

# NRM in the Rangelands

## CONFERENCE

shaping our future

# 2021

## Shaping our Future - NRM Australian Rangelands Conference October 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Desert Channels Queensland and the Australian Rangeland Society are excited to be hosting this national conference to help shape the future of our rangelands through effective natural resource management, vibrant communities, sustainable industries, climate adaptation and resilient landscapes.

We are calling for submissions from people who are passionate about the future of the rangelands to share their know-how, experience and knowledge. We encourage contributions from people with expertise ranging from the practical through to the academic, showcasing learnings that can help shape the future of Australia's rangelands.

Hear firsthand from our exciting keynote speakers about the great work currently being undertaken. We will be celebrating the achievements of individuals and organisations who are excelling in the management of the rangelands.

In the heart of the rangelands, Longreach is nestled within Mitchell grass country and at the head of the Cooper Creek channel country. It is at the centre of nationally important efforts to conserve the night parrot, artesian springs and wetlands; and is also seeing a resurgence of the sheep industry through cluster fencing. The region is poised to take advantage of high solar yields to establish a renewable energy hub, and the reconnection of Indigenous communities, culture and country offers hope for improved prosperity.

Over the last eight years drought has affected much of the region and the focus has turned to improving future resilience of the environment, the communities, and industry. The conference will showcase and share emerging ideas and innovations so we can collectively contribute to shaping the future of the rangelands.



Brought to you by The Australian Rangeland Society and Desert Channels Queensland  
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## About submissions

This initial call is for submissions of up to 200 words. It will help us determine how your submission might align with the conference themes and program. It should:

- include a title, author name(s), and affiliation(s) of author(s)
- succinctly capture two to three key points which you wish to share at the conference
- use clear and concise language with minimal jargon
- be on a topic relevant to Australia's rangelands using the topics listed as a guide.

Successful submissions will be contacted to expand their content and provide a finished presentation. Practically oriented submissions, e.g. on-ground success in land management, can be written in any format. Scientifically oriented submissions should be presented as an abstract following the style guide of [The Rangeland Journal](#). You can find a template on our website [here](#). An editorial committee will provide feedback, but submissions will not be peer reviewed. You will have the opportunity to expand your submission to a 2-page paper for publication in the conference proceedings, or publish your brief submission.

There will be opportunities for your paper to be delivered during the conference as a 'conversation starter', a brief 'lightning talk', a poster, or a spoken presentation.

## Conference topics

The landscapes, climate, people and issues across Australia's rangelands are incredibly diverse. We want to capture some of this in the range of topics that will be presented. The conference will have a focus on:

### Rangelands Health

*What defines healthy rangelands and how do we achieve it?*

What is it, why is it important and what are the indicators of success? How do we best manage the land, the watercourses and special spots into the future?

*How do we manage for the future?*

Carbon farming, crash grazing, regenerative agriculture, sustainable grazing and climate variability are just some of the many aspects to consider when looking to ensure a sustainable future.





### *How do we measure it?*

What are we monitoring, why are we doing it and how are we using the information and measurement tools to keep us on track?

## **Community**

*How are community, industry and government working together to improve the rangelands?*

From individual landholders to Landcare groups to tourism operators, Indigenous groups to local governments, what is being done to better manage our natural resources?

*How do we prepare landholders for the future?*

What practice changes are required, how do we build the resilience of people, business and the landscape and what challenges need to be made to our paradigms?

## **Technology**

*How can technology help us improve rangelands health?*

Be it drones, shade structures to manage grazing pressure, pest animal control or remote weed detection, advances in technology can improve how we collect data and manage the rangelands. What are some of the technologies and how are they applied?

## **Other Topics**

The list above is a guideline. We also welcome submissions on a range of other topics including conservation, biodiversity, traditional and cultural management, sustainable economic development, mining rehabilitation, tourism, disaster recovery, renewable energy and policy development. A more comprehensive list can be found on our website [here](#).

## **Key dates**

Submissions accepted	December 2020 to April 2021
Closing date for submission brief	30 April 2021
Notification of acceptance	31 May 2021
Finalised presentation submitted and reviewed	30 July 2021
Conference held	5 - 8 October 2021

## **Submissions**

For further information or to submit a brief, please email [jeff.poole@dcq.org.au](mailto:jeff.poole@dcq.org.au) or phone Desert Channels Queensland on 07 4658 0600. Submission briefs are to be no more than 200 words long. Conference presentations will be a maximum of 45 minutes each.

