

Sustainable Pastoralism

~ Making more out of less ~

Rangelands NRM is committed to working with producers to improve practices which increase productivity, generate economic returns and sustain our natural resource base. Opportunities include:

Ecologically Sustainable Rangeland Management (ESRM) Planning

ESRM planning takes a whole-of-property approach and attempts to strike the right balance between maintaining the rangeland natural resource base and achieving the business goals of the land manager. Through the ESRM planning process, the land manager identifies land systems, notes their productive potential and degradation risks and prioritises them into action/response categories. Land systems with the greatest productive potential with the highest risks of on-going or future degradation are prioritised to ensure sustained productivity.

On Ground Works

Rangelands NRM provides incentives to help implement priority actions identified through the ESRM planning process to facilitate a 'managing-to-land-systems' approach. Co-investment projects may include works to address erosion through landscape function analyses; rangeland rehydration techniques to retain more rainfall on grazing country and development of grazing rotation infrastructure to spell areas under pressure.

Trials/Demos of Innovative Practices

Funding is available to take some of the risk out of conducting trials or demonstrations of innovative practices and share results with interested producers. Support from Rangelands NRM staff is available to help brainstorm new project ideas, pull together resources and to help monitor trial sites.

Knowledge, Skills and Leadership Development

Support is available to improve skills, knowledge and leadership potential of land managers. This may include assistance to attend workshops/seminars, formal training courses and field days. Opportunities also exist for individuals who wish to develop their leadership capacity and confidence.

Community Awareness

Telling good news stories is critical to our future. Our aim is to provide information to the wider community about the ways the industry is looking after the land. Rangelands NRM will support producer groups to develop case studies, short video, fact sheets and information displays.

Rangelands Self Herding

The Rangelands Self Herding project works with pastoralists to equip them with strategies based on their station's unique landscape and uses a suite of tools to influence herd behaviour which changes grazing distributions to suit pastoralists' needs, signalled by such things as available feed budgets and landscape condition assessments.

Fire management

Rangelands NRM is working with a variety of partners to implement innovative fire management projects such as increasing carbon soil sequestration, learning about how cattle respond to prescriptive fire management, as well as fire history data management systems.



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~ Carbon Sequestration Credit Opportunities ~

There are two types of carbon abatement — emissions reduction and organic carbon sequestration; both reduce the amount of greenhouse gases entering the Earth's atmosphere.

The Australian Government's Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) provides incentives for carbon abatement activities. At present, opportunities in the WA rangelands mainly lie in emissions reduction projects, mainly through the savannah burning method, but other opportunities include energy-use efficiency projects and cattle methane emissions reduction through feed supplementation and/or earlier turn-off.

To participate in the ERF you need to:

- apply to become an Emissions Reduction Fund participant
- register your project to receive Australian carbon credit units.

Registration is not a binding commitment to undertake the project.

In the WA rangelands there are a number of technological and knowledge gaps and legal/regulatory limitations or barriers for carbon sequestration projects.

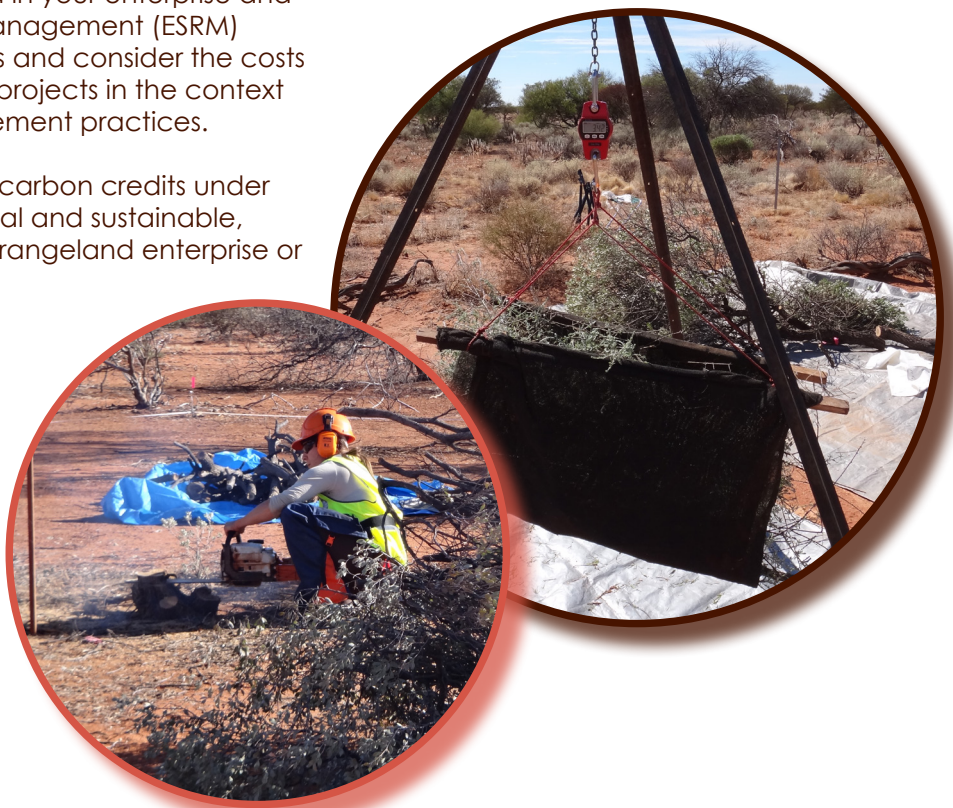
Through its Royalties for Regions funded Carbon Awareness Project, Rangelands NRM is addressing some of the knowledge gaps associated with carbon sequestration, and is developing a new research project to address the remaining critical technological and knowledge gaps.

Sequestration projects can be included in your enterprise and Ecologically Sustainable Rangeland Management (ESRM) plans to develop project business cases and consider the costs and information requirements of these projects in the context of other commercial and land management practices.

In all situations, an activity to generate carbon credits under the ERF should be ecologically beneficial and sustainable, compatible with and integrated into a rangeland enterprise or land management plan, collectively resulting in natural resource condition enhancement and other co-benefits.

See the Rangelands NRM website for more information on how Rangelands NRM is working to advance carbon abatement opportunities in the WA rangelands.

Information on how to register a carbon abatement project to the ERF is available on the Australian Government Clean Energy Regulator website.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Regional Development**



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