

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011





WHAT IS NRM?

Natural Resource Management is the management of natural resources such as land, water, soil, plants and animals with a particular focus on how this affects our quality of life, now and for future generations. Natural Resource Management is about balancing the utilisation and conservation of our natural resources so that they are economically viable, socially beneficial and environmentally sustainable.

NRM South is supported through funding from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country and the Tasmanian Government.

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*This Page: Nicholls Rivulet,
in full flow after the removal
of willows by the local land
care group.*

*Cover: Looking over
farmland towards
Cloudy Bay, Bruny Island.*



Inset: Environment Minister, Brian Wightman, with NRM South Chair, Max Kitchell, at the launch of the NRM Regional Strategy for Southern Tasmania.

FROM THE CHAIR

I am delighted to confirm that during 2010-2011 NRM South has taken further substantial steps in pursuing our Vision to see the region's natural resources protected, managed and improved for the collective benefit of the Southern Tasmanian community.

The NRM South Board has continued to guide the organisation's delivery and performance through our monitoring of the NRM South Corporate Plan 2010-2015 and the five strategic priorities described:

1. Develop and share knowledge of the region's natural resource condition, values and threats.
2. Build partnerships and engage the community in positive action.
3. Deliver on-ground and sustainable practice programs in priority areas.
4. Optimise use of available resources and secure additional resources for NRM.
5. Govern and manage the NRM South Business well.

In this report you will find ample evidence of strong performance across all these areas.

Finalising the *Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010-2015*, with the involvement of over 100 organisations and individuals, has been a major achievement. It gives all of us a clear, shared understanding of the priorities to address, the strategies we are pursuing and how we will track progress against our regional goals.



I encourage you to read the record of achievement for each of our priorities, the inspiring case studies and emerging initiatives summarised in the Annual Report that illustrate the commitment and effort of landholders and non-government organisations, industry and government, volunteers and residents who have worked closely with the NRM South team to make a positive difference to our natural resources.

MAX KITCHELL

... It gives all of us a clear, shared understanding of the priorities to address, the strategies we are pursuing and how we will track progress against our regional goals.



FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



I am pleased to be able to report good progress in the implementation of the *Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010-2015*, through on-ground works, capacity building and information provision. In the past year we have completed a review of the Southern Tasmanian Weeds Strategy and worked to build a solid information base for future management through a review of water quality in the Pitt Water-Orielton system, the Derwent River and the Swan-Apsley rivers.

Our understanding of our natural resources has deepened and broadened, partnerships have strengthened and on-ground programs are delivering clear, measurable benefits. My team and I look forward to working with all of our partners, colleagues and volunteers in continuing to develop and deliver tangible outcomes for our land, freshwater, coastal and marine environments.

I am particularly pleased with the progress we have made in developing closer partnerships in general and, in particular, with rural landholders. Independent research based on direct feedback from rural landholders highlighted that many valued NRM South as a highly trusted source of information and advice and that partnering with NRM South had helped improve not only their ability to manage natural resources but also their productivity and profitability. We will be maintaining our focus on these relationships in the year ahead, working alongside rural landholders and farmers, Aboriginal Green Teams, landcare groups, councils, businesses and government to build further momentum behind positive change.

The future for NRM South and natural resource management in Southern Tasmania is exciting. There has never been a greater need for the work that we do together – and the difference that we make. Activities of particular importance for 2011-2012 include: using the spatial data we have gathered to generate knowledge to drive action and measure success; contributing NRM thinking into Regional and Economic Development initiatives; linking habitats through meaningful 'corridors' to protect and increase species diversity; helping landholders respond to the challenges and opportunities of carbon policy; strengthening relationships with the not-for-profit sector; and communicating with, and listening to, all of our stakeholders even better than we already do.

I'd like to thank our NRM partners, the Board and our outstanding staff for their support, guidance and sheer hard work over the past 12 months, and I know we can count on your commitment in the year ahead.

DR KATHLEEN BRODERICK

... There has never been a greater need for the work that we do together – and the difference that we make.

10 SPECIAL THINGS ABOUT OUR REGION

#1



STUNNING COASTLINES

Southern Tasmania's coastline spans 3200km, longer than that of either Victoria or New South Wales. It includes 39 estuaries, many of high conservation value, and coastal shores with hundreds of islets. Diverse habitats encompass sandy beaches and dunes, saltmarsh flats, wetlands and estuaries, reefs, rocky foreshores and sea cliffs.

#2



NATIVE FLORA

The region's varied habitats, climate and altitude have shaped a diverse range of vegetation types from rainforest to dry eucalypt forests, alpine vegetation to saltmarsh, grasslands to coastal heath.

Our flora is as distinctive as it is diverse: from the mighty swamp gum, to the Miena cider gum, the spectacular fagus (deciduous beech), Tasmanian waratah, rare lichens and fungi.

#3



NATIVE ANIMALS

Southern Tasmania's contrasting habitats support a wide array of animals including frogs, lizards and snakes, birds and bats, seals and whales. Twenty-six species are endemic to the region – from the moss froglet to the forty-spotted pardalote (pictured), the Tasmanian devil and the Tasmanian native hen, the eastern quoll and the dusky robin.

#4



WETLANDS

Diverse wetlands created by the wet climate include alpine tarns, lakes, rivers, saltmarshes, estuaries and lagoons. Twenty-seven are registered on the national Directory of Important Wetlands and four are internationally recognised as Ramsar wetlands.

Specific areas with outstanding freshwater values include the Central Highlands, South West Wilderness and Swan-Apsley catchment.

#5



WORLD HERITAGE

The Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area protects a greater range of natural and cultural values than any other region on Earth. These include:

- Landscapes containing rocks from every geological period but one
- Extensive peatlands, mountain ranges and glacial features
- Deep river valleys, mountain lakes and tarns.



#6

NATURAL SYSTEMS

The natural environment benefits us every day.

- Plants and soils sequester carbon, regulating our climate.
- Birds, lizards and bees control pests and pollinate crops.
- Micro fauna and fungi decompose waste and build soils.
- Water redistributes nutrients and generates power.
- Wetlands and vegetation purify air and water.
- Mountains, rivers and coasts inspire and rejuvenate us.

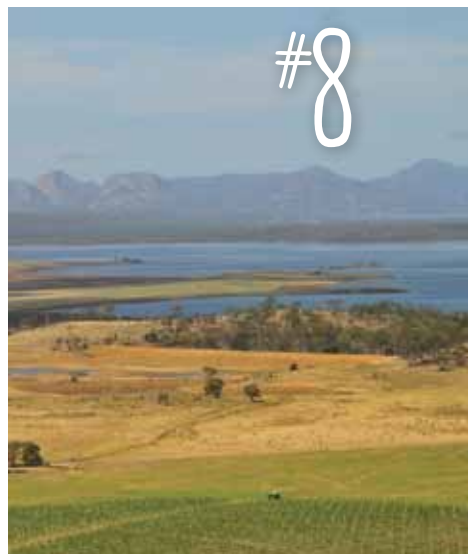


#7

COMMUNITY

Our community is arguably our greatest natural asset. Volunteers from over 100 groups are actively making a practical, positive difference by caring for bushland, coastlines and cultural heritage.

In rural areas, landholder and primary producer groups are improving the management and condition of natural resources, leaving a positive legacy to the next generation.



#8

PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES

The Southern Tasmanian landscape and climate supports production of a wide range of food and other primary products.

We have a thriving aquaculture industry, sustainable forestry operations, and a diverse range of specialist agriculture ventures including award-winning cool climate wineries, stone fruit orchards and specialist dairies.



#9

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Tasmanian Aboriginal culture developed in isolation for 10,000 years, and sites dated as 40,000 years old make it one of the oldest living cultures on earth. Middens, quarries and rock art provide precious insights into past traditions and practices as well as a spiritual connection for today's Tasmanian Aborigines.



#10

MARINE LIFE

Three distinctive marine bioregions – Bruny, Davey and Freycinet – encompass giant kelp forests and sponge gardens and fauna from leafy seadragons to rocklobsters, penguins, handfish and whales.

The region includes a marine province with the highest marine plant diversity in the world, while Bruny Island contains the most endemic marine species in Tasmania.



ABOUT NRM SOUTH

WHO IS NRM SOUTH?

NRM South was established in 2003 under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*. We are responsible for developing a shared regional strategy for natural resource management in Southern Tasmania and for facilitating the strategy's implementation.

As a non-government leader in natural resource management for the region, NRM South acts as a 'hub' in engaging and working with all three tiers of government, industry, other non-government organisations (NGOs) and the community to protect and enhance Southern Tasmania's land, freshwater, coastal and marine environments and the variety of life they support.

NRM South is one of three regional natural resource management bodies in Tasmania, and forms part of a national network of 56 similar bodies. Our 22 team members are located across the region, with the head office in Hobart and team members hosted by local government in Swansea, New Norfolk, Sorell and Huonville. One staff member is hosted by Tasmanian Land Conservancy in Hobart.

Our role encompasses facilitating improvements in natural resource management in Southern Tasmania as well as delivering on-ground environmental works. To achieve this we focus on:

- Building partnerships with stakeholders and the broader community
- Delivering effective and well-targeted services
- Sharing knowledge and inspiring action to improve natural resource management.

GOVERNANCE

NRM South is a not-for-profit, member-based Incorporated Association. The Board was declared a Regional Committee under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002* and includes a representative of the Tasmanian Government. Since September 2010 the Board has been chaired by Max Kitchell. Our previous Chair, Dr Christine Mucha, retired at the 2010 Annual General Meeting having guided the organisation since 2003.

FACILITATING NRM IN OUR REGION

Successful natural resource management relies on harnessing the joint efforts of many organisations and individuals. In Southern Tasmania we are fortunate to have many talented and committed people working in the sector in both professional and voluntary capacities. NRM South is responsible for working with them to facilitate the *Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania* so that effort and investment are focused on priorities to achieve greatest impact.

In 2010-2011, NRM South facilitated the review of the 2005-2010 strategy and the development of the *NRM Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010-2015*. This included comprehensive consultation with over 120 organisations and individuals. NRM South will monitor and report on how the strategy is being implemented through a six monthly review of headline indicators.

NRM South is collaborating with external partners to implement the Regional Strategy and, during the course of the year, undertook three key reviews:

The Southern Tasmanian Weed Strategy

The Strategy for 2005 was reviewed and revised by the Southern Tasmanian Weed Strategy Steering Committee, NRM South, Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority and DPIPW Weed Section. NRM South issued a draft of the Southern Tasmanian Weed Strategy 2011-2016 in June for consultation and comment.

Derwent Water Quality

This review assessed the adequacy of existing monitoring, emerging water quality issues and provided recommendations for future monitoring.

Swan-Apsley Water Quality

A comprehensive review and analysis of current water quality data on the Swan-Apsley catchment was undertaken to inform future management activities (see Knowledge and Information for further details).

NRM South continued to build new partnerships and strengthen existing relationships with local, state and federal governments, NGOs, industry and the community. By working together, combining our skills, knowledge, resources and energy we can deliver far more than by working alone. This approach not only makes the most of existing resources but also helps generate additional resources for NRM by demonstrating what can be achieved.



OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS

VISION, MISSION & VALUES

In 2010-2011, NRM South finalised its Corporate Plan for 2010-2015 to focus our decision making and action in enhancing the region's natural resource values and in pursuing our Vision and Mission. The key components of the Plan include:

VISION

The Southern Region's natural resources will be protected, sustainably managed and improved for the shared environmental, social and economic benefit of our Region by a well-informed, well-resourced and actively committed community.

MISSION

NRM South will be valued as the hub of knowledge, skills and resources for natural resource management in Southern Tasmania.

VALUES

Our four organisational values drive our actions and behaviours internally and externally and underpin our relationships with all of our staff and stakeholders.

1. Innovative
2. Professional
3. Responsive
4. Honest

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Develop and share knowledge of the region's natural resource condition, values and threats.
2. Build partnerships and engage the community in positive action.
3. Deliver on-ground and sustainable practice programs in priority areas (geographic and sector).
4. Optimise the use of available resources for NRM, and secure additional resources.
5. Govern and manage the NRM South business effectively.

FUNDING

SOURCES OF FUNDING IN 2010-2011

- Caring for our Country (Commonwealth Government)
- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Commonwealth Government)
- Tasmanian Government
- Woolworths Drought Adaptive Landcare project
- Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs



DELIVERING RESULTS ON THE GROUND

*Above: Getting the dirt:
Grazing expert, Graham Hand,
and Dr Kerry Bridle from
the Tasmanian Institute of
Agricultural Research at
an NRM South field day.*

INTRODUCTION

NRM South has achieved significant environmental improvements in 2010-2011 by working closely with local communities and engaging with over 500 land managers.

NRM South has five local coordinators located across the region working alongside land managers, local communities and other partners to focus on the specific issues and opportunities most relevant to natural values within their own area. This approach has achieved significant improvement in land management, weed control, wetland management and protection of biodiversity at both a property and landscape scale.

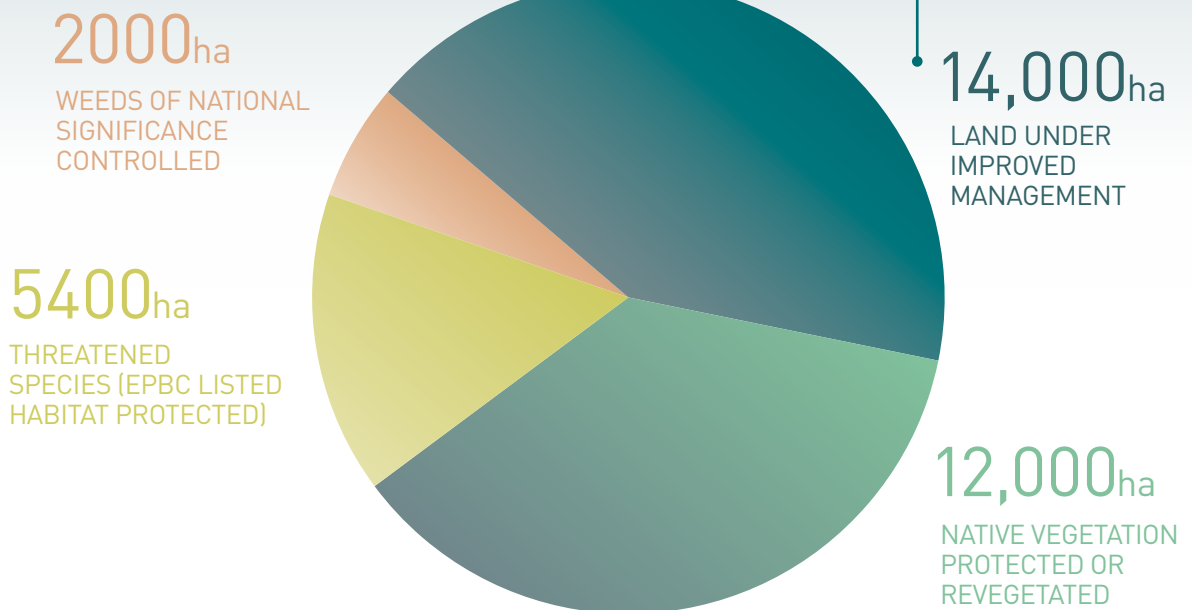
OUR ON-GROUND ACTIVITIES ARE PRIMARILY DELIVERED THROUGH LOCAL COORDINATORS BASED IN FIVE PRIORITY AREAS:

1. Swan-Apsley/Little Swanport
(in partnership with, and located at, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council)
2. Tasman/Sorell
(in partnership with, and located at, Sorell Council)
3. Mountain to Marine
(in collaboration with Hobart City and Kingborough Councils)
4. Huon
(In partnership with, and located at, Huon Valley Council)
5. Upper Derwent/Highland Lakes
(in partnership with, and located at, Derwent Catchment NRM)

On-ground works in coastal areas were boosted by a partnership with the volunteer organisation, Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmania (SCAT). Our support helped SCAT win funding from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country for a two-year project to undertake on-ground coastal works and build community capacity. Under the arrangement, NRM South employed and hosted a Coastal Facilitator and Coastal Capacity Building Officer on SCAT's behalf in 2010-2011, giving them full access to our resources.

NRM South also began a project in partnership with Hydro Tasmania, Forestry Tasmania, the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service (P&WS) and the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) to tackle biosecurity threats in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA). A major focus of this project is to train professional and recreational users of the World Heritage Area in field hygiene practices. Supported through the Australian Government's Caring for our Country, two officers have been employed and hosted at NRM South and DPIPWE.

NRM SNAPSHOT



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2010-2011

- **Improved land management:** Our local coordinators developed 130 management agreements and action plans with landholders resulting in improved management over almost 14,000 ha of land.
- **Extension delivery:** Our five local coordinators met a growing demand for services in 2010-2011, providing advice and support to 41 community groups and organisations across Southern Tasmania and supporting the development of 14 local funding applications.
- **Pitt Water-Orielton Lagoon:** NRM South developed a rehabilitation and monitoring project to address a significant section of this internationally recognised Ramsar site that has experienced prolonged and severe degradation. Actions from the first stage included fencing saltmarsh vegetation to manage stock access and primary removal of boxthorn weeds.
- **Huon grazing/weed management trial:** NRM South established a trial site on 35 ha of a Huon Valley property to monitor the impact of controlled grazing and regenerative agriculture techniques on soil health and weed incursion (particularly gorse).
- **Protecting remnant Miena cider gum:** In partnership with the Derwent NRM Committee and private landholders in the Upper Derwent fencing has been installed and maintained at three sites to protect significant populations of the endangered Miena cider gum from grazing and browsing pressures.
- **World Heritage Area biosecurity:** In collaboration with Hydro Tasmania and other partners, NRM South has provided field hygiene training to staff at Forestry Tasmania and DPIWE as well as Hydro Tasmania. Disease protection techniques have also been promoted to recreational user groups, including fishers and bushwalkers.
- **Southern Tasmanian Weeds Strategy coordination:** NRM South continued to provide support for the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) to coordinate implementation of the Southern Tasmanian Weeds Strategy through best practice on-ground weed management, providing expert advice, training and workshops, communications and engagement activities.
- **Biodiversity on farms:** In partnership with the Southern Midlands Council and Natural Resource Planning, a project was undertaken to address the decline in biodiversity in the Midlands. The project fostered management to complement and enhance both existing farm production practices and conservation activities through implementing priority actions in the Southern Midlands Bushcare Strategy. The Regional Ecosystem Model was used to directly target landholdings with significant biodiversity and landscape values and invited application for funds to improve management. This highly targeted approach led to the protection of over 730 ha of native habitat, including 420 ha of Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) listed species habitat, across 11 properties and a regional cemetery through fencing, weed removal and revegetation.
- **Protection of threatened grasslands (east coast):** To protect grasslands listed in the EPBC Act, NRM South conducted a survey on peri-urban and rural properties in partnership with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. The survey assessed grassland extent and condition, including baseline monitoring at significant sites, and recommended relevant management regimes for their protection and enhancement. The information was used to create a grassland database and maps. Other activities included a weed management program and raising community awareness of EPBC listed grasslands.
- **Aboriginal land management:** In 2010-2011 we partnered with the Australian Government's Indigenous Coordination Centre, DPIWE and other NRM organisations and regions to fund a new position for 2011-2012. Hosted by NRM South, the appointment will focus on developing a business model for training and employment opportunities for the Aboriginal community in land management activity.

REJUVENATING THE INTERLAKEN WETLAND

Above: Local coordinator, Steve Joyce, and shack owner, Terry Byard, with a map of the Interlaken wetland.

“We kicked off some remediation work. Soon we’d put up eight kilometres of fencing and made considerable progress in tackling the out-of-control weeds.”

In early 2010, after several years of drought, the internationally recognised Interlaken wetland was a sad sight; threatened plant species were being trampled and eaten by hungry stock, the once-flourishing trophy-fishing lake was almost dry, and weeds were taking over. Local residents were deeply dismayed by the wetland’s condition and contacted local coordinator Steve Joyce in the hope that something could be done.

“Interlaken is a beautiful and special place, dearly loved by those who live there or keep fishing shacks for weekends and holidays,” Steve said. “They were worried that if we didn’t do something, the problems would get worse. This is just the kind of issue that NRM South can take on, so I arranged some funding and project coordination and, with a group of volunteers, we kicked off some remediation work. Soon we’d put up eight kilometres of fencing and made considerable progress in tackling the out-of-control weeds.”

Interlaken is Tasmania’s largest area of freshwater wetland and is significant on an international scale with its listing as a Ramsar site. It is vitally important for migratory birds and threatened fish species such as the Golden Galaxis, which breed in the area.

Steve said that the collaborative approach to remediating the wetland has made all the difference. “The program’s success has largely been due to the efforts of conservation volunteers and support from Central Highlands Council, Inland Fisheries, Gunns Ltd, Anglers Alliance and Parks and Wildlife.”

The wetland’s remarkable recovery has been achieved by hard, sustained work over the last two years and helped along by recent rainfall. The lake is now full, native plants are growing again, threatened fish species and migratory birds have secure habitats, and local residents and visitors can resume fishing and relaxing in this stunning place.

CASE STUDY 2

FINDING A
NATURAL BALANCE

Above: Mountain to Marine coordinator, Holly Hansen, and farmer, Jason Evans, survey the South Bruny property.

“We had a vision for the property. Healthy soil, plenty of grass for the animals, but also we wanted to look after the environment for the benefit of the native animals.”

Farmers Kim and Jason Evans came to their property at Cloudy Bay on South Bruny Island with balance in mind; they wanted to run a productive farm while providing a haven for the area's wildlife.

“We had a vision for the property,” said Kim. “Healthy soil, plenty of grass for the stock, but also we wanted to look after the environment for the benefit of the native animals.”

Over the past six months, the couple has been working with NRM South's Mountain to Marine Coordinator, Holly Hansen. “We took a tour of the farm with Holly; she identified the potential problems, the strengths and weaknesses we had on the property and guided us through the options we could look at to improve the situation,” Jason said.

Holly's survey revealed a major gorse infestation threatening a nearby *Eucalyptus ovata* population. She also identified the opportunity to re-establish and link biodiversity corridors for the benefit of the local wildlife.

The Evans' property, Cloudy Bay Homestead, has a healthy population of forty-spotted pardalotes, and nearby are swift parrots, wedge-tailed eagles and masked owls.

With Holly's help and direct funding from NRM South, Kim and Jason established a gorse eradication program, began re-vegetating with locally collected seed and fenced off an area of native vegetation for protection from overgrazing. Holly also arranged for Kim and Jason to attend NRM South's holistic grazing workshop, and they are now running two pasture trials aimed at improving soil and pasture management.

“We're incredibly grateful for the support of NRM South,” said Jason. “We really feel that we're on track and that our homestead, and the local wildlife, will thrive into the future.”



Above: Kim & Jason Evans.

HELPING THE COMMUNITY GET THE JOB DONE

Above: Landcare members Louise Jerrim (left) and Lynette Lakin have been helping to rehabilitate Nicholls Rivulet.

“Huge old established willows were removed and already it looks a lot like native bush – even though the new plants are still young.”

Willows are a common sight in Tasmania, often lining rivers and streams. Until recently Nicholls Rivulet, east of Cygnet in south-eastern Tasmania, was becoming progressively choked by crack willow and other weeds like blackberries. The Nicholls Rivulet Landcare Group has worked hard in the area for many years to remove these weeds, and more recently NRM South has actively supported them to make much bigger inroads into the problem.

“We’re a small group of people who care about the environment,” said Nicholls Rivulet Landcare Coordinator, Louise Jerrim.

“You can see some of the dramatic changes in the rivulet where it’s crossed by Underwoods Road. Huge old established willows were removed and already it looks a lot like native bush – even though the new plants are still young.”

The rivulet runs through private properties so many volunteers are landowners literally looking after their own back yard.

Landcare volunteers have worked hard in the upper reaches of the Nicholls Rivulet over the past five years to clear weeds, fence sites that need protection, and replant native vegetation.

NRM South’s Huon local coordinator Kerry Johnson said, “Landcare groups get a lot done but often find it difficult to manage larger scale works using herbicides and removing mature trees. We helped by managing contractors to do this work in line with the best practice models of willow removal. The Nicholls Rivulet Landcare Group then galvanised their volunteers to follow up by planting native species to cover the bare areas often found beneath willows.”

Willows cause problems because they shade and crowd out other plants. Their roots densely cover river beds, changing the water flow. The leaves drop into the waterway, causing nutrient pollution problems.

NRM South has been an active supporter of this landcare group, and works in partnership with the Huon Valley Council on this and other projects in the Huon.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

INTRODUCTION

NRM South reinforced its focus on sustainable agriculture in 2010-2011 because of its critical importance in natural resource management and in response to an increasing demand for knowledge and skills from land managers.

NRM South's leadership role in landholder engagement was recognised in being selected to host the Regional Landcare Facilitator (RLF) position for Southern Tasmania. The position, funded by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, has helped NRM South continue to promote the uptake of sustainable farm practices and support landcare groups. The RLF has also provided advice and feedback to the Australian Government on emerging NRM issues, current attitudes and activities across the region as part of the wider RLF program and network.

Farmers and small landholders have enthusiastically embraced sustainable agriculture techniques to improve the health of their land and the viability of their farming businesses.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2010-2011

- **Living Soils:** This series of workshops, field days and property visits continued to improve farmer knowledge and understanding of soil biology and low input land management techniques. In 2010-2011 we engaged 360 landholders in Southern Tasmania. Sixty-seven of these farmers received follow up on-property technical advice resulting in the development of over 32 action plans for improved practice.
- **Holistic grazing trials:** Holistic grazing is a management approach that uses the movement and behaviour of grazing animals to regenerate pastures and grasslands. In conjunction with a number of landholders and the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research, we established grazing trials at six sites, covering a wide range of climate and soil types, to quantify soil and pasture improvements from holistic grazing. The trials will provide farmers with more information and optimise the application of these approaches in different environments.
- **Regional Landcare Facilitator:** NRM South formed a Reference Panel to raise and discuss landcare and sustainable agriculture issues, provide input into NRM South's Regional Landcare Facilitator program and share information with member networks. The Panel comprises representatives from NRM South, Tasmanian Landcare Association, Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and Environment, Australian Government, Coal River Products Association, Derwent Catchment NRM Committee, Midlands Tree Committee and Tasman Landcare Group.

OUR APPROACH TO ENGAGING RURAL LANDHOLDERS IS GUIDED BY:

- **Farmers talking to farmers** – We draw on consultants who are farmers because they bring a practical and flexible approach to teaching new techniques.
- **Working with the willing** – We focus efforts on those who are thirsty for knowledge and open to new ideas.
- **Flexibility** – A flexible approach where land managers can adjust the implementation of techniques to suit the individual characteristics of their properties, agricultural operations and management style.
- **Tailored training** – Farmers are at different stages in adoption of sustainable management practices so we offer training opportunities tailored to different needs.
- **Empowering change** – We provide ongoing one-on-one mentoring and support to landholders to help them put knowledge into action through individual action plans.
- **Triple bottom line** – We acknowledge the need to balance economic, environmental and social outcomes.

TABLE 1: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TRAINING 2010-2011

Topic	Objectives	Engagement
PASTURE CROPPING	Build capacity in cropping and pasture management to improve soil health.	4 workshops 5 field days 138 participants
HOLISTIC GRAZING	Develop knowledge and skills in low input techniques to improve grass regeneration and farm profitability.	6 workshops 4 field days 125 participants
SOIL HEALTH	Increase knowledge about soil biology and low input management techniques to improve soil health.	5 workshops 1 field day 136 participants
KEYLINE TRIALS	Build knowledge and skills of a cultivation technique to assist soil fertility and reduce erosion.	2 workshops 1 field day 48 participants
COMPOST AND COMPOST TEA	Enable landholders to reactivate the biology of the soils in pastures, orchards and vineyards with composts and compost teas.	4 workshops 100 participants
NATIVE GRASSES	Help landowners identify and understand the value of native grasses to a grazing enterprise.	1 field day 35 participants
Summary		21 workshops 12 field days 582 participants



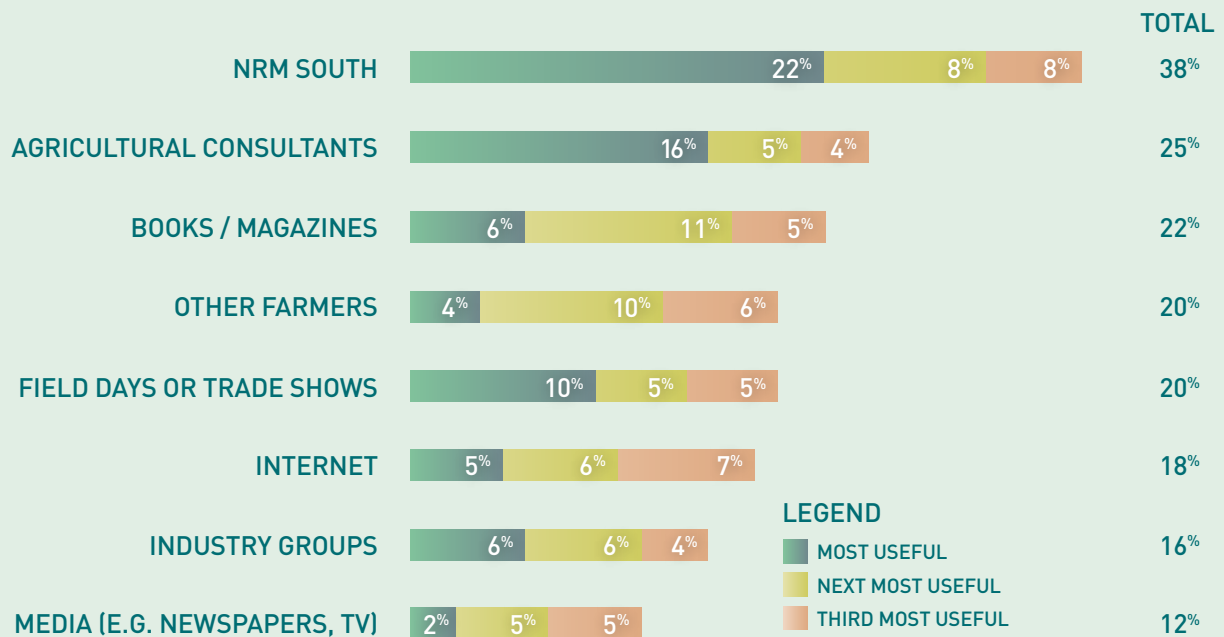
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

*Above: Demonstrating
'keyline' plough principles
at a Midlands property.*

MAKING AN IMPACT

A survey of 150 rural landholders in mid-2011 highlighted the significant benefit and impact of NRM South's involvement with landholders in Southern Tasmania. NRM South is seen as the primary source of trusted information for landholders with whom we have engaged – ahead of agricultural consultants, books and other farmers (see fig 1). More than three-quarters of this group said they had greater capacity to manage their natural resources and more than half said there had been an improvement in productivity or profitability. Furthermore, four out of every five landholders working with NRM South said they had introduced new practices or invested additional resources in their property as a result of their involvement (see Fig. 1).

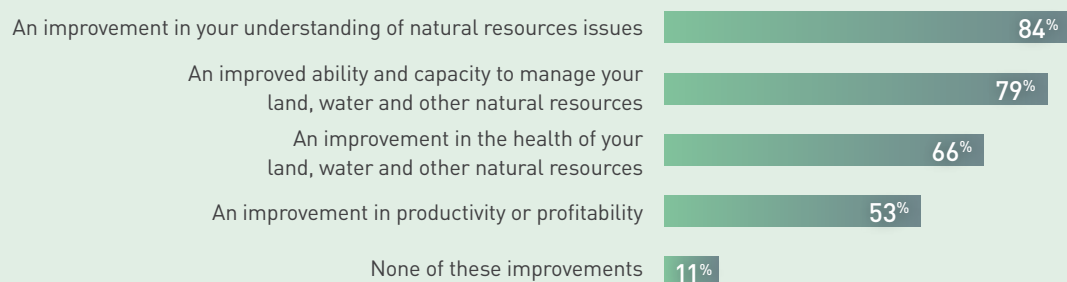
Furthermore, four out of every five landholders working with NRM South said they had introduced new practices or invested additional resources in their property as a result of their involvement.

**FIG 1. SOURCES OF INFORMATION
FOR ENGAGED* LANDHOLDERS**


Most useful sources of information for those engaged with NRM South and agricultural land use (Sample size = 83)

**FIG 2. LANDHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
CAPACITY BUILDING**

QUESTION: Has your involvement with NRM South led to ... improved understanding of NRM issues, improved capacity to manage your natural resources and improved health of natural resources on your property?


**FIG 3. LANDHOLDERS INVESTING
OR INNOVATING**

QUESTION: Has any information from NRM South or anything else NRM South has done prompted you to invest additional resources and/or introduce new practices into improving your property?



* "Engaged" is defined as having attended an NRM South workshop and/or working with local coordinators or having site visits from NRM South expert advisers.

CASE STUDY 4

LINKING FARMERS WITH SPECIALIST ADVICE

*Above: John Tribolet,
rounding up his sheep.*

“Over the last few years I’ve been lucky enough to have NRM South behind me, and what I have learned from them has been amazing.”

Relying on gut instinct has been a part of John Tribolet’s farming for more years than he cares to remember, but he’s quick to point out that there’s nothing quite like a little scientific know-how to help him sleep at night.

“I’ve always been keen to experiment, to try new things with land management. Some of them pay off and some don’t,” said John. “But over the last few years I’ve been lucky enough to have NRM South behind me, and what I’ve learned from them has been amazing.”

John says that NRM South has introduced him to experts who have helped him to understand how his property “ticks”.

“We’ve now set up holistic farming and pasture cropping trials, and routinely measure pasture species composition and soil health ... so we can learn more about the property and apply what we learn on a larger scale.”

In addition to linking John with specialist advice, NRM South has provided funding for the various trials in progress on his property in the Southern Midlands, including fencing off bush-run areas to protect them from overgrazing, and weed control. The aim is to improve the condition of the property without high-cost inputs, something close to the heart of every landowner these days.

“And every property is different,” said John. “I think it’s vitally important to become familiar with what works, and what doesn’t, in your own area, share information with other locals, and seek specialist help when you need it.”

CASE STUDY 5

FOCUS ON
NATIVE GRASSES

Above: DPIPWE's Janet Smith demonstrates how to identify native grasses.

“Another benefit is that natives are better able to cope with extreme conditions, including drought – after all, they evolved here in Tasmania.”

One of the key take-home messages from an NRM South field day on Native grass identification and management was that when times are tough, native grasses can offer a precious resource to farmers.

Thirty-five people, including farmers, staff from the Tasmanian Herbarium, University of Tasmania (UTAS), Greening Australia, DPIPWE and members of the national native grasses association, Stipa, gathered at Montlea, a Midlands property near Lemont, to discuss native grasses and their value to a grazing enterprise. The field day was organised by NRM South's Biodiversity Coordinator, Dr Magali Wright.

“The major benefit of fostering native grasses in a pasture is the reduced requirement for inputs,” said Magali. “Pastures with natives do not need to be fertilised or re-sown, which means pasture maintenance costs are lower.

“Another benefit is that natives are better able to cope with extreme conditions, including drought – after all, they evolved here in Tasmania,” said Magali.

Presenters spoke of the forage value of native grasses, which is comparable with that of introduced pasture species, and highlighted the benefits of management that favours and improves the health, biodiversity and function of native species in pastures.

The strong turnout to the workshop highlighted that native grasses are of interest not only to conservation professionals but also have an important role to play in grazing enterprises in Southern Tasmania. NRM South plans to continue promoting its conservation initiatives and helping landowners to develop their management practices.



KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Gathering and sharing accurate, up-to-date knowledge and information about natural resource management ensures we can collectively deliver results that make the biggest difference.

NRM SOUTH WORKS WITH PARTNERS TO IMPROVE ON-GROUND NRM OUTCOMES BY:

- Growing people's awareness of NRM values, issues and information sources
- Creating new knowledge and information
- Monitoring, evaluating and improving delivery of NRM South's activities.

Understanding natural resource condition is an important foundation for investment decision making, although gaps in our knowledge about our rich and diverse environment make this a complex area. Often the information that is available is dispersed, making it more difficult to utilise in strategic decision making. In 2010-2011, we developed a number of new reports which successfully added to the knowledge base by bringing together and analysing existing information about resource conditions in Southern Tasmania.

The diversity of influences on natural resources makes it challenging to measure the impacts from individual activities, and evidence of real change can take many years to emerge. Thoughtfully planned monitoring and evaluation is required to ensure NRM activity is making a difference and to enable us to share our achievements with the community.

NRM South made good progress in 2010-2011 in building and sharing NRM knowledge by working closely with partner organisations.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2010-2011

- **Partner support:** NRM South has supported NRM steering committees and working groups such as Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmania, the Stormwater Taskforce and the Coastal Works Manual Steering Group.
- **Strategic advice:** NRM South contributed to the development of policy and management plans by providing information and advice to the State of the Region Report, Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy and plans such as the Southern Region Strategic Fire Management Plan and the State of the Huon NRM Business Plan. We also provided advice for strategic planning sessions with organisations such as the Derwent Estuary Program, Tasmanian Landcare Association and Greening Australia.
- **Reporting on resource condition:** The Pitt Water-Orielton Lagoon Ramsar wetland is a site with many natural values that are appreciated by oyster growers, residents, fisherman, beachcombers, windsurfers and bird watchers. A report has been prepared characterising the nature and condition of the lagoon, drawing on a wide range of existing reports and data.
- **Monitoring vegetation condition:** NRM South assessed vegetation condition at 20 private and public properties where we are working so we can measure improvements in vegetation communities and habitat. Each of these sites is in a priority area and has a management agreement designed to boost biodiversity and conservation, and improve land management.
- **Catchment reporting:** We produced 12 catchment summaries providing a summary of the natural values, threats and Aboriginal values across the region in a consistent format. Detailed reports have been prepared for three catchments, Tasman, Derwent and Swan-Apsley:
 - **Tasman report:** We produced the first comprehensive summary of values and threats to the Tasman catchment, which includes the Tasman and Forestier Peninsulas and Carlton River sub-catchment. This area has many outstanding values including geological, terrestrial and marine biodiversity as well as thriving primary industry. The publicly available report will help inform future NRM activity for state and local government, as well as NGOs and community groups.
 - **Derwent Catchment Water Quality Review:** The review assessed the adequacy of existing monitoring, identified emerging water quality issues within the Derwent catchment, and provided recommendations for an integrated monitoring program. This project will inform future activities of organisations and agencies with a significant interest management of water in the greater Derwent catchment including NRM South, Derwent Estuary Program, Southern Water, Hydro Tasmania, DPIPWE and Derwent Catchment NRM.
 - **Swan-Apsley Water Quality Report:** Key water quality data for freshwater, groundwater and estuarine systems in the Swan-Apsley catchment has been pulled together and analysed in a comprehensive report. The report will inform collaborative water quality monitoring activities by key stakeholders in the catchment.
- **Updated Tasmania Land Use Map:** NRM South joined with other Tasmanian NRM Regions to purchase a state-wide satellite image of Tasmania as a resource for the NRM community to use to assess the extent and condition of our natural resources. The first project, in partnership with DPIPWE, has been to prepare a land use map.
- **Field Data Capture System:** NRM South commissioned a Field Data Capture System with the other Tasmanian NRM Regions to give better information on, and evaluation of, on-ground activities. The software enables us to track outcomes from particular activities such as installing new fencing to protect bushland values, applying new pasture techniques to enhance productivity and increasing diversity of native grasses. Initial testing and refinement of the system was undertaken in 2010-2011 and will be completed in 2011-2012.
- **Public information:** We developed information products for use by NRM practitioners and the general public including:
 - Swift parrots factsheet
 - Beach nesting bird factsheet and data agreement
 - Photopoint monitoring manual
 - Learning to Share with Shorebirds sign
 We also contributed to the development of the following:
 - SCAT Coastal Works Manual and Guidelines
 - Adopt a Beach project plan and maps (TSIC)
 - SCAT Reclaiming the Coast from the Pacific Oyster information brochure
- **Training workshops:** Training was provided to state government land and water managers, local councils, NGOs and community groups on a range of topics including knowledge management, hygiene protocols for pest & pathogen management, acid sulphate soils and landscape logic catchment planning tools.
- **Biodiversity Prioritisation Forum:** This forum, held in August 2010, provided the opportunity for eight organisations working in the NRM sector to share how they prioritised NRM activity, discuss common challenges and issues, and explore opportunities for increased collaboration.
- **Broad Scale Connectivity Forum:** NRM South jointly organised this forum in December 2010 with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy and DPIPWE to explore the concept of landscape connectivity and how it might be achieved. The discussion led to a paper on landscape connectivity and to establishing a state-wide working group focusing on connectivity issues.
- **Swift Parrot Forum:** The forum held in March 2011 enabled organisations committed to the conservation of the swift parrot and forty-spotted pardalote to share information and strategies to protect habitat for these threatened species. NRM South collated information gathered at the forum into a factsheet for landholders that will be distributed in 2011-2012.



KNOWLEDGE SERVICES SNAPSHOT

Above: Land use and natural values maps are a useful guide to investment decision making.

PERSPECTIVE AND EXPERTISE

Our staff contribute a regional perspective and expertise to NRM efforts being led by many other organisations in Southern Tasmania.

Over the past year, we provided NRM advice to aid the development of policy and management plans, manuals, factsheets and funding applications. We participated in a number of steering committees and working groups and contributed to strategic planning sessions of NRM organisations. Our extensive networks enable us to make referrals and provide linkages across the NRM sector, promoting the sharing of knowledge and collaborative efforts.

NRM South believes that our role in supporting other organisations to share knowledge and collaborate helps the NRM sector to operate more effectively and efficiently.

A snapshot of advisory activities in May 2011 illustrates the broad range of support services.

TABLE 2: KNOWLEDGE SERVICES MAY 2011



CASE STUDY 6

SHEDDING LIGHT
ON FUNGI

Above: Fungi enthusiasts learn more about these fascinating organisms at the Fungi Foray at Fern Tree.

Tasmania is home to Australia's most diverse known collection of macrofungi, with bushwalkers often sighting fruiting fungi such as mushrooms, puff balls and coral fungi.

Afficionados of fungi converged on Fern Tree in May 2011 to celebrate and learn more about this mysterious and critically important group of organisms.

The Fungal Foray, organised by NRM South, featured presentations from Tasmania's leading mycologists (fungi experts) Dr Genevieve Gate and Dr David Ratkowsky and NRM South's Biodiversity Coordinator, Dr Magali Wright. After the presentation, attendees ventured into the forest at Fern Tree to discover and discuss local specimens.

Tasmania is home to Australia's most diverse known collection of macrofungi, with bushwalkers often sighting fruiting fungi such as mushrooms, puff balls and coral fungi.

NRM South's Dr Magali Wright has had a longstanding fascination with fungi. "Fungi are essential for the function of terrestrial ecosystems. They recycle dead material into useful nutrients, build soils, support plant growth, protect plants from diseases and stresses, and provide food for animals," she said.

"Fungi can be used to clean polluted soil and water, restore function to degraded landscapes, treat human diseases and provide chemical-free pest control."

In spite of fungi's important environmental role, our knowledge of this area is still scant. However, the oversubscribed Fungal Foray revealed a strong interest in discovering more and NRM South is planning another focus on fungi in the coming year.



COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Above: St. Virgil's students plant seedlings to revegetate part of their Austins Ferry school grounds.

INTRODUCTION

NRM South recognises that lasting positive change in natural resource management will only succeed with the community's active support and involvement. Effective community communication, dialogue and engagement is vital for our success as an organisation in fostering NRM in our region.

In 2010-2011 we continued to work with community groups, partners and other stakeholders to build capacity and encourage increasing participation in natural resource management in Southern Tasmania.

Communication underpins our many and varied activities – whether making a scientific report accessible for a lay person, keeping our partner organisations abreast of our activities, promoting workshops or raising public awareness of environmental issues through publications and the media.

Our engagement activities aim to bridge the gap between 'awareness' and 'action'. This year we have worked with communities to identify their information and capacity development needs, providing new resources and tools which are relevant and publicly accessible. We also delivered a small grants program to support the significant contributions made by volunteer care groups, schools and other community organisations.

To further improve the understanding of our stakeholders' needs and issues, NRM South conducted stakeholder research involving our professional NRM peers, rural landholders, volunteers and the broader community. This information has provided valuable feedback on our performance, highlighting opportunities and informing future communication activities and priorities.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Activity	Total
FORUMS	10
TRAINING COURSES	44
FIELD DAYS	28
VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES / WORKING BEES	27
NETWORKING EVENTS	11
COMMUNITY EVENTS / FESTIVALS	29
FUNDING SUBMISSIONS (WRITTEN OR CONTRIBUTED TO)	24

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2010-2011:

- **Capacity building:** NRM South held more than 80 training courses, field days and forums attended by 1100 people from across our region and stakeholder spectrum.
- **NRM Community Network forum:** NRM South presented a forum in April 2011 for volunteers and professionals to network and share information. Guest speaker, Charles Sturt University PhD student Wendy Minato, spoke about her research into social norms in landcare. The forum also heard about best practice projects undertaken by Oceanet, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the Tasmanian Landcare Association.
- **Naturally Inspired grants:** NRM South held two grant rounds in 2010-2011, with 28 community groups and not-for-profit organisations sharing \$80,000 in funding. Grants were awarded to a broad range of projects including weed eradication in bushland and along waterways, wetland rehabilitation, revegetation, stormwater control and programs to protect threatened bird species including the forty-spotted pardalote.
- **Nature Hub website:** NRM South, in consultation with other NRM care organisations, created a new website to provide a central point for volunteers to access information about funding, activities and training. This initiative is the result of a priority identified at a NRM community network forum in 2009.
- **Supporting community events:** NRM South attended 20 community events throughout the region, providing sponsorship support to the Sustainable Living Expo, Treadlightly Envirofest and the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative (AusSSI) conference.
- **Communications materials:** NRM South published over 70 newsletters, articles, factsheets and other publications. Our quarterly *Naturally Inspired* newsletter (450 subscribers) and monthly e-newsletter (350 subscribers) kept people up-to-date on NRM news and activities. Other publications included the Status of Shorebirds in Glamorgan Spring Bay, Beach Nesting Bird Factsheet, Pacific Oyster Control Brochure, Swift Parrot Factsheet, Photopoint Monitoring Manual and many more. We also distributed previously published information such as weeds booklets, habitat gardening information, 'soils alive' books and plant species lists.



Above: A sample of the year's publications and media coverage.

AWARENESS OF NRM SOUTH

A community survey commissioned by NRM South in mid-2011 confirmed that awareness of NRM South is much higher amongst rural landholders than across the general community. This reflects our strategic focus on rural landholders who have a greater influence over private land management than do urban residents.

General community awareness of NRM South has increased by 5% since 2007.

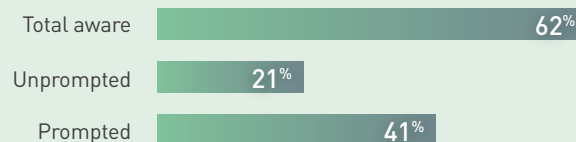
FIG 4. COMMUNITY AWARENESS

QUESTION: Can you name the body that has been established to develop and implement a strategy for natural resource management in Southern Tasmania?

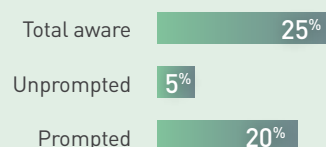
ENGAGED* RURAL LANDHOLDERS



NOT ENGAGED LANDHOLDERS



GENERAL COMMUNITY



* "Engaged" is defined as having attended an NRM South workshop and/or working with local coordinators or having site visits from NRM South expert advisers.

RAISING SHOREBIRD AWARENESS

*Above: Hooded plover eggs laid at Spring Beach in December 2010.
Inset: One month later, the chicks are nearly ready to fly (pictures courtesy of Priscilla Park and Amanda Brooks).*



“We’ve been very successful in helping pairs of birds fledge their chicks and we’re very hopeful that this will mean more breeding pairs of these birds raising young in years to come.”

Shorebirds can nest easier thanks to a partnership project between NRM South and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. In the summer of 2010-2011 we jointly introduced the program to educate coastal communities, tourists and beach-goers of the actions they can take to protect shorebirds – particularly those that nest on the sand.

The beaches in Glamorgan Spring Bay are among the most important breeding sites in Tasmania for our five main beach-nesting birds – pied oystercatchers, hooded and red-capped plovers, small terns and fairy terns – which are all suffering declining populations.

As part of the project, council and Parks and Wildlife staff installed temporary fencing and information signs on Sandpiper Beach at Swanwick, Raspins Beach, Spring Beach and Boltens Beach to alert beach-goers to shorebird nest sites and ask them to give the sites a wide berth.

Supported through funding from the Australian Government’s Caring for our Country, an education officer was employed for the summer to develop information materials, visit schools and tourist accommodation venues and participate in community events.

The summer activities saw a number of bird pairs making nests and successfully raising chicks.


Catchments to Coasts officer, Elle Woolnough, praised the efforts of local residents and Birds Tasmania members who kept a caring and watchful eye over nesting sites on their local beaches.

“We’ve been very successful in helping pairs of birds fledge their chicks and we’re very hopeful that this will mean more breeding pairs of these birds raising young in years to come,” Elle said.

NRM South and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council aim to build on this project’s success by continuing to protect identified nests and raise awareness about shorebird issues.

CASE STUDY 8

BUILDING FARMER NETWORKS



Above: The Hamilton Ocean Racing Club meet to discuss landcare issues.

Thanks to Steve's involvement the group has received funding for farm trials including holistic grazing and 'keyline design' – the science of ploughing channels in 'lines' to improve water absorption and reduce erosion."

Bringing people together with a common focus can set things in motion like a freshening breeze catching the sails of an ocean racer.

With this in mind, local coordinator Steve Joyce joined together with a group of farmers with a shared interest in natural resource management and a wry sense of humour to form the Hamilton Ocean Racing Club.

"After meeting at a training course we decided that we could learn a lot from one another, and I arranged a few property visits so we could get together and share some ideas," Steve said.

"Pretty soon the visits turned into regular meetings and organised tours and events with guest speakers giving talks on issues like climate change, grazing innovations and landcare projects."

While keeping an outcome focus, the emphasis is on having fun – hence the group's fish-out-of-water name.

Local farmer, Sue Crawford, was new to farming when she joined the group and was grateful for Steve's guiding hand. "Without someone to keep the plates spinning, a group like ours probably wouldn't last," she said. "Steve organised some great events, which would never have occurred were he not on the scene. I also met some amazing people who were so very keen to help me when I needed it."

Steve believes that if you build a network based on fun social events, the network will become self-supporting. "After all, farming has an incredibly strong basis in community. On one occasion we went rafting down the Derwent. Great fun, yes, but also an excellent way to showcase water quality and riparian issues."

The Hamilton Ocean Racers' gatherings recently set off a flotilla of formal management agreements with NRM South. Thanks to Steve's involvement the group has received funding for farm trials including holistic grazing and 'keyline design' – the science of ploughing channels in 'lines' to improve water absorption and reduce erosion.

"The group's evolution demonstrates what's possible when people get their heads together, and I am delighted to be part of that," said Steve.

Steve Joyce's position is hosted by Derwent Catchment NRM Committee and co-funded by NRM South and the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands Councils.

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2010-2011

JULY 2010



Support Parks and Wildlife Service in the Moulting Lagoon Bird Count

Award Naturally Inspired Grants to 11 community and not-for-profit groups

Pasture cropping introductory course attracts farmer interest at Oatlands

Participate in National Tree Day events at Swansea, Orford, Triabunna

Bicheno Boneseed Blitz

AUGUST 2010



Environment Minister, David O'Byrne, officially launches the Keeping it Clean field hygiene manual

Facilitate forum to share knowledge about methods to prioritise NRM investment

Serrated tussock identification workshop at Ravensdale Hall

Present holistic grazing workshops with Graeme Hand at Oatlands, Sorell, Forcett Lakes and Swansea

SEPTEMBER 2010



Participate in the Sea Change Sustainability Festival, Bicheno

Deliver a presentation on Tasmanian coastal values at the national Coast to Coast Conference, Adelaide.

Pasture cropping presentation at Derwent Catchment NRM AGM at Hamilton and Upper Little Swanport Group, Oatlands, and farm visits at Oatlands and Levendale

Weed Buster week event on Bruny Island

OCTOBER 2010



Holistic Management Grazing presentation at Tasman Landcare Annual General Meeting, Dunalley and a workshop at Huonville

Sponsor and provide technical support to the Mountain Festival

Participate in the Bruny Island Nyari Nyara Festival

Assist Parks and Wildlife Service clean up the Cockle Creek camping area and remove weeds near the end of the South West National Park walking track

NOVEMBER 2010



Sponsor and exhibitor at the Sustainable Living Expo, Hobart, giving away 200 native plants and information about weeds and local native species

Community Open-Space forum provides community input into the Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania

Soil Health, Additives and Techniques Forum at Sorell attracts 50 farmers and land managers

DECEMBER 2010



Understanding Biological Soil Management workshop at Hamilton

Jointly present a forum with Tasmanian Land Conservancy and DPIWE to explore broadscale landscape connectivity principles.

Reference Panel for the Regional Landcare Facilitator has inaugural meeting

Support and deliver two presentations at Coastcare Week

JANUARY 2011



Support for Understorey Network's seed collecting and propagation workshop

Present shorebird display and information at Swansea Australia Day Market and Orford Australia Day Market

Monitor water quality in Storm Bay with Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute

FEBRUARY 2011



Pasture Cropping expert, Colin Seis, presents a workshop in Oatlands, followed by farm visits

Compost and Compost Tea Workshop in the Huon Valley

Native Grasses Identification Field Day at 'Montlea', Lemont

Support for the inaugural meeting of the Tasmanian Chapter of Australian Coastal Society at Campbell Town

Orford, Triabunna and Bicheno Schools educate students about beach-nesting shorebirds

MARCH 2011



Deliver training in Photopoint Monitoring to community volunteers at Dodges Ferry

Present coastal gardens and plant propagation workshops in Dodges Ferry and Sorell with Understorey Network and Gardens for Wildlife

The Levendale keyline plough features at the Woodsdale Fair

Support Parks and Wildlife Service's sea spurge survey at Spring Beach

Sponsor community participants in a Clean Up Australia Day event on Maria Island

APRIL 2011



Community forum hears about social norms in NRM

Environment Minister, Brian Wightman, launches the Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010-2015

Deliver Photopoint Monitoring workshops to volunteers at Snug Primary and Dodges Ferry

NRM South activities and information feature at the Hamilton Show and Bruny Island Wood Chopping Festival

Partnership with Southern Coastcare Association employs Coastcare Facilitator and Capacity Building Officer

MAY 2011



Raise awareness of field hygiene at the Liawenee Trout Fishing Open Day

Fungal Foray at Fern Tree

Weeds identification and chemical use training day at Bradys Lake

Field day on gorse management in the Huon Valley

Meet farmers and distribute information on soil health at Agfest

JUNE 2011



Two holistic grazing demonstration field days at 'Murrayfield', Bruny Island and Swanston, Southern Midlands

Release draft Southern Tasmanian Weeds Strategy 2011-2016 for comment

Storm water management and water sensitive urban design field day with Sorell Council and Derwent Estuary Program

Sponsor and exhibitor with Treadlightly Envirofest, Royal Tasmanian Botanic Gardens



GRANT HELPS GROW CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

“Learning about Aboriginal culture through plants and their uses has been a wonderful and positive experience.”

Funding from NRM South's Naturally Inspired grants initiative has helped The Salvation Army and Communities for Children turn an area of the Riverside Community Nursery in Bridgewater into a beautiful garden space now known as the 'Growing Respect Aboriginal Garden'.

The garden aims to engage local Aboriginal children through designing, planting and using the area as an outdoor cultural classroom. Aboriginal speakers will use the garden for sensory and interactive learning sessions focusing on aspects of Tasmanian Aboriginal culture, including weaving of flax plants and using edible plants.

The Salvation Army received a Naturally Inspired grant to pay for the design and production of interpretative panels to explain Tasmania's living Aboriginal culture to visitors to the garden. Both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children took part in learning and planting sessions run by Aboriginal elders at the Growing Respect Garden, directly contributing to the design and content of the explanatory panels.

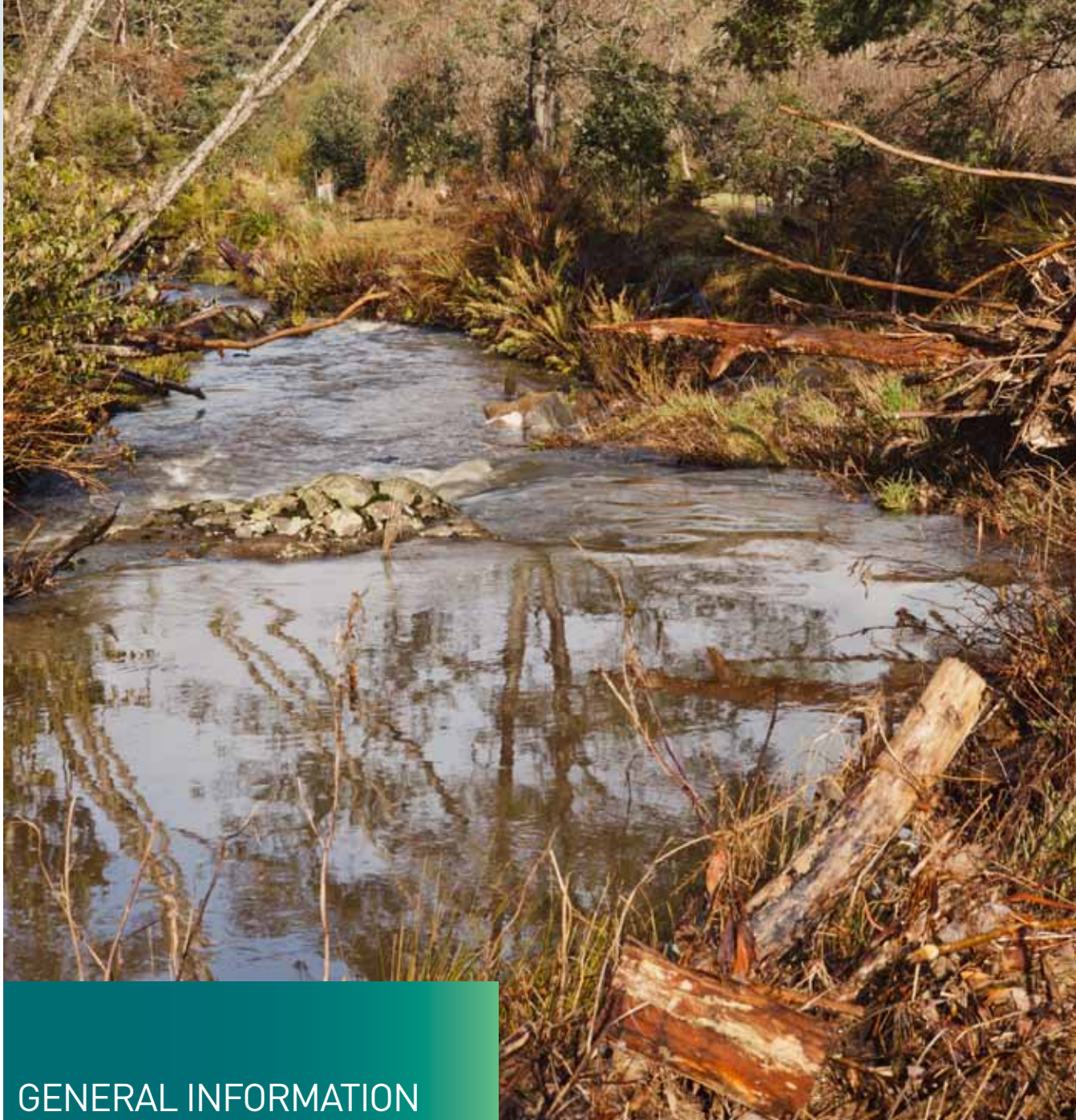
Moneka Knight from The Salvation Army commented that the Growing Respect project has been inspiring for both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children, as well as educators who work with children to share stories and information about Tasmanian Aboriginal culture.

“Learning about Aboriginal culture through plants and their uses has been a wonderful and positive experience,” she said. “Children are engaged in the learning process doing practical hands-on activities including planting, tasting and experiencing the plants. The panels are a wonderful resource – they allow visitors to the garden the opportunity to learn about Aboriginal culture and the native plants. The children involved feel a sense of pride that their drawings and comments are included on the panels; it creates a sense of ownership of the project and defines the Growing Respect Garden space.”

The first Growing Respect Garden has been so successful that The Salvation Army is now developing similar gardens in three other rural and disadvantaged areas where Communities for Children operates.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc.

Principal Address – 313 Macquarie Street, Hobart

Registered Office – 313 Macquarie Street, Hobart

Principal Activity - Governance, organisational framework for administration and implementation of the Southern Natural Resource Strategy, as required under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002* for Southern Tasmania.

Number of full time Employees – 14.4

Name of Auditor – BDO Audit (TAS) Pty Ltd

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS 2009-2011

	2011	2010	2009
	\$	\$	\$
Operating Profit	(4,755)	337,156	186,808
Professional Income	2,716,834	3,387,325	4,304,304
Cash at Bank	2,804,124	2,412,632	2,883,998
Trade Debtors	4,569	-	24,369
Current Assets	2,883,101	2,465,933	2,980,134
Non-Current Assets	213,612	172,318	105,599
Bank Overdraft	-	-	-
Trade Creditors	183,840	59,567	111,555
Current Liabilities	298,447	144,233	186,029
Non Current Liabilities	12,000	10,000	10,000

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	NOTE	2011	2010
		\$	\$
Revenue	2	2,851,302	3,487,446
Employee Benefits Expense		1,136,898	1,050,598
Depreciation and Amortisation		70,895	49,976
Other Expenses		1,648,264	2,049,716
Profit Before Income Tax		(4,755)	337,156
Income Tax Expense		-	-
Profit from Operations		(4,755)	337,156
Reserves			
Increase/(Decrease) in Committed Projects Reserve	10	307,003	(742,842)
Total Movement in Equity of the Association		302,248	(405,686)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

	NOTE	2011 \$	2010 \$
Equity			
Committed Project Reserve		1,867,757	1,560,754
Retained Profits		918,509	923,264
Total Equity		2,786,266	2,484,018
Represented by :			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	2,804,474	2,412,982
Trade and Other Receivables	5	44,271	30,007
Prepayments	6	34,356	22,944
		2,883,101	2,465,933
Non-Current Assets			
Property Plant & Equipment	7	213,612	172,318
TOTAL ASSETS		3,096,713	2,638,251
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	8	246,408	82,515
Provisions	9	52,039	61,718
		298,447	144,233
Non Current Liabilities			
Provisions	9	12,000	10,000
Total Liabilities		310,447	154,233
Net Assets		2,786,266	2,484,018

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Income		
Funding and Member Receipts	2,716,834	3,387,325
Interest Received	134,468	100,121
	2,851,302	3,487,446
Expenditure		
Accountancy Fees	2,570	3,270
Advertising	5,654	4,454
Annual Leave – Provision	(7,437)	23,644
Auditor's Remuneration	13,200	15,950
Bank Charges	756	615
Committee Expenses	32,753	33,961
Computer Expenses	17,290	11,589
Cleaning Expenses	5,241	4,568
Consultancy Fees	46,119	11,776
Depreciation	70,895	49,976
Fringe Benefits Tax	2,903	2,646
Hosting Agreements	-	8,000
Insurance	18,173	19,484
Legal Costs	99	8,592
Long Service Leave – Provision	2,000	-
Meeting Expenses	6,150	5,404
Motor Vehicle Expenses	24,460	28,006
Other Office Running Costs	31,636	26,773
Postage	2,704	2,568
Membership, Subscriptions & Fees	2,428	1,773
Rent & Occupancy Expenses	71,253	68,991
Staff Employment Costs	3,313	601
Service Provider & Project Expense	1,614,355	1,757,311
Staff Training	13,677	24,747
Superannuation – SGC	70,335	83,277
Telephone & Internet	15,204	15,467
Travelling Expenses	8,822	11,554
Salaries & Wages	781,504	925,293
	2,856,057	3,150,290
Operating Profit before Income Tax	(4,755)	337,156

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	NOTE	2011 \$	2010 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from Grants/Members		3,007,806	2,633,883
Payment to Suppliers		(1,531,454)	(1,986,797)
Payments to employees		(1,136,897)	(1,050,598)
GST refunded/(remitted)		41,364	(42,255)
Interest received		122,861	91,096
Net Cash provided by operating activities	4	503,680	(354,671)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of plant & equipment		(112,188)	(116,695)
Reimbursement of plant & equipment		-	-
Net cash used in investing activities		(112,188)	(116,695)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		391,492	(471,366)
Cash at beginning of financial year		2,412,982	2,884,348
Cash at end of financial year	3	2,804,474	2,412,982

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	RETAINED EARNINGS \$	COMMITTED PROJECTS RESERVE \$	TOTAL \$
Balance at 1 July 2009	586,108	2,303,596	2,889,704
Surplus/(Deficit)	337,156	(742,842)	(405,686)
Balance at 30 June 2010	923,264	1,560,754	2,484,018
Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,755)	307,003	302,248
Revaluation Increment	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2011	918,509	1,867,757	2,786,266

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporations Act* (Tasmania).

The financial report covers Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. as an individual entity. Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. is an association incorporated in Tasmania under the *Associations Incorporation Act*.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

REPORTING BASIS AND CONVENTIONS

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(A) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

(B) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Superannuation contributions are made by the association to various complying superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(C) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses. The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

DEPRECIATION

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including building and capitalised lease assets, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Motor Vehicles	20%
Leasehold Improvements	2.5%
Leased Plant and Equipment	20%
Office Equipment	10-40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying account is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(D) REVENUE

A significant proportion of the NRM South programs are supported by grants received from both the Federal and State Government. Grants are initially recognised as forming part of the Committed Projects Reserve and revenue is recognised as services are performed and conditions fulfilled. The unutilised amount of grants received is disclosed as the Committed Projects Reserve.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(E) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash Flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(F) COMPARATIVE FIGURES

When required by Accounting Standards, or changes in accounting policies, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

In the 2010/11 accounts the Committed Project Reserve has been adjusted to include Essential Project Management and Administrative Funds. These funds have been moved from the Retained Earnings account.

This change has been approved by the Board and will be carried forward into future years.

In the 2010/11 and ongoing future accounts, the Provision for Rapid Eye Imagery, formerly a non-current liability, will now be included in the Committed Project Reserve.

(G) CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the association.

KEY ESTIMATES - IMPAIRMENT

The committee assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the group that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

(I) TAXATION

The association is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax and the Goods and Services tax (GST).

FINANCIAL NOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
2. REVENUE		
Operating Revenue		
Funding and Member receipts	2,716,834	3,387,325
	<u>2,716,834</u>	<u>3,387,325</u>
Non-Operating Revenue		
Interest Received	134,468	100,121
Other Revenue	-	-
	<u>134,468</u>	<u>100,121</u>
	<u>2,851,302</u>	<u>3,487,446</u>
3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash on Hand	350	350
Cash at Bank	19,086	101,725
Deposit – Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation	2,785,038	2,310,907
	<u>2,804,474</u>	<u>2,412,982</u>
Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>2,804,474</u>	<u>2,412,982</u>
	<u>2,804,474</u>	<u>2,412,982</u>
4. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Net Surplus		
Net Surplus for the period	287,248	(420,686)
Adjustment for Non-Cash Components in Profit		
Depreciation	70,895	49,976
Other Non Cash Items	-	-
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
(Increase)/Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	(25,675)	42,835
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade and other Payables	163,892	(65,440)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	7,320	38,644
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>503,680</u>	<u>(354,671)</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Trade Debtors	4,569	-
Other Debtors	11,608	9,442
Provision for GST	28,094	20,565
	<u>44,271</u>	<u>30,007</u>
Total Trade and Other Receivables	<u>44,271</u>	<u>30,007</u>
6. OTHER		
Current		
Prepayments	34,356	22,944
	<u>34,356</u>	<u>22,944</u>
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and Equipment	13,261	13,261
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>8,660</u>	<u>7,989</u>
	4,601	5,272
Office Equipment	127,304	105,582
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>98,097</u>	<u>72,304</u>
	29,207	33,278
Furniture and Fittings	30,798	29,528
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>11,755</u>	<u>8,639</u>
	19,043	20,889
Website Development	47,137	32,607
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>18,265</u>	<u>5,222</u>
	28,872	27,385
Leasehold Improvements	8,078	6,946
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>479</u>	<u>297</u>
	7,599	6,649
Project Related Assets	105,218	82,175
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>25,167</u>	<u>3,330</u>
	80,051	78,845
Motor Vehicles	50,492	-
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>6,253</u>	<u>-</u>
	44,239	-
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	<u>213,612</u>	<u>172,318</u>

FINANCIAL NOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
8. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Current		
PAYG Withholding Payable	20,984	16,994
Trade Creditors	183,840	59,567
Other Creditors	41,584	5,954
Total Trade and Other Payables	246,408	82,515
9. PROVISIONS		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	52,039	61,718
	<u>52,039</u>	<u>61,718</u>
Non Current Liabilities		
Provision for Long Service Leave	12,000	10,000
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
In the 2010/11 and ongoing accounts, the Provision For Rapid Eye Imagery, formerly a non current Liability, will now be included in the Committed Project Reserve.		
10. RESERVES		
Committed Projects Reserve	1,867,757	1,560,754
	<u>1,867,757</u>	<u>1,560,754</u>
Movements during the year in Committed Project Reserve		

The movement in the Reserve includes Grant Funds received in advance for projects including our Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Biosecurity project.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
11. AUDITORS REMUNERATION		
In 2009/10 BDO Audit (Tas) Pty Ltd were the Auditors of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc.		
Audit & review of financial reports	13,200	15,950
12. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS		
Being for rent of office		
Payable – minimum lease payments		
Not later than 12 months	65,883	56,002
Between 12 months and 5 years	93,334	135,337
Greater than 5 years	-	-
	<u>159,217</u>	<u>191,339</u>

The property lease is a lease with a five year term, with rent payable monthly in advance. The lease states that the rent be increased each year from the rent review date of 1st December in accordance with the Consumer Price Index.

An option exists to renew the lease at the end of the five year term for an additional term of five years.

13. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

A significant event in the 2010-11 year is the announcement of a reduction of funding from the Tasmanian State Government.

The current grant agreement was \$480,000 annually, however the State Government announced in June 2011 that this amount would be reduced to \$313,333 in 2011/12 and \$246,667 in 2012/13.

The NRM South Committee have noted the request to vary the Grant Deed and are in negotiation with the Tasmanian Government. If necessary, changes will be made to the 2011/12 and 2012/13 budgets to accommodate these changes.

ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The principal place of business is :

Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc.

313 Macquarie Street, Hobart.



STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 14

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. as at 30 June 2011 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Southern Regional Natural Management Association Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by :

Chair: Max Kitchell

Dated : 6 September 2011

Deputy Chair: Ian Whyte

Dated : 6 September 2011



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 AUSTRALIA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. (the 'Association'), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2011, and the income statement, statement of recognised income and expense, statement of cash flows, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the Committee.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Tasmania) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.



The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act (Tasmania). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. as of 30 June 2011 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'BDO Tas'.

BDO Audit (TAS)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CJ Stephens'.

CRAIG J STEPHENS

Partner

A handwritten signature in blue ink followed by the date '31 August 2011'.

Location and Date

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APPENDIX 1

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

- a. **Ecosystem approach** – Natural resource management should be based on an understanding of the relationship between natural resources and the ecosystems they support, and upon careful monitoring of change over time.
- b. **Balanced decisions** – Natural resource management decisions should take proper account of the range of environmental, social and economic benefits, values and costs in accordance with the objectives of the Tasmanian Resource Management and Planning System.
- c. **Integrated management** – The management of natural resources should be integrated within regions and catchments, as well as across industry sectors, government agencies and specific issues.
- d. **Priority based** – Natural resource management actions are to be undertaken according to priorities that are based on the best available science and information, and relevant experience, as well as on assessment of the relative cost-effectiveness of various options.
- e. **Prevention is better than the cure** – It is often more efficient to prevent damage rather than repair it. Therefore, where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.
- f. **Partnerships** – To be effective, natural resource management requires the establishment of partnerships between all levels of government and the community, including the Aboriginal community, industry, landholders and individuals, with agreed roles and responsibilities.
- g. **We are all responsible** – All Tasmanians receive benefits from the use, development and conservation of natural resources; they share responsibility for managing natural resources sustainably, and for providing economic resources to do so.

GLOSSARY OF COMMONLY USED TERMS

DPIPWE – Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

EPBC listed – Species that are listed for protection under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act*

MERI – Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement

Mountain to Marine – NRM South priority area for activity extending from Mount Wellington to Bruny Island and surrounding areas.

NRM – Natural Resource Management

Ramsar – The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance

RLF – Regional Landcare Facilitator

SCAT – Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmania

STCA – Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority

TIAR – Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research

TSIC – Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council

TWWHA – Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area



APPENDIX 2

Above: NRM South staff enjoying our beautiful coastal environment.

OUR STAFF

ROLE	NAME
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Dr Kathleen Broderick
OPERATIONS MANAGER	Vani Welling
PROGRAMS MANAGER	Alistair Kay
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER	Cathy Limb
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER	Bruce Ransley
KNOWLEDGE AND MERI MANAGER	Aniela Grun
FINANCE MANAGER	Sheena Bell
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER	Geir Rodven
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER	Laura Joss
REGIONAL LANDCARE FACILITATOR	Barry Hardwick
BIODIVERSITY COORDINATOR	Magali Wright
COASTAL COORDINATOR	Jill Pearson

PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS STAFF

BIOSECURITY EXTENSION PROJECT OFFICER	Johanna Edwards
SCAT CAPACITY BUILDING OFFICER	Tessa McDonald
SCAT COASTCARE FACILITATOR	Stuart Pengelly
SOUTHERN TASMANIAN WEED STRATEGY PROJECT MANAGER (in partnership with STCA)	Sandy Leighton

LOCAL COORDINATORS	
MOUNTAIN TO MARINE COORDINATOR (hosted by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy)	Holly Hansen
PITT WATER-ORIELTON PROJECT OFFICER (hosted at Sorell Council)	Andry Sculthorpe
HUON COORDINATOR (in partnership with, and located at, Huon Valley Council)	Kerry Johnson
CATCHMENTS TO COASTS COORDINATOR (in partnership with, and located at, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council)	Mary Whitaker
CATCHMENTS TO COASTS ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER (in partnership with, and located at, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council)	Elle Woolnough
DERWENT CATCHMENT NRM COORDINATOR (in partnership with and located at, Derwent Catchment NRM)	Steve Joyce



APPENDIX 3

Above: The NRM South board (from left): Chair, Max Kitchell and directors, Flora Fox, Greg Lehman, John Hickey, Christine Crawford, Howel Williams and Angus McNeil (absent: Ian Whyte and Melanie Kelly).

BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

MAX KITCHELL (Chair)

SINCE 2009

Max Kitchell brings over 20 years' experience in senior management roles within the Tasmanian, Victorian and Australian governments. He was formerly Director of the National Oceans Office, First Assistant Secretary of the Natural Heritage Division of the Department of Environment and Heritage, General Manager of the Resource Management and Conservation Division of the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, and Director of the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service. Max has represented Australia as head of delegation to three United Nations conventions – Biodiversity, Desertification and Oceans. He is currently a member of the Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Council, the Tasmanian Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal and sits on the board of Greening Australia.

IAN WHYTE (Deputy Chair)

SINCE 2006

Ian Whyte brings experience in the forestry and farming sectors to the Board. Ian is a former CEO of the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania and was, prior to his retirement from the role in 2008, a senior Policy Officer with the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association with responsibilities in the environmental and natural resource areas. Ian is currently a member of the Board of the Forest Practices Authority of Tasmania, a member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia, a member of the Board of South Eastern Nursing and Home Care Association Inc. and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

CHRISTINE CRAWFORD

(2005-2009, 2010-)

Dr Christine Crawford is a research scientist at the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania. She is an ecological researcher and consultant, and has practical, in-depth experience in the research, development and management of Tasmania's natural resources, especially coastal, estuarine and marine environments. She is also experienced in project management, community engagement and is keen for more effective communication of science to the general public.

FLORA FOX

SINCE 2009

Flora Fox, an elected Kingborough Councillor for 23 years including two as Deputy Mayor, chairs numerous council committees including the Council's Environment and Development Committee. Flora represented Local Government on the State Coastal Policy Advisory Committee, and represented the community on the Huon-Channel Bio-links project Steering Committee as well as the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and North West Bay Steering Committee. She has initiated and chaired community committees including the Boronia Hill Management Committee and the North West Bay River Catchment Management Committee and currently chairs the Kingborough Landcare Advisory Group. Flora brings wide managerial experience to the Board in the areas of governance, business administration, finance, NRM outcomes, education, communication and working with government.



Above: Getting down to business: board members Howel Williams (left) and Flora Fox (right), with CEO Kathleen Broderick and Operations Manager Vani Welling (far right)

JOHN HICKEY

SINCE 2009

John Hickey is General Manager, Forest Management at Forestry Tasmania and brings a range of forest industry related experience to the Board, including forest policy, resource modelling, conservation planning, research and development, certification and environmental reporting. John has a strong interest in landscape level planning for multiple community benefits.

MELANIE KELLY

SINCE 2010

Melanie Kelly is the Natural Resource Manager for the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. She has a professional background in forestry with many years of experience in NRM working both for and with community and local government. For 10 years Melanie worked as a private consultant in the NRM field both in Victoria and Tasmania. She has a strong interest in the development of novel collaborative NRM partnerships, particular those involving local government as key NRM managers and leaders in community development.

GREG LEHMAN

SINCE 2011

Greg Lehman has worked in the area of Aboriginal heritage management, training, cultural interpretation and education for over 25 years. During that time, Greg has undertaken a range of major projects for the Tasmanian and Australian governments relating to the Register of the National Estate, National Heritage List, Aboriginal management and interpretation strategies for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, Aboriginal heritage protection legislation, cultural fire management and ranger training in Aboriginal heritage management. He is currently a Visiting Research Fellow at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Greg is also a member of the Board of Skills Tasmania, the National Gallery of Australia's Indigenous Advisory Council and Chair of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery's Indigenous Advisory Council.

ANGUS MACNEIL

SINCE 2010

Angus MacNeil has been employed as Business Administration Manager for the Forest Practices Authority (FPA) for the last four years, and is also Executive Officer for the board of the FPA. He brings a wide range of natural resource management experience from the aquaculture and forestry sectors, including 20 years working in research and senior management roles in the salmon farming industry in Scotland and Tasmania. Prior to working for the FPA he spent four years as Business Manager for Forestry Tasmania's Division of Research and Development. Angus has an Honours Degree in Marine Biology, brings governance, business and systems expertise to the Board and is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

HOWEL WILLIAMS

SINCE 2009

Dr Howel Williams brings experience as a senior practitioner in the public policy aspects of natural resource management to the Committee. Currently Director (Policy and Projects) in the Resource Management and Conservation Division of DPIPW, Howel is involved in a range of projects aimed at sustainable management and conservation including the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. He has worked extensively in Australia and overseas in natural resource management. He has managed marine research institutes in Tasmania and South Australia, and has a strong background in policy relevant research. Howel has been Chair of several state and national committees advising on natural resource management and a board member of a Cooperative Research Centre. Howel is the Tasmanian Government representative on the Board.

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tracy Matthews (Chair)
Max Kitchell
Ian Whyte
Howel Williams
Flora Fox

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Max Kitchell
Mel Kelly
Angus MacNeil

FAREWELL

Board members who retired at the 2010 Annual General Meeting: Christine Mucha, Tony Ferrier, Helen Pryor and Maria Weeding. Fiona Newson retired from the board in February 2011.

PUBLIC OFFICER

Dr Kathleen Broderick



APPENDIX 4

OUR MEMBERS

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Birds Tasmania	Huon Valley Council	Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmanian (SCAT)
Clarence City Council	Hydro Tasmania	Southern Midlands Council
Coal River Products Association	Kingborough Landcare Advisory Group	Sustainable Living Tasmania
Conservation Volunteers Australia	Leaman Geophysics	Taroona Environment Network
DPIPWE	Midlands Tree Committee Inc	Tasman Council
Forest Industries Association of Tasmania	Mortimer Bay Coast Care Group	Tasman Landcare Group
Forestry Tasmania	Onstream	Tasmanian Conservation Trust
Friends of Peter Murell Reserves	Port Cygnet land and Watercare Group Inc	Tasmanian Landcare Association Inc
GHD Pty Ltd	Private Forests Tasmania	Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council (TSFIC)
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council	Regnans Enviro Contracting Pty Ltd	Tasmanian Water & Sewerage Corporation (Southern Region) Pty Ltd
Greening Australia	SFM Environmental Solutions Plc	Timber Communities Australia Inc, Huon Branch
Hobart City Council	South Channel Coastcare	White Beach Landcare Group Inc
Howden Landcare Group	Southern Beaches Landcare/Coastcare Inc	

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

James Wilson

Sue Chapple

Graham Flower

Stephen Geard

Corey Peterson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NRM South acknowledges the efforts of its staff, partners, stakeholders and the community in undertaking the activities and initiatives highlighted in this report. We also thank all those involved in preparing this Annual Report.

Above: Native coastal plant,
Ficinia nodosa or knobby clubsedge.




Australian Government
Regional Landcare Facilitator
Hosted by Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association
for the South region



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



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South Hobart Tasmania 7004
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