



People & Community

REPORT CARD INFORMATION SHEET

The Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) strongly advocates increasing the community's capacity to engage in natural resource management activities. Hence 'People and Community' is one of our seven Natural Resource Management (NRM) themes.

Our Catchment Action Plan (CAP) identifies four People and Community targets to be met by 2016. This information sheet gives a summary of how people and communities across Central West NSW can work together to achieve NRM outcomes and the work done in this area by the Central West CMA.

People and Communities in the Central West Catchment

Work under the Central West CMA's People and Community theme is all about increasing people's awareness, participation and practical knowledge of NRM in their homes, in the paddock, in the Catchment and in the community.

NRM work done through the Central West CMA happens through support and participation from people and communities across the Central West Catchment.

The Central West CMA is an organisation committed to bringing about effective change in behaviour to promote sustainable natural resource management. We are committed to the vision of "vibrant communities and healthy landscapes" and our mission is to work with the community to conserve and manage the Catchment's natural and cultural resources.

This can be done through:

- community consultation on important NRM issues
- education opportunities like workshops and training days
- support to groups and individuals for NRM activities
- communication with the wider community on NRM issues.



PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY *in action*

An example of work being done under the People and Community theme is the establishment of three key community reference groups to help engage and work with the community.

The Central West CMA formed the Local Government Reference Group (LGRG) to recognise the importance of Local Government in the management of natural resources – as a planner, manager and local community leader. The group consists of Councillors, and both senior and operational council staff. It establishes formal and constructive relationships between councils and the Central West CMA and enhances and promotes strategic and sustainable natural resource management across the Central West Catchment.

The Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) represents fifteen Aboriginal communities throughout Central West NSW, with a good balance of men and women to address gender-specific issues. The Group plays an important consultative role for the Central West CMA and helps establish meaningful engagement with Aboriginal people across our Catchment, particularly in regards to NRM and Cultural Heritage Management.

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Working Group was formed to provide an important link between the Central West CMA and the many Landcare and community groups it works with throughout the Catchment – over 120 in total. The NRM Working Group plays a major role in the development of projects and initiatives within the Catchment.



Work done against our 2016 CAP targets

The following diagram illustrates our progress against our four People & Community CAP Management Targets as at June 2007.

(Refer to key below)

[MTPC1]

NRM education programs for schools, community and land managers

Waterwatch program in place in schools

KARE – Kids & Regional Environment

School Farm Planning Competition

Community Water Quality and Project Monitoring being established across the Catchment

Annual photo competition

Annual Champions of the Catchment awards

Three Farming Systems courses have been run, with a total of 31 families participating.

Approximately 72 community workshops and training events have been held across the Catchment

Hosted and attended around 36 field days across the Catchment.

[MTPC2]

Increase participation of land managers in planning and applying NRM strategies

Establishment and operation of three NRM reference groups to address NRM issues:

1. **Aboriginal Reference Group**
2. **Local Government Reference Group**
3. **Central West Natural Resources Management Working Group**

Community consultation program on our Investment Strategy

[MTPC3]

Three programs to increase knowledge and understanding of the wider community of Aboriginal culture and cultural projects

Information package developed on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Cultural Heritage projects

[MTPC4]

Increase Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people involved in Indigenous NRM projects

Brokering relationships between Aboriginal communities, landholders and NRM groups in five regions

Definitions

Capacity	is the individual's ability and confidence to be actively involved in on-ground projects.
Education programs	provide the participants with balanced and objective information to help them understand the problem, alternatives or solutions.
Engagement	describes two parties with an active and ongoing level of information exchange, consultation and participation in projects.



[KEY]



No work done specifically in this area yet



Programs in development



Programs implemented and contributing towards 2016 targets



Programs implemented and on track to meet 2016 targets

To find out more about our People & Community Program and how you can be involved contact the Central West CMA

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vibrant communities ... healthy landscapes

