

15 October 2007

BOURKE AND WHITE CLIFFS RESIDENTS JOIN WESTERN CMA BOARD

Tony Thompson of Bourke and Diana Hoffman of White Cliffs have been appointed to the Board of the Western Catchment Management Authority (CMA) by the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water, Phil Koperberg.

Tony Thompson is well known within the Western Catchment's agricultural community. He began his career as a dryland agronomist and started growing irrigated cotton in 1993 and adopted grazing agriculture in 2001.

His innovative 'integrated rangeland management' system, which focuses on the reintroduction of perennial pastures through rotational grazing and enables the management of stock on an individual basis, has attracted considerable interest both locally and abroad.

He won a bronze award in the 2003 NSW Landcare Awards in recognition of the sustainable management of his grazing and cotton operation.

Diana Hoffman has been an active member of natural resource and community organisations both locally and on a state-wide level.

She has been a member of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Advisory Council since 2001 and was the first woman to Chair the Council in 2004. She is currently a member of the NPWS Far West Region Advisory Committee and is a member of the steering committee providing input to the development of the Paroo-Darling National Park.

She has served on the Central-Darling Shire Council Tourism and Economic Development Board and Advisory Group, White Cliffs Parents and Citizens Association and the Darling River Group Council. She is the Chair of the White Cliffs Community Association and the President of the White Cliffs History Group.

Chair of the Western CMA, Rory Treweeke, says he welcomes Tony and Diana to the Board.

"Both Diana and Tony are very accomplished and knowledgeable people whose skills will complement the balance and quality of the existing Board," Mr Treweeke said.

"They will join me and fellow board members, Sam Jeffries, Andrew Mosely, Justin McClure, in working with the catchment community to improve natural resources.

"Tony and Diana replace Max Hams and Jenny McLellan, who retired from the Board after serving a three-year term. Both Jenny and Max have been involved in natural resource management in the Western Catchment for many years and their dedication and commitment has been greatly appreciated," Mr Treweeke said.

ENDS

For further information:



MEDIA RELEASE



Maree Barnes, PR and Media Officer, Western CMA. Ph: 02 6883 3058/0427 256 814.
Rory Treweeke, Chair Western CMA. Ph: 02 6829 0301/0428 634 204.
Tony Thompson. Ph: 02 6872 1999/0419 462117
Diana Hoffman. Ph: 08 8091 6705

Captions:

- Tony Thompson
- Diana Hoffman
- Chair of the Western CMA, Rory Treweeke presented retiring board members, Jenny McLellan and Max Hams with framed photographs from the Light and Life of the Western Catchment photographic competition in recognition of their contribution to the Board.

