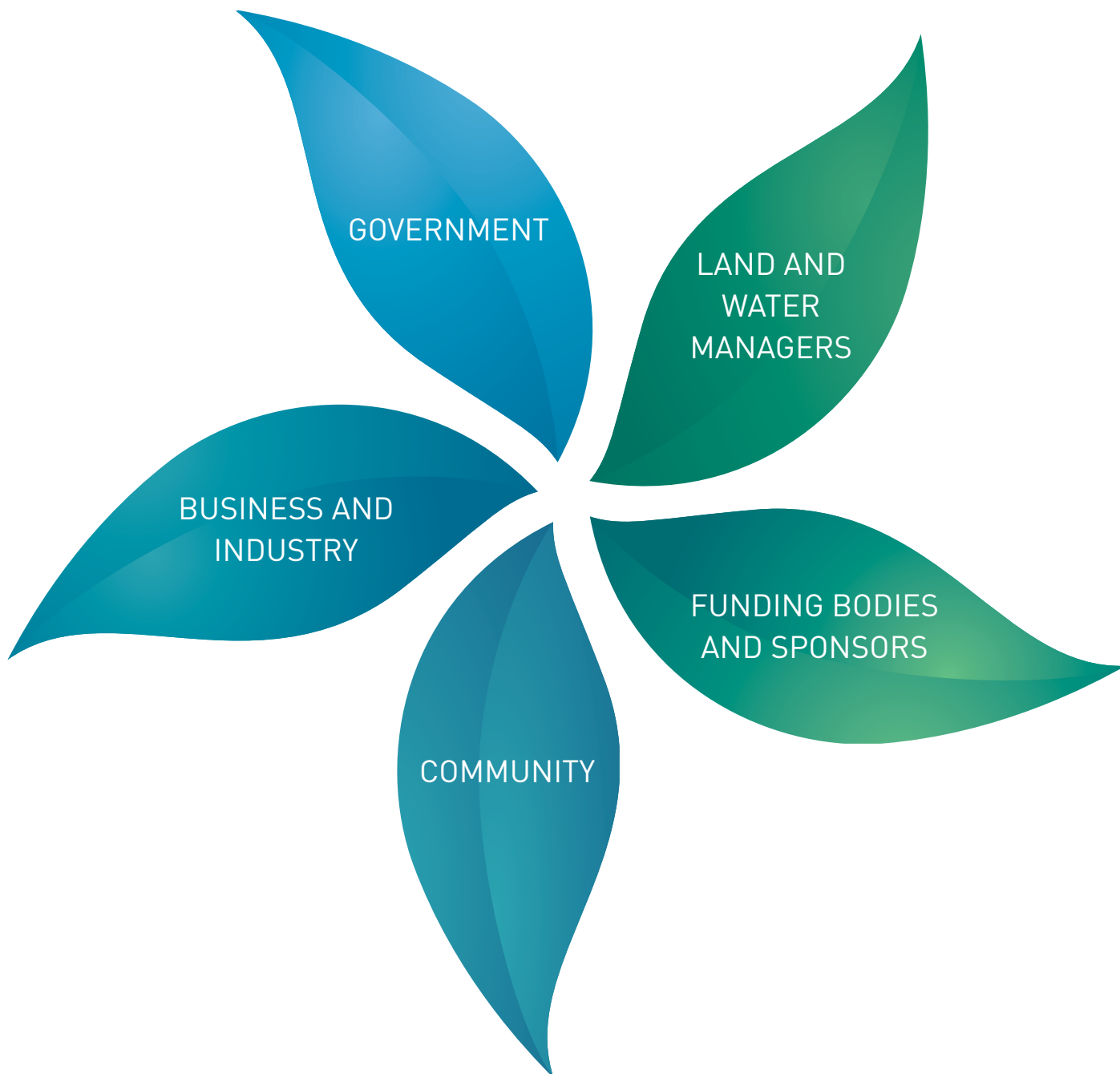




ANNUAL REPORT  
2008–2009



Making a positive difference  
to Southern Tasmania's  
natural resources



#### A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

NRM South collaborates with a wide range of individuals and organisations to manage natural resources in Southern Tasmania: from funding bodies and sponsors to unpaid community volunteers, from staff members to Committee members, from land and water managers to Federal, State and local government and from the Aboriginal community to business and industry. NRM South acknowledges your invaluable collective contribution in 2008-2009 that underpinned the programs, projects and progress summarised in this Annual Report. Each and every partnership is central to making a positive difference to Southern Tasmania's natural resources and we look forward to broadening and deepening these relationships in 2009-2010.

# CONTENTS

Letter from the Chair .....	02
From the CEO's desk .....	03
NRM South's purpose .....	04
Southern Tasmania – our core focus .....	05
Principles of natural resource management .....	06
Setting clear priorities .....	07
Highlights of the year .....	08
Healthy Catchments and Coasts .....	10
Healthy Region .....	11
National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) and Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) .....	12
Building partnerships and NRM South's capacity to deliver .....	14
Our People .....	15
Financial Report .....	16

# APPENDICES

I. Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance Structure.....	30
II. Our People – Management and Staff .....	31
III. Profiles of Regional Committee Members .....	32
IV. Members of the Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association 2008-2009 .....	36



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

I am pleased to commend to you NRM South's Annual Report 2008-2009. It has been a demanding year for all involved in natural resource management but NRM South has continued to deliver quality projects and programs throughout. Bedding down the Federal Government's *Caring for Our Country* program proved challenging for all concerned and I am pleased to say that we are now through the turbulence and can refocus on delivering quality programs to achieve the identified targets over the next four years.

Tasmanian Government support was crucial in enabling NRM South to move from the Department of Primary Industry and Water's New Town offices into new premises on Macquarie Street, Hobart. Restructuring within NRM South started in July and was embedded by December when most staff recruitment was also completed. In December we bade farewell to longstanding Director Vanessa Elwell-Gavins and in January we welcomed our new CEO Kathleen Broderick.

NRM South hosted the National NRM Chairs forum in April and we were able to highlight our many successful projects and programs. The nation's 56 Regional Chairs declared the 2009 forum their best ever! In May the National NRM Ministerial Council met in Hobart and I joined a small group of Chairs and met with Ministers Garrett and Burke, as well as State Ministers from around Australia. On behalf of the Chairs I was able to draw attention to three important natural resource management issues. I raised the necessity of having a robust ecosystem monitoring and reporting system and the need for better integration across natural resource management issues including water and climate change. The Ministers acknowledged that these were important issues and that the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry was investigating the monitoring and reporting issue. I was also able to highlight the incredible community-driven work being undertaken in Southern Tasmania and

encourage the Ministers to consider how community groups could better access support.

Amendments to the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* were passed by Parliament at its autumn session. This meant NRM South could start a review of Committee membership to recommend how we are constituted in future. I thank the Committee Review Working Group members for their contribution and assistance with the review.

I congratulate everyone involved in natural resource management in Southern Tasmania, the NRM South Committee, staff and stakeholders for your efforts over the past year. It has been difficult but through your endeavour we have emerged in good shape and ready to act in 2009-2010. I look forward to the coming year and specifically to the opportunity of working with you all to review the Regional NRM Strategy.

Finally, particular thanks to the members of the Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association for their continuing support in 2008-2009.

**Dr Christine Mucha**  
NRM South Chair

GREY PARROTPEA (*DILLWYNIA GLABERRIMA*)



DR CHRISTINE MUCHA



## FROM THE CEO'S DESK

It's been a frenetic few months since I arrived from the Great Barrier Reef and Townsville on 12 January this year. On my first day at work I walked straight into a workshop session aimed at developing competitive bids for *Caring for Our Country* funding. It was great to be able to meet so many stakeholders so quickly and I have spent some time since then getting to know the many people I met so briefly that day. I was particularly pleased to see such solid support for natural resource management from State and local government and from community groups.

Recently, while speaking to school children and teachers at Lenah Valley Primary School, I was reminded that natural resource management is not actually as complicated as we sometimes believe. We consider water, native vegetation, native wildlife, healthy soils and coastlines to be our 'natural resources'. It is our job (collectively) to ensure that these are conserved, protected and used wisely. Careful planning to ensure we have achievable goals, matched with sufficient resources and support, is what it is ultimately all about.

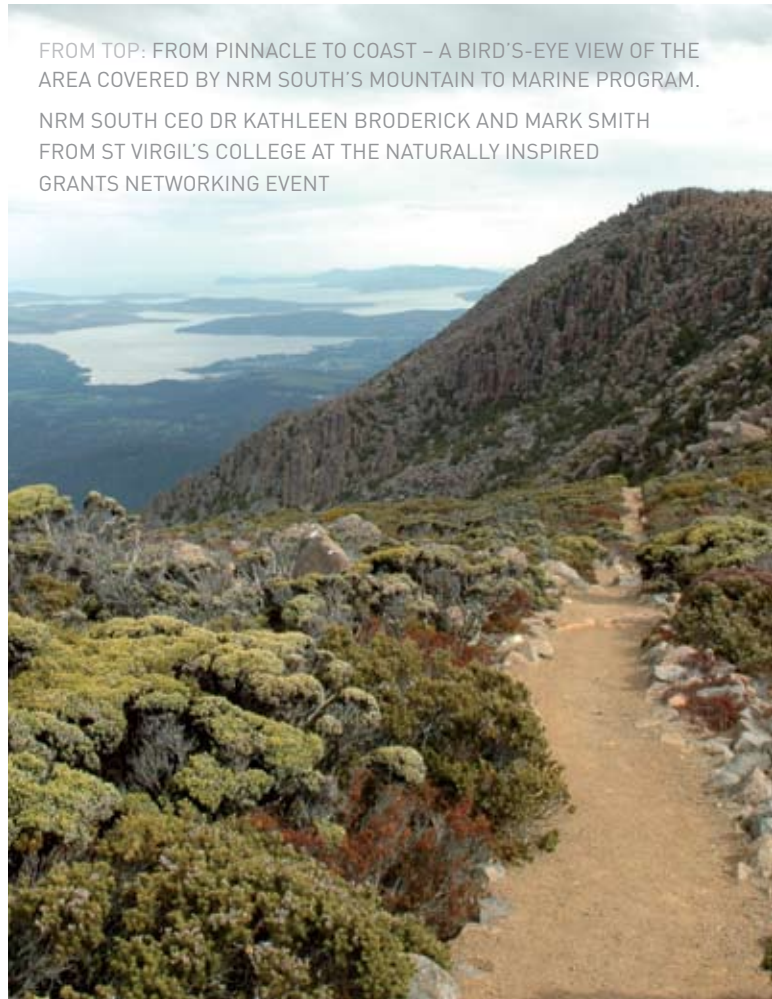
Listening to you this year, I have heard that not all is well in natural resource management. The lack of clarity around funding opportunities and the lack of clear direction has sometimes meant wasted effort. This is disappointing for us all. Despite these challenges many groups and organisations have continued to achieve positive outcomes. I know we can improve how we interact with others and I certainly look forward to engaging more fully with community groups, businesses and industry in the Southern Region over the coming year.

NRM South staff have been working hard to deliver what for many has amounted to a double work load this year, completing NAP and NHT projects as well as implementing our *Caring for Our Country* transition program. I would like to thank them for their effort, their dedication to natural resource management and their good humour. We now have a wealth of useful knowledge and information to share with you and we are working hard to develop relevant workshops, tools and publications. I believe we now have strong foundations and I look forward to building effective and well-supported natural resource management to achieve great outcomes in Southern Tasmania during 2009-2010!

**Dr Kathleen Broderick**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

FROM TOP: FROM PINNACLE TO COAST – A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE AREA COVERED BY NRM SOUTH'S MOUNTAIN TO MARINE PROGRAM.

NRM SOUTH CEO DR KATHLEEN BRODERICK AND MARK SMITH FROM ST VIRGIL'S COLLEGE AT THE NATURALLY INSPIRED GRANTS NETWORKING EVENT





## NRM SOUTH'S PURPOSE

NRM South was established in 2003 under the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* as one of three regional natural resource management bodies in Tasmania and part of a network of 56 similar entities throughout Australia.

Our role is to guide and enhance the management of natural resources across our region through implementing a regional strategy for Southern Tasmania.

Our responsibilities under the Act include engaging with all tiers of government, business and the community in helping to protect, preserve and manage Southern Tasmania's wealth of natural assets. Further detail on our legal responsibilities under the Act is included in Appendix I.

Our activities range from weed eradication and revegetation to implementing threatened species recovery plans, and from developing and distributing educational resources to improving land management and building capacity for change.

In meeting the requirements of the Act, and reflecting the principles of the Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Framework, our Committee comprises a diverse membership

drawn from stakeholder groups including the Aboriginal community, State and local government, public and private land managers, conservation and care groups and many others with an interest or professional expertise in managing our region's natural resources. A list of the members of the Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association is included as Appendix II and illustrates the breadth of relationships NRM South has developed.

NRM South is committed to ensuring we collectively manage both native and productive land, diverse flora and fauna, complex river and coastal ecosystems and everything that makes up our unique Southern Tasmanian landscape. We do this primarily by sharing knowledge and resources, influencing policy and planning, and through supporting the community in practical, on-ground initiatives.

In meeting our region's many challenges, NRM South works in partnership with the community. Through working together we are sustaining Southern Tasmania's natural resources for future generations.

*Our role is to guide and enhance the management of natural resources across our region through implementing a regional strategy for Southern Tasmania.*

KNOBBY CLUB SEDGE (*FICINIA NODOSA*)

## SOUTHERN TASMANIA – OUR CORE FOCUS

The Southern Tasmanian NRM Region covers 2.5 million hectares and supports almost half of Tasmania's 500,000 people. Including Hobart and its urban fringes as well as many small towns and hamlets, it spans the twelve urban and rural municipalities of Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Its people are diverse, covering a wide spectrum of social and demographic measures. Eighty five per cent of the region's population lives in the Greater Hobart area. The major employment sectors are health care and social assistance, public administration and safety, retail trade, education and training. Agriculture, fisheries and forestry, tourism-related occupations and professional, scientific and technical services also contribute strongly to the region's economy and identity.

Southern Tasmanians are active volunteers and there are over 100 local community groups caring for bushland, coastal areas and cultural heritage in our region. There are also many active groups of landholders working together to manage natural resources. Just five per cent of the region's land managers manage seventy five per cent of the productive land.

Southern Tasmania is one of the most environmentally diverse areas anywhere in Australia and has an abundance of natural resources.

It features river systems and lakes in near pristine condition, a diverse flora and fauna population including many species endemic to Tasmania, a range of complex landscapes, internationally recognised natural icons and a long and complex coastline looking out to countless offshore islands and stacks.



 SOUTHERN TASMANIAN  
NRM REGION

Encompassing the South-West Wilderness World Heritage Area, Macquarie Island World Heritage Area, four internationally recognised Ramsar-listed wetlands, seven national parks and six marine reserves, it includes a wide array of varying ecosystems with high terrestrial, estuarine and marine biodiversity.

Our region's wealth of natural resources underpins the economic, social and environmental well-being of our community. Being rich in natural assets and diversity presents many unique challenges and opportunities for our region and for our community. By working together we can balance economic, social and environmental needs and build a resilient and sustainable future for Southern Tasmania.

*Our region's wealth of natural resources underpins the economic, social and environmental well-being of our community.*

# PRINCIPLES OF NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

NRM South is guided by the seven principles for natural resource management that ensure we achieve the greatest benefit from the time, energy, skills and money that we and our partners invest in fostering our natural resources.

- 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 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, land holders 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: we share responsibility for managing natural resources sustainably, and for providing economic resources to do so.

*“NRM South brings people together to achieve outcomes that no-one can deliver on their own”.*

INDUSTRY PRACTITIONER

BELOW FROM TOP:

EXTREME WEEDING – VOLUNTEER WEEDERS WADING ASHORE AT MARIA ISLAND

A FRESH VIEW - THE NEW NRM SOUTH SIGN





## SETTING CLEAR PRIORITIES

NRM South uses the Natural Resources Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania as a consistent guide for our work. The Strategy was developed by consulting with regional stakeholders and the community and endorsed by State and Federal Government Ministers in 2005.

In 2008-2009 NRM South actively pursued the shared vision articulated in the Strategy:

*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.*

To do this we focused on three key priorities in our region:

- *Delivering effective and well targeted programs and services*
- *Sharing knowledge and inspiring action to improve regional natural resource management*
- *Building partnerships and NRM South's capacity to deliver.*

Addressing these priorities ensures that NRM South is achieving natural resource management outcomes (for example, water quality, soil condition and ecosystem health) consistent with our strategic goals. During 2008-2009, NRM South made significant progress against these priorities by delivering, supporting and facilitating a wide range of projects and activities under the following programs:

*I. Healthy Catchments and Coasts*

*II. Healthy Region*

*III. National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP)*

*IV. Natural Heritage Trust (NHT)*

*V. Building partnerships and NRM South's capacity to deliver.*

Through these programs and projects NRM South has made a tangible, immediate difference to the quality of Southern Tasmania's natural resources and values. Equally important, NRM South has continued to enhance the region's collective capability and capacity to build a Southern Tasmania that is healthy, resilient and sustainably managed for future generations.

TASMANIAN WARATAH (*TELOPEA TRUNCATA*)





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

NRM South delivered a wide range of projects and activities in 2008-2009 through the *Healthy Catchments and Coasts* and *Healthy Region* programs. Both were developed with extensive input from the community and technical experts in late 2007 and endorsed by the NRM South Committee in June 2008. They were further refined between July and December 2008 to ensure they delivered results that matched the Federal Government's *Caring for Our Country* program targets. Delays in receiving funding meant that NRM South was unable to begin these programs until November 2008 and they will therefore continue into 2009-2010.

### Examples of achievements from the *Healthy Catchments and Coasts* program include:

- Comprehensive mapping of weed threats in Swan-Apsley/ Little Swanport followed by significant on-ground weed-control works to address specific infestations
- Protecting and enhancing habitat for the forty-spotted pardalote in Kingborough (Mountain to Marine)
- Treating all new weed infestations identified in Tasman/Sorell
- Engaging over 95 per cent of landholders in the Mountain River catchment weed management program.

Although most projects include elements of capacity-building, *Healthy Region* was specifically designed and delivered to provide landholders, communities, local councils and volunteers with the knowledge, skills and guidance to take positive and effective action in their local areas.

### Examples of achievements from the *Healthy Region* program include:

- Hosting a forum on landscape-scale conservation planning
- Providing practical, hands-on support to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council at Saltwater River
- Funding 21 community-led projects across the region
- Publishing 14 newsletters in both electronic and printed formats.



ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ENDANGERED FORTY-SPOTTED PARDALOTES ON BRUNY ISLAND

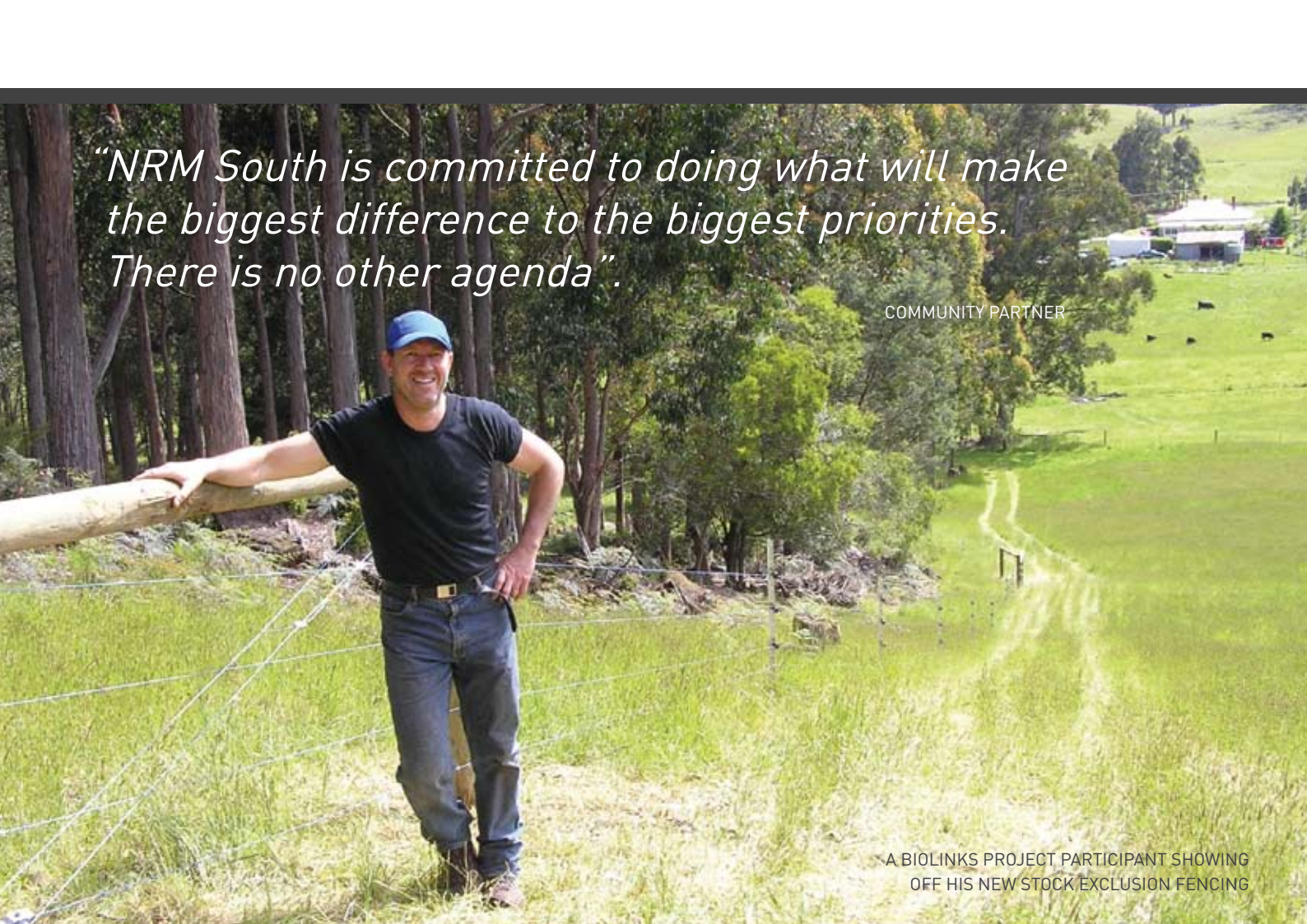


THE VIEW OVER MOULTING LAGOON AND OUT TO GREAT OYSTER BAY



SPREADING WATTLE  
(ACACIA GENISTIFOLIA)





*"NRM South is committed to doing what will make the biggest difference to the biggest priorities. There is no other agenda".*

COMMUNITY PARTNER

A BIOLINKS PROJECT PARTICIPANT SHOWING OFF HIS NEW STOCK EXCLUSION FENCING

During 2008-2009 NRM South was also able to complete major projects started in earlier years with funding from the *National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP)* and *Natural Heritage Trust (NHT)*.

**Examples of achievements from these programs include:**

- Developing and implementing management plans and actions with active landholder participation in the Dew Rivulet catchment
- Eradicating african feather grass across 255ha in the Derwent Valley
- Introducing a comprehensive program of weed control, revegetation of native species and management agreements on Bruny Island
- Completing assessments and building databases of natural resource values and threats in the region to underpin prioritisation, planning and implementation.

As well as delivering direct, on-ground programs, NRM South continued to develop and embed Southern Tasmania's collective capability to manage natural resources through *Building partnerships and NRM South's capacity to deliver*. NRM South recognises the critical importance of growing the skills and qualities of NRM South's staff, deepening partnerships with external stakeholders and facilitating relationships between third party practitioners.

**Examples of achievements from *Building partnerships and NRM South's capacity to deliver* include:**

- Continuing hosting arrangements with Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) and Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (TALSC)
- Partnering with TALSC in successful grant application for Aboriginal cultural awareness training to coastal volunteer groups
- Showcasing some of Southern Tasmania's natural values, threats and NRM South programs to Federal Government Ministers and NRM Regions Chairs
- Restructuring NRM South, including recruiting and appointing new staff members, and moving to a new office location.

Further detail on each of NRM South's key programs and projects delivered is provided in the following sections.



# HEALTHY CATCHMENTS AND COASTS

*Healthy Catchments & Coasts* focuses on priority areas within the region, identified through sub-regional consultation processes during 2007. Implementation began in late 2008. The four priority areas in 2008-2009 included Swan-Apsley/Little Swanport, Tasman/Sorell, Mountain to Marine (Kingborough) and Huon. In each area NRM South partnered with local government to deliver a coordinated natural resource management program that has specifically addressed agreed targets. NRM South's input into these areas has included direct funding of on-ground activities, supporting local coordination, providing knowledge of products and initiating monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement processes.

These areas will remain as priority areas in 2009-2010. In addition NRM South has identified an additional priority area for action in the Upper Derwent/Highland Lakes.

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM DELIVERABLES:

### Swan-Apsley/Little Swanport

- Appointed a local natural resource management coordinator and a communications coordinator with significant financial support from Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.
- Digitised municipal weed data so it is now readily available to landowners.
- Mapped new weed threats, including serrated tussock grass.
- Developed a generic GIS property map for use in property-level weed planning, weed mapping and individual landholder engagement.
- Completed extensive weed control works on public and private land.
- Identified, and began work on, additional property planning needs based on positive landholder engagement.
- Developed and adopted a Decision Support Tool for assessing natural resource management activities.
- Constructed a fish ladder at Swan Weir.
- Started review of Swan-Apsley Catchment Management Plan.

### Huon

- Removed 10km of willow from the Mountain River catchment.
- Engaged over 95 per cent of landholders including four commercial farmers and 43 part-time farmers, hobby farmers and residential landowners in the Mountain River Catchment Weed Management Program.
- Engaged 13 land managers in property management planning activity, including base level mapping and delivery of soils management modules.
- Delivered a Resilience in Land Management workshop.

### Tasman/Sorell

- Applied primary control to about 80 per cent of known weed infestations.
- Treated all new weed infestations discovered or reported.
- Incorporated weed data into region-wide weed mapping.
- Undertook a community tree-planting day with TALSC at Saltwater River.

### Mountain to Marine

- Implemented management agreements to protect and improve habitat of known colonies of the endangered forty-spotted pardalote.
- Fenced and protected 275ha and completed restoration of 5.5ha of revegetation works for forty-spotted pardalote habitat.
- Planned and initiated The Act Map, a project bringing together all NRM activity within the Mountain to Marine area.
- Delivered two seed collection workshops and one propagation workshop.
- Organised a demonstration field day for the National NRM Chairs Forum.



GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY NRM COMMITTEE CHAIR DAVID TUCKER EXPLAINS HOW TO IDENTIFY SERRATED TUSOCK TO EAST COAST LANDHOLDER SANDY DUNBABIN

# HEALTHY REGION

The *Healthy Region* program encompassed three sub-programs - Knowledge Management, Engaging Communities into Action and Inspiring Communities to Care for Our Country. Through these region-wide programs NRM South collated, integrated and shared knowledge of the region and of its specific issues and engaged the community behind action to improve natural resource management.

During 2008-2009 NRM South appointed a Knowledge Management Coordinator and Community Engagement Coordinator and began developing Knowledge Management and Community Engagement strategies. These roles and the resulting communications activities have delivered results of region-wide significance.

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM DELIVERABLES:

- Successfully engaged the whole sector in preparing of *Caring for Our Country* submissions and in providing support for non-NRM South proposals.
- Engaged with the Aboriginal community in providing hands-on support with on-ground works with TALSC at Saltwater River.
- Coordinated conservation planning efforts through hosting a forum on landscape-scale planning tools, methods and approaches to biodiversity management. Stakeholders included the Tasmanian Land Conservancy, Department of Primary Industries and Water, Greening Australia, University of Tasmania, Forestry Tasmania, Natural Resource Planning Inc., NRM North, the North East Bioregional Network and the Tasmanian Wilderness Society.
- Funded 21 community-led projects across the region through Naturally Inspired Grants.
- Published the popular Feral Animals of Tasmania field identification guide in partnership with WWF-Australia.
- Published 11 monthly e-newsletters and three seasonal print newsletters.
- Developed a 48-page regional weeds booklet, 16 priority weed brochures and weed poster.
- Completed specification and scoping work for a new NRM South website which will integrate knowledge management, community engagement and communications tools.

SELECTING PLANTS AT SALTWATER RIVER



REMOVING SPANISH HEATH ON MARIA ISLAND





# NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR SALINITY AND WATER QUALITY (NAP) AND NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST (NHT)

Major projects carried over from NAP and NHT comprised the bulk of NRM South's financial investment during 2008-2009. These projects have contributed much to our knowledge of resource condition, threats and the most effective management approaches to the natural resources in the region. Addressing the gaps in knowledge identified in developing the 2005 regional strategy, the outcomes of these projects will inform the development of the revised strategy in 2009-2010 and fulfil their intended purpose of tightly targeting the most effective action across the region.

BELOW FROM TOP:

NATIVE PIGFACE (*CARPOBROTUS ROSSII*)

A SOOTY SHEARWATER (*PUFFINUS GRISEUS*)



## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM DELIVERABLES:

- Developed Dew Rivulet Rivercare Plan and implemented works to improve water quality (including 4.75km of riparian fencing, 4,000 native plants planted in riparian areas, 12ha of willow and gorse controlled, 3 off-stream water points installed, 1.5ha of soil erosion treated).
- Implemented three management agreements with land managers in the Dew Rivulet catchment (50 per cent of catchment land managers involved).
- Reached in principle agreement with Norske Skog to manage upper catchment plantations in accordance with the Dew Rivulet Rivercare Plan.
- Completed remediation works at Hayes Creek, including removal of 1ha of weeds and planting 3,000 plants, installation of two hardened stock crossing points, 1.5km of fencing and excluding stock from 2.4ha of riparian land.
- Completed eradication of african feather grass across 255ha in the Derwent catchment, undertaking community education and awareness campaigns to prevent re-infestation.
- Enhanced management of 2,565ha and protected 1,831ha of native vegetation and 33.5km of waterways through NRM incentives, providing technical advice to 96 landholders, completing property assessments for 207 sites and signing 119 management agreements.
- Conducted two Stubble Management field days and one North Facing Slopes field day.
- Improved condition of water quality and habitat at the Orielton Lagoon Ramsar site through preparing the Miena Park Stormwater Management Strategy, removing litter from 3ha of foreshore, controlling fennel, african boxthorn and other weeds in 8.2ha of foreshore and revegetating 2ha of foreshore.
- Assessed and protected Aboriginal heritage values of Orielton Lagoon.
- Surveyed Orielton Lagoon boundary and erected 2.2km of fencing to create a buffer zone, with walkways defined and pedestrian gates installed to prevent vehicular access and signs erected to promote wetlands natural values.
- Mapped roadside weeds in Tasman municipality, developed weed hygiene tools and provided weed hygiene training for council works crews and contractors.





FISHING BOATS AT MARGATE JETTY – ALL NEW CUSTOMERS FOR THE STATE'S FIRST NEW MARINE WASTE TRANSFER STATION



REMOVING MATURE BONESEED PLANTS AT LEWISHAM

- Carried out Swan Galaxia habitat improvement works at Green Tier Creek and Rocka Rivulet, including erection of 4km of fencing, four stock gates, hardened stock crossing points, deepening of existing rockpools and revegetation with native plants.
- Completed weed control works on Bruny Island, including 225ha of ragwort and 31ha of gorse treated, 2,000 native seedlings planted, 31 management agreements negotiated, 34 land managers participating in ragwort bagging programs, 12 ragwort road signs installed, one ragwort field day held and african boxthorn and gorse locations mapped.
- Finished threatened species habitat works on Bruny Island, erecting 1.4km of fencing, installing 50 nest boxes, negotiating four management agreements and developing a database capturing property-level information.
- Protected, enhanced and established wildlife corridors and landscape-scale linkages to maximise connectivity and reduce fragmentation in Kingborough and Huon Valley municipalities - including 45 landholders engaged in on-ground activities such as fencing, revegetation and weed control, completing 17 ten-year management agreements, running six weed management training workshops on vehicle hygiene and weed control, a conservation action planning workshop, two community tree planting and two weed control field days, 24ha of riparian zone protected via 5.8km of fencing, 272ha of native vegetation protected (including 25ha of threatened vegetation and 27ha of threatened fauna habitat containing two forty-spotted pardalote colonies, three swift parrot foraging sites, a tasmanian devil latrine site and five threatened flora sites), 13ha of riparian rehabilitation, eight weed species controlled at 450 sites covering 2.7ha, 5.6km of willow treated, 10 vegetation condition assessments conducted, six GIS spatial layers developed for municipal planners and NRM staff.
- Improved condition of New Town Rivulet, including improved stormwater management, and education regarding local government and community management of urban waterways.
- Developed best practice tools in soil and water management, including the creation of field guides for councils and builders, and the supply of new, environmentally friendly, highly efficient filters and sediment capture materials.
- Developed a new Guide to Best Practice Management of Point Source Pollution at Boat Repair and Maintenance Facilities.
- Developed a new Framework for Best Practice Management of Point Source Pollution at Commercial Fishing Ports and Jetties.
- Validating the Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystems Values Database (including the prioritisation of rivers, wetlands and saltmarshes at regional and catchment scale, field investigation of 187 saltmarshes, aquatic macro-invertebrate sampling at 68 sites, riparian vegetation condition surveying at 62 sites, wetland condition surveying and classification at 37 sites).
- Completing assessment of the environmental, economic and social values of freshwater ecosystems in the Southern and Northern Tasmanian NRM regions.
- Completing assessment of deflation basins, including inspection of 89 locations, condition assessment, identification of threats and development of management strategies.
- Completing development and trial application of a new Tasmania-specific method for monitoring and assessing river health, the Tasmanian River Condition Index.

# BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND NRM SOUTH'S CAPACITY TO DELIVER

NRM South recognises that its most valuable and powerful resource in achieving real and lasting natural resource management outcomes is the dedication and shared vision of its many stakeholders. Alone we cannot complete the aims and objectives of the Regional Strategy, but by working together with our many stakeholders and by combining our efforts and resources we can move confidently towards achieving a region that is healthy, resilient and sustainably managed for future generations.

We actively harness the professional expertise and diverse skills provided by our people, whether as members of the Committee, as staff or as community stakeholders in natural resource management throughout Southern Tasmania. Throughout 2008-2009 NRM South Committee Members, staff and stakeholders were instrumental in the ongoing implementation of the regional strategy and in making significant progress towards our shared vision.

A new program structure and funding arrangements in 2008 meant the restructuring of NRM South. Positions were developed and filled in late 2008. The new team is already delivering effectively on programs and services.

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM DELIVERABLES:

2008-2009 delivered new partnerships, including the establishment of formal steering committees in each of the four priority areas within the *Healthy Catchments and Coasts* program. These committees have guided investment and leveraged increased outcomes. NRM South has continued its close relationship with local government across the region, with hosting arrangements continued in 2008-2009 with the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) for Sandy Leighton, the NRM South Weeds Coordinator. The STCA and NRM South have also worked together on the further development and coordination of GIS services across Councils. Additionally NRM South co-funded four part-time positions with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and Huon Valley Council to ensure effective coordination of works in Swan-Apsley/Little Swanport and Huon priority areas.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (TALSC) has continued to host Paul Dawson, NRM South's Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer. In 2008-2009 this relationship led to a successful grant application to deliver Aboriginal cultural awareness training to coastal volunteer groups. This project will be delivered in 2009-2010.

NRM South engaged with the NRM sector and wider community in the preparation of *Caring for Our Country* submissions and in providing support for non-NRM South led proposals. In doing so it coordinated the development of six cohesive and complementary proposals from across the region, maximising opportunity for Federal Government investment in the region.

In April NRM South hosted the annual NRM Regions Chairs Forum. The forum provided an opportunity for the Chairs of each of Australia's 56 regional NRM bodies to discuss natural resource management policy and other issues with the Federal Minister for the Environment and Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The forum included a tour of the Derwent Estuary and D'Entrecasteaux Channel, showcasing some of our region's natural values, threats and NRM South programs.

In 2007-2008 NRM South was also successful in gaining support for several smaller but valuable projects, including grant funds from Woolworths and Landcare Australia to support a drought relief project. This project commenced in 2008-2009 and will be completed during 2009-2010.



KANGAROO GRASS (*THEMEDA TRIANDRA*)



## OUR PEOPLE – THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The requirements for the membership and composition of a regional committee are outlined in the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*. This Act was amended in 2009 and there will be subsequent adjustments to Committee membership in 2009-2010 in light of the ongoing review.

**As at 30 June 2009 the NRM South Committee was as follows:**

**Dr Christine Mucha (Chair)**

**Michael Bidwell**

**Cam Crawford**

**Dr Christine Crawford**

**Dr Hans Drielsma**

**Tony Ferrier**

**Rodney Gibbins**

**Stephen Godfrey**

**Roger Howlett (Deputy Chair)**

**Alice Johnson**

**Helen Pryor**

**Dr Rosemary Sandford**

**Maria Weeding**

**Ian Whyte**

The Regional Committee is responsible for fulfilling the requirements of a regional committee under the Act as well as for the provision of effective governance and strategic guidance to NRM South. Further detail on how the Committee delegates authority to sub committees is included in Appendix I.

## OUR PEOPLE – MANAGEMENT TEAM

**As at 30 June 2009, NRM South's Management Team comprised:**

Chief Executive Officer ..... **Dr Kathleen Broderick**

Programs Manager ..... **Alistair Kay**

Finance Manager ..... **Sheena Bell**

Administration Manager ..... **Geir Rodven**

Brief profiles of our CEO and Programs Manager, and further details of the full staff team, are provided in Appendix II.



*“NRM South operates from catchment to coast, making sure we address the causes rather than the symptoms of unsustainable practices”.*

COMMITTEE MEMBER



TOP: SLIPWAY OWNERS AND OPERATORS LEARN ABOUT BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT OF POINT SOURCE POLLUTION AT NUBEENA SLIPWAY

NRM PRACTITIONERS UNDERTAKING VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT TRAINING



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

### SOUTHERN REGIONAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION INC. OVERVIEW

#### 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 Resources Management Act 2002* for Southern Tasmania

**Number of full-time equivalent employees** - 13.6

**Name of Auditor** – BDO Kendalls Audit & Assurance (TAS)

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	2009	2008	2007
	\$	\$	\$
Operating Profit	513,692	262,244	148,244
Professional Income	4,631,502	5,381,045	5,511,520
Cash at Bank	2,883,998	3,907,342	3,487,649
Trade Debtors	24,369	2,617	988,598
Current Assets	2,980,134	3,982,719	4,494,336
Non-Current Assets	105,599	14,595	13,303
Bank Overdraft	-	-	-
Trade Creditors	111,555	103,240	157,576
Current Liabilities	186,029	183,092	206,149
Non-Current Liabilities	10,000	-	-

# INCOME STATEMENT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
Revenue	2	4,800,852	5,691,254
Employee Benefits Expense		1,080,149	835,172
Depreciation and Amortisation		25,941	8,278
Other Expenses		3,181,070	4,585,560
<b>Profit before Income Tax</b>		<b>513,692</b>	<b>262,244</b>
Income Tax Expense		-	-
<b>Profit from Operations</b>		<b>513,692</b>	<b>262,244</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Decrease in Committed Projects Reserve	10	(1,438,209)	(749,512)
<b>Total Movement in Equity of the Association</b>		<b>(924,517)</b>	<b>(487,268)</b>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.*

# BALANCE SHEET

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Equity</b>			
Committed Projects Reserve		1,884,269	3,322,478
Retained Profits		1,005,435	491,744
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>2,889,704</b>	<b>3,814,222</b>
Represented by:			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	2,884,348	3,907,692
Trade and Other Receivables	5	71,551	63,601
Prepayments	6	24,235	11,426
		<b>2,980,134</b>	<b>3,982,719</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property Plant & Equipment	7	105,599	14,595
		<b>105,599</b>	<b>14,595</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>3,085,733</b>	<b>3,997,314</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	8	147,955	126,926
Provisions	9	38,074	56,166
		<b>186,029</b>	<b>183,092</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	9	10,000	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>196,029</b>	<b>183,092</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>2,889,704</b>	<b>3,814,222</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Income		
Funding and Member receipts	4,631,187	5,381,045
Interest Received	169,665	308,525
Other Revenue	-	1,684
	4,800,852	5,691,254
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Accountancy Fees	16,860	7,020
Advertising	8,561	4,821
Annual Leave - Provision	(8,092)	11,205
Auditor's Remuneration	8,540	8,600
Bank Charges	800	741
Committee Expenses	25,531	43,467
Computer Expenses	6,508	-
Cleaning Expenses	2,834	-
Consultancy Fees	2,997	31,535
Depreciation	25,941	8,278
Fringe Benefits Tax	10,144	3,529
Hosting Agreements	14,033	44,891
Insurance	21,543	14,797
Legal Costs	9,600	3,425
Long Service Leave - Provision	-	-
Meeting Expenses	8,591	8,616
Motor Vehicle Expenses	45,332	59,716
Other Office Running Costs	26,920	10,739
Postage	1,218	-
Printing	-	8,664
Membership, Subscriptions & Fees	1,347	818
Rent & Occupancy Expenses	41,546	477
Staff Employment Costs	11,084	17,762
Service Provider & Project Payments	2,883,576	4,313,134
Sponsorship	3,455	-
Staff Training	16,166	6,090
Superannuation - SGC	88,193	67,431
Telephone & Internet	18,434	6,457
Travelling Expenses	15,578	11,141
Salaries & Wages	979,920	735,656
	4,287,160	5,429,010
<b>Operating Profit before Income Tax</b>	<b>513,692</b>	<b>262,244</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from Grants/Members		3,166,676	6,133,295
Payments to suppliers		(3,180,942)	(4,979,419)
Payments to employees		(1,080,149)	(819,158)
GST refunded/(remitted)		25,899	(166,794)
Interest received		162,118	261,941
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	4	<b>(906,398)</b>	<b>429,864</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Acquisition of plant and equipment		(116,946)	(10,527)
Reimbursement of plant and equipment		-	358
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(116,946)</b>	<b>(10,169)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>(1,023,344)</b>	<b>419,695</b>
<b>Cash at beginning of financial year</b>		<b>3,907,692</b>	<b>3,487,997</b>
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	3	<b>2,884,348</b>	<b>3,907,692</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENSE

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Retained Earnings	Committed Projects Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2007	229,499	4,071,990	4,301,489
Surplus/ (Deficit)	262,244	(749,512)	(487,268)
Balance at 30 June 2008	491,743	3,322,478	3,814,221
Surplus/ (Deficit)	513,692	(1,438,209)	(924,517)
Revaluation Increment	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2009	1,005,435	1,884,269	2,889,704

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

### 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 Incorporation 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:

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.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

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 State and Federal 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.

### (g) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The committee evaluate estimates and judgments 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.

### (h) Taxation

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>2. Revenue</b>		
<b>Operating Revenue</b>		
Funding and Member receipts	4,631,187	5,381,045
	<u>4,631,187</u>	<u>5,381,045</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenue</b>		
Interest Received	169,665	308,525
Other Revenue	-	1,684
	<u>169,665</u>	<u>310,209</u>
	<u>4,800,852</u>	<u>5,691,254</u>
<b>3. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash on Hand	350	350
Cash at Bank	83,503	9,066
Deposit – Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation	2,800,495	3,898,276
	<u>2,884,348</u>	<u>3,907,692</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Cash</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,884,348	3,907,692
	<u>2,884,348</u>	<u>3,907,692</u>
<b>4. Cash Flow Information</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Net Surplus</b>		
Net Surplus for the period	(924,517)	(487,268)
<b>Adjustments for Non-Cash Components in Profit</b>		
Depreciation	25,941	8,278
Other Non Cash Items	-	599
<b>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	(20,759)	931,311
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade and Other Payables	21,029	(34,261)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	(8,092)	11,205
	<u>(906,398)</u>	<u>429,864</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		
	<u>(906,398)</u>	<u>429,864</u>
<b>5. Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade Debtors	24,369	2,617
Other Debtors	7,547	1,893
Provision for GST	39,635	59,091
	<u>71,551</u>	<u>63,601</u>
<b>Total Trade and Other Receivables</b>	<u>71,551</u>	<u>63,601</u>



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
<b>6. Other</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	24,235	11,426
	<u>24,235</u>	<u>11,426</u>
<b>7. Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>		
Plant & Equipment	13,261	7,032
Less Accumulated Depreciation	7,318	4,555
	<u>5,943</u>	<u>2,477</u>
Office Equipment	101,279	22,817
Less Accumulated Depreciation	35,426	15,156
	<u>65,853</u>	<u>7,661</u>
Furniture & Fittings	28,282	6,610
Less Accumulated Depreciation	4,938	2,153
	<u>23,344</u>	<u>4,457</u>
Website Development	3,636	-
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	<u>3,636</u>	<u>-</u>
Leasehold Improvements	6,946	-
Less Accumulated Depreciation	123	-
	<u>6,823</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Plant & Equipment	<u>105,599</u>	<u>14,595</u>
<b>Total Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<u>105,599</u>	<u>14,595</u>
<b>8. Trade and Other Payables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
PAYG Withholding Payable	19,155	15,815
Trade Creditors	111,555	103,240
Other Creditors	17,245	7,871
	<u>147,955</u>	<u>126,926</u>
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>	<u>147,955</u>	<u>126,926</u>
<b>9. Provisions</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Provision for Long Service Leave	-	10,000
Provision for Annual Leave	38,074	46,166
	<u>38,074</u>	<u>56,166</u>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>		
Provision for Long Service Leave	10,000	-
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
<b>10. Reserves</b>		
Committed Projects Reserve	1,884,269	3,322,478
	<u>1,884,269</u>	<u>3,322,478</u>
<b>Movements during the year</b>		
In Committed Projects Reserve		
Inflows	1,884,269	3,322,478
Outflows	(3,322,478)	(4,071,990)
	<u>(1,438,209)</u>	<u>(749,512)</u>
<b>11. Auditors Remuneration</b>		
In 2007/08 Macquarie Accounting Pty Ltd were the auditors, and in 2008/09 BDO Kendalls Audit & Assurance (Tas) were the auditors of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc.		
- Audit & review of financial reports	8,540	8,600
	<u>8,540</u>	<u>8,600</u>
<b>12. Operating Lease Commitments</b>		
Being for rent of office		
Payable – minimum lease payments		
Not later than 12 months	55,000	-
Between 12 months and 5 years	187,917	-
Greater than 5 years	-	-
	<u>242,917</u>	<u>-</u>

The property lease is a lease with a 5 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. 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 13

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. as at 30 June 2009 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 Resource 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: Christine Mucha



Deputy Chair: Roger Howlett

Dated: 3rd September



# INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009



BDO Kendalls

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www.bdo.com.au

ABN 69 593 209 343

### **SOUTHERN REGIONAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION INC. 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 balance sheet as at 30 June 2009 for the year then ended, the income statement, statement of recognised income and expenditure, cash flow statement, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

#### **Committee's Responsibility 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 consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Tasmania) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also include designing, implementing and maintaining internal control 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 judgment, 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.

BDO Kendalls is a national association of  
separate partnerships and entities.

# INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting 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 is 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 Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. as of 30 June 2009 and of its performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act (Tasmania).

BDO Kendalls Audit & Assurance (TAS)

CRAIG J STEPHENS  
Partner

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2009



# Appendices

## Appendix I.

### Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance Structure

NRM South is an independent non-statutory body constituted under the provisions of the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* and incorporated and operated in accordance with the *Tasmanian Incorporated Associations Act 1964*.

#### FUNCTIONS UNDER THE ACT

NRM South's primary functions under the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* are to:

- Identify the priorities for natural resource management for the region
- Prepare a regional strategy for the region
- Facilitate the implementation of the regional strategy
- Promote the natural resource management principles
- Facilitate the integration of natural resource management and planning activities for the region
- Seek, manage and allocate funds according to the regional strategy
- Coordinate the region's participation in national and State programs relating to natural resource management
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the regional strategy
- Develop and implement processes to ensure appropriate education and training in natural resource management.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY TO PARLIAMENT

At 30 June 2009 the responsible Minister under the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* was the Honourable David Llewellyn MHA, Minister for Primary Industries and Water. Under the Act the Minister is required to:

- Declare a managing body or committee of an incorporated association or body corporate as a regional committee and
- Appoint a member of the regional committee as Chair of that regional committee.

NRM South was declared as a Regional Committee under the Act on 17 April 2003.

NRM South is accountable to the Minister and, through him, to the Parliament of Tasmania. Under the *Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Act 2002* the Minister must table NRM South's Annual Report in Parliament.

#### COMMITTEE DELEGATION AND STRUCTURE

The Regional Committee has delegated authority for management decisions to one permanent standing committee, the Executive Committee, assisted by other standing committees and working groups as required.

The following standing committees and working groups operated in 2008-2009 to assist NRM South in fulfilling its functions and obligations under the Act.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is responsible for the management and oversight of NRM South's business and operations. It ensures that NRM South operates in accordance with relevant corporate and fiscal regulations. In 2008-2009 the Executive Committee met twelve times, on a monthly basis.

Members:

**Dr Christine Mucha (Chair)**

**Roger Howlett (Deputy Chair)**

**Tony Ferrier**

**Dr Rosemary Sandford**

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee is responsible for the careful oversight of NRM South's financial activities, including internal auditing, preparation for and assistance with external auditing, risk assessment and mitigation. In 2008-2009 the Audit Committee met four times, on a quarterly basis.

Members:

**Tracy Matthews**

(Chair - Independent Member, NRM South Financial Adviser)

**Alice Johnson**

**Dr Christine Mucha**

**Ian Whyte**

## Appendix II.

### Our People – Management and Staff

As at 30 June 2009, NRM South's staff team comprised:

#### Dr Kathleen Broderick, Chief Executive Officer

Dr Kathleen Broderick has a varied background in natural resource management extending over a decade. Originally working in Western Australia with the Swan River Trust and as a Natural Resource Management Consultant, Kathleen managed social and economic information and research at the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in Townsville immediately before joining NRM South as CEO.

Kathleen has a Bachelor of Education, Master of Science (majoring in Science Education) and a Doctor of Philosophy in Earth and Geographical Sciences.

#### Alistair Kay, Programs Manager

Alistair Kay has a background in natural resource management, community and sustainable development programs. A variety of roles in the private sector, government and non-government organisations have seen Alistair gain a wealth of experience in program management, community consultation and community development, change management and environmental economics.

Alistair holds a Bachelor of Economics and has also undertaken significant training in adult education and facilitation.

#### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Finance Manager .....	Sheena Bell
Administration Manager .....	Geir Rodven
Administration Officer .....	Ben Bailey

#### OPERATIONS

Programs Manager .....	Alistair Kay
Land Management Coordinator .....	Barry Hardwick
Biodiversity Coordinator .....	Nikki den Exter
Coastal Coordinator .....	Jill Pearson
Water Coordinator .....	Kaylene Allan

#### STRATEGY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Communications Officer .....	Patrick Taylor
Community Engagement Coordinator .....	Joel Winter
Knowledge & MERI Coordinator .....	Aniela Grun
Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer .....	Paul Dawson
Business Systems & Community Incentives Project Officer .....	Vani Welling

#### PROJECT STAFF

Mountain to Marine Program Coordinator .....	Cassandra Strain
Woolworths Drought Adaptive Landcare Project Officer .....	Mary Whitaker

#### JOINT NRM SOUTH/LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF

Catchments to Coasts – Swan-Apsley .....	Mary Whitaker
.....	Eloise Woolnough
Huon Healthy Rivers .....	Kerry Johnson

#### OTHER STAFF EMPLOYED DURING 2008-2009

.....	Alan Barton
.....	Guy Dobner
.....	Vanessa Elwell-Gavins
.....	Fleur Gedamke
.....	Natalie Holman
.....	David Lenel
.....	Nick Sargent
.....	Johanna Slijckerman
.....	Natasha Stapleton
.....	Nepelle Temby
.....	Christina Urso-Cale
.....	Ellayne Wiles

*“NRM South makes sure we’re looking after our world for future generations”.*

COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER

SOUTHERN REGION  
LANDCARER CHRIS JOHNS  
AT WORK AT DODGES FERRY



NATIVE FUCHSIA (*CORREA REFLEXA*)

BELOW: DAVID BLANCH AND GRAEME RAINBOW  
DISCUSS COASTCARE WITH NRM SOUTH  
WATER COORDINATOR KAYLENE ALLAN



## Appendix III.

### Profiles of Regional Committee Members

#### Dr Christine Mucha (Chair)

Corporate Leader of the Year in the 2006 Tasmanian Business Leaders Awards, Dr Christine Mucha brings extensive experience in business leadership to her position as NRM South Chair. She is CEO of Onstream and was, until recently, CEO of Hobart Water. She is also Chair of the Wellington Park Trust, Deputy Chair of the Tasmanian Environment Protection Authority and has sat on the board of the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Christine is a member of the Water Services Association of Australia and University Foundation, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, an INSEAD alumnus and a Companion of Engineers Australia.

Christine holds tertiary qualifications in agricultural science and agricultural economics and has professional experience in agriculture and in the management of natural resources.

Christine represents industry.

#### Michael Bidwell

Michael Bidwell has wide-ranging experience in natural resource management in Tasmania as Land Programs Manager for Hydro Tasmania, as a member of the Southern Tasmanian NRM Facilitators Network and the Tasmanian Government Inter-Departmental NRM Committee, and through previous work as Natural Resource Management Officer with Glenorchy City Council.

He has previously been a member of the Wellington Park Management Advisory Committee, Deputy Wellington Park Trust member and member of the State Bushfire Planning Committee.

Michael currently chairs the Tasmanian Recreational Lakes Committee and is a member of the Southern Regional Weeds Management Committee and the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council.

Michael represents public land managers.



### Cam Crawford

Deputy CEO of Onstream and, until recently, Deputy CEO of Hobart Water, Cam Crawford brings broad experience in business development, strategy, marketing and communications to the Committee, having worked extensively in these areas within both the public and private sectors.

He has a combined Bachelor of Science (Geography) and Law and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Cam represents industry.

### Dr Christine Crawford

Dr Christine Crawford is a research scientist at the University of Tasmania, currently working as Theme Leader (Natural Resource Management) in the Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute. She is an experienced ecological researcher and consultant and received the Vice-Chancellors Award for Outstanding Community Engagement in 2005.

Christine has practical, in-depth experience in the research, development and management of coastal, estuarine and marine environments.

Christine represents industry.

### Dr Hans Drielsma

Dr Hans Drielsma is Executive General Manager of Forestry Tasmania and a Director of Australian Forestry Standard and the CRC for Forestry.

Hans has extensive experience in the forestry sector and in forest policy and management through both his current work and from former roles as Managing Director of State Forests of NSW and Commissioner of the Forestry Commission of NSW.

Hans represents public land managers.

### Tony Ferrier

Tony Ferrier brings a local government perspective to the Committee through his current role as Deputy General Manager at Kingborough Council and after 14 years working for local Councils in Tasmania.

Tony is NRM South's representative on the State NRM Council and also sits on the board of Greening Australia (Tasmania).

Tony has tertiary qualifications in urban and regional planning, natural resource management and surveying. He combines his more recent strategic and statutory planning experience with previous roles in catchment and public land management in NSW state agencies.

Tony represents local government.

### Rodney Gibbins

A former Chair of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, Tasmanian Aboriginal Education Association and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, Rodney Gibbins provides the committee with an Aboriginal perspective.

He has over 20 years experience in developing natural resource management plans through the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and Tasmania Office of Aboriginal Affairs, leading consultation between the State Government and the Aboriginal community in developing the first State Coastal Policy and the Arthur-Pieman Management Plan.

Rodney was instrumental in developing the Ask First booklet, explaining the impact of development on Aboriginal culture and heritage.

Rodney represents the Aboriginal community.



### Stephen Godfrey

Stephen Godfrey has a long career history in spatial information management, most recently as General Manager of the Information and Land Services divisions of the Department of Primary Industries and Water since 2002, and previously as Director of Operations.

Stephen is the Tasmanian Director of national spatial knowledge and data management companies PSMA Australia and PSMA Distribution, a member of the Spatial Information Council of Australia and New Zealand and has a Bachelor of Arts.

Stephen represents state government.

### Roger Howlett (Deputy Chair)

A former General Manager of Clarence City Council, Roger Howlett brings a wealth of experience in local government and community engagement to his role as Deputy Chair.

Roger is currently a Commissioner in the Resource Planning and Development Commission, a member of the Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal and a member of the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

A former Chair of the Tasmanian Envirofund Assessment Panel, he also has extensive experience in local government land use and strategic planning in Tasmania, NSW and the UK.

Roger has a Masters degree in Town and Country Planning and an economics degree.

Roger represents local government.

### Alice Johnson

Alice has over ten years experience in planning in the UK and Tasmania, including in her current role as Senior Strategic and Statutory Planner at GHD Pty Ltd.

She is a Corporate Member of the Planning Institute of Australia, a Certified Practicing Planner and GHD's Tasmanian Environmental Management Systems Coordinator.

Alice has a Bachelor of Arts (Environmental Studies), a Bachelor of Laws and a Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, and has been admitted as a solicitor and barrister by the Supreme Court of Tasmania.

Alice represents industry.

### Helen Pryor

Project Manager for Sustainable Living Tasmania, Helen Pryor coordinates a range of projects and initiatives aimed at improving energy use and energy efficiency within the community.

She works as a Project Officer at the Tasmanian Conservation Trust on the Derwent Estuary Program project to protect and restore little penguin habitat in the Derwent Estuary. She also co-ordinates Friends of Port Cygnet, a community group with stewardship over significant coastal and estuarine habitat.

Helen has had extensive involvement with program management and public policy and has a Bachelor of Education.

Helen represents the conservation community.

### Dr Rosemary Sandford

Dr Rosemary Sandford is a science policy expert currently working as Research Fellow and Co-Leader, Policy Theme, of the National Adaptation Research Network, Marine Biodiversity and Resources.

She has previously been Research Fellow (Policy) at the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre, Senior Policy Adviser to the Premier of Tasmania and Joint Chair of the Global Climate Change Collaborative based in the USA, providing her with extensive experience in environmental policy and conflict resolution and in integrating climate science in public policy and government decision-making.

Rosemary helped establish Landcare in Tasmania, is a member of the South Hobart Progress Association, former Director of the Tasmanian Heritage Office and a member of Birds Tasmania Executive.

Rosemary represents the conservation community.



LEFT: TASMANIAN POLYTECHNIC CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT STUDENTS WITH THEIR SUPERVISOR AT THE NATURALLY INSPIRED GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT.



### Maria Weeding

The 2001 Landcarer of the Year, Maria Weeding is a Southern Midlands farmer.

Beyond farming Maria is the Landcare Program Manager for Southern Midlands Council. She is also a founding member and Treasurer of the Midlands Tree Committee, established in 1983.

She is involved in the Midlands Water Project being undertaken by the Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board. Working in the capacity as a Member of the Midlands Water Group, she represents and co-ordinates landholders in the Southern Midlands area.

In 1999 Maria was a member of the State Biodiversity Committee, assisting in the development of the Tasmanian Nature Conservation Strategy, and Chair of the Interim Southern Technical Reference Group in 2002. She has previously sat on the board of Greening Australia (Tasmania) and been a member of the State Threatened Species Community Review Committee.

Maria represents industry and the conservation community.

### Ian Whyte

Ian Whyte brings experience in the forestry and farming sectors to the Committee. Ian was formerly CEO of the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania and a staff member of the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) with responsibilities in the natural resource management area. Immediately prior to his retirement from the TFGA in 2008, Ian was Senior Project Officer (Policy) with responsibilities in the environmental and natural resource areas.

Ian is a board member of the Forest Practices Authority, a member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia, President of South Eastern Nursing and Home Care Association Inc. and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ian represents industry.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:  
SAWING UP STAKES FOR REVEGETATION WORKS

WEED HYGIENE TRAINING WITH THE MOBILE WASHDOWN UNIT  
AT SORELL

VIGOROUS NATIVE REGROWTH ON THE BANKS OF  
NEW TOWN RIVULET.






## Appendix IV.

### Members of the Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association Inc. 2008-2009

Birds Tasmania	Kingborough Council
Cambium Land and Water Management Pty Ltd	Leaman Geophysics
Central Highlands Council	Lyndley Chopping
Clarence City Council	Midlands Tree Committee
Coal Valley Landcare (Coal River Products Association)	Mortimer Bay Coastcare Group
Conservation Volunteers Australia	Mountain Festival
Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources	National Council of Women of Tasmania
Department of Primary Industries and Water	New Town Rivulet Catchment Care Group
Derwent Catchment NRM Committee	Parks and Wildlife Service
Derwent Valley Council	Port Cygnet Land and Water Care Group
Eastcoast Regional Development Organisation	Private Forests Tasmania
Ensis	Regnans Enviro Consulting
Forest Industries Association of Tasmania	Seven Mile Beach Coastcare Group
Forestry Tasmania	SFM Environmental Solutions
Forests and Forest Industry Council	South Channel Coastcare
Foweraker, Hunn & Associates	Southern Beaches Land & Coastcare
Friends of Coningham, Oyster Cove and Lower Snug	Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmania
Friends of Peter Murrell Reserve	Southern Midlands Council
GHD	Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council	Sustainable Living Tasmania
Greening Australia (Tasmania)	Taroona Environment Network
Hobart City Council	Tasman Council
Hobart Water	Tasman Landcare
Howden Landcare Group	Tasmanian Beekeepers Association
Huon Resource Development Group	Tasmanian Conservation Trust
Huon Valley Council	Tasmanian Land and Water Professionals
Huon Valley Environment Centre	Tasmanian Landcare Association
Hydro Tasmania	Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council
Jordan Catchment Land for Wildlife	Timber Communities Australia
	Timber Communities Australia - Huon Branch
	Tranmere-Clarence Plains Land & Coastcare
	United Nations Association of Australia (Tas)
	Upper Derwent Valley Landcare Group
	White Beach Landcare Group

*“NRM South is about people - their passion and commitment and their potential to bring about real and lasting change”.*

STAFF MEMBER



REDISCOVERED AFTER 160 YEARS – THE  
PREVIOUSLY “EXTINCT” BARE MIDGE ORCHID  
(*CORUNASTYLIS NUDISCAPA*)

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CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



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