



## **African Box Thorn Removal Program**

### **Expression of Interest & Terms and Conditions**

Please email your completed application to [Nick.Dillon@wmlig.org](mailto:Nick.Dillon@wmlig.org). Alternatively, you can drop off your completed applications or send by post.

Applications must be received by April 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. Late applications will not be considered.

Please ensure that you have read and understood the Terms and Conditions prior to filling in the Expression of Interest.

Please direct any questions about this project to:

Nick Dillon – Project Officer

03 5453 1577

0488 204 877

[Nick.dillon@wmlig.org](mailto:Nick.dillon@wmlig.org)

#### **About this project:**

Western Murray Land Improvement Group have received funding from the Australian Government's Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program to complete the African Box Thorn Removal Program. This program will manage infestations of African Boxthorn, which is a Weed of National Significance.

This cross-border project between NSW and VIC will directly improve the health of floodplain habitat along the Murray River benefiting the aquatic ecosystems in the Murray River itself - and nearby wetland habitat.

It will involve 4,200ha of removal, which equates to an estimated 275,000 plants. Total km of Murray River corridor treated will be approximately 18km.

The project will be conducted on properties between May-October 2023.

The removal and treatment of African Boxthorn as the core focus of this project, aims to improve habitat quality and hydrology in the landscape.

Managing this noxious weed will directly improve the health of rivers, wetlands, floodplains, and productive farmland on both sides of the Murray River, because:

- Boxthorn outcompetes other species due to its weedy nature and creates a monoculture, threatening agriculture, environmental values, and biodiversity.
- Boxthorn invades remnant bushland and waterways and provides shelter and food for pest animals including foxes, rabbits, and starlings.
- Wild rabbits can have a major impact on agricultural production, threatened species and ecological communities and cultural heritage.



## **Western Murray Land Improvement Group**

The local community was directly involved in developing this project and supports this application and implementation of project activities.

A planning meeting was attended by local farmers, representatives from North Central CMA (VIC), Western Murray Land Improvement Group, Murray Local Land Services (NSW), Murray River Council, and Myall Landcare.

### **Terms and conditions:**

- Timing of project is subject to change.
- To be considered eligible, participant's property must be located within the map provided (within a 5-7km of the Murray River).
- Finalised removal area will be subject to WMLIG decision, with 4,200ha to be divided by 6 landholders/property (3 properties in NSW, 3 properties in VIC)
- Landholders must provide a map or maps reflecting the removal area with an approximate removal area listed with their Expression of Interest form.
- Project information and results must be shared with WMLIG to produce a case study/report to the Australian Government's Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program.
- An estimated work time on property will be provided by WMLIG once participants have been selected.
- Participants must commit to the ongoing maintenance and management of Box Thorn during and post project on the selected property.
- All successful participants must participate in a post project survey to ascertain the success of the project.
- All participants must agree to an upfront 15% cash co-contribution for removal costs from their property to be eligible for the project.
- If successful, participants must agree to sign a participant agreement listing removal area, commitment to 15% cash co-contribution to the project and other terms and conditions listed above.



**African Box Thorn Removal Program**

**Expression of Interest Form**

\*Compulsory fields

**Contact Information\***

Applicant(s) name:	
Contact number:	
Email address:	
Trading name:	
Property address:	

**Part 1: Project/Activity details and summary\***

- a. Provide a summary of why you would like African Box Thorn removed from your property.

- b. What management practises do you currently use to combat African Box Thorn on your property?

- c. Approximate area of African Box Thorn removal.

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**Part 2:** Please mark  the following questions regarding the eligibility and selection criteria\*

	Yes	No
a. Commitment to 15% co-contribution in cash of removal costs from their property to be eligible for the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Commitment of ongoing maintenance and management of Box Thorn during and post project on the selected property which consists of long-term management of landholding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Willingness to participate in field days (2 in Victoria and 2 in NSW) as part of the project. (Favourable but optional)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Provide project information and results to WMLIG to produce a case study which will be supplied to Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Property Location is within 5-7km of the Murray River (Please see map below for eligible areas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Will complete a post project survey to ascertain the success of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Part 3: Supporting Documents:**

- a. Please include a map/maps of the proposed area of African Box Thorn removal area

Relevant notes regarding this documentation can be provided below.

- b. You can also provide other supporting documentation to your application (optional)

Relevant notes regarding this documentation can be provided below.



**Western Murray  
Land Improvement Group**

**Conflict of Interest Declaration\***

Do you have any conflicts of interest that may occur related to or from submitting this application? \*

No

Yes

If yes, please ensure you fill in the Conflict-of-Interest Declaration available on our website or in hard copy from our offices.

This project is funded by the Australian Government's Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**