

# Regional NRM Bugle



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### Australian government budget

In the recent Australian government budget an extra \$300 million Australia wide has been provided to extend the National Heritage Trust for another year to 2007/08. The budget has also extended the National Landcare Programme by two years by providing an additional \$80 million (\$40 million in both 2006-07 and 2007-08). For further information, please contact Trevor Stanley on 07 3224 2149 or [Trevor.Stanley@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Trevor.Stanley@nrm.qld.gov.au)

### Facilitator network update

State and Australian government natural resource management (NRM) facilitators operating at a state level in Queensland are working together to align their work so that coordinators and facilitators at regional and local levels receive better-coordinated support.

The state facilitators believe this will help the members of the network to easily identify who to contact for particular services. Their strategy includes identifying gaps and duplications, and is part of supporting healthy regional NRM arrangements in Queensland.

Those at the first meeting included the Australian government NRM facilitators, the State National Landcare Program coordinator, the State Waterwatch coordinator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff, and regional NRM Taskforce staff from the capacity support and regional arrangements teams. At this meeting, it was noted that other state networks such as those of local government, non-government organisations (NGOs) and community groups should be included in developing the strategy. They have been invited to the next meeting to be held on Friday 28 May. For more information, contact Claire Heath on 07 3214 2641 or [claire.heath@csiro.au](mailto:claire.heath@csiro.au), or Adam Richardt on 07 3239 3860 or [adam.richardt@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:adam.richardt@nrm.qld.gov.au).

### Why there is a new focus on regional arrangements

During the past two years there has been considerable focus on creating a more strategic approach to managing the threats to natural resource assets through a regional or catchment approach. This has meant a shift in focus for programs like the National Heritage Trust (the Trust) and the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAPSWQ). The Trust has provided funding for a large number of unstructured local on-ground projects in the first stage and is now focused on developing a system that looks at the bigger picture and integrates existing natural resource management (NRM) planning. This new systematic approach partly funded by the Trust, NAPSWQ and the National Landcare Program will determine a more strategic approach to combating natural resource threats. This healthier approach has led to the formation of regional NRM bodies and the development of regional NRM plans and regional investment strategies.

For example, if during regional planning processes, it is discovered that a weed infestation is at the top of a river catchment and is feeding weed seed to properties in the lower catchment. It would be pointless treating properties further down stream before eradicating the source of the weed seed problem. By planning to start at the top of the catchment and working down stream, reinfestation is prevented. For further information, please contact Carl Glen on 07 3224 7792 or [Carl.Glen@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Carl.Glen@nrm.qld.gov.au)

### On-ground work continues during regional arrangements

While there has been a strong focus on the regional arrangements process, there is still a considerable amount of on-ground work occurring due to Envirofunds, priority action proposals and the facilitator/coordinator funds. A recent trip Carl Glen took to one small part of the Fitzroy Basin illustrated this to him. There were projects on salinity and riparian vegetation fencing, salinity monitoring and several revegetation projects located in the Hedlow catchment between Rockhampton and Yeppoon. There are at least 10 times as many on-ground activities occurring throughout the Fitzroy Basin Association's region and there are 15 more regions. This equates to literally hundreds of on-ground projects occurring throughout the state.

Over the next couple of weeks case studies will be placed on the *regionalnrm* web site at [www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au](http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au). These will be snap shots illustrating numerous on-ground activities that are already being directed by the regional arrangements processes. For further information, please contact Carl Glen on 07 3224 7792 or [Carl.Glen@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Carl.Glen@nrm.qld.gov.au)

### 2005 Landcare and Catchment Management Conference

Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWaLC) are calling for expressions of interest to host the 2005 Landcare and Catchment Management Conference, featuring Queensland Landcare awards. Closing date for submissions is 2 July 2004. For a copy of the guidelines, contact Brenda Walhain on 07 3221 4409 or [brenda@nrmseq.com](mailto:brenda@nrmseq.com)

We welcome your input and feedback on this newsletter. If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions please contact [Chrissa.Brown@nrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:Chrissa.Brown@nrm.qld.gov.au)