Enhancing Northern Waterways Advisory Group (ENWAG) Background and EOI

Background and introduction

For more than 25 years, the CMA has been working with others to care for our natural resources. We are better when we work together. Bringing people together, sharing knowledge, listening, and learning from each other to act is what motivates us, and in-turn supports productive and prosperous communities.

Program and Project Steering Committees and Advisory Groups are important vehicles to support partnering with government, industry, and community. Members are appointed to these committees according to their skills, knowledge, interest, experience, and ability to reflect community views and communicate information to the community. This approach supports sound decision making with knowledge from a range of perspectives; provides a mechanism to share knowledge and information with the community; enables the community to have a voice; enables decisions to be made with a full understanding of the issues and helps to garner stakeholder support for these decisions.

Previously, connection to the community in the northern part of our catchment has occurred through individual project steering committees and community advisory groups. The Enhancing Northern Waterways Advisory Group (ENWAG) replaces these groups and has been established to provide community insight and advice to support the implementation of North Central CMA managed projects and programs in the northern part of the catchment known as the Torrumbarry Irrigation Area.

About the Enhancing Northern Waterways Advisory Group

The North Central CMA, in partnership with Traditional Owners, other agencies and the community delivers a range of projects and programs across the Torrumbarry Irrigation Area to help protect and enhance the environment.

The Enhancing Northern Waterways Advisory Group (ENWAG) will provide valuable local community insight and member knowledge to a broad range of projects and programs that North Central CMA manages within the area to support a more holistic approach to management, including:

- The Murray and Loddon Floodplain Fish Recovery Project
- Gunbower Ramsar Project and Kerang Lakes Ramsar Project
- Gunbower Forest and Gunbower Creek Environmental Watering Program
- Guttrum and Benwell Forests Environmental Watering Program
- Central Murray Wetlands Environmental Watering Program
- New projects that are developed from time to time

Contributions from the community about activities outside of these CMA lead programs, or projects will need to be directed to the responsible agency or organisation and may not be able to be addressed though this forum.

Selection criteria

To help with diverse representation on the group, the following criteria will assist the North Central CMA to determine membership. Interested community persons should complete an Expression of Interest if they are:

- Knowledgeable about the environmental, social, cultural and/or economic values of the area.
- Passionate about achieving good environmental and community outcomes.
- Knowledgeable and interested about understanding issues relating to natural resource management and environmental water management.
- Interested in strengthening relationships between the agencies responsible for managing and delivering natural resource management projects, water for the environmental, local communities and relevant interest groups.
- Committed to sharing information with the broader community about the work of the North Central CMA.
- Able to motivate and inform others.

Help shape environmental restoration programs in your local area

The North Central CMA invests millions of dollars on environmental restoration works in Gunbower Forest, Kerang wetlands and along creeks and rivers near you. To help guide our projects we are seeking advice and insight from a diverse range of people who have a passion for improving the environment to become a member on the new Enhancing Northern Waterways Advisory Group (ENWAG).

Group membership is voluntary (travel expenses reimbursed) with up to 4 hours commitment per month (reading material, meetings and/or site visits).

Interested community persons are encouraged to read the ENWAG Terms of Reference prior to applying.

Please complete an Expression of Interest form by clicking here before 5pm Friday 30 September.

For more information:

Contact: Rachel Murphy, Executive Manager, Program Delivery

Rachel.murphy@nccma.vic.gov.au