

**Date: 15 April 2009**

## **HURRY AND BECOME A CHAMPION OF THE CATCHMENT**

### **-ENTER NOW-**

The Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is calling for entries in the Champions of the Catchment Awards for 2009.

Central West CMA General Manager, Tim Ferraro said, "We are keen to remind everyone who is living in the catchment that nominations for the Champion of the Catchment Awards are closing on the 17 April.

"So enter your environmental project now and be recognised for your hard work and achievements"

Nominations are encouraged from land managers, community groups, schools, local government, primary producers and Indigenous communities that are undertaking projects that improve the environment and the health of the catchment.

"The Awards are a great way of recognising best land management practices and showcase individual and community groups who are working hard to bring about change for a sustainable future that benefits us all," Mr Ferraro said.

The Champions of the Catchment consist of eight categories, including the Individual Landcarer Award, Rivercare Award, Nature Conservation Award, Landcare Community Group Award, Local Government Community Partnerships Award, Primary Producers Award, Education Award and the Indigenous Community Award.

Each Champions of the Catchment category award winner will receive \$2,000 in prize money, a plaque outlining their achievement and support to represent the Central West catchment at the NSW State Landcare Awards. The runners up in each category will receive \$1,000 each in prize money.

Last year the Central West catchment was represented by two Champions at the National Landcare Awards. John Blunt, winner of the NSW Individual Landcare Award and Orange City Council winner for the NSW Local Government Landcare and Community Partnership Award.

Previous Champion of the Catchment, John Blunt said, "It has been a great honour where I have personally benefited in sharing my land management experiences in tackling environmental issues with other farmers and where I achieved some major improvements on my property.

I would encourage individuals and community groups to enter and have a go in the Champions of the Catchment Awards. Nominations close on Friday, 17 April 09 with the winners to be formally announced at the Mudgee Small Farm Field days on Friday, the 24 July."

For further information regarding Champions of the Catchment, contact Central West CMA, Strategic Partnerships Officer, Liz Davis on (02) 6363 8603 or visit our website on [www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au) and click on our 'What's New' section to download your nomination form.

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