**Environmental Water Advisory Group**

**Expression of Interest**

**Background and introduction**

For more than 25 years, the North Central 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.

Project 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.

The North Central CMA is currently seeking Expressions of Interest from community members to be part of either the:

* Loddon and Boort Wetlands Environmental Water Advisory Group; or
* Campaspe Environmental Water Advisory Group.

**About Environmental Water Advisory Groups**

Environmental Water Advisory Groups (EWAG) provide valuable local community insight and advice to support the North Central CMA’s management of water for the environment, in particular providing input into the annual development of a Seasonal Watering Proposal (SWP). EWAG members also provide advice regarding community engagement opportunities and emerging issues specifically related to water for the environment.

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

**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 form 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.

Group membership is voluntary; however travel expenses are reimbursed.

Each EWAG generally meets twice per year – spring and summer.  Each meeting generally requires up to 4 hours of time commitment which includes pre-reading and meeting attendance.

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

[**Please complete an Expression of Interest form via SurveyMonkey by Friday 24 November.**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XMNGS83)

**For more information:**

Contact: Darren White, Water for the Environment Project Manager

[darren.white@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:Rachel.murphy@nccma.vic.gov.au)

**ENVIRONMENTAL WATER ADVISORY GROUP**

**EXPRESSION OF INTERST FORM**

**Please complete the form below by 5pm Friday 24 November 2023 and email to** [info@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@nccma.vic.gov.au)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Group you wish to apply to: | o Campaspe o Loddon and Boort Wetlands |
| Contact phone number: |  |
| Email address: |  |
| Residential address: |  |
| Postal Address (if different from above): |  |
| Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?  o Yes o No | |
| Are you currently or have previously been a member of a North Central CMA advisory group or other natural resource management group? eg. Landcare, BirdLife Aust., Field Naturalists  o Yes o No  If yes, which one? | |
| Why do you want to be a member of a Environmental Water Advisory Group?  \*Tip - consider the criteria when responding | |
| What knowledge, skills and/ or experience will you bring to the group?  \* Tip - consider the criteria when responding | |
| How will you share information with the broader community through involvement in other local community and/ or interest groups? | |
| Which term of membership appeals to you most?  o 2 years o 4 years | |