BushBids

Murray Plains and Rangelands



Woodland



Woodland Bushbids

Within the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin, the northern Murray Plains and the southern parts of the Rangelands contain a concentration of remnant native woodlands on private land that are not well represented in conservation parks and reserves. The *Woodland BushBids* project will be implemented across this area.

The eastern section of the *Woodland BushBids* project area contains large areas of woodland and mallee woodland where habitat quality could be improved through management. The western section contains smaller areas of priority woodland types in a largely cleared landscape.

Protection and enhancement of native vegetation is necessary for the conservation of vegetation corridors through the region as well as management of woodland types such as Black Oak Woodlands. Management of native vegetation will also assist the protection of threatened species such as the Carpet Python, Regent Parrot, Bush Stone Curlew and the endangered Hopbush, *Dodonea subglandulifera* and will provide habitat for significant species such as the Southern Hairy Nosed Wombat.

Woodland BushBids will assist landholders to provide management services to protect and enhance native vegetation quality.

* Mary Charles



What is Woodland Bushbids?

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (SA MDB NRM Board) recognises the role that private landholders play in protecting and improving the quality and quantity of native vegetation in the *Woodland BushBids* project area.

Woodland BushBids will support landholders to set their own price for the management services that they are prepared to undertake to improve their native vegetation. This price will form the basis of their bid, and will be compared against bids from all other participating landholders. Successful bids will be those that offer the best value for money. The SA MDB NRM Board has been successfully implementing a project of this type in the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges since 2005.



Woodland BushBids is designed to ensure that:

- Landholders can negotiate the suite of management services they wish to offer, and to bid for the payment of costs associated with providing those services.
- Landholders can determine the price for implementing the management plan for conservation of native vegetation
- The quality and extent of native vegetation improves and contributes to the health of the whole catchment
- Public funds are spent on achieving the highest biodiversity gain per unit cost.



How to participate

If you are located within the boundaries indicated on the map, have areas of native vegetation on your property and are interested in this new initiative, please call a *Woodland BushBids* officer at the number below.

Call 1300 847 450

for more information or to register an Expression of Interest.

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So how does Woodland Bushbids work?

Step 1: Expressions of interest

If you are a landholder with an interest in participating, simply call a *Woodland BushBids* officer to obtain further information and/or to make an appointment for a site visit to your property.

Step 2: Site Assessment

A *Woodland BushBids* officer will then visit your property, at an agreed time, to assess the significance and quality of the native vegetation on your site. The *Woodland BushBids* officer will also discuss management options with you and help you to identify management actions that you would be willing to undertake (for example: fencing remnants, adjusting stocking rates, weed eradication, pest control).

Step 3: Development of management plan

Following the site visit, the *Woodland BushBids* officer will prepare a management plan that is based on the actions that you have discussed and agreed. The plan will then be forwarded to you for consideration and you will be given the opportunity to clarify or modify the plan.

Step 4: Submission of bid

If you wish to continue, you will be given instructions on how to submit a sealed bid that nominates the price you are seeking to undertake the actions in the agreed management plan.

Step 5: Bid Assessment

Once bids are received, they will all be assessed objectively on the basis of:

- Current conservation value of the vegetation
- The service (management actions) to be supplied
- The price you are asking

Funds will be allocated on the basis of 'best conservation value for money'.

Step 6: Management Agreements

Successful bidders will be invited to sign a management agreement that is based on the agreed management plan. The management agreement will outline conditions for receiving payments in each of the five years of implementing the management plan.

Step 7: Reporting and payments

Payment schedules and reporting requirements will be specified in the management agreement.