12 January 2026

Terms of reference/Expression of interest

Climate-Smart Agriculture Demonstration Site

"Building a Climate Smart Future for the Riverina"

Timing

Stage	Date	Notes
EOI Opens	January-June 2026	Applications accepted during this period
Assess Applications	Ongoing-July 2026	Rolling assessment as applications are received
Demonstration Sites Designed and Established On-farm	By December 2026	Final deadline for site setup

Overview

Riverina Local Land Services (RLLS) is dedicated to working collaboratively with landholders and producer groups to enhance the profitability and productivity of agricultural businesses. Demonstration Sites are designed to promote the adoption of climate-smart farming practices and technologies that support sustainable, productive, and profitable agricultural systems. These sites encourage producers to explore and implement new skills and management approaches within their operations.

The primary goal of a demonstration site is for producers to adopt the showcased practices, leading to measurable improvements in business performance.

RLLS is now inviting applications for demonstration sites across all types of agricultural enterprises, with projects to begin in the 2025/26 financial year. Funding is available to assist agricultural businesses in validating and demonstrating the commercial benefits of integrating new technologies and on-farm management strategies into local production systems.

This project is supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program and delivered by Riverina Local Land Services, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel.

Climate-Smart Agricultural Project - Outcomes

RLLS has secured funding through the National Heritage Trust to deliver a three-year project titled "Building a Climate Smart Future for the Riverina." The project is focused on strengthening farmers' knowledge, skills, and adoption of Climate-Smart Agriculture practices.

Projects under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program are to drive agricultural productivity, competitiveness and sustainability by contributing to the following outcomes:

- Outcome 1: The agriculture sector is adopting practices to reduce emissions and build resilience to climate change.
- Outcome 2: The agriculture sector is supported to harness carbon and biodiversity incentives and implement industry sustainability frameworks.
- Outcome 3: Farmers are supported to drive agricultural growth, while adopting sustainable natural resource management practices that protect and conserve natural capital and biodiversity.

As part of the project RLLS will deliver a range of extension activities including field days, training courses, supply chain immersion activities, conferences and, importantly for this discussion, on-farm demonstration sites. These demonstrations are designed to explore sustainable agricultural technologies and management practices that are of interest to producers, particularly those requiring further evidence to support their benefits and practical outcomes.

What is a demonstration site?

Proposals must:

- Be initiated by an agricultural producer and/or producer group and address a key climate-smart ag practice change, resulting in impact when adopted by producers.
- The host is responsible for some of the in-field activities depending on the demonstration (e.g. stock rotations, measurements etc.)
- Be based on established, scientifically validated practices and/or commercially available technologies, i.e. not research on a problem/issue.
- Have a baseline survey conducted, including carbon emissions calculations.
- Have a well-structured approach designed to deliver clear outcomes, including appropriate controls for comparison. This will help demonstrate the benefits of the practice or technology in terms of productivity, profitability, and sustainability, both for the participating group and the wider producer community.

Examples of demonstration sites that we are currently in discussions about include:

- Use of genomic selection in commercial beef herds to reduce poor performers
- Use of forage shrubs in the rangelands for feed supply during dry times
- Use of sexed semen in sheep & beef to follow the lead of the dairy industry in reducing wastage from excess female or male offspring
- Follow-up to liming trials to investigate the long-term benefit of liming on pastures
- Use of legumes in cropping systems
- How leveraging your farm’s natural capital could create pathways to access premium supply chain markets

Expression of Interest

We invite you to submit your Expression of Interest by scanning the QR code or accessing the link provided below. Thank you for sharing your ideas, we look forward to reviewing your submission.

Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management

https://regionalnsw.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_29P3y6GqQ2M6ijk

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