Local Land Stewards Program

South East Local Land Services is offering incentives of approximately $10,000 to land managers for sustainable grazing management projects that increase groundcover and pasture biomass in the Hilltops (Boorowa), Upper Lachlan and Yass Valley Local Government Areas.

The Local Land Stewards Program

The Local Land Stewards program will assist land managers increase their groundcover, herbage mass, pasture species diversity and percentage of perennial plants by improving their ability to manage their stock and rest pastures.

Increasing biomass, above and below ground leads to improvements in soil health, soil carbon and water infiltration. Many soil types in our area are highly erodible and prone to salinity. Increasing groundcover and deep rooted plants reduces these risks, protects our soils and waterways and prevents the need to remEDIATE at a later date.

Giving pastures time to rest allows grasses to set seed and regenerate, increasing pasture species diversity. Increasing diversity increases resilience to changing weather and climate, can decrease weed invasion and provides a varied diet for livestock and wildlife including native birds.

Project requirements

Project site- We are looking to partner with land managers who have pastures in which they will significantly increase groundcover and biomass over the next 2 years. Local Land Services will offer a contribution to the cost of fencing materials and water infrastructure (with no more than 40% of LLS contribution to water infrastructure costs) to subdivide paddocks giving more control over grazing and the opportunity to rest pastures. The project site must not be improved to the detriment of the rest of the property.

Support - Participating land managers will be required to regularly attend and participate in a grazing group to discuss their own grazing management practices with peers and experts throughout the 2 year works period of the project.

Payments will be made in 2 installments; the first half of the LLS contribution will be paid upon signing of the contract. The second half will be paid 2 years later once managers have demonstrated that they have increased groundcover and biomass on the project site and have been participating in a grazing group.

More information and how to apply

To be eligible for assistance, complete the expression of interest (EOI) application form on the back. Once complete, email your EOI to yass.projects@lls.nsw.gov.au, drop it into your nearest South East Local Land Services office, Fax to 02 6385 1061 or post to Local Land Services, PO Box 49 Boorowa NSW 2586.

For more information contact Melissa Henry - Senior NRM Advisor on melissa.henry@lls.nsw.gov.au or 6385 1018.

This project is delivered by South East Local Land Services, through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program.
Expression of interest form

Applications close Monday 26 August 2019.
Late EOIs will not be accepted. Partial EOI forms will not be accepted. Posted EOIs must be date stamped on or before Friday 23 August 2019 to be eligible.

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<th>Applicant details sections marked with an * must be completed</th>
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<td>*Applicant name:</td>
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<td>*Landowners name (if different to applicant)</td>
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*Please provide your Lot/DP number or attach your council rates, this allows us to process your EOI faster.

Eligibility to apply for funding (Applicants must meet all criteria ☑)

☐ The project site is in the Hilltops (Boorowa), Upper Lachlan or Yass Valley Local Government Areas.

☐ I am willing to enter into a 10 year agreement with Local Land Services.

☐ All on-ground works previously funded by Local Land Services and/or Catchment Management Authorities are complete. If you have a project that is complete or will be completed by September 2019 and has not yet been inspected by an LLS officer please provide details:

☐ I agree to 50/50 cost sharing with Local Land Services for the project at Local Land Services standard rates.

☐ The project site is over 20ha.

☐ I understand that I will need to increase groundcover and biomass on the project site within the first 2 years of the contract period and participate in a grazing group to receive the final 50% of the Local Land Services funding contribution.

What happens next?
Once EOIs have been received and processed a Local Land Services staff member will call you to arrange a site visit. Project proposals will be developed in consultation with South East Local Land Services staff. Final project proposals will be submitted to an assessment panel and reviewed against eligibility criteria and funding priorities. Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified.

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