

Regional NRM Bugle



3 February 2005

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Regional Competitive Component – call for round three

A reminder to all regional bodies that the third round of the Regional Competitive Component closes 4 March 2005. After two successful rounds for the themes of biodiversity hotspots and weeds, the third round of funding will focus on threatened species, coastal zones and marine environment, Ramsar wetlands and their catchments, feral pests, sustainable production, and indigenous engagement.

Proponents for the third round can seek funding from some \$20 million for up to three years from 2005/06 to 2007/08.

If you have any queries contact [Geoff Rohan](#) from the Australian Government NRM team on (02) 6274 2344, or [Andrea Kennedy](#) from SPRA on (07) 3225 2622

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New Communication Project Officer

Paul Rees from NR&M's Public Affairs Unit, has joined the communication team at SPRA and will work three days a week with the team. Paul will help SPRA develop new and improved products to support SPRA staff, regional NRM bodies and other clients and promote the work that is being undertaken into the future.

Paul has many years' experience in communication and his wealth of knowledge will be very beneficial to generate awareness for both the strategic policy and regional arrangements agendas. In particular, Paul will help improve the regional NRM website and salinity section of the NR&M website, in addition to developing a SPRA presence on Insite, NR&M's intranet.

Paul will be working in SPRA on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and he can be contact by e-mail paul.rees@nrm.qld.gov.au or phone on 3224 7221.

Workshops for Fisheries Act Amendments

The *Fisheries Act 1994* is just about to be amended to fit within the IDAS process (the development assessment systems that is part of the IPA). The amendment includes approval processes associated with the following development-related fisheries activities: aquaculture development, disturbance to marine plants including destruction, removal and damage, works within declared fish habitat areas, the construction of waterway barriers, and construction of fishways associated with the waterway barriers. DPI&F are running a series of workshops in February for all interested stakeholders.

If people are interested in attending, please phone Dr Zafer Sarac or Ms Shana Engelhart on 3405 6798.

Public comment sought on interim vegetation codes

Public comment is being requested for the effectiveness of regionally based interim vegetation management codes. These codes are used to assess applications for ongoing land clearing. The review does not include the broad scale codes used to assess applications from last year's vegetation ballot. The closing date for public comments is 14 March 2005.

Comments can be posted to: Code Review, Vegetation Management, NR&M, GPO box 2454, BRISBANE Q 4001. The interim codes are available at: www.nrm.qld.gov.au/vegetation/regional_codes.html or through any local NR&M office or by phoning 1800 999 367.

We welcome your input and feedback on this newsletter. If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions please contact [Shona Strachan](#) or [Carl Glen](#).