

29 September 2009

WESTERN CMA BOARD HOLDS OPEN SESSION IN BREWARRINA

The Western Catchment Management Authority (CMA) Board will hold its bi-monthly meeting in Brewarrina on October 13 and 14, Western CMA Chair Rory Treweeke said today.

"I would like to invite local people to attend a briefing session about activities being carried out in the Brewarrina area and an open session for people to raise issues for discussion," he said.

Members of the public are invited to join the Board at the Brewarrina Business Centre at 1.30 pm on Tuesday, October 13.

The briefing session will include an overview of the Western CMA's operations in the Brewarrina area including the Incentives Program, which provides funds for individuals and groups to undertake on-ground works or training to improve their local environment.

Major local projects include the Brewarrina to Bourke Demonstration Reach, which aims to improve 200 km of the Barwon-Darling River and the Community Gross Pollutant Trapping program, which has resulted in traps being installed in the stormwater system to reduce pollution entering the river system.

A number of broad-scale pest projects will also be outlined. Over the past eight months 7,650 feral pigs have been culled as a result of an integrated aerial shooting, baiting and trapping program. In addition, Hudson Pear is being treated on approximately 60,000 hectares in an operation that involves the Western CMA, nine other organisations, landholders and opal miners.

Following the briefing session people will have the opportunity to raise any issue directly with the Board.

"The Western CMA has been in operation for five years, working with local people to improve the way we manage our natural resources," Mr Treweeke said.

"In that time we have assisted individuals and groups to undertake almost 500 projects, both large and small, to improve the environment of the Western Catchment.

"Keeping in touch with local people, listening to their issues and learning how we can do our job more effectively is very important to us.

"Holding regular open sessions where people can speak directly to the Board is just one avenue to ensure local people are heard.

"The Western CMA rotates its board meetings around the Catchment to ensure we keep in touch with local issues," Mr Treweeke said.

ENDS – For further information, please contact:



MEDIA RELEASE



Maree Barnes, PR and Media Officer on (02) 6841 2749/0427 256814
Rory Treweeke, Chair Western CMA on 02 6829 0301/0428 634204.

Caption: The Western CMA Board. Back: Jusin McClure, Tony Thompson, Sam Jeffries, Matthew Nicholson. Front: Diana Hoffman, Rory Treweeke, Andrew Mosely.

