



Partnership Prospectus

A guide to developing partnerships
with Riverina Local Land Services



Local Land
Services

Acknowledgement of Country

The Riverina region broadly aligns with Wiradjuri country. Riverina Local Land Services acknowledges the Aboriginal people residing within the region and pays respect to past, present and future Elders of those nations.

Traditional owners and Aboriginal people are one of the key community groups with whom partnerships will be fostered. This is in recognition of their land management practices, which ensured sustainable, viable communities over the long-term. Aboriginal people have managed their land for over 40,000 years. Their land management practices were possible because there were treaties amongst nations and within traditional families that allowed for equitable sharing of resources.



Our key goal for the Riverina region is connecting people and landscapes. This will be achieved through Ngangaanha – the Wiradjuri word meaning to look after, regard and care for Country.

Greg Packer, Senior Land Services Officer (Aboriginal Communities)



A message from the General Manager

Here at Riverina Local Land Services, we strive for excellence in delivering quality customer services to farmers, landholders and the wider community.

Our staff live and work in the Riverina to improve the land, environment, industry and community. We partner with farmers, community, public land managers, First Nations communities, government and industry to share knowledge, act on the ground and make a difference in our region.

Engagement plays an important role in our service offering. Through established channels of engagement, including a monthly e-newsletter, social media, community inquiries, events and our on-farm visits, we deliver advice, incentives, networks, advisory groups and services to support and inform our community.

Our staff are out in the field as a direct channel between landholders and potential partners, connecting the community to NSW, Australian and Local Government agencies. We can identify and facilitate collaborative projects and opportunities.

We can connect you with people in the Riverina managing the landscape. We offer credible engagement through our staff, links to government, researchers and industry, and access to best practice through our work with leaders in the field.

Finally, we have the ability to deliver programs, grants and funding through existing structures and relationships.

Please consider how we can work together to deliver your organisational goals and I welcome a further conversation to explore opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Willis
General Manager

Connecting landholders with knowledge and networks to improve land and communities.

Our role in the Riverina

Riverina Local Land Services is delivering practical results through:



+ Growing
farm productivity and healthy environments



+ Protecting
against pests, diseases and environmental threats



+ Connecting
our customers with the best advice, services and networks



+ Supporting
helping primary industries prepare for natural disasters

We work holistically across the landscape and recognise a wide range of land uses. Riverina Local Land Services works with land managers to help them understand the needs, obligations and opportunities of land management, regardless of tenure.

We play a central role in sharing credible knowledge based on the latest science, paddock-based experience and a deep understanding of the country. Our partnership with farmers, community, national parks, government land managers, Aboriginal communities and natural resource managers underpins our achievements.

Our connection with community

Riverina Local Land Services is deeply committed to and engaged with the community in which we operate. We work with landholders by delivering advice, incentives, networks, advisory groups and services.

We have a direct connection with landholders, who are also ratepayers to Riverina Local Land Services. Our communications are well respected:

- + 6759 landholders on our email lists
- + 5768 followers on social media.

Riverina Local Land Services is well linked to NSW, Australian and Local Government agencies and can identify and facilitate cross-functional projects and opportunities. Our staff can act as the conduit to landholders and other potential partners on the ground.



Partnering to address collective challenges

Riverina Local Land Services is keen to partner with business, industry, government, not-for-profit and community groups to deliver projects and areas where we share common goals.

What does a partnership with Riverina Local Land Services look like?

Collaboration can be tailored to your needs and could include:

- + being designated as a preferred supplier
- + sub-contracting to the Riverina Local Land Services, individually or as part of a consortium, to deliver project outcomes
- + fee for service in a range of areas
- + funding Local Land Services to deliver under supplier arrangement
- + co-investment in aligned issues
- + community engagement done for you
- + program administration, funding allocation and governance
- + extension partnerships with research organisations to extend results to wider community
- + specialised products to suit your requirements.

Solutions that Riverina Local Land Services can offer:

-  **Connection with people**
managing the landscape and credibility with primary producers.
-  **Connection with government**
we are well-linked to NSW, Australian and Local Government agencies and can identify and facilitate cross functional projects and opportunities.
-  **Best science**
our staff have close links with government, researchers and industry.
-  **Best practice**
we work with leaders in the field.
-  **Governance structures**
we have the ability to deliver programs and funding through existing structures and relationships.
-  **Our statewide footprint**
we are connected with other Local Land Services regions, giving you a statewide reach and united approach, while tailoring to your needs.
-  **Impact on the ground**
monitored, measured and mapped.

Collaboration is a proven means of achieving more cut-through and better results with limited resources.

About us

Established under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, Local Land Services provides quality, customer-focused services to landholders and local communities across New South Wales.

We work collaboratively with land managers and their local communities to improve primary production with healthy landscapes, as well as providing production advice, biosecurity, natural resource management and emergency management functions through our 11 local regions.

The varied nature of the Local Land Services functions, from natural resource management, to weeds, to animal production, to feral pest control, means that in the Riverina, our team of 70 qualified staff have many touchpoints with land managers, industry partners and other key stakeholders.

We play a strong role in the NSW emergency management framework, and have a pivotal duty on the ground to support agriculture and animals when help is needed the most.

Local Land Services is governed by a board of Chairs, which is made up of an independent Chair and the Chairs of 11 local boards, who are responsible to the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales. At a state-wide level, we operate with approximately 1,050 staff and a budget of \$225 million. The Local Land Services network is scalable, meaning that we can amplify the reach of partnerships and collaborative efforts by partnering with, and benefiting from, the knowledge and contacts of other Local Land Services regions.



The Riverina Local Land Services region covers an area of approximately 6.7 million hectares in southern NSW.

Our region

The Riverina Local Land Services region extends to Harden in the east, Hay in the west, Hillston in the north and Lockhart in the south, covering an area of approximately 6.7 million hectares in southern New South Wales.

Wagga Wagga is the largest centre, with a population of approximately 60,000.

The Murrumbidgee River winds through the region and is the second largest river of the Murray-Darling system. The word Murrumbidgee means 'big water' in Wiradjuri language.

The region is a topographically diverse area, with landscapes varying from highlands on the edge of the Kosciuszko National Park to plains, irrigation areas and western rangelands. Many natural assets of international and national importance are found in the area serviced by Riverina Local Land Services, including the Ramsar-listed Fivebough and Tuckerbill wetlands near Leeton.

The region also includes a number of threatened birds, fish and frog species, and endangered ecological communities. The landscape also features highly significant Indigenous cultural heritage areas, values and elements.

The customers of Riverina Local Land Services include primary producers as well as public and other private land managers. There are approximately 12,000 ratepayers with 43 per cent of these identifying as livestock producers. There are also several thousand small holdings.

The predominant land use is agriculture. Together, dryland grazing and cereal-based cropping account for 80 per cent of land use, while irrigation accounts for five per cent. Along with cereals, crops include maize, millet, sorghum, lucerne, cotton, rice, citrus and wine grapes.

The region includes 86,000 hectares of travelling stock reserves, 165,000 hectares of state forests and 293,000 hectares of national parks and reserves.



Riverina Local Land Services
prides itself on delivering:



Accountability



Collaboration



Innovation



Integrity



Performance



Service



Trust



Just some of the ways we have improved the Riverina region over the last seven years:



Healthier rivers, landscapes and soils

- + Agricultural production**
89,622 ha of land managed for improved agricultural production.
- + Endangered ecological communities**
8,917 ha of significant species and endangered ecological communities enhanced, rehabilitated and protected.
- + Rivers**
59 km of rivers protected and restored through rehabilitation and enhancement.
- + Native vegetation**
587 agreements established to help grow and protect native vegetation through rehabilitation and enhancement. 75,520 ha of native vegetation enhanced, rehabilitated or protected.
- + Aboriginal cultural heritage and ecological communities**
36 projects undertaken to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage and ecological communities.
- + Travelling stock reserves (TSRs)**
85,435 ha managed for biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage and recreation.



Traceability, disease and access to markets

- + On farm disease**
On average, our vets and biosecurity officers attend more than 492 general consultations and conduct 518 disease investigations each year.
Our biosecurity team certifies an average of 183 consignments of livestock for overseas export and 29 for movements interstate each year.
- + Traceability**
Local administration of the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) system and boots on the ground to audit saleyards.
- + Pest monitoring**
Fruit fly trapping and monitoring program to strengthen Riverina orchard industry market security.



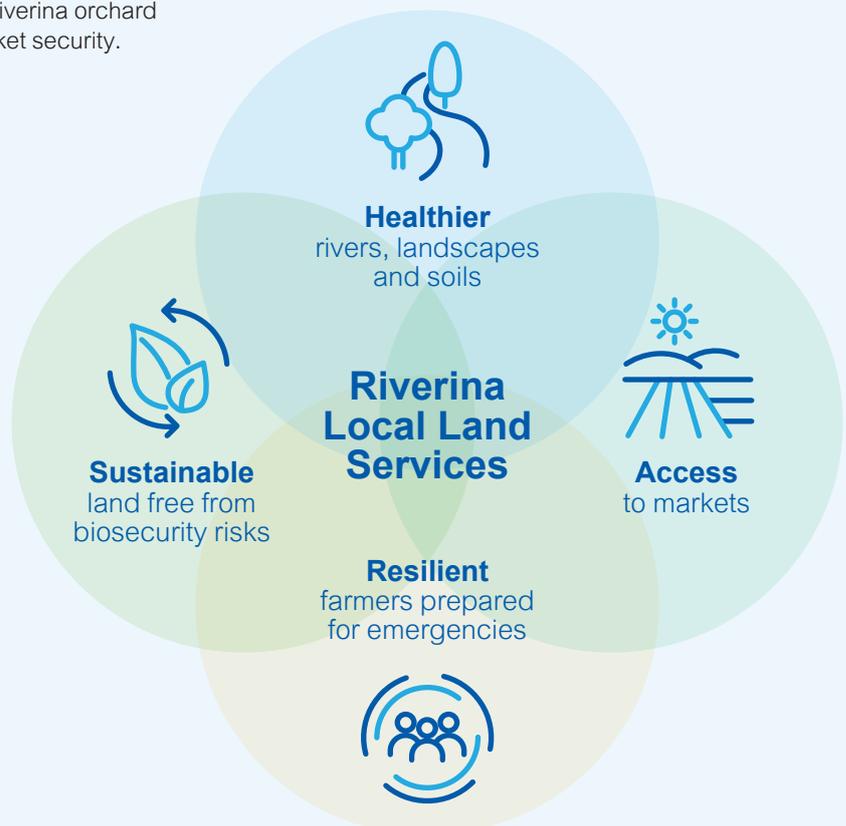
Resilient farmers prepared for emergencies

- + Connections, networks and events**
6,270 participants connected with advice and networks at 174 awareness-raising and capacity-building events.
- + Emergency support**
Following the Dunns Road/ Green Valley Bushfire in early 2020, our team helped 461 landholders with livestock assessment and destruction, as well as providing 2,739 tonnes of emergency fodder and 525 kilolitres of water.



Sustainable land free from biosecurity risks

- + Pest animals**
11,097,266 ha of land managed for pest animals through coordinated baiting programs.
- + Priority weeds**
17,359 ha of land protected against regional priority weeds.



Riverina Local Land Services partnerships in action



Pastures updates highlight partnerships

In collaboration with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) and the private sector, our staff coordinated pasture update events in Wagga and Griffith to an audience of over 200 people on the latest science, paddock-based research and practical experience. Working with partners to design a capacity-building mechanism, engage communities and successfully manage events is one of our key strengths.

Delivering regional outcomes for Australian Government

Riverina Local Land Services is a regional service provider for the Australian Government's National Landcare Program (NLP). Our NLP projects deliver environmental and sustainable agricultural services and advice to support land managers to achieve the program's aims.

We deliver quantifiable, on-ground results.

Cultural burning program on TSRs

Our staff have a strong connection with the First Nations community and work together for cultural landscape management and protection. An example is the cultural burning program, implemented in partnership with the local First Nations community and Rural Fire Service. The program implemented cultural burns on travelling stock reserves in the Riverina giving Aboriginal people the opportunity to get back out on Country, reintroduce cultural burning and improve the health of environmentally valuable sites.





Riverina Local Land Services is deeply committed to and engaged with the community in which we operate.

Helping communities recover from bushfire

After the devastation of the 2019–20 Black Summer bushfires, our staff were on deck to support a community in need. Implementing the Recovering Our Regions program in partnership with the Murray Local Land Services gave landholders practical and timely assistance with weed control, pest animal control and livestock welfare.

In delivering this program, we also partnered with the Rural Financial Counselling Service, NSW DPI resilience officers and other service providers to support a recovering community.



Working with industry to control Fall Armyworm

A suspected case of the pest species Fall Armyworm saw our on-ground staff work closely with farmers, agronomists and NSW DPI to implement a monitoring program across the region. This insect pest is a serious threat to cereal, rice, cotton and horticultural industries. Our response to the Fall Armyworm incursion is an example of how Local Land Services can quickly mobilise and work with industry to meet an emerging and serious threat.

Develop a partnership with us!

Areas of focus for Riverina Local Land Services

- + Primary production
- + Emergency management – prevention, preparedness, response and recovery
- + Strategic weed management
- + Strategic coordinated pest animal management
- + Animal biosecurity and welfare
- + Plant biosecurity
- + Conservation and restoration of natural resources
- + Aboriginal cultural heritage and land management
- + Native vegetation management
- + Travelling stock reserve management

We welcome a conversation about opportunities for us to work together, so please get in touch.

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Local Land Services