. Identify land for suitable for inclusion in NRS & in priority areas other covenants (Covenants will bolster NRS targets and will be reported on as signed).	30 June 2011.

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6700 increase in farmers in priority regions adopting practices that contribute to ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity	60 farmers adopting practices that contribute to ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity	3 cross-property conservation plans involving 10+ farmers one each in Murrumbidgee, Lachlan and Central-West catchments.	30 farmers involved in cross-property conservation planning by 30 June 2010
		3 cross-property conservation plans involving 10+ farmers one each in Murrumbidgee, Lachlan and Central-West catchments.	30 farmers involved in cross-property conservation planning by 30 June 2011
<p>Increasing community knowledge and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing easily accessible, free information to groups and individuals.</li> </ul>	9020 land managers and farmers receiving free Box-Gum Woodland information	Collate existing best practice management, identify knowledge gaps	30 Dec 2009
		Reprint ID, threats & actions brochure by	Dec 2009,
		update guidelines with improved information by	30 Feb 2010
		Produce; Woodland succession state brochure,	30 June 2010
		Twice yearly 'Woodland Wanderings' newsletter	Spring 2009 & Autumn 2010,
		Twice yearly 'Woodland Wanderings' newsletter	spring 2010 & Autumn 2011
		Information brochure for peri-urban dwellers	Dec 2010
		Woodland history DVD	March 30 2011
		Site signage ongoing	June 2011
		Maintain and improve woodlands website	June 30 2010
		Develop woodland expert DVD for showing at community events	30 Dec 2009
		At least 5 local rural press features on Box-Gum Grassy-Woodland	July 2009– June 2011
		At least 5 radio interviews on Box-Gum Grassy-Woodland	July 2009 – June 2011
		At least 2 articles profiling local farmers combining conservation and farming in farmers' magazines	July 2009 – June 2011
		Media package for Threatened Species Day	July 2009 – June 2011
		20 BGW species complete and fact sheets added to florabank Species Navigator	June 2010

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		40 BGW species complete and fact sheets added to florabank Species Navigator	June 2011
		Education pages on Grassy Box CMN website	July 2010 – June 2011
		Printed education materials for 3 target audience groups (schools, Industry Groups, Local Councils)	July 2009 – June
<p>Increasing community knowledge and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing training opportunities to local groups.</li> </ul>	<p><b>3040</b> land-managers and farmers who have demonstrated an improvement in knowledge and skills and NRM</p>	9 Woodland management field days	June 2010
		9 Woodland management field days	By June 2011
		Management trial workshop	By Dec 2011
		Management trial workshop	By Sept 2112
		2 benchmark project results workshops	By June 2011
		3 demonstration property field days	Held by 30 June 2011
		9 Conservation, planning, management & monitoring training events	By June 30 2010
		3 Frog habitat recognition training events	By June 2010
		3 Frog habitat recognition training events	By June 30 2011
		2 DPI staff conservation training events	By June 30 2011
		30 CMN member and other partner project sites surveyed and results discussed with managers	Dec. 2009
		30 CMN member and other partner project sites surveyed and results discussed with managers	Dec 2010
		30 management trial sites surveyed and results discussed with managers	By June 30 2010
		20 benchmark properties surveyed and results discussed with managers	By June 30 2010
		30 site frog surveys and results discussed with managers	By mid Jan 2010
		30 site frog surveys and results discussed with managers	By mid Jan 2011
		3x Seed Supply Strategy plans delivered;;	By 30 June 2010

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		6 Seed Supply Strategy plans + 1 st monitoring/evaluation report for Florabank Seed Supply Strategy plans	By 30 June 2011
		2nd Seed Supply Strategy report	By 31 Dec 2011
		At least 10 people trained, on-ground tasks to protect at least three national priority threatened woodland flora species.	June 30, 2011
		10 land-managers involved in managing demonstration property education and monitoring sites.	June 30, 2011
Increasing community knowledge and skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to increase recruitment and retention of volunteers in community groups involved managing natural resources, particularly youth</li> </ul>	<b>800</b> member increase in overall volunteers in community groups involved managing natural resources, particularly youth	Increase landcare membership by 300 including youth (measured through decreasing average age of membership).	June 30, 2010
		Increase landcare membership by 300 including youth (measured through decreasing average age of membership).	June 30, 2011
		Increase membership of GBWCMN by 100	June 30, 2010
		Increase membership of GBWCMN by 100	June 30, 2011

### 2.3 Target justification

If your proposal includes targets that are outside the target priority or preference areas, as identified in the 2009–10 business plan, provide a justification (maximum 200 words).

N/A

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**2.4 Please list all matters of national environmental significance that are being addressed or impacted on by your proposal**

Nationally threatened and/or migratory species (as listed in the EPBC Act)	Nationally threatened ecological communities (as listed in the EPBC Act)	Sites of national and international significance (Ramsar, World Heritage, National Heritage as listed in the EPBC Act)
Austral Toadflax ( <i>Thesium australe</i> ) Vulnerable	White Box-Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland Critically endangered	
Bathurst Copper Butterfly ( <i>Paralucia spinifera</i> ) Vulnerable		
Booroolong Frog ( <i>Litoria booroolongensis</i> ) Endangered		
Button Wrinklewort ( <i>Rutidosia leptorrhynchoides</i> ) Endangered		
<i>Dichanthium setosum</i> Vulnerable		
Euroa Guinea-flower ( <i>Hibbertia humifusa spp. erigens</i> ) Vulnerable		
Golden Sun Moth ( <i>Synemon plana</i> ) Critically Endangered		
Hoary Sunray ( <i>Leucochrysum albicans var. tricolor</i> ) Endangered		
Lobed Blue-grass ( <i>Bothriochloa biloba</i> ) Vulnerable		
Narrow Goodenia ( <i>Goodenia macbarronii</i> ) Vulnerable		
Pink-tailed Worm-lizard ( <i>Aprasia parapulchella</i> ) Vulnerable		
Regent Honeyeater ( <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i> ) Endangered		
Small Purple-pea ( <i>Swainsona recta</i> ) Endangered		

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Spotted-tail Quoll ( <i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> ) SE mainland population Endangered		
Striped Legless Lizard ( <i>Delma impar</i> ) Vulnerable		
Superb Parrot ( <i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> ) Vulnerable		
Swift Parrot ( <i>Lathamus discolor</i> ) Endangered		
Tarengo Leek Orchid ( <i>Prasophyllum petilum</i> ) Endangered		
Yass Daisy ( <i>Ammobium craspedioides</i> ) Vulnerable		

### 2.5 Does your proposal include activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on any of these matters of national environmental significance?

☐ Yes
 ☒ No

If you have answered yes to this question you may need to refer these proposed activities to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts to determine if approval is required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). You can obtain more information about assessments under the Act at <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/approval.html>

**Note:** A significant impact is an impact which is important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to its context or intensity. Whether or not an action is likely to have a significant impact depends upon the sensitivity, value, and quality of the environment which is impacted, and upon the intensity, duration, magnitude and geographic extent of the impacts. You should consider all of these factors when determining whether an action is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance.

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## **2.6 Methodology – how will you deliver these targets?**

Describe how you will develop and manage the activities under your proposal. You should include details of:

- the specific activities required to deliver the Caring for our Country targets of this proposal
- why these activities are the most appropriate and technically feasible means of delivering these targets
- how these activities deliver a strategic and integrated proposal (maximum 800 words).

### **Partnerships**

Partnerships are the foundation of this proposal. The approach is to take advantage of and/or reinvigorate the passion, skills and expertise of respected organisations, community groups and land-managers that live, work and communicate in this landscape. The proposal brings together these groups to share information, develop priorities for action and ensure consistency of messages about Box-Gum Woodland management. The technical feasibility of building these partnerships is proven with the collaborative approach used in building this proposal and the focus on using a Steering Committee made up from community, government and research organisations to manage the project. There are further efforts to be made in developing meaningful partnerships with regional NRM organisations. This will be achieved by working with CMAs to assist them with best-management-practice advice for their woodland programs.

The project has three key service areas; information and management support; improved knowledge base and integrated on-ground activities across properties in priority local landscapes. To achieve this the proposal uses seven approaches;

### **Capacity building**

The Community Woodlands Officer based with Landcare NSW in Wagga Wagga will work with community, landcare and land-manager groups and link them with tailored Box-Gum Woodland management information and learning/shared-knowledge opportunities. The proposal will deliver 21 Box-Gum Woodland management field-days, 4 workshops sharing best-management-practice research results, 20 training and/or train-the-trainer. Invitations to workshops, training and field days will be distributed via extensive, established, respected partner networks; will be tailored to the priorities of the audience and will be attended by specialists from the range of partners and other technical support groups. Extension material related to Box-Gum Woodlands will be coordinated by the proposal, eliminate repetition and ensure all advice is current best-management-practice. Broader communication will be managed by experienced staff within WWF, DECC and Landcare NSW and work on stories in broader media, especially rural opportunities.

### **Site-based information services**

To ensure land-holders who show an interest in managing Box-Gum Woodlands and/or Box-Gum Woodland species (e.g. native pastures) on their properties have opportunities to further their understanding in the context of their properties and/or local landscape, the proposal will offer some site-based information services such as flora/fauna surveys, pasture-management benchmarking and soil-testing. These will be undertaken by or in conjunction with technical specialists within partner groups and results will be discussed with individual land-managers and opportunities made available for land-managers to share their results at partner events.

### **Cross-property conservation plans**

Proposal partners will identify at least six high priority local Box-Gum Woodland landscapes using criteria including existing planning instruments, significant biodiversity assets, active or potentially active community groups and/or groups of landholders interested on working on cross-property solutions to managing woodlands. Proposal partners will provide information, training and relevant support to these groups.

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The proposal will also develop and expand the Dananbilla Illunie Protected Area Network through partnerships and conservation mechanisms including covenants and will identify land for suitable for inclusion in NRS.

### **Incentives**

Two types of incentives, in the form of devolved grants, will be offered. The first involves 60 small grants (\$2,000 - \$3,000) to community and land manager groups, including schools, to undertake education activities, monitoring or restoration works in Box-Gum Woodlands. The second opportunity, with a value of up to \$75,000.00, will be available to the six landholder groups involved in cross-property planning. This incentive takes the form of a 'seeding' grant to begin implementation of their plan and will be managed in consultation with the Community Woodlands Officer and CMN .

### **Data Management**

DECC will manage the database development for Box-Gum Woodlands as part of their broader effort to improve the NSW NRM database YETI. This proposal provides an opportunity to develop an effective and accessible database useable by the range of partners including the Commonwealth.

### **Demonstration Properties**

The proposal will identify 30 sites to undertake controlled rehabilitation and restoration works. This will support land-managers in adapting their management techniques to achieve improved production and conservation outcomes. The Steering Committee will establish three property-scale demonstration sites with different core-management objectives (production, biodiversity and cultural heritage). Best-practice-management techniques will be applied, consistent with property objectives and constraints and social and environmental outcomes monitored. The sites will serve as educational sites for partners with access for community and land-manager groups.

### **MERI / Best-Management-Practice Research**

The Steering Committee will develop a MERI framework for the project at its outset and guidance provided by the application of INFFER and the incorporated the Public / Private Benefits framework. There is a large component of monitoring related to understanding behaviour change in land-managers associated with the proposal. This will enable us to say whether the community engagement processes are demonstrated in on-ground outcomes (UNSW, DPI, Charles Sturt University - leaders in rural/farmer based social research). This will be supported by the CSIRO (Suzanne Prober) research into best-management-practice for improving condition of woodlands which will form the basis of advice given to land-managers.



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### 2.7 Budget for proposal

N/A

Note: regional natural resource management organisations should complete this table for the competitive funding they are seeking, budget and target information for the regional base-level funding must be completed separately in section 3.

Caring for our Country target(s)	Description of individual items	Total cost of item (GST excl)	Caring for our Country funding		Other source of funding			Financial year of proposed expenditure
			Funding sought (GST excl)	GST	Amount (GST excl)	Organisation	Security of funds*	
	MERI: development and implementation of MERI protocols	20000	20000	2000	0			2009/2010
	MERI data collection	25000	20000	2000	5000	landholder participation in-kind	committed	2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Capacity building - Direct contact with landcare and other community groups members and farming community.	120669	69749	6974.9	50920	STIPA, DPI staff, DECC staff, UNSW, NSW Landcare WWF Application Submitted	Committed / WWF Application Submitted \$3000.00	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Capacity building - Field days/workshops	112420	64800	6480	47620	DPI staff, DECC staff, UNSW, GBWCMN NSW Landcare WWF Application Submitted	Committed / WWF Application Submitted \$2000.00	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Capacity building - Training events	779893.13	520973.13	52097.313	258920	STIPA, DPI, DECC, GBWCMN, UNSW, NSW	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011

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						Landcare		
Community Skills and knowledge		115759	72718	7271.8	43041	STIPA, DECC, GBWCMN, UNSW, landcare / WWF Application Submitted	Committed / WWF Application Submitted \$10041.00	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Capacity building - extension material	290719	243134	24313.4	47585	STIPA, DECC, WWF, UNSW, BA, Landcare	committed	75%2009/2010 25%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Implementation services - Site-based flora/fauna surveys, pasture management benchmarking, soil-testing, seed supply planning.	391898	378898	37889.8	13000	DECC, UNSW	committed	75%2009/2010 25%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Implementation services - Targeted Threatened Species works	14400	12000	1200	2400	DECC	committed	2009/2010
Increase landscape scale conservation	Cross-property conservation plans - prioritising areas for effort	47000	0	0	47000	DECC, landcare	committed	2009/2010
Increase landscape scale conservation & Community Skills and knowledge	Cross-property conservation plans - Consultation/collaboration, development of management plans	303000	248000	24800	55000	UNSW, landcare	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat	Cross-property conservation plans -	900000	100000	10000	800000	GA/FloraBank	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

	Cross-property conservation plan connectivity projects							
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Cross-property conservation plans - Develop and expand Dananbilla Illunie Protected Area network including covenanting.	250000	250000	25000	0			50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Incentives - Grants to community groups for on-ground work	158500	140000	14000	18500	DECC, landcare	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat	Incentives - Grants to implement cross-property conservation plans	466000	450000	45000	16000	DECC, landcare	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat	Data Management - Develop accessible data management system for grassy woodlands	30500	25000	2500	5500	DECC	committed	2009/2010
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Best Management Practice Research - Benchmark study of existing successful restoration projects and ID of key management practices	138200	127200	12720	11000	UNSW	committed	2009/2010
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Best Management Practice Research - Climate resilient woodland restoration – design and monitor active restoration interventions	897161	387252	38725.2	509909	CSIRO	committed	33%2009/2010 33%2010/2011 33%2011/1012

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

MERI	MERI: Understanding management behaviour change	138000	130000	13000	8000	UNSW	committed	2009/2010
MERI	MERI: Social monitoring. Landholder surveys / interviews / place stories / exit surveys	42000	4000	400	38000	landcare	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
MERI	MERI: Landholder based biodiversity monitoring	11200	10000	1000	1200	DECC	committed	2009/2010
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Demonstration Properties - Education and monitoring sites; Implement specific strategies on three demonstration properties.	207000	159000	15900	48000	DECC, UNSW	committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
Increase Native Habitat & Community Skills and knowledge	Demonstration Properties - Best Management Practice development and monitoring; Implement specific strategies on at least twenty sites to monitor manage outcomes	180000	180000	18000	0			2009/2010
	Project Administration	411236	251440	25144	159796	DPI, DECC	Committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
	Project Administration	80000	80000	8000	0			50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
	Project Administration	228748	199948	19994.8	28800	Landcare Australia Limited	Committed	50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

	Project Administration	68303	50903	5090.3	17400	STIPA, DECC, WWF, UNSW, BA, landcare	committed	75%2009/2010 25%2010/2011
	Project Administration	8000	8000	800	0			50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
	Project Administration	20000	20000	2000	0			50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
	Project Administration	20600	20600	2060	0			50%2009/2010 50%2010/2011
<b>Total</b>		\$6,476,206.13	\$4,243,615.13	\$424,361.51	\$2,232,591.00			

**\*Security of funds** - In hand; Committed; Allocated; Dependent on fund raising; Application submitted.

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### Summary of budget across each financial year

Financial year of proposed expenditure	Total \$ (GST exclusive)	Total GST claimable
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2009–10	\$2,467,599.32	\$246759.93
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2010–11	\$1,646,931.82	\$164693.18
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2011–12	\$129,084.00	\$12908.40
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2012–13		

### 2.8 Budget justification

Outline how this proposal is good value for money for the Australian Government (maximum 200 words).

The nine proposal partners come from established and respected community, conservation, production and research sectors. The range of networks, skills and opportunities provided by these partners and the collaborative model set-up within the proposal ensures strategic, co-ordinated, extensive and efficient delivery of the proposal's services.

The inkind contributions from government and non government organistaion represent at least another 34% in monetary terms. The skill set brought to the proposal by partners represents 100's of years of experience, a contribution which is incalculable.

The project partners have established relationships and are in direct contact with the volunteers.

The volunteer hours bought to the project by community groups and landholders, and on ground impacts of changed management have been extremely conservatively estimated.

The combination of efficient project management, the partners skill set and volunteer time makes this extremely good value for money.

# *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

## **SECTION 3: REGIONAL BASE-LEVEL FUNDING**

**N/A**

This section is to be completed by the regional natural resource management organisations only.

### **3.1 Proposal detail**

Provide a detailed description of the proposal, detailing the issues it will address, what the project will achieve, how it is addressing landscape scale change and the logic showing that these activities will deliver the targets (maximum 800 words).

## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

### **3.2 Targets addressed by proposal**

Detail which Caring for our Country targets the regional base-level funding will contribute to, identifying milestones and when these will occur.

<b>Caring for our Country target(s)</b>	<b>Quantity of target to be delivered</b>	<b>Milestones (measures of progress)</b>	<b>Timeframe for each milestone</b>

### **3.3 Target justification**

If your proposal includes targets that are outside the target priority or preference areas, as identified in the 2009–10 business plan, provide a justification (maximum 200 words).



## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

**3.4 Please list all matters of national environmental significance that are being addressed or impacted on by your proposal**

<b>Nationally threatened species (as listed in the EPBC Act)</b>	<b>Nationally threatened ecological communities (as listed in the EPBC Act)</b>	<b>Sites of national and international significance (Ramsar, World Heritage, National Heritage as listed in the EPBC Act)</b>

**3.5 Does your proposal include activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on any of these matters of national environmental significance?**

☐

Yes

☐

No

If you have answered yes to this question you may need to refer these proposed activities to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts to determine if approval is required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). You can obtain more information about assessments under the Act at <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/approval.html>

Note: A significant impact is an impact which is important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to its context or intensity. Whether or not an action is likely to have a significant impact depends upon the sensitivity, value, and quality of the environment which is impacted, and upon the intensity, duration, magnitude and geographic extent of the impacts. You should consider all of these factors when determining whether an action is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance.

## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

### **3.6 Methodology – how will you deliver these targets?**

Describe how you will develop, establish and manage the activities that will be implemented under your proposal. You should include details of:

- the specific activities required to deliver the Caring for our Country targets of this proposal
- why these activities are the most appropriate and technically feasible means of delivering these targets
- how these activities deliver a strategic and integrated proposal (maximum 800 words).

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### 3.7 Budget for proposal

Your proposed regional base-level funding budget (use GST exclusive figures).

Caring for our Country target(s)	Description of individual items	Total cost of item (GST excl)	Caring for our Country funding		Other source of funding			Financial year of proposed expenditure
			Funding sought (GST excl)	GST	Amount (GST excl)	Organisation	Security of funds*	
Total								

\* **Security of funds** - In hand; Committed; Allocated; Dependent on fund raising; Application submitted

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### Summary of budget across each financial year

Financial year of proposed expenditure	Total \$ (GST exclusive)	Total GST claimable
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2009–10		
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2010–11		
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2011–12		
Total Caring for our Country requested funds 2012–13		

### 3.8 Budget justification

Outline how this proposal is good value for money for the Australian Government (maximum 200 words).

# *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

## **SECTION 4: PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT**

### **4.1 Describe the capability and capacity of your organisation to implement this proposal**

Detail the skills and resources you have available to enable your organisation to successfully complete this project within the budget and timeframe outlined (maximum 200 words).

As the peak organisation representing community landcare in NSW, the committee of Landcare NSW Inc comprises representatives of the state's most successful landcare and land management community organisations dedicated to achieving improved landscape management through land manager engagement, education and on-ground actions. Although a relatively new organisation, our member networks have pioneered community-industry-government partnerships over the last 20 years aimed at building community capacity and achieving on-ground outcomes.

Landcare NSW Inc includes representatives from Little River Landcare Inc, Liverpool Plains Land Management Committee, Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc, Central West NLP Steering Committee, Lake Macquarie Landcare, all of whom have administered large projects involving multiple partners and community organisations with funding from programs such as NLP, NHT1 and 2, Envirofund, Environmental Trust and industry partners and corporate sponsorships.

The partners in this project represent leaders in their field. They recognise the importance of adaptive management including detailed implementation, planning and rigorous supervision via ongoing monitoring and review. They also understand that effective management of community-based projects is best realised if coupled with robust and meaningful strategies to enable true community and land manager engagement and capacity building. Landcare NSW Inc in partnership with CMN provides an unparalleled access to existing community environmental networks throughout the target areas in NSW.

### **4.2 Governance arrangements**

Outline the governance arrangements you have in place to ensure that your partners and subcontractors will deliver their contributions in a timely and efficient manner (maximum 200 words).

The CMN Coordinator, Community Woodlands Officer, Project Manager and Executive Officer of Landcare NSW will comprise the Management Team responsible for all operational aspects of the project. The Steering Committee comprising representatives from each of the partner organisations and four external members with governance experience will be responsible for project oversight.

The Chair of Landcare NSW, David Walker, Executive Officer of Liverpool Plains Land Management Committee and The Gould League, will Chair the Steering Committee. An experienced Project Manager will be employed and report directly to the Chair. The external members on the Steering Committee will include three from peak land manager and NRM organisations represented on the Landcare NSW committee and one from Landcare Australia Ltd. Fergus Job, Executive Officer, Little River Landcare Inc; Rob Dulhunty, former Chair of the New England and North West Chairs Committee, and Mandi Stevenson, Southern Rivers CMA Board Member, Chair of their Risk Management Committee and Office Coordinator of the South East Livestock, Health and Pest Authority, will all have a 'business governance' portfolio on the Steering Committee.

Core functions of the Project Managers position will be ongoing coordination, monitoring and review of project implementation including workplan activities, timelines, budgets and milestones. The project budget allows for additional accounting and administrative support. Progress reports will be required from all project partners at each Steering Committee meeting with updates at quarterly teleconferences.

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### **4.3 Overdue reports and acquittals**

N/A

List any overdue reports and acquittals you have from previous Australian Government environmental and natural resource management funding, and when you expect these to be completed.

<b>Funding source (program or initiative)</b>	<b>Project title</b>	<b>Date the report was due</b>	<b>Expected submission date</b>

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### 4.4 Risk management

Define the major risks associated with this proposal and what management actions you will put in place to minimise or avoid these risks.

<b>What are the risks?</b>	<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Likelihood of it occurring</b>	<b>Overall risk</b>	<b>Mitigation strategy</b>
Competing demands on community/land manager time.	Failure to engage land managers, poor uptake.	Unlikely due to ownership of project by community-based organisations.	Negligible because community organisations delivering project	Project designed and delivered through experienced, respected community organisations ensuring maximum acceptability
Lack of farmer commitment/capacity to changed practice.	Educational and extension efforts not translated into practice change.	Possible if no follow through and ongoing support of community networks.	Negligible	Land manager commitment will be strengthened by requiring training to be undertaken prior to access to funding. Education and project design and delivery through cross-property planning and community projects ensure ongoing community support structures.
Land manager concern for potential for reduced/limited financial return (actual or perceived) when implementing sustainable management practices.	Perception leads to reluctance to participate.	Unlikely due to breadth of educational and extension material provided by partners and delivered through community networks.	Popular perception	Educational and extension material will address productive, economic and conservation issues. Landcare and other networks supported to continue present role of collaborative support for change.
Climate variability or natural disaster impacts on lands or land managers	Land managers overwhelmed and unable to participate.	Unlikely if BMP understood as crucial adaptive capacity in face of climate change and drought.	Unlikely.	Build capacity and inspire/maintain motivation by delivery through community groups supported by scientific BMP.
Biodiversity values may not be high on many farmers' list of priorities for investment.	Attention of land managers not garnered	Unlikely because agricultural programs included in education and extension focus	Medium.	Market biodiversity values through the vehicle of "sustainable agriculture" and long term benefits. Overarching outcome of maintaining and

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

				improving landscape function with associated biodiversity spin offs.
Benchmark Survey: Unable to find across fenceline sites on which to conduct monitoring with willing landholders	Fewer sites for comparisons	Unlikely due to proponents knowledge of network members	Low	Approach more site managers than required to allow for this
Cross-property planning: Unable to find and convince landholder groups to enter into multi-property planning.	Achievement of landscape scale coordination will be reduced, incentives to collaborate funds may not be fully utilised	Very unlikely that interested landholder groups won't be found! less unlikely that those groups will be able to bring in a critical mass from the area to the multi-property planning	Low to medium	Understanding that properties do not have to be neighbouring but linked via conservation landscape linkages broadens our capacity to achieve this outcome
Social research: Difficulty putting together team to conduct interviews, difficulty finding respondents	May need different methodology eg. Focus groups or researcher run interviews reducing learning opportunities for the team.	Very low due to high motivation of research team and strength of networks and associations	Very low.	Processes will be flexible but still meet the project outcomes



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### **4.5 Public benefit**

Outline how your project will deliver a substantial public benefit and how you will ensure that the proposal has lasting benefits without additional funding (maximum 200 words).

The public benefit generated by this project are manifold. As a pilot project it demonstrates a partnership model built around existing community and information networks guaranteed to optimize adoption and ongoing support for change. Training, education, extension, community engagement, benchmarking and data collection are all directed at generating land management practices that benefit Box-Gum Woodland landscapes. The project will cater cross all tenures and on land managed for conservation as well as land managed for production. This will improve landscape function; increase the extent and quality of habitat for native flora and fauna, and lead to enhanced biodiversity. These strategies are aimed at a greater resilience of the social-ecological system.

‘Public benefit’ and how it should be calculated and valued in designing the delivery of NRM incentives is an explicit topic for analysis in this project. Using INFFER and the public/private benefits framework, we will clearly establish the extent to which grazing management can lead to public biodiversity benefits, as well as generating private benefit. We will then build on these benefits through targeted extension programs. In addition, we will accurately identify where public benefit comes at private cost and focus investment on incentives that generate landscape scale benefits.

### **4.6 How will you communicate the results of your project?**

Detail how you will disseminate the learnings and achievements of this proposal. Identify the target audiences and the expected opportunities for the recognition of Australian Government funding (maximum 200 words).

The foundation of this project is multi-partner cooperation built around existing community and information networks to optimise adoption and support for change. This guarantees the project multiple existing communication and information avenues and forums for communicating processes and results. As a pilot, the optimum agency and community partnerships modelled in this project will be described and promoted from the outset. Results from social (land manager assessment and benchmarking of changes in thinking and behaviour) and biodiversity monitoring will be available at the outset and communicated through the many existing partner communication channels. The Project Manager will work with the Landcare Australia Ltd Steering Committee member to maximise national media opportunities and will work with all partners and community and land manager groups to optimise local media opportunities. Academic papers and reports for non-scholarly readerships will also be produced by project partners such as CSIRO and UNSW.

Community generated PlaceStories (web delivered, audio-visual stories) provide opportunities for significant community reach and a circulation of information through informal channels not otherwise reached by partner agencies. Production of DVDs providing community accessible information relevant to threatened flora and fauna guarantees a communication resource that can then circulate well beyond the completion of the initial project.

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### **4.7 Devolved grants**

If you are seeking funding for a devolved grants component outline

- the type of devolved grants, market-based instrument or economic incentive that will be used to deliver the Caring for our Country target(s)
- how this will best address the relevant target(s)
- the area being targeted
- the target audience and likely degree of adoption
- the size of the grants/incentives for groups
- the expected administration costs for your organisation to run these grants
- how much funding will be delivered to on-ground activities (maximum 300 words).

This project includes two devolved grant programs:

- Small grants \$2000 to \$3000 for land managers & community projects providing benefits to biodiversity, and youth foci (total \$140,000 over two years)
- Implementation funds of up to \$75,000 per plan to enable land managers in cross-property planning groups to implement on-ground works.

Small devolved grants to community groups & land managers in the project area ensures maximum community awareness and manager engagement.

Investment in the cross-property planning groups ensures that the changed practices supported by this proposal are implemented. The groups will receive significant educational, extension material and support prior to developing local projects. All projects will be developed with direct input from the proposal team lead by UNSW. The projects will be designed and developed at the community level in response to local issues, needs, interests and requirements prior to consideration for investment. This approach, especially through locally relevant project design, optimises the degree of adoption and has as one of its benefits, the likelihood that the project, through community ownership, will continue beyond expenditure of funds. A number of existing programmes funded by the Australian Government will be used (e.g. Priority Landscapes, Biometric Incentive Tool) to not only meet our stated targets but improve land management practices in the proposal area.

The Project Manager will coordinate and administer devolved grants as a core function of their role. External expertise will be sought in adjudication of projects.

Another key function of the Project Manager is to seek future funding opportunities for community groups and project partners to enhance, extend, continue and develop activities and initiatives begun in this project. To this end, the steering committee will also include a representative from Landcare Australia Limited to maximise corporate engagement and funding opportunities, including possible further devolved grants for community groups and land manager groups.

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### SECTION 5: PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT DETAILS

#### 5.1 Partnership arrangements

List any organisations that are partners in delivering this proposal. If you do not have any partner organisations for this proposal, please write 'Not applicable' in the table provided below.

Name of partnering organisation	ABN	Address	Role in the project (maximum 100 words)
CSIRO	41687119230	CSIRO Entomology postal address is GPO Box 1700, Canberra ACT 2601	CSIRO will evaluate on the ground management interventions and restoration activities that aim to restore site-scale ecological function and diversity in remnant and replanted grassy ecosystems. CSIRO will establish an adaptive management approach to woodland restoration, coordinating and monitoring outcomes of current activities and leading to improved options for restoration in the future. CSIRO will work with project partners to determine what restoration techniques are implemented and provide expert scientific advice to partners as needed. Information gained from this work will be an integral part of extension work they carry out with a range of private landholders and restoration practitioners.
University of NSW	57 195 873 179	c/o Institute of Environmental Studies Vallentine Annexe, University of NSW Sydney NSW 2052	Benchmark survey of successful adopters of practices that generate pastures dominated by perennial native grasses; planning and coordination of multi-property planning component and social research component; contribute to steering committee and project governance; joint responsibility for delivery of project outcomes.
World Wildlife Fund	57001 594 074	Level 13, 235 Jones St Ultimo NSW 2007 PO Box 528 Sydney NSW 2001	The WWF component of this proposal involves fostering broad community support through a woodland threatened species awareness raising campaign. The aim of this is to gain political and industry support for the sustainable management of priority woodlands and more generally to foster appreciation of biodiversity values in the broader community.
Birds Australia	87 004 076 475	Suite 2-05 60 Leicester St Carlton VIC 3053	Birds Australia will provide a link to their woodland bird project and expert advice on woodland birds for extension material.
DPI	51734124190	Kite St Orange 2800	NSW DPI through a project officer will adapt and develop existing extension material to be consistent with both the proposal outcomes, and with the aims and

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			objectives of DPI. The DPI woodland officer with key proposal partners will provide inservice woodland conservation training to NSW DPI staff in the project area. The DPI woodland officer will also have an extension role, delivering adapted courses on management practices via training courses and field days to the managers participating in the cross property conservation plans.
Landcare NSW	24 958 819 359	PO Box 777 35-37 Abbott Street Gunnedah NSW 2380	Lead agent. The Project Manager will report to the Chair of Landcare NSW Inc who will chair the Steering Committee. Committee members experienced in the administration or governance of land manager or agricultural organisations with budgets in excess of \$1million will have a 'business governance' portfolio on the Steering Committee. The Executive Officer will work with the CMN Coordinator and Community Woodlands Officer to directly involve the extensive network of landcare and community environmental groups in the target areas.
Grassy Box Woodland Conservation Management Network (hosted by DECC)	30 841 387 271	11 Farrer Pl Queanbeyan 2620	GBW CMN will provide Box-Gum Woodland resources, opportunities for exchange of knowledge/ experiences through field days, workshops & training, acting as a conduit for communication and dissemination of best-practice-management information. The CMN in collaboration with the Landcare Woodland Officer will act as a friendly interface between proposal partners, their networks, regional NRM agencies and regulatory authorities so that the project achieves broadscale consistent onground outcomes for Box-Gum Woodlands within and beyond this proposal.
Stipa	42 300 161 459	STIPA Native Grass Association Ltd PO Box 224 Wellington NSW 2820	STIPA's is a farmer association who will assist with identifying land managers that have already adapted climate ready, profitable management practices. Through the proposals benchmarking process Stipa will provide links to farmers with experience in using practices that regenerate perennial native grasslands. Stipa will also be part of the training team to capacity build the managers participating in the cross property conservation plans.
Greening Australia/ Florabank	40002963788	6b Thesiger Crt Deakin 2600 PO Box 74 Yarralumla ACT 2600	Florabank will provide technical support including: 6 accredited native seed collector training courses for NRM practitioners, land managers and community groups. 6 seed supply strategy plans to enable supply of appropriate quantities of seed from the right species for restoration work in 6 sub-regions of the project area. Web-based and printed information resources on key grassy box woodland species including seed collection, propagation and establishment. Presentations at field days and contribution to media and other information resources.
DECC	30 841 387 271	11 Farrer Pl Queanbeyan 2620	DECC will provide extensive expertise in: Species /ecosystem advice Recovery Planning & implementation

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			<p>Strategic local and regional planning Vegetation mapping and modelling Connectivity modelling Data base management</p> <p>Landholders will be encouraged to enter into perpetual, or long-term conservation covenants, as well as more informal mechanisms. DECC will also develop partnerships with public land agencies in target areas to enhance biodiversity assets in these local landscapes. These approaches will ensure that the capital investment in this proposal is protected into the future.</p>

### 5.2 Support for your proposal

Please list the organisations or individuals that are providing technical support to your proposal, but are not considered direct partners.

<b>Names of organisations supporting your proposal</b>	<b>Contact person</b>	<b>Contact phone number</b>	<b>Type of support being provided</b>
Southern Rivers CMA will provide technical information. Contact person.	Rebecca Hall	(02) 4842-2594	She will provide expertise on pasture plants and livestock grazing regimes (links to grazing to reduce weeds and maintain biodiversity in grassy ecosystem part of project).
Charles Sturt University	Ian Lunt	02 6051 9624	Ian won't be providing technical assistance as such, but could be involved in supervising honours students involved in the project.
Nature Conservation Council "Hot spots"	Sally Hunt	02 92792466	Provide BMP appropriate fire management activities to increase biodiversity values of Grassy Box remnants
Gould League Australia	David Walker	02 67418332	Expert Woodland bird education material for schools & community groups
Charles Sturt University	Catherine Allan	(02) 6051-9781	Provide expert advice on the social research and multi-property components
Landcare Australia Ltd	Shane Norrish	02 9412 1040	Provide advice and opportunities for promoting landcare and community environmental group activities and for

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

			seeking corporate involvement or sponsorship.

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### **5.3 How will you engage the community in your project?**

Outline how the community will be engaged in your project and the scale of this involvement, including the potential to raise community awareness and enhance skills, and the engagement of Indigenous communities (maximum 300 words).

Landcare NSW Inc (LNSWi) and the Grassy Box Woodland Conservation Management Network (CMN) are very experienced community organisations. They have substantial community recognition, credibility, respect and a record of constructive collaboration in the target area. Stipa's involvement brings another large group of landholders into the project. Working together will generate significant opportunities to increase community capacity to deliver on ground outcomes.

The CMN Coordinator and Community Woodlands Officer will liaise with all project partners to optimise community accessibility and reach for all project materials and events, including print and digital information, training, field days and workshops. These staff will:

- work directly in the field with Landcare and community environmental groups, land managers and networks;
- identify information and support needed for building capacity for managing woodland landscapes;
- ensure information and training materials are accessible and relevant and educational and implementation projects respond to local needs.

Indigenous groups are already involved in the Wellington Working Farms Project with the UNSW. Their involvement in this project will help link indigenous land management and enterprise development to a multi-property plan with their neighbours.

The community driven approach will ensure community investment in project outcomes and the continuation of the local action after project completion. In particular:

- Land manager groups have an opportunity to access devolved grants through this project to initiate implement their multi-property projects.
- The benchmark survey will work with successful innovators who will be encourage and supported in the extension of their successful practices to other landholders.

The participatory social research component will bring landholders and project participants in direct contact, maximising the development of shared understanding and the inclusion of rich data into the management of the project.

### **5.4 Are you aware of any other projects or proposals which are related to this proposal?**

Identify any other proposals that are linked to this one, and any projects that you are aware of that may have synergies with this one (maximum 300 words).

## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

- **Protection Of Priority Grassy Woodlands For Landscape Scale Connectivity In Murrumbidgee, Lachlan, Central West CMAs**
- **Significant Conservation improvements in Threatened Grassy Woodland ecosystems in the Greater Murray-Goulburn catchment.**
- **Achieving integrated, cross regional protection of natural temperate grasslands**
- Greater Goorooyarroo Landscape Recovery: Securing The Future For Endangered Box-Gum Grassy Woodlands.
- East Australia Fire Project: Appropriate Fire Regimes For Addressing Risk, Conserving Biodiversity And Building Resilience.
- Woodland Birds For Biodiversity
- Climate-Ready Species For Revegetation Of The Lachlan Murrumbidgee Grassy Box Gum Woodlands
- The Australian Seed Bank Project – Conserving And Restoring Australia’s Vegetation



# Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal

## SECTION 6: LOCATION DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL

### 6.1 State and/or Territories

Select the relevant box(es) indicating in which State(s) and/or Territories your project will be located.

<input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory	<input type="checkbox"/> Queensland	<input type="checkbox"/> Victoria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New South Wales	<input type="checkbox"/> South Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory	<input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania	<input type="checkbox"/> External Territory

### 6.2 Natural resource management region(s)

List the natural resource management region(s) in which your proposal will be undertaken.  
If unsure of the name of the relevant region, check <http://www.nrm.gov.au/nrm/region.html>

NRM Region(s)
Lachlan Catchment
Central West Catchment
Murrumbidgee Catchment

### 6.3 Nearest town or named locality

Identify the nearest town or named locality to your project. If your project is across a large area, choose a central point.

Cowra
-------

### 6.4 Latitude and longitude

Provide the latitude and longitude of your project in decimal degrees. If your proposal covers a large area, provide the latitude and longitude of a point at the centre of the project area.

Location of your proposal - Latitude -  e.g. 19.7778

Location of your proposal - Longitude +  e.g. 151.3579

Information on latitudes and longitudes is at <http://www.environment.gov.au/erin/tools/index.html>.

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## SECTION 7: NATIONAL RESERVE SYSTEM - LAND ACQUISITION

### 7.1 Property name

Provide the name of the property (maximum 15 words).

### 7.2 Please provide the following information about your organisation

	Title	First name	Last name
President/Chair	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Vice President/Deputy Chair	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Secretary/Public Officer	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of members	<input type="text"/>		
Name of Trustees	<input type="text"/>		

If none of the above office bearers applies, please enter 'not applicable'

### 7.3 Property information and value to the NRS

Address of Property	<input type="text"/>				
Suburb/Town/City	<input type="text"/>	State	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Local Govt. Area	<input type="text"/>				
General description of land	<input type="text"/>				
Nearest town or named locality	<input type="text"/>	Distance (km)	<input type="text"/>		
Direction from nearest town or named locality to site	<input type="text"/>				
Latitude and longitude at centre of site	Latitude -	<input type="text"/>	Longitude +	<input type="text"/>	

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### 7.4 Land Parcels (plan and allotment)

Tenure	Expiry date	Plan	Allotment	Area (ha)	Part	Lease name	Lease no	Options for renewal

### 7.5 Identify the IBRA regions that the property falls within or across

IBRA Region	IBRA Sub-region

### 7.6 Biodiversity value

How will this proposal make a significant contribution to the development of a comprehensive, adequate and representative National Reserve System in Australia (maximum 200 words)?

### 7.7 What is the current condition of the property?

Please select relevant description.

- ☐ Largely intact (no significant threats, no significant impacts)
- ☐ Modified native vegetation (significant threat, measurable impact from land use)
- ☐ Highly modified native vegetation (significant threats and changes to native vegetation structure and species composition)
- ☐ Regrowth (Native vegetation cleared and significant regrowth of original species)
- ☐ Cleared (No native species remain or scattered trees and shrubs dominated by introduced species)

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### **7.8 How well positioned in the landscape is your proposed protected area?**

Select relevant description.

- ☐ Adjoins existing protected areas and consolidates the regional protected area system
- ☐ Protects native vegetation within a large remnant that is largely unprotected
- ☐ Protects a large area isolated from other protected areas and remnants of native vegetation (1000 hectares or more in settled areas)
- ☐ Protects a small area isolated from other protected areas and remnants of native vegetation (less than 1000 hectares in settled areas)

### **7.9 Threats**

Identify the threat(s) that the property is subject to in the short term (maximum 100 words).

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### **7.10 How many of each of the following are there on the property that would be protected?**

Number of unrepresented regional ecosystems	<input type="text"/>
Number of under-represented regional ecosystems	<input type="text"/>
Number of nationally threatened (EPBC listed) species	<input type="text"/>
Number of nationally threatened (EPBC listed) ecological communities	<input type="text"/>
Number of sites of international significance (Ramsar, World Heritage, Shorebird)	<input type="text"/>
Number of sites of national significance (Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia, National Heritage list)	<input type="text"/>

### **7.11 Current status of proposal**

Is the property already on the open market or likely to enter the open market in the near future?  
Have negotiations commenced with the vendor? Has the property already been purchased, or is it already owned or leased by the applicant?

Status*	Details	Date

\*Status options are:

- Property already purchased
- Contract to purchase signed
- Property available for sale - negotiations to purchase commenced
- Property available for sale - negotiations to purchase not commenced

A property would be available for purchase by auction, tender, private sale or sale through an agent.

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**Please note:** until you know the outcome of this application, you should not assume you will receive funding to assist your purchase (if you do decide to purchase the property, the Australian Government is under no obligation to provide funding); moreover, if you do have to act now to secure a property, we recommend that you enter a conditional contract stipulating the purchase of the property is subject to Australian Government funding becoming available.

### **7.12 Are there other items included in the purchase besides the land?**

Item*	Details	Value

\*Items include: Plant and equipment; Livestock; Water allocation/licence; Business; Good will

### **7.13 Is your contribution in hand or dependent on fundraising activities or future budget appropriation?**

Proponent contribution*	Details	Amount

\*Proponent contribution options are: In hand; Dependent on fund raising; Seeking grant or donation

### **7.14 Does your project involve sub-division?**

If yes, give details, including the outcome of any discussion you have had with the responsible authority

Status*	Details	Date
	Expected completion date	

\*Status options are: Sub-division not commenced; Seeking planning approval; Survey complete; Awaiting approval of survey plans; Sub-division complete

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

### 7.15 Detailed Budget

Capital cost type*	Details	Total cost (GST excl)	Caring for our Country funding		Other source of funding		Financial year of proposed expenditure
			Funding sought (GST excl)	GST	Amount (GST excl)	Organisation	
<b>Total</b>							

**\*Capital Cost Types** include: Land purchase; Valuation; Legal fees; Signage; Management planning; Survey; Fencing; Access rationalisation; Urgent fire management; Urgent threat abatement

## *Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal*

**7.16 I hereby provide the following details of any interests that may conflict or possibly be thought to conflict with my organisation's role as a proponent for funding under Caring for our Country. This information is not for the purposes of public disclosure but will be utilised in the assessment process (maximum 200 words).**

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## SECTION 8: DECLARATIONS

**8.1 Proponents should note that, by completing and submitting this proposal, they agree to the following statements.**

***I certify that:***

- to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this proposal is complete and correct and no information is false or misleading. I understand that it is an offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* to provide false or misleading information
- I understand that the Australian Government is under no obligation to provide funding for this proposal, except for the regional base-level funding for the regional natural resource management organisations
- I understand that the Australian Government assumes no responsibility for any investment in activities relating to this proposal that are made before the formation of a contract with the Government
- I/the organisation I represent supports this proposal and, if successful, agrees to enter into a contract with the Australian Government to deliver the proposal and administer the proposal's funding
- I have the agreement of all partners to the contents of this proposal
- I will spend the funding and implement the proposal in the ways described in the proposal, unless otherwise agreed by all parties
- the proposal has not already received funding in part or in full from any other funding source, except as identified in this proposal
- I/the organisation I represent understand that any payments made by the Australian Government in relation to this proposal are subject to the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Act 1999*
- I consent, on behalf of all parties, to this proposal being referred to third parties for assessment purposes
- I understand that the Australian Government may undertake external assessments or feasibility studies in relation to this proposal
- I understand that the Australian Government may undertake to negotiate components of this proposal to ensure that the most appropriate package for investment and delivery of Caring for our Country targets is in place
- I understand that, if my proposal is successful, the Australian Government may place non-commercially confidential information relating to it into the public domain
- I agree that I accept full responsibility to ensure that all of the necessary planning, regulatory and other approvals, permits and permissions are obtained before commencing this proposal

**If submitted in hardcopy by mail or delivery** – please ensure the person who would sign the contract completes and signs this section.

Signature

Name

Position in organisation

Organisation

Date



## ***Caring for our Country 2009-10 Investment Proposal***

If submitted by email, please ensure it is emailed to [applications2009@nrm.gov.au](mailto:applications2009@nrm.gov.au) by the person in the lead organisation who will sign the contract if successful.

***The Australian Government thanks you for your interest in Caring for our Country and for the time and effort you have made in preparing this proposal.***