

# NRM SOUTH PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW 2013–2014



## Strategic Overview

### The role of the NRM Strategy

The Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010–2015 (NRM Strategy) provides a framework for the management of natural resources and assets within Southern Tasmania.

It provides guidance and a focus for our work and for regional NRM and engages the many groups, businesses, organisations, councils and state government agencies in improving coordination of planning and activities, particularly between sectors and across geographical boundaries.

The NRM Strategy brings together community and local needs and aspirations so they can be addressed at a regional level to improve long-term outcomes. Key areas of performance in the Strategy are: maximising return on investment; increasing community awareness and commitment; managing threats; measuring and reporting change; and increasing understanding and capacity of the community to utilise our natural resources.

NRM South works to ensure that investment is well directed so that our region's natural resources are 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.

### Our Corporate priorities

Our corporate priorities align with the vision articulated in the Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010–2015. These priorities guide the day-to-day work of our staff and Board and enable focus for the delivery of our programs and for how we run the business.

#### The corporate priorities are:

1. Develop and share knowledge of the region's resource condition, natural values and threats
2. Build partnerships and engage the community in positive action
3. Sustainable management practice – delivery of on-ground works
4. Optimise existing resources and increase investment
5. Govern and manage the business well

### Investment priorities

The protection, management and improvement of the natural resources within Southern Tasmania relies on investment based on sound priorities and effective guidelines for delivery. This may include monetary investment into programs, projects and grants, and also devoting time and resources.

NRM South receives investment for the protection, management and improvement of our natural resources from a number of sources, but primarily through the Australian Government, the Tasmanian Government and in partnership with local councils.

Our delivery mechanisms, which include the projects we manage, grants we make available, the NRM South Facilitator Network, the events and activities we hold, and various partners we engage with, ensure the effective delivery of outcomes that meet both NRM and stakeholder needs for Southern Tasmania.

## Investment Overview

There are a number of principles that guide NRM South's activity and investment decisions. These include making balanced decisions based on an ecosystem approach, integrated management, effective prioritisation, prevention rather than cure, developing partnerships, and sharing responsibility. Other key information includes the Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania 2010–2015; NRM South's Corporate Plan; our Organisation Values; Investment Guidelines and Investor Priorities.

2013-14 was a year of transition. While one Caring for our Country funding cycle ended after five years, another started. This brought with it the welcome surity of a further five years of funding. A change of government nationally has seen the winding down of that program and the development of the new National Landcare Programme which will also rollout to 2018.

In an era of increasingly restricted funding availability NRM South has continued to work to improve value for money and leverage investment, with support for activities that have co-investment and in-kind support.

As such, NRM South established several five-year programs to focus on areas of importance for the region and community, to effectively allocate resources and target investment and build on the successes of past years.

In addition NRM South has taken action to develop and grow the business with the intention of increasing investment and diversifying income streams over the long-term.

The figures shown overleaf include amalgamated funding sources and therefore do not reflect the exact figures in the financial report.

# Performance Highlights



2013-14 was a year of significant activity in Southern Tasmania. Following are the main highlights for the year.

## 1 Regional Strategy development

The development of the new NRM Strategy has enabled the alignment of statewide principles around NRM planning, a cohesive approach to engagement and an immense exchange of information, knowledge and experience.

## 2 Aboriginal Engagement

The pakana services land management business begun trading this year and has successfully trading, established an excellent reputation and client base and now provides employment to 10 Aboriginal community members.

## 3 Real action, real results

Our High Value Places, Community Engagement and Sustainable Agriculture programs have all exceeded expectations in terms of participation, uptake of new practices, or actions to protect threatened species and with clear community involvement.

## 4 Management performance

NRM South has successfully managed a number of changes this year including completion of the five-year Caring for Our Country program, preparing for the new National Landcare program, a new leadership team and contribution to the development of NRM nationally.

## 5 Engaging the community

Empowered by the NRM South Facilitator Network, we led or contributed to 306 events this year, delivering timely, relevant content to an estimated 7900 attendees

## 6 Contribution to national issues

NRM South has continued to influence NRM discussion at a national level with contributions to key policies and papers and through the role of NRM South Chair, Max Kitchell, who is now also Chair of the national body, NRM Regions Australia.

## 7 Bushfire recovery

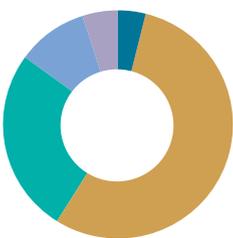
Run over two years, the highlight has been the sustained energy and commitment from the community to support recovery works on farmland. This year \$230,000 was delivered to 24 farmers, two community groups and two councils for farm recovery.

## 8 The North Bruny Biodiversity Project

Outstanding restoration value for threatened species including the Forty-spotted Pardalote and varieties of sea eagle. In 2013-14, 188.7 hectares of weed treatment and 50.2 hectares of revegetation was undertaken and 12,135 plants put in the ground.

# Sources of funding 2013-14

Funding was received from the following sources in 2013-14



|     |                               |  |
|-----|-------------------------------|--|
| 55% | CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY BASE   | Regional allocation to NRM South, including Regional Landcare Facilitator initiative   |
| 26% | AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT (OTHER) | Clean energy Futures Carbon Farming Initiative Communications, North Bruny Biodiversity Fund Revegetation and Restoration, Regional Natural Resource Management Planning for Climate Change Fund (Stream 1) and FaCSHIA-Indigenous Coordination Centre funding |
| 10% | STATE GOVERNMENT              | Funding from the Department of Premier and Cabinet for Bushfire Recovery support and the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE)   |
| 5%  | OTHER                         | Contributions, co-investment and donations for project delivery  |
| 4%  | FUNDS FOR FY14-15             | Early funding received for the following financial year from DPIPWE and project delivery partners  |

Note: No Caring for our Country Competitive Grants received in FY13-14.