

AUSTRALIAN LAND MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

Australian Land Management Group

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WHY INVEST IN THE AUSTRALIAN LAND MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION SYSTEM?

The Australian Land Management Certification System (ALMCS) is literally the mother of all market-based-instruments.

It enables recognition of improved environmental management from existing and emerging sources; from commercial market places for food, fibre and real estate, from public stewardship programs and emerging carbon emission schemes, from natural resource management and catchment management authorities; and from landholders themselves and the communities they live in.

So why should your organisation invest in ALMCS?

To support good public and industry policy

Working with landholders to support the implementation and refinement of the ALMCS is a good investment for governments, NRM bodies and industry organisations. These are the reasons why:

ALMCS:

- Addresses the causes of the failure of markets to deliver environmental outcomes, including the inability of individual investors (landholders) to capture the benefits of their environmental investments due to off-site effects (externalities) and the part or full public good nature of all land based environmental outcomes.
- Addresses the causes of the failure of organisations to deliver environmental outcomes, including industry-by-industry, region-by-region and issue-by-issue fragmentation and public sector policies and programs that crowd out credible cross-cutting systems.
- Helps improve the effectiveness and efficiency of public and private sector investment in improving land based environmental outcomes.

Now is the right time

The ALM Group is confident that we have a system that is right for now. And our supporters – Elders Australia, Australian Wool Innovation (Marketing), Japanese textile corporation, Onward Kashiya, Queensland Murray Darling Committee, North East Catchment Management Authority and other NRM bodies – believe that now is the right time too.

The support from major agri-business corporations both domestically and internationally is important and is testament that the ALMCS approach works.

But we aren't stopping there.

We are discussing partnerships with industry-based organisations, which will dramatically improve innovation and the information exchange between those organisations and leading landholders. And we will begin to get a sound foundation for environmental related product differentiation.

The ALM Group is seeking Caring for Country support for funding on-ground works to be done by landholders implementing the ALMCS. These on-ground activities will contribute significantly to the achievement of the Caring for Country targets.

Specialist wool marketing organisations are developing arrangements to offer price premiums to wool growers who have ALMCS certification and a small number of regional NRM bodies offer preferential access to funding to those landholders implementing the ALMCS.

Leverage your expertise and funding

The ALMCS is applicable across Australia and across all land uses without losing the capacity to deal equally rigorously with generic and regional and/or industry specific factors affecting environmental outcomes.

The mantra of not wanting a 'one size fits all' solution is based on poor understanding of the nature of the ALMCS. Combining this general applicability and industry specific considerations is important given the across-industry operations of most farms, of agri-business and of most NRM bodies. There are big economies of scale in supporting a widely applicable foundation system capable of additions to address issues of particular importance for an industry, a region or a NRM program.