



# Expression of Interest

Investigating improved Soil, Pasture and Grazing Systems in association with Carbon Farming for the North Coast

Are you interested in improving soil, pasture and grazing management on your property and learning more about the potential for carbon farming? Here is a chance to be involved in a research project and access up to \$26,000 to assist with implementation. North Coast Local Land Services is looking for beef producer to partner with.

North Coast Local Land Services in collaboration with Catchment Action New South Wales (CANSW), seek to establish a research and demonstration project to investigate improved soil, pasture and grazing management systems as well as the feasibility of local farmers participating in carbon farming and its markets. A grant of up to \$26,000 is available to an eligible beef producer to assist in the implementation of this project.

This project will allow you to access the best available information and advice for improving beef production on the North Coast, assistance in the concepts of rotational grazing principles and in the sub-division of paddocks and watering points to implement a modified grazing system.

To be involved you must be willing to share farm data and your time to work with relevant experts to test the feasibility of small farms to implement carbon farming methods and potentially enter the carbon market.

The project hopes to identify better ways to produce more beef per hectare through improved management, with a focus on pasture production, grazing and carrying capacity whilst still meeting the nutritional needs of cattle in an economically and environmentally sustainable way. It will also explore ways these enhanced management practices align with carbon farming methods and the market.

**By taking part you will agree to:**

- Provide an area of up to 100ha.
- Enter into a contract with Local Land Services.
- Allow Local Land Services and its contractors to access the farm business finances such as operating costs and returns; to effectively compare and understand the data collected throughout the project.
- Match the grant funding amount by either a cash contribution or in-kind contribution (labour) to purchase required materials or pay relevant contractors.

- Contribute to the development of a project plan including a work schedule, budget, annual monitoring plan and an evaluation process whereby data collected for the project area will be made publicly available.
- Allow members of the community to come onto your property for the purpose of field days (An initial open day to introduce and discuss the aims of the project, an end-of-project open day to discuss outcomes and results and one other mid-term update following potential weather event.)
- Consent to a desktop emissions audit and contribute to the discussion and inclusion in field of research, the feasibility of carbon farming methods and potential market opportunities for carbon parcels.

Still interested? Then please complete and return the following form to Alix Johnston at North Coast Local Land Services by Friday the 29th of November.

If you'd like more information about the carbon farming and market part of the project, please contact Melinda Cox on 0417 485 971.

Completed forms can be scanned and emailed to [alix.johnston@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alix.johnston@lls.nsw.gov.au) or dropped into the following Local Land Services offices;

- 79 Conway St, Lismore NSW 2480
- Level 1 / 30 Park Avenue, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

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<b>NAME OF APPLICANT</b>
<b>NAME OF LAND OWNER</b>
<b>MOBILE PHONE NUMBER</b>
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
<b>PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS</b>
<b>PROPERTY LOT AND DP (IF KNOWN)</b>
<b>PROPERTY SUBURB/REGION</b>
<b>SIZE OF GRAZING PROPERTY (HA)</b>
<b>Describe your current grazing system for your property.</b>
<b>Can you commit to investing your time on assisting with the research project concerning improving soil, pasture, grazing management systems and carbon farming?</b>
<b>Are you willing to sign an agreement with LLS to allow access to your property by NCLLS staff and its contractors for project site visits?</b>

<b>Do you agree to your property being used as a Case Study or for field days to assist other producers?</b>	
<b>Are you willing to sign an agreement with LLS to allow access to your property by NCLLS staff and its contractors for project site visits?</b>	
<b>Number of head of livestock</b>	
<b>What is your predominant production system; Cow Calf, Backgrounding, Finishing or Seed Stock?</b>	
<b>Do you produce anything other than livestock?</b>	
<b>What pastures do you currently have?</b>	
<b>Is there a watercourse close to or on your property? <i>(Name if applicable)</i></b>	
<b>Do you have any additional watering points or irrigation?</b>	
<b>Do you know what your water usage is? If so please enter:</b>	
<b>Do you monitor your soil/substrate moisture levels? If so please list how:</b>	
<b>Are you running any supplementary feeding programs?</b>	
<b>Are you aware of any erosion on your property?</b>	
<b>Do you take soil tests? If so, do you use these to guide your nutrition?</b>	
<b>SIGNED:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>

*You must be the land-owner, or have the land-owners written permission to apply for funding. Funding is guaranteed for one applicant only. North Coast Local Land Services will decide which producer is the most suitable to proceed.*