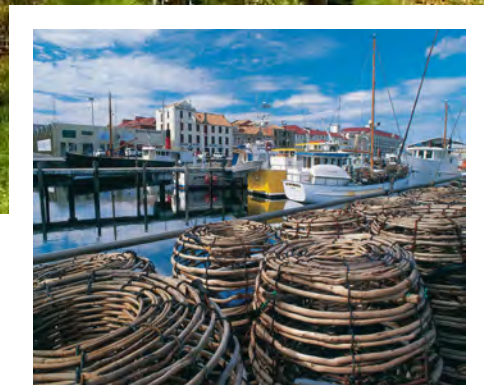




*Improving natural resource management  
in southern Tasmania*

# The Southern Natural Resource Management Regional Committee



2005 – 06  
Annual Report



**Australian Government**

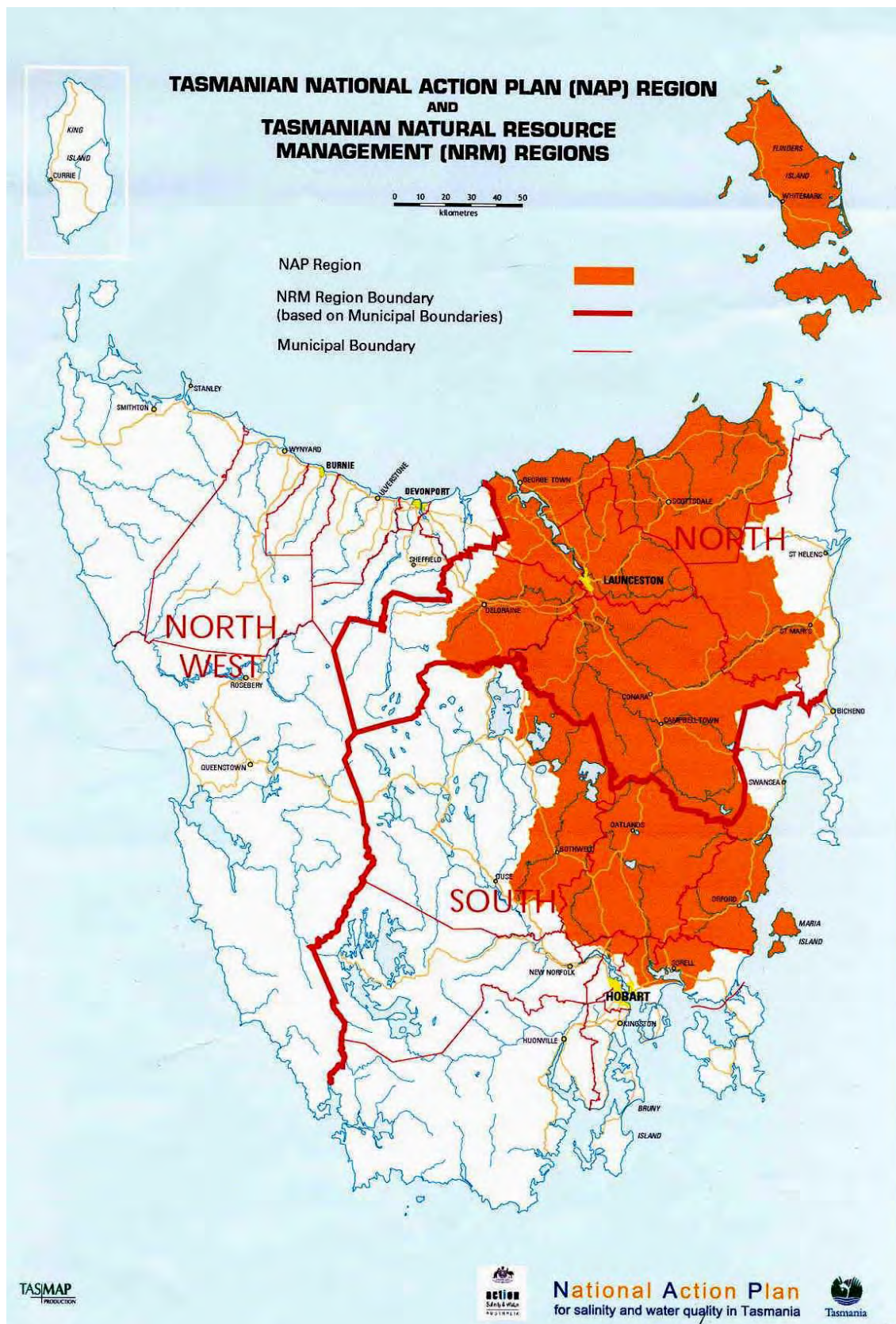
**SOUTHERN NATURAL RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
REGIONAL COMMITTEE  
(NRM SOUTH)**

**2005-06 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Map 1: Tasmanian NRM and NAP regions

## FROM THE CHAIR

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2005-06 has been a year of on-going development of NRM South's business and programs. The focus has been commencement of implementation of the *Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania*. Senator Ian Macdonald, on behalf of the federal Minister for Environment and Heritage, and Judy Jackson, Tasmanian Minister for Primary Industries, Water and Environment, jointly announced accreditation of the Strategy on 25 July 2005.

At the same time, Ministers announced investment of \$6.351 million for 2005-06 and 2006-07 from the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) for the Southern region and \$4.335 million from the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP), for the NAP region, which spans the Northern and Southern NRM regions. NRM South is responsible for administering the Water element of the NAP program. Since then, NRM South has secured additional investment from the NHT and NAP for 2007-08, as well as top-up investment from the NAP for 2006-07. This brings the total available from regional NHT resources to \$8.026 million for the Southern region for the period 2005-08. The total available from the regional allocation for NAP for the period 2005-08 is \$6,668 million. This investment is targeted to implementation of those management actions in the Southern NRM Strategy identified by NRM South, in collaboration with key regional stakeholders and potential investors, as investment priorities.

This funding gives certainty of resources available to NRM South and the Southern region until June 2008 to improve natural resource management in Southern Tasmania. There is, of course, the opportunity to use these resources to leverage additional partnerships and seek additional investment from other sources.

With the investment available to us in 2005-06, NRM South has negotiated 28 contracts with partners to deliver a mix of resource assessment, capacity building and on-ground activities. NRM South has also employed a team of seven technical and facilitation officers, six of whom are hosted by partner organisations. The role of this team is to support NRM South and the regional community to implement the Southern NRM Strategy and work towards achievement of regional resource condition targets. 2005-06 has also been a year of further development of NRM South's business and program management systems.

NRM South is most grateful to the Australian and State Governments for support and resources to implement the Southern NRM Strategy and meet regional overheads. The Department of Primary Industries and Water provides excellent accommodation (now in New Town) and IT support on an in-kind basis, as well as providing core funding for NRM South's operating expenses. We are also very grateful to the staff of the many organisations and all levels of government who have provided us with advice and support during the year.

I would like to acknowledge the professionalism and significant investment of time and energy of NRM South's committee members who have provided effective strategic direction for the organisation over the year. Ollie Hedberg, NRM South's inaugural Chair, resigned effective 1 March 2006, because of competing commitments. I thank him particularly for his leadership and wisdom in guiding NRM South through its first three years. Helen Locher also resigned in March 2006. I thank her too for her excellent contribution, particularly to the water element of the Strategy. I welcome Mike Bidwell as her replacement.

I would also like to thank the NRM South staff who have worked hard to support the Committee in the implementation of the Strategy and the development of our regional investment plans.



Dr Christine Mucha  
Chair



*Photo 1: Dr Christine Mucha with Minister Llewellyn at the "Meet the Service Providers" event*

## 2005-06 HIGHLIGHTS

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During 2005-06, NRM South:

- ☒ received accreditation of the Southern NRM Strategy by Australian and Tasmanian Government ministers
- ☒ through two regional investment proposals, secured \$8.026 million from the Natural Heritage Trust for the Southern region for the period 2005-08.
- ☒ in partnership with NRM North, secured \$6.668 million from the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality, for the Tasmanian NAP region for the period 2005-08. Of this, NRM South directly administers the NAP Water program, while NRM North administers the NAP Land program on behalf of the two regions.
- ☒ employed a team of seven new technical and facilitation support staff under the leadership of the regional NRM facilitator to serve NRM South and the regional community to implement the Southern NRM Strategy
- ☒ completed the selection process and contracting of partners and service providers to deliver 28 contracts for activities approved under the first regional investment proposal
- ☒ developed a new NRMTas website in partnership with Cradle Coast NRM, NRM North and the Tasmanian Government.
- ☒ commenced a program to raise community awareness about natural resource management priorities and principles and to develop skills to manage natural resources more effectively



## ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

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### NRM South

The Southern Natural Resource Management Regional Committee (NRM South) was established in January 2003 as an independent non-statutory body in response to the Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Framework and the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*. Its principal functions and powers as defined under the NRM Act are to develop and implement a strategy for natural resource management (NRM) in Southern Tasmania.

NRM South is the managing body of the Southern Regional NRM Association Incorporated. The Southern NRM Association comprises nominees of interested stakeholder organisations. Members of the Association during 2005-06 are listed in [Appendix A](#).

NRM South is responsible for the strategic direction of the organisation and for monitoring the organisation's performance on behalf of Association members and stakeholders.

NRM South's reporting, accountability and other rules for its operations are defined in the Rules of the Southern NRM Association Inc, as per the requirements of the Tasmanian *Incorporated Associations Act 1964*.

The Minister 'declared' the Southern NRM committee as a Regional Committee under the NRM Act on 17 April 2003. NRM South is accountable to the Minister for Primary Industries and Water and through him to the Parliament of Tasmania. Under the NRM Act, the Minister must table the Annual Report in Parliament.

### The Southern NRM region

The Southern region spans the area of Tasmania covered by the 12 Southern Tasmanian Councils: Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Part of the Southern region, along with a lot of the Northern region, has been identified as falling within the Tasmanian Priority Region for the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP). Seven Southern catchments fall within the Tasmanian NAP Priority Region: Little Swanport, Prosser, Pitt Water-Coal, Jordan, Clyde, Macquarie and Brumbys-Lake.

A map of the southern Region follows.

### NRM South committee members

Members of NRM South are all appointed for four year terms on a rolling two-year basis, with the next 'renewal' period due in September 2006.

The NRM South committee members during 2005-06 were:

- Andy Baird
- Michael Bidwell (appointed June 2006)
- Dr Christine Crawford
- Andrew Downie



- Dr Hans Drielsma
- Anne Duncan
- Tony Ferrier
- Ollie Hedberg (Chair, resigned 1 March 2006)
- Roger Howlett
- Colin Hughes
- Alice Johnson
- Helen Locher (resigned March 2006)
- Dr Christine Mucha (Acting Chair from 1 March 2006, formally appointed Chair in June 2006)
- Helen Pryor
- Maria Weeding
- John Whittington

There were two casual vacancies during 2005-06, created by the resignations of the Chair, Ollie Hedberg, effective from 1 March 2006, and Helen Locher (public land manager representative), also in March 2006. The Deputy Chair, Christine Mucha, acted as Chair, pending her formal appointment as Chair by the Minister for Primary Industries and Water in June 2006. Mr Michael Bidwell was appointed to fill the casual vacancy created by Dr Locher's resignation in June 2006.

The profile of NRM South membership during 2005-06 is at [Appendix B](#).



Map 2: Southern NRM Region

## GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

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The NRM South committee generally meets monthly with eleven meetings during 2005-06.

Three Standing Committees were established during 2005-06:

- a **Management Committee**, with executive, human resource management, financial management and governance functions (monthly meetings)
- a **Strategy and Planning Committee**, to guide communications, marketing, community engagement, partnership development, investment planning and preparation of submissions to government policy reviews to promote regional NRM priorities (met eight times in 2005-06)
- an **Implementation Committee**, to establish and implement processes to select service providers and guide program implementation, management, monitoring and reporting systems (met eight times in 2005-06).

Specific-purpose working groups were established to manage the selection of service providers, and recruit hosts for the technical and facilitation support team and recruit members of this team.

NRM South also participates with NRM North in a **Joint NAP Working Group**, which sets directions and provides strategic focus to implementation of the NAP Program, and a cross-regional NRM Tasmania Communications Working Group.

Standing committees and working groups provide reports and where appropriate recommendations to the NRM South committee.



*Photo 2: Mayor Deirdre Flint (Central Highlands Council), Flora Fox (Councillor, Kingborough Council), Vanessa Elwell-Gavins (Director, NRM South) and Tony Ferrier (NRM South Committee member) at the "Meet the Service providers" event*

In September 2005, the NRM South office relocated from the Marine Board Building in Hobart to New Town. Six technical and facilitation support staff are outposted to and based with partner organisations.

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NRM South has 11.7 full-time equivalent staff. The role of seven employees, under the leadership of the regional facilitator, is to provide technical and facilitation support to NRM South and the regional community to assist implementation of the Southern NRM Strategy. The role of five employees (4.2 FTE) is to lead and manage NRM South operations, support the NRM South committee and administer its programs.

NRM South is grateful to both the Tasmanian and Australian Government for supporting core operations and staff to implement the Strategy. The Tasmanian Government provides core funding for committee operations including executive support (\$209,700 in 2005-06), as well as in-kind support for the premises in New Town. The Australian Government supports the technical and facilitation support team, the regional facilitator and administration of national NRM funding program investment in the Southern region.

During 2005-06, NRM South commenced a program of organisational review and development, to be completed in 2006-07. The key tasks completed were:

- establishment of an independent legal framework to enable NRM South to enter into contracts directly with its program service providers. Provision of legal advice was outsourced to Dobson, Mitchell and Allport.
- development of comprehensive financial management systems and services. Provision of financial advice was outsourced to Wise Lord & Ferguson.
- review of finance and governance protocols
- a risk management plan and policies for disclosing and managing conflicts of interest and pecuniary interest.



## PROGRESS WITH IMPLEMENTING THE 'GENERAL FUNCTIONS AND POWERS' OF REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN 2005-06

NRM South continued to make progress in 2005-06 with regard to implementation of its functions and powers as identified in the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*.

STATUTORY FUNCTIONS & POWERS	HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2005-06
1 to identify the priorities for natural resource management for the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commenced more detailed catchment and bio-regional framework &amp; analysis to inform program delivery, investment planning, strategy review and delivery of NRM services</li> </ul>
2 to prepare a draft regional strategy for the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Natural Resource Management Strategy for Southern Tasmania</i> <b>completed</b> in 2004-05</li> </ul>
3 to facilitate implementation of the regional strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracted 28 projects with investment approved in the first Investment Proposal (covering 2005-06 and 2006-07)</li> <li>Employed a team of seven technical &amp; facilitation support officers to assist NRM South &amp; regional community implement the Southern NRM Strategy</li> <li>Assisted a number of groups to secure funding through Envirofund, National Landcare Program and National Water Initiative to address regional targets</li> </ul>
4 to promote the natural resource management principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoted the NRM principles through participation in Sustainable Home Expo, two Mountain Festival events, AGFEST, Local Government Association of Tasmania annual conference, workshop for coastal stakeholders &amp; other events</li> </ul>
5 to facilitate the integration of natural resource management & planning activities for the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commenced liaison with key stakeholders to explore partnership opportunities</li> <li>Responded to seven policy reviews impacting on regional NRM, including the 5-yearly review of Tasmania Together and the review of the State Coastal Policy</li> </ul>
6 to seek, manage & allocate funds according to the regional strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secured \$8.026 million from Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) for the period 2005-06 to 2007-08</li> <li>In partnership with NRM North, secured \$6.668 million from the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) for 2005-06 to 2007-08. Of this, NRM South is directly responsible for administering the Water program (\$3.721 million)</li> </ul>
7 to coordinate the region's participation in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinated regional participation in the NHT &amp; NAP</li> </ul>



<b>STATUTORY FUNCTIONS &amp; POWERS</b>	<b>HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2005-06</b>
national & State programs relating to natural resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secured and established statewide contracts for two national wetlands projects and two regional competitive projects (Biodiversity Hotspot and threatened species)</li> </ul>
8 to monitor & evaluate the implementation of the regional strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in development of a statewide monitoring, evaluation &amp; reporting framework</li> <li>Commenced development of regional monitoring, evaluation &amp; reporting framework</li> <li>In partnership with the State, developed systems for program performance monitoring and reporting</li> </ul>
9 to develop & implement processes to ensure appropriate education & training in natural resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>participated in a national pilot rural landholder survey which will identify current attitudes and practices with regard to natural resource management</li> <li>commenced a skills audit and needs analysis for the regional community with regard to natural resource management</li> <li>developed a skills development and community education program</li> </ul>

## THE SOUTHERN NRM STRATEGY

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### Implementing the Southern NRM Strategy

NRM South has developed or is developing a series of tools to guide implementation of the Southern NRM Strategy:

- regional investment proposals targeting the two major national NRM funding programs: NHT and NAP
- a Strategy Implementation Plan
- business prospectuses tailored to key stakeholders and other potential investors in regional NRM
- a communications, marketing and community engagement strategy
- monitoring and evaluation framework
- catchment and bioregional framework which will identify priorities for on-ground action at catchment and bioregional level, and guide investment planning, strategy review and the work of the technical and facilitation support team



*Photo 3: The former Chair, Ollie Hedberg, with former minister Judy Jackson, Senator Ian Macdonald, Geoff McLennan (Chair, NRM North), David McCormack (Executive officer, Cradle Coast NRM), Vanessa Elwell-Gavins (Director, NRM South) and Catherine Murdoch (Executive Officer NRM North) at the launch of the Southern Regional Strategy in 2005*

The following activities are also contributing to NRM South's Strategy implementation program:

- contribution to a consortium 'research hub' led by the University of Tasmania funded under the Commonwealth Environment Research Program. Entitled, *Landscape Logic: linking land and water management to resource condition*, this 4-year activity involves six regions in Victoria and Tasmania and seven research organisations. It is designed to improve understanding of the links between management actions at paddock, farm and forest block scale and resource condition at catchment and regional scales.

- a rural landholder survey, conducted as a national pilot by Bureau of Rural Sciences. The results are expected to become available by October 2006. This will provide important advice on the Southern region's rural community, including the extent to which landholders see themselves as farmers, 'hobby farmers' or lifestylers, or 'rural residential', and their current knowledge, skills and practices with regard to natural resource management. This will be particularly useful to inform program design and delivery, when considered in conjunction with the catchment and bioregional analyses.

## **Investing in Southern NRM: implementation of programs to address regional NRM targets**

In 2005-06 NRM South's first regional investment proposal was approved for funding through the NHT and NAP in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

In this period, NRM South also

- developed its second regional investment proposal for the period 2007-08 (including some top-up funding for 2006-07 for the NAP)
- was responsible for administering \$6.351 million of regional investment from the NHT for 2005-06 and 2006-07
- was directly responsible for contracting almost \$2.4 million worth of NAP investment under the Water program for the Tasmanian NAP region
- had responsibility for contracting two cross-regional wetlands projects approved from the national element of the NHT, and two three-year cross-regional projects approved under the 'regional competitive' element of the NHT.

NRM South used a three-step process for selection of service providers to deliver its programs:

- public advertising for Expressions of Interest from potential service providers
- selection of service providers for project development
- contract negotiation and finalisation

Twenty-eight contracts have been negotiated with partners to deliver NRM services within the Southern region. Contract details are included in [Appendix C](#).

During 2005-06, NRM South also was responsible for administering or supporting 18 contracts which had been commissioned in 2003-04 and 2004-05 under interim program arrangements for the NHT and NAP pending accreditation of the Southern NRM Strategy. These were all completed by the end of 2005-06.

NRM South also provided support to develop and/or implement:

- 7 projects commissioned under the National Landcare Program
- 15 projects commissioned under the Australian Government's Envirofund element of the NHT
- 18 projects commissioned under the Community Water Grants element of the National Water Initiative.



*Photo 4: Chris Gibson (Director SERDA), Ashley Greenwood (NAP Water Technical Officer), and Melanie Kelly (NRM Officer, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council) at the "Meet the Service Providers" event*



*Photo 5: Paul Dawson, Aboriginal Community Support Officer at the "Meet the Service Providers"*

## COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

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### Communications and Community Engagement

During 2005-06 NRM South developed a comprehensive *Communications, Marketing, Community Engagement and Skills Development Framework* to guide decision-making and allocation of resources and to ensure effective stakeholder relations. As part of the *Framework* Richard Gerathy of Activation Marketing was appointed to provide strategic marketing and communications advice and assist in the development of a rolling annual communications plan.



*Photo 6: Fleur O'Neill, Technical and Facilitation Support Officer, at the NRM South display at the Environmental Homes Expo 2005*

During 2005-06 NRM South:

- released four issues of its newsletter, *Southern NRM Networker*
- in partnership with the other Tasmanian NRM regions created a new Tasmanian NRM website ([www.nrmtas.org](http://www.nrmtas.org) and click on the Southern region)
- had information stands at the Tasmanian Environmental Housing Expo, AGFEST and the annual Tasmanian Local Government Conference
- participated in the biennial Tasmanian Mountain Festival, organising two events to promote awareness of the NRM principles and understanding of NRM issues
- made formal presentations about the Southern NRM Strategy to a large number of meetings, workshops and forums including the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, the Australian Water Association, local government water managers, a Statewide marine and coastal forum, the Southern NRM Facilitator Network, Glamorgan Spring Bay NRM Committee and the Tasmanian Red Meats Council



- organised two forums for the Southern NRM Facilitator network including local government Bushcare and NRM officers
- operated an email news service for the regional NRM network including local government NRM officers
- was represented at a range of events and launches including the State Landcare Awards, Aboriginal NHT competitive project launch at Murrayfield, Hobart City Council's 20 year future visioning workshop and the OzEstuaries website launch
- participated in the Statewide NRM Tas Communications Group with membership of all Tasmanian NRM regions and the Tasmanian Government
- briefed new staff in Hobart City Council and the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research on the Southern NRM Strategy

## **Technical and Facilitation Support**

In order to build community engagement in implementing the Southern NRM Strategy, NRM South has appointed a team of Technical and Facilitation Support Officers (with responsibilities for water quality, NAP region Water program support, soils and salinity, flora and fauna, and marine coastal and estuarine issues), an Aboriginal Community NRM Support Officer and an Industry and Landcare Liaison Officer, led by the regional facilitator. The focus of these positions is to:

- provide the regional community with access to integrated technical information, advice and facilitation support to improve the focus and quality of delivery of on-ground work addressing the Southern resource condition and management action targets
- raise awareness in the regional community and amongst NRM stakeholders of the Southern NRM targets and what can be done to achieve them
- provide access to resources to build skills and raise awareness about Southern NRM priorities and how to achieve them
- facilitate the involvement and participation of key NRM stakeholders into implementing the Southern NRM Strategy and Regional Investment Proposal
- assist the regional community and key stakeholders to develop and undertake priority NRM activities through Envirofund, National Landcare and Australian Water Fund projects
- build NRM networks to facilitate involvement, participation and input into the implementation of the Southern NRM Strategy
- assist communications between industry, agencies and organisations about NRM issues



*Photo 7: Hard at work cleaning up Australia:  
Programs Manager Alistair Kay and son Jamil*



*Photo 8: Technical and Facilitation Support team  
Richard Shaw and Natalie Conod removing wrecks  
on Clean Up Australia Day*



*Photo 9: Technical and Facilitation Support team member  
Nikki den Exter cleaning up Australia!*

## Partnerships

Partnerships with regional stakeholders are critical for successful implementation of the Strategy. NRM South has identified key stakeholder partnerships with Australian, Tasmanian and local governments, the Aboriginal community, NRM industries, research organisations and primary industry organisations. NRM South is engaging with regional stakeholders in a number of ways to deliver services, enhance participation and implement the Strategy:

- NRM South has recruited partners to be responsible for housing and mentoring of the new Technical and Facilitation Support team and the Aboriginal NRM Support Officer. The hosts are:
  - Greening Australia Tasmania (Flora & Fauna technical and facilitation support)
  - Derwent Catchment NRM Committee, housed by Brighton Council (Water technical and facilitation support)
  - Rural Development Services (Soils & salinity technical & facilitation support)
  - Coastlink South, housed by Sustainable Living Tasmania (Marine, coastal and estuarine technical and facilitation support)
  - Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (Aboriginal Community Support Officer)
- established a sponsorship agreement with the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research and the School of Agriculture at the University of Tasmania to house and mentor NRM South's Industry and Landcare Liaison Officer
- established partnership relationships with its team of service providers and the custodians of approved NRM plans to implement the regional investment proposals.



*Photo 10: Lynne Robertson (NRM Cradle Coast), Don Thompson, Regional Facilitator, and Marta Vergara-Gody (NRM Facilitator, Northern Midlands Region) at the Statewide NRM stand at the LGAT Conference 2006*

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

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Key actions to deliver NRM South's organisational and strategic goals for the future include:

### **Southern NRM Strategy**

- complete the regional catchment and bioregional framework to identify priorities at catchment bioregional level. This will guide investment planning, delivery of regional NRM services and program implementation, and be reviewed annually
- review and finalise resource condition targets and management action targets in the Southern NRM Strategy

### **Strategy implementation and partnerships**

- roll out all remaining uncommissioned 2006-07 and 2007-08 investment
- finalise a business prospectus to facilitate development of partnerships for implementation of the Southern NRM Strategy and identification of new business opportunities
- build new business partnerships with existing and potential investors in regional NRM
- successfully manage program contracts to ensure our regional partners are able to deliver excellent outcomes
- refine and implement an effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting program to ensure investors and stakeholders are aware of progress being made with current investment and towards achievement of regional NRM management action targets and resource condition targets
- implement an effective communications and marketing program to raise the profile of NRM issues in the regional community and promote the achievements of current investment
- continue to build relationships and engage the community in delivery of regional natural resource management, and build capacity among land managers and key stakeholders to improve natural resource management practices

### **NRM South as an organisation**

- complete the review of NRM South's governance and planning framework and associated planning and governance tools

NRM South has accomplished much in its first three years, but the work has barely begun. NRM South's priority for 2006-07 is to consolidate organisational planning and development and build on the initial partnerships and investments established in 2005-06 to implement the Southern NRM Strategy. NRM South is committed to working in partnership with the regional community, key stakeholders and potential investors to implement the Southern natural resource management strategy.



## **NRM SOUTH FINANCIAL REPORT 2005-06**

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## **APPENDIX A: Members of Southern Regional NRM Association 2005-06**

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Birds Tasmania	Kingborough Council
Cambium Land and Water Management Pty Ltd	Leaman Geophysics
Central Highlands Council	Midlands Tree Committee Inc
Clarence City Council	Mortimer Bay Coastcare Group Inc
Coal Valley Landcare (Coal River Products Association Inc)	Mountain Festival
Conservation Volunteers Australia	National Council of Women of Tasmania Inc
Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources	New Town Rivulet Catchment Care Group Inc.
Derwent Catchment NRM Committee Inc	Port Cygnet Land and Water Care Group
Derwent Valley Council	Private Forests Tasmania
DPIWE	Regnans Enviro Consulting
Eastcoast Regional Development Organisation Inc.	Seven Mile Beach Coastcare Group
Ensis	SFM Environmental Solutions
Forest Industries Association of Tasmania (FIAT)	South Channel Coastcare Inc
Forestry Tasmania	Southern Beaches Land/Coastcare Inc
Forests and Forest Industry Council (FFIC)	Southern Coastcare Association of Tasmania
Friends of Coningham, Oyster Cove and Lower Snug	Southern Midlands Council
GHD	Taroona Environment Network Inc
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	Tasman Council
Greening Australia (Tasmania)	Tasman Landcare Inc
Hobart City Council	Tasmanian Beekeepers Association Inc
Hobart Water	Tasmanian Conservation Trust
Howden Landcare Group	Tasmanian Environment Centre
Huntingfield Coffee Creek Landcare Group Inc	Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council (TFIC)
Huon Valley Council	Tasmanian Land and Water Professionals Pty Ltd
Huon Valley Environment Centre Inc	Tasmanian Landcare Association Inc. (TLCA)
Hydro Tasmania	Timber Communities Aust Inc Huon Branch
Jordan Catchment Land for Wildlife Inc	Timber Communities Australia
	Tranmere-Clarence Plains Land & Coastcare Inc
	United Nations Association of Australian (Tas) Inc

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Upper Derwent Valley Landcare Group




White Beach Landcare Group Inc




## APPENDIX B: Profile of NRM South Members as At June 30, 2006

Name/ Term	Background
<p><b>Andy Baird</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006</p> 	<p>Background in community group facilitation &amp; extension for 'care' groups</p> <p>Expertise in regional flora and fauna including management issues &amp; options</p> <p>Member of interim Southern Technical Reference Group (2002), which commissioned Southern Regional NRM Situation Paper</p> <p>Community involvement through Port Cygnet Land &amp; Watercare Group, Nicholls Rivulet Bushcare Group, Wilderness Society, Tasmanian Environment Centre, Tasmanian Conservation Trust</p> <p>Former Bushcare Extension Officer for Hobart/Kingborough/Huon Valley, based with Greening Australia Tasmania (4 years)</p> <p>Former Interpretation Ranger with PWS</p>
<p><b>Michael Bidwell</b> June 2006 – 30 Sept 2008</p>	<p>State Land Management Officer, Hydro Tasmania</p> <p>Previously, Natural Resources Management Officer, Glenorchy City Council</p> <p>Member of Southern Tasmanian NRM Facilitators Network</p> <p>Member of Southern Tasmanian Councils Board's NRM Committee</p> <p>Member Wellington Park Management Advisory Committee &amp; Deputy Wellington Park Trust member</p> <p>Member State Bushfire Planning Committee</p>
<p><b>Dr Christine Crawford</b> 1 Feb 2005 – 30 Sept 2008</p> 	<p>Program Leader (Natural Resource Management) at the Tasmanian Aquaculture &amp; Fisheries Institute of Tasmania</p> <p>Extensive experience in research, development and management of coastal, estuarine and marine environments.</p> <p>Ecological consultancy experience</p> <p>Recipient of the Vice-Chancellors Award for Outstanding Community Engagement, 2005</p>
<p><b>Andrew Downie</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006</p> 	<p>Farmer with strong links with TFGA – past president TFGA Wool Council, Senior Vice-President TFGA</p> <p>Treasurer Wool Council of Australia</p> <p>25 years experience revegetating, fencing remnant vegetation &amp; riverbanks, weeding etc on own property</p> <p>Steering Group member Derwent Catchment NRM Plan</p> <p>Strong community involvement</p> <p>Part of working parties which developed Tas Threatened Species legislation &amp; Lake Sorell Catchment Plan</p>

Name/ Term	Background
	Elected to Central Highlands Council in 2002
<b>Dr Hans Drielsma</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2008 	Executive General Manager, Forestry Tasmania, since 1997 Managing Director State Forests of NSW (1993-97) Commissioner, Forestry Commission of NSW (1990-93) with prior experience back to 1973 in operational, planning & managerial positions Extensive experience in forest policy and management Director, Australian Forestry Standard and CRC Forestry
<b>Anne Duncan</b> May 2005 – 30 Sept 2008 	Parks & Wildlife Service Southern Regional Manager Previously, member, NRM North Regional Committee Experience in planning at strategic and operational levels Management experience in Community NRM implementation and public land management, including as member Glamorgan-Spring Bay Landcare Committee & Freycinet Coast Tourism Board
<b>Tony Ferrier</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006 	Director Community Planning and Development at Kingborough Council Previously Manager Environment and Development Services at Huon Valley Council and managed Huon Healthy Rivers Project since 1996 Tertiary qualifications in Natural Resources, Urban and Regional Planning and Surveying Member of Greening Australia (Tas) Board Knowledge of RMPS and relationship between NRM and statutory planning Previous broad NSW State agency experience across integrated catchment and public land management areas
<b>Ollie Hedberg</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006 (resigned 1 March 2006)	General Manager Information & Land Services Division, DPIWE, 1996-2002 Extensive experience in land information disciplines of Survey, Valuation, Land Titles & Geodata Studied Photogrammetry & Spatial Information at University of Tasmania Represented Tasmania on Australian & New Zealand Land Information Council & Public Sector Mapping Agencies (Australia) Farmer



Name/ Term	Background
<b>Roger Howlett</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2008 	General manager, Clarence City Council 1993 - 2003 Employed by Clarence City Council 1979-2003 (municipal planner 6 years, Director Planning & Development (8 years) 7 years in local government in UK & NSW Masters of Town & Country Planning, economics degree
<b>Colin Hughes</b> July 2004 – 30 Sept 2006	Aboriginal Heritage Officer with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council where he has worked for the last 13 years Keen interest in natural resource management & impact on Aboriginal sites
<b>Alice Johnson</b> 1 Feb 2005 – 30 Sept 2008 	Strategic and Statutory Planner with GHD Pty Ltd Several years of legal and administrative experience, Tasmania and UK Experience in Water Resources Division of DPIWE
<b>Dr Helen Locher</b> Sept 2003 – Sept 2008 (resigned March 2006)	Senior Environmental Consultant, Hydro Tasmania Commissioner, Resource Planning and Development Commission Member, Inland Fisheries Advisory Council Specialist consultant (environmental strategy), Hydro Tasmania Academic background in earth sciences, environmental science and civil engineering Expertise includes NRM, environmental policy and planning, aquatic environmental management, fluvial geomorphology, environmental impact assessment, strategy development
<b>Dr Christine Mucha</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006 	Chief Executive Officer, Hobart Water, since 1997 Former General Manager, Animal Industries, in DPIF(1993-96) Training in agricultural science and agricultural economics, experience in agriculture and management of natural resources Chair Wellington Park Management Trust Board member of Tasmanian Environmental Management and Pollution Control Board, Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce & Industry and University Foundation Directors Named Corporate Leader of the Year in the 2006 Tasmanian Business Leaders Awards

Name/ Term	Background
<b>Helen Pryor</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006 	<p>Extensive community involvement with Tasmanian Environment Centre, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Coastal &amp; Marine Network, New Town Rivulet Catchment Care Group, Huon Protection Group</p> <p>Extensive involvement with program management &amp; public policy through National Estate Grants, National Landcare Program Assessment Committee, State Land &amp; Water Management Council, Sustainable Development Advisory Council, NHT &amp; Envirofund State Assessment Panel, management plans for offshore islands</p> <p>Bachelor of Education, currently studying environmental planning</p> <p>Project Officer with Parks &amp; Wildlife Service</p>
<b>Maria Weeding</b> Jan 2003 – 30 Sept 2006 	<p>Farmer in Southern Midlands</p> <p>Landcare Program Manager for Southern Midlands Council</p> <p>Landcarer of the Year (2001)</p> <p>Midlands Tree Committee</p> <p>Secretary, Board of Greening Australia Tasmania</p> <p>State Biodiversity Committee (1999) which developed Tasmania's Nature Conservation Strategy</p> <p>Chair, Interim Southern Technical Reference Group (which managed contract for Southern Regional NRM Situation Paper)</p> <p>Driving force behind many farm, local and catchment vegetation &amp; landcare projects &amp; involvement in these issues by Southern Midlands Council, including Drought Landcare Project</p>
<b>Dr John Whittington</b> May 2005 – 30 Sept 2008 	<p>General Manager: Resource Management &amp; Conservation Division, DPIWE</p> <p>Previously, Manager of the Water Assessment and Planning Branch, DPIWE</p> <p>Extensive experience in Natural Resource Management and Planning, and in related R&amp;D, particularly in relation to water and catchment management</p>

- Tony Ferrier was reappointed to the Tasmanian NRM Council as NRM South representative for three years from February 2006.

## APPENDIX C: Contracts Commissioned by NRM South in 2005-06

### Resource Assessment

Activity	Service Provider/ partner	Description	Relevant targets
<p>Develop and implement a River Condition Index Framework for Tasmania (\$285,000)</p> <p>[State-wide project]</p>	Earth Tech Engineering	<p>This activity will deliver a River Condition Index method that delivers a scientifically defensible and repeatable analysis of stream condition and river health that is applicable to the range of river and stream types within Tasmania.</p> <p>This will enable an understanding of the health of Tasmania's river systems and provide an informed platform from which priorities for management and rehabilitation can be identified.</p>	Fresh water
<p>Establishing surface water quality baselines to set trigger levels for Resource Condition Targets (\$330,000)</p>	Hydro Consulting	<p>This activity will review water quality monitoring in the Southern region, with a view to establishing an integrated water quality monitoring framework for the region.</p> <p>Within this process, appropriate water quality baselines and trigger levels will be established to enable measurement of resource condition and progress towards Resource Condition Targets.</p>	Fresh water

Activity	Service Provider/ partner	Description	Relevant targets
Develop a holistic environmental flow framework for Tasmania's catchments (\$658,500)  [National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality – South & North NRM Regions]	Department of Primary Industries and Water	This activity will implement and complete the development of the conceptual Framework for Determining Holistic Environmental Water Requirements in Tasmania in three high priority catchments within the NAP region.	Fresh water  Marine, coastal & estuarine
Develop and implement a framework to measure change in marine, coastal and estuarine water quality monitoring (\$250,000)	Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute	This activity will collate existing marine, coastal and estuarine water quality data, identify priority estuaries to be monitored and develop estuarine water quality monitoring programs.	Marine, coastal & estuarine
Marine habitat mapping (\$90,000)	Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute	This activity will complete the SeaMap Tasmania for vulnerable sub-tidal areas of the Southern Region (Schouten Island to Bicheno).	Marine, coastal & estuarine
Determine baseline condition benchmarks and establish reference sites for key foreshore habitats (\$179,000)	Aquenal	This activity will establish baseline information on the condition of foreshores and identify key pressures as the basis for measuring impacts on key marine and coastal ecosystems in the Southern region.	Marine, coastal & estuarine  Weeds, pests & diseases  Threatened species

Activity	Service Provider/ partner	Description	Relevant targets
Provision of ecological character descriptions for three Ramsar Wetlands in Tasmania (\$60,000)  [Project funded from National element of NHT in Northern and Southern Tasmania]	Helen Dunn and Frances Mowling	This activity will provide ecological character descriptions for three Ramsar wetlands in Tasmania (Moulting Lagoon, Interlaken and East Coast Cape Barren Island Lagoons).	Fresh water Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests & diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine
Update of <i>A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (Tasmanian Wetlands)</i> (\$80,000)  [State-wide project funded from national element of NHT]	GHD Pty Ltd	This activity will provide information for the nomination of suitable wetlands to the <i>Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia</i> (Tasmanian Wetlands).	Fresh water Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases
Establishing baseline data for monitoring vegetation condition (\$99,000)  [State-wide]	Department of Primary Industries and Water	This activity will implement the vegetation condition methodology previously developed by DPIW, focusing on determining baseline information for vegetation communities across a comprehensive network of sites.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine

## Planning

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
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Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
Improving council-based information and data systems (\$150,000)	Southern Tasmanian Councils Board	Using existing Council information systems as a basis, this activity will provide a framework for more integrated management of and access to NRM information and data within local government to improve on-ground NRM outcomes from planning and decision-making.	Fresh water Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Soils & Salinity Marine, coastal & estuarine
Conservation of and protection of Critical Freshwater Ecosystems through Natural Resource Management planning (\$465,000)  [South & North NRM Regions]	Hydro Consulting	This activity will validate Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values (CFEV) assessment conservation value and assigned management priority from an NRM Region perspective, in order to provide confidence in the CFEV model as an effective tool for natural resource management.	Fresh water Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine
Implement a whole of ecosystem and whole of catchment planning model (\$132,000)	Glamorgan Spring Bay Council	This activity will build on the Little Swanport catchment planning process to develop a whole-of-catchment planning model that can be transferred to other Tasmanian catchments.	Soils & Salinity Fresh water Marine, coastal & estuarine Weeds, pests and diseases Threatened species Vegetation condition
Deliver property management planning in the Southern Region (\$331,000)	Rural Development Services, in partnership with Tasmanian Landcare Association and Rod Knight GIS	This activity will provide planning at the property level to enable effective on ground NRM actions, focusing on providing integrated economic, social and environmental outcomes.	Soils & Salinity Fresh water Marine, coastal & estuarine Weeds, pests and diseases Threatened

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
			species Vegetation condition
Macquarie Island pest management (\$30,000)	Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service	This activity will further develop logistical planning and methodology for eradicating rats and rabbits from Macquarie Island.	Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine

## Community Capacity

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
Implementation of the Southern Weeds Strategy (\$370,000)	Southern Tasmanian Councils Board	This activity will provide resources to Local Government for the coordination, leadership and training to implement the Southern Weeds Strategy in partnership with other stakeholders.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases
Support for the Care Community to address targets (\$80,000)	Tasmanian Landcare Association	<p>This activity will develop and implement a process for ensuring care groups have a shared understanding and consistent strategic approach to addressing Southern regional NRM priorities.</p> <p>It will achieve this by delivering a workable Action Planning model to care groups and the Southern NRM network to guide care group activity and ensure alignment with <i>the Southern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Strategy</i>.</p> <p>The activity will also provide NRM South with 'snapshots' of care group activity in the region to ensure that NRM South is up-to-date with NRM activity from this important community sector.</p>	Fresh water Marine, coastal & estuarine Soils & Salinity Weeds, pests and diseases Threatened species Vegetation condition
Addressing rural tree decline (\$245,000)	University of Tasmania	This activity will implement a decision support tool for managing rural tree decline in vegetation communities under threat in rural landscapes.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases

## On Ground Action

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
NRM Incentives (\$513,000)	Greening Australia (Tasmania) in partnership with Agricultural Resource Management	This activity will deliver a targeted package of NRM incentives in the Southern region to facilitate a range of on-ground outcomes including:  More sustainable water use and land management practices  Increased protection of threatened species  Improved connectivity and quality of habitat at landscape scale  Control of weeds, pests and diseases	Soils & Salinity  Fresh water  Marine, coastal & estuarine Weeds, pests and diseases  Threatened species  Vegetation condition
Implement Threatened Species recovery plans (\$1,300,000)  [State-wide]  Three-year element funded from Regional Competitive program  One-year element funded from investment proposals	Department of Primary Industries and Water	This activity will implement priority actions in Threatened Species Recovery Plans for identified priority species listed on the EPBC and State Threatened Species Acts, including:  Orchids Euphrasia Orange-bellied parrot Hollow-nesting birds Threatened raptors Spotted Handfish Freshwater Fish Key threatened invertebrate groups	Vegetation condition  Threatened species  Weeds, pests and diseases  Marine, coastal & estuarine
North West Bay River Restoration (\$120,000)	Kingborough Council	This activity will rehabilitate specific reaches of North West Bay River to a natural and more stable condition and to reduce the risk of further erosion and flooding to adjacent areas.	Fresh water  Vegetation condition  Weeds, pests and diseases

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
Strategic Management of High Priority Weeds (Southern Midlands) (\$20,000)	Southern Midlands Council	This activity is supporting the Southern Midlands Council to control Spanish Heath, Paterson's Curse, Ragwort, Pampas Grass and White Weed on approximately ten hectares in the municipality.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases
Vegetation support for community groups implementing agreed plans (\$58,630)	The Understorey Network	The Understorey Network will provide local provenance plants and a technical support service to community care and catchment groups involved in implementing NRM plans.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases
Implementation of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Weed Management Plan (\$42,000)	Glamorgan Spring Bay Council	This activity will assist the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council to implement high and medium priorities in the Glamorgan Spring Bay weed management plan focusing on Spanish Heath and rare / threatened species protection in roadside verges within the municipality.	Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine
St Crispin's Well, North West Bay River Water Quality. (\$18,400)	Hobart Water	This activity will support Hobart Water to improve catchment water quality by allowing a closed track to successfully revegetate through controlling access to the site and water intake. It will also highlight the importance of the drinking water supply catchment and provide information regarding the protection of the natural values of the area.	Fresh water Vegetation condition



Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
Maintaining and improving biodiversity values at the landscape scale in the Huon Valley and D'Entrecasteaux Channel (\$277,500)	Kingborough Council in partnership with Huon Valley Council	This activity will improve connectivity and ecosystem condition at the landscape scale across the Huon Valley and Kingborough municipalities. It will protect National and State-listed threatened species and communities and address threats to them by dealing with weeds, inappropriate stock access and fragmentation. This activity is being undertaken by a partnership between Kingborough and Huon Valley Councils.	Fresh water Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine
Sedimentation and erosion control in the Derwent Metropolitan region. (\$120,000)	Derwent Estuary Program	This activity will assist the Derwent Estuary Program to develop improved sediment and erosion control assessment and compliance tools for councils and will develop guidelines and protocols to guide foreshore reclamation decision-making.	Fresh water Soils & Salinity Marine, coastal & estuarine
River Recovery: Implementing priority NRM actions in the Derwent catchment (\$250,162)	Greening Australia, in partnership with Derwent Catchment NRM Committee	This activity will eradicate African Feathergrass in the Derwent Catchment and reduce sediment loads in Dew Rivulet by working with landholders to implement a Rivercare Plan being developed through the River Recovery program. It is being managed in partnership by the Derwent Catchment NRM Committee and Greening Australia (Tasmania).	Fresh water Vegetation condition Weeds, pests and diseases Soils & Salinity
Implementing the integrated SE coastal management strategy (\$300,000)	South East Regional Development Association in partnership with Sorell, Clarence, Tasman and Glamorgan Spring Bay Councils	This activity is undertaking three NRM flagship projects to demonstrate cooperation, integration and implementation of on-ground actions at a local level, across the south-east NRM region.  It will: Begin rehabilitation works (terrestrial) of the international Ramsar site at Orielson Lagoon; Erect consistent and clear signage to enhance protection of Threatened	Fresh water Vegetation condition Threatened species Weeds, pests and diseases Marine, coastal & estuarine

Activity	Service Provider	Description	Relevant targets
		<p>Species across the Sorell, Clarence, Tasman and Glamorgan Spring Bay Councils, with particular focus on shorebirds, coastal and wetland vegetation; and</p> <p>Implement a weed control program on both public and private land holdings across the municipalities to promote cooperation and to build capacity within local government works crews to implement NRM priorities. This will directly contribute to weed control in significant areas across the municipalities and will improve Council assessment processes required for on-ground works in sensitive coastal areas.</p>	

### Statewide projects managed by other regions

PROJECT TITLE	LEAD REGION	Service provider	NRM South contribution 05/06 \$	NRM South contribution 06/07 \$	FUNDS 07/08 \$
Property Management Systems framework	NRM North	Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association	45,000	0	0
Soil condition monitoring and evaluation	NRM Cradle Coast	Department of Primary Industries & Water	55,000	55,000	0

## NHT Regional Competitive Projects

The NHT Regional Competitive Component supports higher-cost, larger scale, multi-regional or cross-jurisdictional, multi-year projects that will lead to significant improvements in the sustainable management of natural resources. The following projects were delivered in the Southern region during 2005-06.

PROJECT TITLE	LEAD REGION	FUNDS 04/05 \$	FUNDS 05/06 \$	FUNDS 06/07 \$	FUNDS 07/08 \$
Incentives for Improved Management of Priority Natural Habitat in the Tasmanian Midlands Biodiversity Hotspot	NRM South	200,000	310,000	420,000	0
Management of Aboriginal coastal lands	NRM North	202,973	330,337	141,432	0
Implementing Critical Cross-regional National Threatened Species Recovery Plans (for details see page 37)	NRM South	0	300,000	350,000	350,000
Condition of rocky reef communities, a key marine habitat around Tasmania	NRM Cradle Coast	0	237,000	53,000	0
Rice grass eradication from targeted areas in Tasmania	NRM Cradle Coast	0	55,000	35,000	25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		402,973	1,232,337	999,432	375,000