

<b>Conference</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> National Waterwatch Conference
<b>Title</b>	Towards Effective Use of Community Monitoring Programs in Evaluation of Progress towards Resource Condition Targets for Natural Resource Management bodies
<b>Author</b>	John Michael Harkin Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Tasmania.

### ***Workshop description***

This workshop will explore the role of community monitoring programs in Resource Condition Target monitoring and evaluation and. It will aim to answer the question: “How can Regional NRM bodies effectively incorporate community monitoring programs in evaluation of progress towards resource condition targets?”

#### *Workshop outline*

The workshop will commence with an overview of the Resource Condition Target framework and its implications for regional NRM bodies. This will include a brief discussion about the ten nationally agreed “Matters for Target” and their associated indicators.

Participants will then briefly examine how their various community monitoring programs (and associated data outputs) relate to the “Matters for Target”.

The main body of the workshop will be spent analysing:

- the strengths of these programs and their outputs,
- barriers to effective use of these programs in the Regional NRM context,
- ways of capitalising on the strengths and overcoming the barriers.

#### *Workshop outcomes*

Through this analysis, participants should gain:

- Better understanding of the Resource Condition Target framework;
- Recognition of the role that community monitoring programs can play in setting and monitoring of Resource Condition Targets;
- Better understanding of how their monitoring programs can be effectively aligned to Resource Condition Target monitoring;
- Insight into approaches taken in other parts of Australia

The output (a summary) of this workshop should be useful for community partners in Regional NRM to align their programs to the mandatory reporting / data needs of the Regional NRM bodies.

#### *What participants need to bring*

Some knowledge of the National Standards and Targets Framework will be useful, as this workshop will not be aiming to explore the Matters for Target (etc) in any great depth. However, total ignorance is also fine.

Further information on the National Standards and Targets can be found at: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/monitoring/indicators/index.html#principles>.