

MEDIA RELEASE

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Talwood farmers receive \$1 million to help land

Twenty-three land managers near Talwood, including the Waggamba Shire Council, will receive more than \$1 million over the next year, to undertake natural resource management projects.

The group has been working closely with local Landcare Coordinator Tammy Caldicott, and the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC) to design a sub-catchment plan to address local environmental challenges.

“We’ve been doing a lot of research and planning over the past few months as part of QMDC’s Sub-Catchment Planning program,” said Tammy.

“Using technical support from the staff at both QMDC and state government departments, the farmers have been planning ways to address some local issues, like soil conservation, biodiversity management, salinity, and water quality, in the best manner possible,” she said.

The funds, from the Australian and Queensland Governments, will be used to help farmers meet the high costs of revegetating land, fencing, earthworks, and installing alternative water points, which farmers will undertake over the next two years.

Spokesperson and CEO for QMDC, Olwyn Crimp, said that, although it sounded like a lot of money, the group was more than meeting this figure with their own commitments of time and money.

“Essentially, we’ve provided technical and financial support to help the members of the Talwood group to more sustainably manage their land, despite the drought,” said Olwyn.

“But most of the work is coming from these farmers, including \$1.3mill in additional expenses.”

Olwyn also said that Talwood was just one of five groups that have recently been approved for funding by QMDC, bringing the number of funded groups across southern Queensland to 22.

“We’ve been running our Sub-Catchment Planning program since 2000, and we’ve now committed \$6.3 million in 129 contracts to landholders to more sustainably manage land,” she said.

QMDC is funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments through the Natural Heritage Trust, the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and the National Landcare Program.

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