

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.

If additional information is requested about the project you can refer them to a website (www.ebc.net.au/wcma) or indicate the project manager will contact them..

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.

1. Do you live on, own or look after a rural property in the Western district?

☐ Yes

☐ No (**Conclude interview**)

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 \$25 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?

2. 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)

3. 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

4. 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 14)

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

6. 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

☐ ...visiting a CMA office

☐ ...contacting the CMA office for general advice

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

Other _____

I am going to read out some statements about the Western Catchment Management Authority. After I read out each statement could you tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree, disagree, or strongly disagree with each statement? (*Interviewer: If they don't know then leave blank*)

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---|----|----|---|----|
| 7. The CMA is doing a good job supporting land managers to manage natural resources in this region | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 8. The CMA is responsible for controlling vegetation clearing | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 9. The CMA is a Government department | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 10. I would say I know about the CMA and what it does | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 11. The CMA only works with landholders | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 12. I am generally supportive of the CMA and what it does | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |
| 13. The CMA is responsible for water management | SA | A | TA | TD | D | SD |

14. 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 |

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

- ☐ Yes | ☐ Maybe | → ...How far would you be willing to travel to attend? _____ Kilometres

- ☐ No...Why would you be unlikely to attend? (*free recall*) (*multiple responses*)

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too busy during the day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too far to travel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No need for any training or courses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have been to similar courses before and they are of limited value |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal costs (e.g. accommodation etc) |

Other reasons _____

CROPPING

16. How large is your property?

_____ Acres or _____ Hectares

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

- ☐ Yes
☐ No (Go to Question 21)

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

_____ Acres or _____ Hectares

19. 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

20. 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

21. Have you used your property to run stock in the last two years?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 33)

22. What area of your property is grazed?

_____Acres or _____Hectares

23. Do you adjust stocking rates to manage your pastures?

☐ Yes ☐ No

24. How to you manage your pastures in times of drought? Do 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) _____

25. (a) Which of the following native and feral animals that you have on your property? (read list) (multiple responses).

(b) Which of these do you try and control?

(a) (b)

☐ ☐ Kangaroos

(a) (b)

☐ ☐ Foxes

☐ ☐ Rabbits

☐ ☐ Wild dogs

☐ ☐ Feral Goats

☐ ☐ Wild horses

☐ ☐ Pigs

☐ ☐ Donkeys

☐ ☐ Camels

Other animals (describe) _____

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

27. What proportion of your property is fenced for the purpose of excluding feral or native grazing animals?
 _____Percent
28. 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 31)
29. In regularly moving them do you use any of the following methods? (*read list*) (*multiple responses*)
☐ Rotational grazing or cell grazing based on length of time in paddock
☐ Rotational grazing based on pasture availability
 Other methods (please describe) _____
30. When making decisions about stock movement do you primarily consider stock health or pasture health?
☐ Stock health ☐ Pasture health
31. 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 33)
32. What are your main reasons for controlling stock access to watering points? (*free recall*) (*multiple responses*)
☐ Preserve creek/river banks ☐ Exclude feral or native animals
☐ Prevent erosion ☐ Control domestic stock movements
☐ Trap feral goats ☐ Preserving available pasture
☐ Stock health (e.g., prevent stock deaths in waterholes)
 Other reasons (please describe) _____
33. 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
34. What key species or types of perennial pastures do you have?
☐ Don't know
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
35. Do you have a problem with invasive native scrub or woody weeds on your property?
☐ Yes
☐ No (Go to Question 42)

36. Over what percentage of your property is invasive native scrub or woody weeds a problem?

_____Percent

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

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

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 42)

39. 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) _____

40. 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? (then go to Question 42)

☐ Multiple follow up treatments

41. Which of the following methods do you use when you undertake follow up treatments of invasive native scrub or woody weeds? *(read list) (multiple responses)*

☐ Fire

☐ Grazing goats

☐ Chemicals

☐ 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 other methods

(1) _____

(2) _____

42. 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 45)

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

_____Percent

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

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN NRM AND THE ADOPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

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

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 48)

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

☐ Grazing for Profit

☐ Pasture to Pocket

☐ Pro-Graze

☐ Whole Farm Planning

☐ Holistic Resource Management

☐ Tactical Grazing Management

☐ Western CMA Sustainable Grazing Forum (Broken Hill, 2008)

Other 1 _____

Other 2 _____

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

☐ Yes

☐ No...why not?

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

☐ Yes

☐ No (Go to Question 52)

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

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

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

☐ Always

☐ Often

☐ Sometimes

☐ Occasionally

☐ Never

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

☐ ...an air photo or satellite imagery mapping

☐ ...pest plants or areas of invasive native scrub

☐ ...soil or land types

☐ ...conservation or sanctuary areas

☐ ...vegetation types

☐ ...stock or crop management

☐ ...natural or man made watering points

☐ ...fencing requirements

☐ ...future plans or developments

LANDHOLDER CHARACTERISTICS

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

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

Other uses (please specify) _____

53. Has the property's primary use changed significantly from five years ago?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

54. Do you have adequate access to the internet on your property?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

55. How many years have you lived on your current property?

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

56. How many generations of your family have been on the property? (*circle one*)

1 2 3 4

57. Is it the intention that the property will be passed onto the next generation in your family?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

58. How many years have you managed land in the Western Division?

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

59. What is the highest level of education that you have? Is it...(*Read list*) (*One response only*)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary school | <input type="checkbox"/> A TAFE college |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary school | <input type="checkbox"/> A university |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An agricultural college | |

Other (please specify) _____

60. What would be the nearest town or location to your property?

61. How many kilometres by road are you from this town or location?

_____ Km

62. In what year were you born? _____

63. *Interviewer: Record Male or Female*

- ☐ Male ☐ Female

64. Would you like the \$25 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 \$25 IGA Voucher
- ☐ Send the money to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Go to Question 66)
- ☐ Neither (Go to Question 66)

65. What address should the IGA voucher be sent to?

66. 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 provided for the mailing list.

- ☐ Yes ☐ No