

**Date: 28 April 2009**

## **Western Plains Champions needed to put their hands up!**

Land Managers, community groups and others in the Western Plains region are being urged not to let their upper catchment counterparts take all the glory in the 2009 Central West CMA's *Champions of the Catchment Awards*.

The Awards recognise and reward individuals and groups for their effort in Natural Resource Management (NRM) and the difference they make to our community. The closing date for nominations has been **extended to Friday 22 May**.

While there has been a strong response overall, the Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is still looking for applications from landholders, schools, government agencies, Aboriginal communities and community groups across the Plains region, broadly covering Narromine to Nyngan.

Each of the eight *Champions of the Catchment* category winners will receive \$2000 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 \$1000 each in prize money.

The *Champions of the Catchment* categories are:

- Individual Landcarer Award
- Rivercare Award, Nature Conservation Award
- Landcare Community Group Award
- Local Government Community Partnerships Award
- Primary Producers Award
- Education Award
- Indigenous Community Award.

The western region of the catchment has been well represented in past awards, according to Central West CMA Plains Coordinator, Alan Welch.

"The Champions awards were created to highlight and reward the positive NRM work happening across the whole Central West catchment.

"This is a great opportunity to demonstrate achievements and successes around local NRM issues that improve the health of the catchment.

"Past Champion of the Catchments include Kevin Mitchell of 'Florida', west of Nyngan said, It would be great to see plains communities represented again.

"There is a lot of positive energy and work happening in our western communities, so I'd encourage individuals and groups to throw their hat in the ring and be recognised."

The deadline has been extended to **Friday 22 May 2009**. For further information call Liz Davis on (02) 6363 8603 or visit [www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au) (click 'What's New').

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