



Media Release

Date: 14/11/2024

Grower Group Alliance launches the Ripple Effect project to drive climate-smart agriculture in Australia

The Grower Group Alliance (GGA) has announced its new four-year nationwide project Ripple Effect, designed to improve water security, biodiversity and climate resilience for Australian farmers.

Funded by a \$5 million Grant from the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust Climate-Smart Agriculture program, the Ripple Effect project will leverage cutting-edge water management practices to boost agricultural productivity, sustainability, and carbon reduction efforts.

The Ripple Effect project represents a collaborative effort led by the GGA, in partnership with key academic and research institutions including the University of Western Australia, University of Adelaide, Australian National University, Blue Carbon Lab at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, and University of Southern Queensland. In addition, all eight national Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs will support the project, to engage with grower group networks representing producers to drive the adoption of innovations in water security and quality, biodiversity and emissions reduction.

GGA Chief Executive Officer Rikki Foss said, "the Ripple Effect project is a vital step forward in supporting Australian farmers as they adapt to the challenges of a changing climate".

"By focusing on water security, we're addressing one of the most critical issues facing agriculture today," she said.

"This project will help farmers build resilience in their operations through improved water management and climate-smart practices, ensuring that the agricultural sector remains sustainable and productive.

"GGA is committed to leading initiatives that equip our grower groups with the tools they need to manage water resources effectively and protect the natural environment for future generations."

The Ripple Effect project is set to commence immediately and will run through March 2028, with ongoing support from GGA and its partners to track progress and share insights with farmers nationwide.

The project activities focus on achieving:

- **Enhanced Farm Water Security:** Improving on-farm water resources to sustain productivity and resilience amid increasing climate variability
- **Carbon Sequestration and Emission Reductions:** Applying practices that capture carbon and minimise emissions in agricultural systems
- **Increased Social Connection and Awareness:** Engaging local communities and fostering connections among regional growers for stronger, more resilient communities.

– ENDS –

For further information, please contact:
Dr Daniel Kidd | Head of Project Management
daniel.kidd@gga.org.au
+61 428 925 663