

WESTERN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NRM) BENCHMARKING SURVEY

LANDHOLDER INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Information for Interviewer

The objective of this project is to:

1. Assess the current level of community awareness, knowledge and skills in natural resource management;
2. Assess current land use and management practices in the region and specifically the adoption of best management practices; and
3. Assess the level of awareness and attitudes towards the Western CMA.

The project is funded by the Western Catchment Management Authority (the CMA) and involves telephone interviews with all landholders in the region and a random sample of 100 urban residents. The telephone survey should last no more than 30 minutes and you should interview only those persons you reasonably judge to be 18 years of age and over.

Hello, my name is..... I am from Environment and Behaviour Consultants and we have been contracted by the Western Catchment Management Authority or CMA to undertake a survey of all landholders in the region. You may have read about the survey in information sent to you in the mail.

The survey is being undertaken so the CMA can better support landholders in addressing land management issues. The survey will take about 30 minutes and all the information you provide is confidential.

We are offering you a \$30 IGA grocery voucher if you complete the full survey as recognition for the time you've taken to participate in this study. Or if you wish we can send the money as a donation to the Royal Flying Doctor Service. If you would like the IGA voucher we require your address for the voucher to be sent to you. Your address will be passed to the CMA so they can send you the voucher and will not be stored with the information you provide from the survey. Would you like to undertake the survey?

1. Are you the manager or involved in the management of the property?

☐ Yes

☐ No...is it possible to speak to someone who is involved in the management of the property?
(Call back may be required. If No then conclude interview)

2. Do you have more than one property in the district?

☐ Yes (If Yes then say "when answering the questions could you answer for all properties combined")

☐ No

3. Had you heard about the Western Catchment Management Authority or CMA prior to this phone call and prior to receiving information in the mail about this survey?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 6)

4. What do you think is the main activity undertaken by the CMA?

-
5. Have you had any contact or communication with the CMA in the last 12 months?

☐ No

☐ Yes...what was it through...(read list) *(multiple responses)*

☐ ...attending a course or field day organised by the CMA

☐ ...attended a course or field day that another organisation was running

☐ ...a CMA staff member visiting my property

☐ ...developing a property vegetation plan

☐ ...developing a property management plan

☐ ...applying for funding from the CMA

☐ ...implementing a project on my property

☐ ...contacting or visiting the CMA office for general advice

☐ ...the CMA has attended a meeting of a group I'm involved with

☐ ...through the web or email

Other _____

6. The CMA is responsible for supporting the management of natural resources in the region. If the CMA wanted to communicate information to people in your area, what do you think would be the best way for the CMA to do this? *(read list) (multiple responses)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit people at their homes or properties | <input type="checkbox"/> Have a field day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Put information in the local newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Hold community meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Put information on the radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Post information through the mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Place information on the CMA website | <input type="checkbox"/> Email information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Place TV advertisements | <input type="checkbox"/> Letterbox drop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social media (including Facebook, Twitter or Youtube) | |

7. I am going to read out six different ways in which the CMA can encourage property owners to implement new ideas on their property. After I have read them out, tell me which of these you think is the best way for the CMA to communicate to property owners. *(read list) (multiple responses)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Providing written information | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property visits | <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Landcare groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance |

8. If the CMA was holding a one day training course on property management would you be willing to attend?

- ☐ Yes ☐ Maybe ☐ No

 ...How far would you be willing to travel to attend? _____ Kilometres

9. Assume you were applying for funding from the CMA. However, in order to be eligible for funding you had to demonstrate an understanding of property planning or had completed a property plan. If you had to do this would you still apply for funding?

- ☐ Yes ☐ Maybe ☐ No

10. Imagine you were to undertake major changes on your property. In general would...

- | | | | |
|---|------|---------|------|
| a) the skills and knowledge you have to do the work be | Good | Average | Poor |
| b) your health to undertake the work be | Good | Average | Poor |
| c) the time you have to do the work be..... | Good | Average | Poor |
| d) the support from neighbours and local community be | Good | Average | Poor |
| e) the availability of equipment and machinery be..... | Good | Average | Poor |
| f) the availability and access to funds be..... | Good | Average | Poor |
| g) the support from other businesses and contactors in the area be | Good | Average | Poor |
| h) the overall health or condition of the land and water on your property be | Good | Average | Poor |
| i) the suitability of the property to support change | Good | Average | Poor |

11. What do you consider to be the most important natural resource management issues in your area?

- ☐ Don't know

☐ No issues

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

12. How large is your property?

_____Acres or _____Hectares

13. Did you undertake any cropping activities in the last two years on the property?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 17)

14. Approximately what area of your property was under cropping?

_____Acres or _____Hectares

15. How much of your cropping country did you cultivate using...(leave blank if not used)

...no tillage, using one pass, direct drill with disks or knife points _____Acres or _____Hectares

...minimum tillage using one cultivation plus sowing _____Acres or _____Hectares

...conventional tillage using 2 or more cultivations prior to sowing _____Acres or _____Hectares

...Did you use any other cultivation methods

(1)_____Acres or _____Hectares

(2)_____Acres or _____Hectares

16. Have you undertaken any of the following cropping practices in the last two years? (read list) (multiple responses)

☐ Stubble retention

☐ Crop rotation

☐ Controlled traffic

☐ Soil testing

☐ Precision farming

☐ Selective grazing

17. What area of your property is grazed by stock?

☐ None (Go to Question 26)

_____Acres or _____Hectares

18. How would you manage your pastures in times of drought? Would you... (read list) (multiple responses)

☐ ...sell your stock outright

☐ ...move stock off the property

☐ ...reduce numbers to a core herd

☐ ...use a temporary drought feedlot

☐ ...move stock elsewhere on the property

☐ ...sacrifice key paddocks

Do something else (describe) _____

19. In managing your total grazing pressure do you try to restrict the grazing of feral and native animals?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 21)

20. What proportion of your total property area is fenced for the purpose of managing the impact of feral or native grazing animals?

_____Percent

21. In managing your stocking rates do you regularly move your stock between different paddocks or do you tend to keep them in the same paddocks?
- ☐ Regularly move them
- ☐ Don't move them (e.g. set stocking) (Go to Question 23)
22. When making decisions about moving stock between paddocks on your property which of the following **best** describes your reasons to move stock
- ☐ The area of bare ground in the paddock
- ☐ The height of pasture grass
- ☐ The condition of stock
- ☐ The browse height of shrubs
- ☐ The level of use of palatable grasses
- ☐ Stock water availability
23. Do you manage or control stock access to watering points as part of your management of domestic or feral stock, through for example, fencing off watering points or turning tanks on or off?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (Go to Question 25)
24. What are your main reasons for controlling stock access to watering points? (*free recall*) (*multiple responses*)
- ☐ Preserve creek/river banks
- ☐ Prevent erosion
- ☐ Trap feral goats
- ☐ Stock health (e.g., prevent stock deaths in waterholes)
- ☐ Exclude feral or native animals
- ☐ Control domestic stock movements
- ☐ Preserving available pasture
- Other reasons (please describe) _____
25. Ground cover can include any live or dead vegetation, rock or other protective cover that has the capacity to break or stop raindrops making contact with the soil.
What percentage of ground cover do you try to maintain in the majority of your paddocks throughout the year?
- ____ Percent
- ☐ Whatever I can
- ☐ Don't know
26. Which of the following native and feral animals do you try and control? (*read list*) (*multiple responses*).
- ☐ None
- ☐ Kangaroos
- ☐ Rabbits
- ☐ Feral Goats
- ☐ Foxes
- ☐ Wild dogs
- ☐ Pigs
- Other animals (*describe*) _____
27. Do you have a problem with invasive native scrub or woody weeds on your property?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (Go to Question 33)
28. Over what percentage of your property is invasive native scrub or woody weeds a problem?
- ____ Percent

29. What do you think are the main causes of invasive native scrub and woody weeds on your property?

30. In the last two years have you attempted to control invasive native scrub or woody weeds on your property?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 33)

31. Which of the following methods do you use to control invasive native scrub or woody weeds?

(read list) (multiple responses)

☐ Fire

☐ Grazing goats

☐ Chemicals

☐ Controlling stocking rates and total amount of grazing

☐ Cultivation such as cropping

☐ Blade ploughing, grubbing, chaining or other mechanical methods (i.e., crocodiling)

Do you use any other methods?

(1) _____

(2) _____

32. Do you control invasive native scrub or woody weeds with one treatment or multiple follow up treatments?

☐ One treatment

Why do you use only one treatment?

☐ Multiple follow up treatments

33. Do you have a problem with exotic pest plant species such as Parkinsonia, Mesquite or Prickly Acacia on your property?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 36)

34. Over what percentage of your property are exotic pest plant species a problem?

____Percent

35. What do you think are the main causes of exotic pest plant species on your property?

36. Have you undertaken any agriculture, grazing or land management related courses in the last two years?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 39)

37. What courses have you undertaken? (*free recall*) (*multiple responses*)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing for Profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture to Pocket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Graze | <input type="checkbox"/> Whole Farm Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holistic Resource Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Tactical Grazing Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Succession planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phoenix mapping | |

Other 1 _____

Other 2 _____

38. Did you change any of your land management practices as a result of what you learnt from the course?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No...why not?

39. Do you have a documented or written property management plan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (Go to Question 43)

40. How many years ago was the property management plan developed?

_____ years (*if less than 1 year record 1 year*)

41. How often do you refer to your property management plan when making decisions? Would it be...

- ☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Occasionally ☐ Never

42. Which of the following is included in your documented property management plan? Does it include a description or map of ... (*read list*) (*multiple responses*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...an air photo or satellite imagery mapping | <input type="checkbox"/> ...pest plants or areas of invasive native scrub |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...soil or land types | <input type="checkbox"/> ...conservation or sanctuary areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...vegetation types | <input type="checkbox"/> ...stock or crop management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...natural or man made watering points | <input type="checkbox"/> ...fencing requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...future plans or developments | |

LANDHOLDER CHARACTERISTICS

43. What is your property primarily used for? (*free recall*) (*multiple responses*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dryland cropping | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifestyle or hobby farming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation cropping | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial goat breeding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Horticulture (Stone and/or fruit orchards) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep for wool | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism or farm stays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep for meat | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation land use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting feral goats | <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal land use |

Other uses (please specify) _____

44. Has the property's primary use changed significantly from five years ago?
☐ Yes ☐ No
45. Do you have adequate access to the internet on your property?
☐ Yes ☐ No
46. How many years have you lived on your current property?
 _____years (*if less than 1 year record 1 year*)
47. How many generations of your family have been on the property? (*circle one*)
 1 2 3 4
48. Is it the intention that the property will be passed onto the next generation in your family?
☐ Yes ☐ No
49. How many years have you managed land in the Western Division?
 _____years (*if less than 1 year record 1 year*)
50. What is the highest level of education that you have? Is it...(*Read list*) (*One response only*)
☐ Primary school ☐ A TAFE college
☐ Secondary school ☐ A university
☐ An agricultural college
 Other (please specify) _____
51. What would be the nearest town or location to your property?

52. How many kilometres by road are you from this town or location?
 _____Km
53. In what year were you born? _____
54. *Interviewer: Record Male or Female*
☐ Male ☐ Female
55. **Would you like the \$30 IGA grocery voucher to be sent to you or would you like the money sent to the Royal Flying Doctor service as a donation?**
☐ Send me \$30 IGA Voucher
☐ Send the money to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (*Finish interview*)
☐ Neither (*Finish interview*)
56. **What address should the IGA voucher be sent to?**

57. **Would you like the CMA to retain your address on their mailing list?**
Your responses to this survey will remain confidential. Only your mailing address will be used for the mailing list.
☐ Yes ☐ No