

Regional NRM Bugle



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Australian Water Fund

As part of the Australian Government's \$2 billion Australian Water Fund, \$200 million will be available over the next five years for community grants of up to \$50,000 to restore and protect water resources through practical, on-the-ground work.

Community groups and regional NRM bodies can apply for grants up to \$50,000. Further information about the Fund will be added to the website as it develops. To find out more about the Australian Water Fund please use the following link <http://www.nrm.gov.au/water-fund/index.html>

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Regional NRM planning update

There has been a flurry of activity over the past few months, with several regional plans and investment strategies being accredited or being recommended to Ministers by the Joint Australian and Queensland Steering Committee (JSC). The JSC this week have recommend two new plans, from the Burnett Mary Regional NRM Group and Burdekin Dry Tropics Board, for accreditation to Ministers.

The following plans prepared by the following regional NRM bodies have already been accredited or recommended to Ministers: Fitzroy Basin Association, Queensland Murray Darling Committee, Condamine Alliance, South West NRM, Desert Channels Queensland, Northern Gulf Resource Management Group, Southern Gulf Catchments, Far North Queensland NRM, SEQ Western Catchments, NRM South East Queensland.

For more information on any of these plans please use this link to the [Regional NRM website](#) to find the regional NRM body and the plan you are interested in.

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State NRM Capacity Building Program Implementation Board meeting

The State NRM Capacity Building Program Implementation Board held a meeting on the 24 February to review all of the capacity building state-wide investment strategies. Most of the projects are progressing well. A key interest to regional NRM bodies is the Board's recommendation to the Joint Australian and Queensland Steering Committee to fund the Queensland Catchment Activity Management System (QCAMS). This additional project will be funded from the significant savings made by the Regional Information Services Framework project through sharing existing infrastructure and development environments with the Integrated Resource and Tenure Maps project.

The Regional Information Services Framework with the addition of QCAMS will now ensure regional NRM bodies have access to a consolidated framework that consists of the Regional Information Services internet web portal, training, delivery of the information management best practice guidelines and a performance reporting mechanism.

The Regional Information Services Framework aligns with the reporting and governance requirements for NAPSWQ and other NRM activities and processes, including the Natural Heritage Trust. For more information about Queensland Catchment Activity Management System (QCAMS), please contact [Andrea Kennedy](#) on 07 3225 2622.

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