

Landholders linking through Landcare for landscape fire planning in the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin for carbon, production & biodiversity

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Federal investment for carbon abatement through enhanced biodiverse carbon stores has proven to be a catalyst to mobilise primary producers, public and private sector participation in fire planning in the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin.

A bottom up approach, facilitated through Landcare and Natural Resource Management organisations in Southern Inland Queensland has seen the rekindling and forging of new partnerships under a common purpose of supporting the use of fire as a safe management tool for biodiversity, carbon and production outcomes.

“Landscape Fire Planning in Poplar Box Grassy Woodlands in the QMDB” project funded by the Australian Government is a 5 year project partnership with multiple landholder, fire, environmental, government and research agencies in the Maranoa.

Coming into its fourth year, the project, through demonstration sites and information sharing field days with land managers, CSG industry, researchers, local and state government agencies is engaging and supporting land managers to develop property and landscape fire plans that are reflective of land type management requirements across an area of over 300,000ha. It's also encouraging land managers to undertake monitoring and recovery planning for fire where possible as a part of their local primary producer fire brigade and Landcare groups.

The process being employed actively assists landholders make more informed decisions about their current use of fire, supporting their local knowledge with existing regionally relevant research. Long term partnerships are being forged and fostered across organisations and boundary fences. Trust is being developed between individuals and agencies, thus building networks spanning organisational and generational divides in the region contributing to resilience in landscape and people who make it their home.