

Community Support component - previous investments in New South Wales

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Border Rivers Gwydir

Improving enterprise profitability, viability of rural communities and ecosystem health (\$350,000, 2003-04)

This project will provide training to farmers, graziers and CMA/agency personnel in Holistic Management® — a new type of decision-making process. Financial incentives will also be provided to participating landholders so they can undertake capital works, such as fencing and provision of watering points, to improve land and livestock management. There will be workshops and field days on demonstration sites to show the principles and advantages of the new approach.

Barwon River Riparian Corridor Rehabilitation Project (\$162,140, 2004-05)

The conservation and production project will manage riparian vegetation along a 45-kilometre stretch of the Barwon River, south of Mungindi.

Increasing awareness of issues affecting controlled traffic farming systems and investigating management options for these issues for sustainability and adoption of controlled traffic (\$9,550, 2004-05; \$11,100, 2005-06)

The project will promote the benefits of controlled traffic farming for the environment and productivity. It will also investigate the problems associated with controlled traffic to determine factors affecting its viability and adoption.

GWYMAC Integrated Natural Resource Management to Highlight/Overcome Local Environmental Issues (\$105,700, 2004-05; \$105,200, 2005-06; \$8,700, 2006-07)

The project will give land managers the knowledge, skills and attitude to identify individual natural resource management issues through an eight-day Property Management Planning Workshop.

Managing the riparian area along Beardy Waters above the reservoir wall at Glen Innes (\$34,540, 2004-05; \$36,740, 2005-06; \$36,740, 2006-07)

The project, which addresses the issue of water quality of Beardy Waters, will target turbidity and excess nutrients caused by stock that have uninterrupted access to the stream. The target area is the reaches above the wall of the reservoir, which provides water to the town of Glen Innes.

Understanding soils — extension programme for grower groups in northern NSW (\$42,500, 2004-05)

The project will help farmers understand, minimise and manage salinity, sodicity and subsoil constraints, nutrient deficiencies and fertiliser losses, efficient rainfall and soil water usage.

Croppa Creek Catchment Planning Project (\$38,000, 2004-05; \$107,000, 2005-06)

This project will develop a river plan for Croppa Creek below its junction with Yalleroi Creek and facilitate property planning with relevant landholders.

Restoring the Balance — Landcare Working for Sustainable Agriculture (\$152,160, 2004-05; \$169,050, 2005-06; \$186,550, 2006-07)

A partnership between Gwydir and Macintyre Resources Management Committee (GWYMAC), Granite Borders Landcare Committee (Granite Borders) and Upper Gwydir Landcare Association (UGLA) will focus on a wide range of priority NRM issues. They include dryland salinity, soil and land management, revegetation, sustainable resource use and water quality.

Soil health and productivity improvement in the Whitlow Region (\$36,984, 2004-05)

The project will analyse soil on properties with varying soil type to determine their physical, biological and chemical nature, and gain an understanding of the measures required to achieve greater production from the properties, with the least environmental impact.

Landscape & soil course for sustainable farm management on the North West Slopes (\$45,000, 2005-06, \$1,200, 2006-07)

The project will provide natural resource managers with the skills and knowledge to undertake soil tests and interpret the results, read and understand landscapes, assess potential paddock productivity, and match it to enterprise use, choose the right pasture plants or crops for different landscapes and select appropriate fertilisers.

Towards sustainability – improving livestock industries in northern NSW (\$132,000, 2005-06)

The project will increase the uptake of sustainable agricultural practices in dairy, beef and other livestock industries, through the exchange of information between sub-tropical farming groups. It will involve workshops, field trips, on-ground works, developing best practice riparian management, farm sustainability indicators and using dung beetles as a management tool.

Enhancing sustainable agriculture in the Granite Borders region (\$123,560, 2007-08)

This project will improve farming operations and enhance profitability and sustainability by demonstrating conservation farming practices. The project will design and implement sustainable and profitable conservation farming systems based on controlled traffic farming, which highlights practices that reduce erosion and water run-off and significantly reduce compaction, leading to an increase in soil health, farm efficiencies and productivity.

Land, water and wool: implementing best management practice in southern New England (\$158,900, 2007-08)

This project will engage Southern New England woolgrowers in changes to practices to enable more sustainable natural resource management and wool production, using best management practices developed by the Land, Water & Wool Northern Tablelands research project.

The New England and North West landcare adventure 2008 (\$9,900, 2007-08)

The Landcare Adventure is the peak annual Landcare event in the New England and Northwest regions of NSW. The hosting of the event is rotated around the five landcare networks comprising the New England Northwest Landcare Co-ordinating Committee.

Improving conservation farming practices on sloping country in northern NSW (\$75,000, 2007-08)

This project will improve farming operations and enhance profitability and sustainability by demonstrating conservation farming practices. The project will design and implement sustainable and profitable conservation farming systems based on controlled traffic farming, which highlights practices that reduce erosion and water run-off and significantly reduce compaction, leading to an increase in soil health, farm efficiencies and productivity.

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Central West

Upper Macquarie – mid Macquarie grazing systems (\$100,000, 2003-04)

This project will look at perennial weed management as it relates to sustainable grazing practices. Demonstration sites will be established, with field days and workshops complementing the on-ground works.

Upper Castlereagh cropping systems (\$23,000, 2003-04)

This project will focus on best management practices for maintaining soil health, including converting traditional farm machinery. Education and training via field days and workshops will be an important part of the project.

Upper Castlereagh grazing systems (\$52,000, 2003-04)

The main aim of this project is to set up an incentive scheme to encourage sustainable grazing practices, including establishing perennial pastures and relocating watering points. An education and training programme will support the on-ground works.

Upper Bogan: cropping systems (\$23,000, 2003-04)

This project will focus on best management practices for maintaining soil health, including converting traditional farm machinery. Field days and workshops will be part of the activities.

Upper Bogan: grazing systems (\$52,000, 2003-04)

The main aim of this project is to set up an incentive scheme to encourage sustainable grazing practices, including planting native grasses, fencing (electrical or conventional), and relocating watering points. An education and training programme will support the on-ground works.

Macquarie- Bogan - Castlereagh Floodplain: Cropping Systems (\$30,000, 2003-04)

This project involves converting traditional farm machinery to minimum tillage machinery. This may include raising seed boxes and changing tine and row spacings, covering systems and seed-placement mechanisms. There will also be educational and training component that will include field days, workshops and assessments of the minimum tillage systems in use.

Macquarie-Bogan-Castlereagh Floodplain: Grazing Systems (\$70,000, 2003-04)

The aim of this project is to set up an incentive scheme to encourage sustainable grazing practices. The major activities will include sowing appropriate mixes of different pasture types, using native grasses, fencing and relocating watering points. An education/training package supporting the incentives programme will also be put in place.

Improved grazing management for salinity and erosion control in the Cudgong Catchment reducing salinity and sediment loads into the Macquarie River (\$278,050, 2004-05)

The project will showcase intensive grazing management on properties with deep-rooted perennial pastures and strategic tree planting to extend the root depth, and increase the organic matter, the ground cover and the use of subsurface water. This will reduce surface erosion and the amount of salt, sediment and nutrient loads reaching the waterways.

Native pasture degradation replenishment programmes (\$60,000, 2004-05; \$40,000, 2005-06, \$20,000, 2006-07)

The project will improve water quality in the Castlereagh catchment area, reduce the impact of erosion, increase the amount and number of summer-based perennial pastures and increase knowledge and practice through 'Prograze' training.

Ripple-effect grazing management change project (\$299,000, 2004-05; \$142,000, 2005-06; \$33,000, 2006-07)

The project will support landholders to influence others — using peer support and on-ground training — to change large areas of the catchment through revegetation and increased use of perennials in priority catchments.

Managing environmentally sustainable soils and groundcover essentials (MESSAGE) (\$141,250, 2004-05; \$129,650, 2005-06; \$133,300, 2006-07)

The project addresses soil acidity and dryland salinity, and — to a lesser degree — the issues of soil degradation, water quality, native vegetation and biodiversity decline, pasture degradation, weeds, declining stream health and pests.

Central Tablelands Landcare: Engaging local communities in NRM (\$158,195, 2004-05)

The project will produce Subcatchment Situationers (management toolkits), deliver community NRM forums, generate community NRM action plans and projects, and provide local demonstrations of sustainable agriculture.

Achieving improved environmental outcomes in the Medway Creek Catchment (\$212,250, 2004-05)

The project will address soil degradation, water quality, degradation of riparian zones and reduced biodiversity as priority NRM issues threatening the sustainability of the Medway Creek catchment.

Bell River riverine corridor project –restore the proud Bell! (\$121,000, 2007-08)

The once proud Bell River riparian corridor is rapidly suffering major degradation. This project is a response to the community's increasing high level of concern regarding the extreme riparian degradation. The project consists of strategic intervention, on-ground works and local landcare implementation, education, training and support to improve water quality on-farm and for other uses in the catchment.

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Hawkesbury Nepean

Strategic pest plant management (\$260,000, 2003-04)

In consultation with relevant Weeds of National Significance coordinators, this project involves managing and eradicating discrete outbreaks of serrated tussock, blackberry and gorse in known locations throughout the catchment.

Training and Awareness (\$90,000, 2003-04)

This project will provide training and educational materials in five languages for the 2,000 markets gardeners of non-English speaking backgrounds who comprise 80-90 per cent of market gardeners in the Sydney Basin. The project will promote landcare and support best management practices, including identifying weeds and managing them without using chemicals.

Implementing best practice for sustainable grazing management (\$234,500, 2004-05; \$222,750, 2005-06; \$202,000, 2006-07)

Working with the landcare community, the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority will promote Best Management Practices in suitable locations across the catchment, and recognise the need for landholders to have appropriate skills and training to decide on, and make, land use changes for more sustainable outcomes for production and the environment.

Riparian fencing to protect stock and enhance estuarine water quality (\$19,500, 2004-05)

The project will allow the landcare community to reduce erosion on riverbanks, prevent cattle fouling the river water and address the increasing problem of cattle grazing on the harmful plant species, green cestrum (*Cestrum parqui*), which is spreading through the region.

Productive land making more seafood... naturally (\$197,500, 2005-06; \$187,500, 2006-07; \$187,500, 2007-08)

The project will target the specific land-management activities needed to maintain the health of estuarine environments and habitats essential for productive seafood industries.

Increasing the sustainability of agricultural production and the uptake of sound natural resource management in Mangrove Mountain and surrounding districts. (\$209,500, 2005-06; \$209,500, 2006-07)

This project aims to increase sustainable horticulture and agriculture practices through better soil, water, nutrient, weed and pest animal management.

Property management planning workshops – 6 sessions (\$73,140, 2007-08)

This project will deliver six property management planning workshops for landowners in the Hawkesbury Nepean catchment, focussing on planning for sustainable agricultural production, soil and land management with integrated biodiversity outcomes. The workshops will assist landholders to develop their own property management plans to implement natural resource management practices pertinent to the region. The workshops will cover improving soil and water quality, drought resistance, sustainable management, biodiversity, land conservation and other relevant farm business issues. Landholders will have the opportunity to become ambassadors in Landcare management.

Paddock trees for biodiversity and stock shelter (\$22,000, 2007-08)

This project will provide landholders with fencing materials and provenance trees to reinstate paddock and boundary trees in a cleared landscape; providing stepping stone corridors for bird migration whilst also providing shelter/shade for stock and improving soil management.

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Hunter Central Rivers

Central Coast implementation of small-scale landcare project (\$50,000, 2003-04)

Involving partnerships between local landholders and community groups, this project will increase productivity and sustainability by protecting, rehabilitating and re-establishing native vegetation in several priority areas.

Central Coast landcare education, awareness and promotion project (\$20,000, 2003-04)

This project involves promoting landcare as the solution to a range of NRM issues, and increasing the use of best management practices in rural areas.

Central Coast landcare, education, awareness and promotion project (\$40,000, 2003-04)

This project will help increase community understanding of landcare and NRM through the use of best management practices and land-use demonstration sites. They will be publicised at field days and land-use demonstrations.

Hunter landcare capacity building project (\$16,000, 2003-04)

This project will help boost community use of landcare through field days and specialised courses and programmes, such as the Master Tree Growers' farm forestry courses.

Hunter property planning for natural resource management outcomes (\$15,000, 2003-04)

This project involves holding field days and specialised courses in property planning for rural landholders. They will receive training in the physical aspects of property planning and the need for planning at the farm level.

Hunter landcare awareness programme (\$19,000, 2003-04)

This project will increase awareness in urban communities of NRM issues in rural areas. It will emphasise the use of rural landcare activities to target wider NRM issues.

Increase uptake of small-scale projects for on-farm natural resource management issues (\$90,000, 2003-04)

This project is in response to growing community interest in protecting and rehabilitating a number of riparian zones.

Lower north coast landcare farming initiative: sustainable grazing systems project (\$22,000, 2003-04)

This project will improve grazing on the lower north coast by enabling landholders to put their training into practice. Special sites will demonstrate the benefits of 'landcare farming' and other land management techniques.

Improved soil health for coastal farms (\$48,000, 2003-04)

Boosting soil health, and increasing the organic carbon content of soil through better management practices, is the main theme of this project. The best management practices will cover ground cover, soil stability, water infiltration and water use.

Setting targets for change in Manning, Myall and Wallamba catchments (\$30,000, 2003-04)

The aim of this project is to increase community awareness of the importance of nutrient management and water quality. It will involve producers identifying the issues, and support the implementation of targets for reducing nutrient loads in local streams.

Salinity catchment study for Muscle Creek (\$42,000, 2004-05)

The project will enable landholders to manage their properties to improve long-term productivity and sustainability through property-based salinity management plans.

The Lower North Coast sustainable production, promotion, training and capacity building programme (\$19,324, 2004-05; \$76,830, 2005-06; \$76,830, 2006-07)

The project will enhance the sustainable production skills and knowledge of natural resource managers, provide tools and resources to integrate natural resource management outcomes into farm management, and promote best management practices in agricultural production.

Diega Creek riparian corridor demonstration site (\$23,500, 2004-05)

The project will implement riparian rehabilitation, maintenance and conservation identified in the approved Rivercare Plan, address sustainable management of an identified wildlife corridor through channel stabilisation works, revegetation and stock management, and establish a demonstration site to promote best practice land management.

Improved productivity and sustainability on low-fertility saline recharge areas (\$41,900, 2004-05)

The project will demonstrate the environmental benefits and provide production data for rotational grazing systems on low-fertility soils in saline recharge areas, as well as on-ground management changes that meet catchment targets on salinity, eroded soils, river health and biodiversity.

Implementation of riparian management actions identified in existing Rivercare Plans in the Karuah, Great Lakes and Manning catchments (\$59,000, 2004-05)

The project will improve water quality and stream health through riparian management activities on farms identified on Rivercare Plans. The improvements will be delivered through devolved grants.

The Farm Sustainability Indicators Programme – Paterson-Allyn and Williams catchments (\$28,870, 2004-05)

The project will build on and increase knowledge and appreciation of the links between ecological and farm sustainability. It will provide natural resource managers with the skills and resources they need to balance production and natural resource management outcomes on their farms.

Local issues local farmers local solutions: better coastal grazing (\$61,200, 2005-06; \$48,000, 2006-07; \$48,000, 2007-08)

The project will establish a producer committee to undertake a 'needs assessment' to encourage better grazing methods in the coastal hinterland.

Sustainable agriculture community projects (\$200,000, 2005-06; \$200,000, 2006-07; \$200,000, 2007-08)

The project involves developing an overall strategy for implementing sustainable agriculture on the Central Coast, incorporating four components: a small projects grants scheme, field days and workshops, demonstration sites and a regional environmental management system with the Central Coast Turf Growers and other rural stakeholders.

Productive land making more seafood... naturally (\$157,500, 2005-06; \$147,500, 2006-07; \$147,500, 2007-08)

The project will target specific land-management activities needed to maintain the health of estuarine environments and habitats essential for productive seafood industries.

Gloucester dairy farmers targeting sustainable farming practices for change (\$166,610, 2007-08)

The Farmers Targets for Change program enables landholders to discuss the effects certain land management practices have on long term productivity and the health of natural resources on-farm and off-farm. A range of on-ground works have been developed from these discussions and farm visits from a technical officer. 14 dairy farmers who have participated in the program will implement these works on their individual farms to implement sustainable and profitable agricultural practices.

Hannam Vale dairy farmers targeting sustainable farming practices for change (\$129,333, 2007-08)

The Farmers Targets for Change program enables landholders to discuss the effects certain land management practices have on long term productivity and the health of natural resources on-farm and off-farm. A range of on-ground works have been developed from these discussions and farm visits from a technical officer. 11 dairy farmers who have participated in the program will implement these works on their individual farms to implement sustainable and profitable agricultural practices.

Improved riparian management and water quality within Tilligerry Creek catchment (\$66,775, 2007-08)

This project will help landholders to be involved in actively improving the land and water quality within the Tilligerry Creek Catchment, through a combination of riparian area management, appropriate fencing and planned revegetation. This will improve water quality, control nutrient runoff, prevent soil erosion and provide additional vegetation cover directly benefiting both land-based agriculture and aquaculture industries.

Getting back to the grassroots (\$102,000, 2007-08)

This project will promote the sharing of knowledge, experience and commitment to the adoption of on-farm Landcare solutions. A minimum 10 projects will be developed to demonstrate to landholders that a high level of productivity and environmental restoration can be achieved at the same time.

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Lachlan

Farming systems: cropping (\$120,000, 2003-04)

This project involves setting up an incentive scheme to encourage the conversion of traditional machinery to minimum tillage machinery. Field days and workshops will also be held.

Farming systems: grazing (\$170,000, 2003-04)

This project involves setting up an incentives scheme to encourage the use of sustainable grazing practices. The main activities will include sowing perennial pastures, using native grasses, fencing (electrical or conventional), and relocating watering points. There will also be an education and training programme for landholders.

Perenniality in conjunction with soil health (\$60,000, 2003-04)

This project involves promoting sustainable soil management techniques. Activities will include establishing trial plots, fencing-off plots, and using different machines, farming systems/management techniques, pasture species or products. Field days and workshop will help promote the project, as well as encourage landholders to adopt the techniques.

Farmers motivating farmers with innovative cropping and grazing systems (\$133,200, 2004-05; \$141,610, 2005-06; \$145,350, 2006-07)

The project will increase soil health and, subsequently, soil water holding capacity by encouraging farmers to adopt improved, innovative and profitable cropping and grazing practices.

Phase II Lachlan On-ground Works for Sustainable Agriculture with Community Support Position (\$410,000, 2004-05)

The project will build on work in the previous year to promote, support and invigorate landcare activities across the Lachlan Catchment. It will include training and on-ground activities aligned with the Catchment Action Plan Investment Strategy.

Engaging local communities in landcare farming (\$99,750, 2004-05)

This project will mobilise local communities to achieve NRM outcomes by activating local landcare groups and facilitating community engagement in stakeholder partnerships with local governments, agencies and the CMA in region-wide on-ground demonstrations of landcare farming.

B.I.G. (Bland Incentive Grants) Project (\$200,000, 2005-06; \$200,000, 2006-07; \$200,000, 2007-08)

The project will engage the Bland Creek Catchment community in natural resource management and help it with on-ground works tackling priority soil, water, vegetation, salinity and educational activities.

Management of grassy woodlands - maximising both production and conservation. (\$42,200, 2007-08)

This project aims to increase awareness of grassy woodlands and their value to production and biodiversity. The Grassy Box Woodland Conservation Management Network will help land managers build their capacity by providing best management practices to achieve both production and conservation outcomes in grassy woodland.

Demonstrating enhanced soil health and production through improved grazing management (\$111,000, 2007-08)

Under this project 10 land managers in the Lachlan Catchment will be trained to apply high density, short duration planned grazing, where animals are not returned until full pasture recovery has occurred. Each will have their own on-farm 1-20 hectare demonstration site.

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Lower Murray Darling

Cropping, Soils and Recharge Management (\$350,000, 2003-04)

Funding will provide incentives to encourage landholders to run on-farm trials aimed at increasing production while addressing land management concerns including erosion and salinity management. Activities associated with the on-farm trials will include technical support and educational workshops for landholders.

Streambank management along the Darling Anabranche — Integrating landholders in resource management (\$576,060, 2004-05; \$34,300, 2005-06)

The project will reduce the impact of stock and non-domestic animals grazing along the Anabranche stream bank, by fencing areas along the Anabranche. It will improve landholders' knowledge of total grazing pressure management, encourage active management of riparian areas and improve regeneration along the stream bank because of reduced erosion.

Rangeland Incentives (\$307,900, 2004-05; \$307,400, 2005-06; \$470,680, 2006-07)

The project will secure the sustainability of mixed farming/rangelands management. It will build on significant community input and work supported through the Rangelands Management Action Plan and play an integral role in achieving vegetation management targets. The incentives offer a range of assistance to landholders, generally as a one-off payment and as a co-investment to help a landholder get on top of a particular problem.

Capacity building of indigenous land managers in the Lower Murray-Darling rangelands (\$65,500, 2007-08)

This project will fund three capacity building and training workshops for indigenous land managers responsible for sustainable production and the conservation of cultural heritage on 12 rangeland properties in the catchment. The project will deliver customised training in farm business management and increase the group's capacity to implement sustainable agriculture and natural resource management best practices, in keeping with Lower Murray-Darling Catchment Management Authority targets.

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Murray

Perennial Pasture Establishment (\$350,000, 2003-04)

Perennial pasture establishment is an important element in controlling salinity and acidification. Three projects will be funded to begin this process in the Holbrook, Culcairn and Hume project areas. Incentives will be offered to landholders to encourage the establishment of perennial pasture. The lands targeted will be those associated with high groundwater recharge and lateral groundwater flows or acidifying soils.

Creating a productive and sustainable catchment through revegetation and improved land management (\$39,440, 2004-05; \$25,140, 2005-06; \$25,140, 2006-07)

The project will improve long-term stream stability by reducing erosion, soil acidity and salinity, improving control of stock access to the creek with fencing and flood gates, and creating corridors of native vegetation to improve native fauna diversity.

Sustainability with saltbush (\$23,910, 2004-05; \$45,430, 2005-06, \$2,390, 2006-07)

The project will establish a series of trial sites across a range of soil types to establish and manage old man salt bush as a perennial pasture species.

Community Participation in Murray Catchment Natural Resource Management Planning and Implementation Processes (\$60,000, 2004-05; \$44,000, 2005-06; \$52,000, 2006-07)

The project will address the key regional biophysical issues of declining water quality, increasing salinity, and declining soil health and biodiversity by improving community participation in regional planning and implementation.

Bringing Best Management Practices and Integrated Management To West Hume (\$69,000, 2004-05; \$69,000, 2005-06)

The project will increase landholder uptake of 'best management practices' by promoting sustainable, productive agricultural systems that encourage healthy soils, improved water use efficiency and better management practices for cropping and livestock systems.

Coordinated perennality project to improve soil health within Fowlers/Wagra catchment (\$23,500, 2005-06; \$8,500, 2007-08)

The project includes soil testing, conditioning, fertilising in predominantly steep and rocky country.

Healthy soils — healthy landscapes: Murray enhancements (\$179,500, 2005-06; \$176,900, 2006-07; \$180,500, 2007-08)

The project will help land managers collect, assess and interpret soil data (chemical and physical). The specific activities will include: education and training, implementing best management practices, and targeting of soil health works (on-farm and across the catchment).

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Murrumbidgee

Programme and needs assessment (\$10,000, 2003-04)

This project will identify the impediments to landholders adopting sustainable cropping and pasture systems. Existing sustainable agriculture programmes will be evaluated and an assessment made of appropriate best management practices.

On-farm demonstration (\$60,000, 2003-04)

This project involves applying the principles of sustainable agriculture in different farming landscapes across the region. Twelve on-farm demonstration sites will be set up, and case studies prepared and promoted.

Provision of incentives for landholder participation in learning programmes and adoption of sustainable practices (\$255,000, 2003-04)

This project includes a range of training and on-ground activities. The training will focus on sustainable pasture and cropping systems, property planning and sustainability assessments. The on-ground activities will include establishing perennial buffer strips, changes to agronomic practices and retiring degraded land.

Monitoring impacts on sustainability and natural resource condition (\$25,000, 2003-04)

Assessing farming performance against sustainability measures, and developing a landholder decision-making framework are important elements of this project. A report on the sustainability of the resource use and farming systems of participating properties will be prepared. The project will also benchmark of water use efficiency for various crops and pastures.

Sustainability begins at the farm gate: extending profitable farmers, sustainable systems, healthy landscapes in the 'Bidgee (\$402,805, 2004-05; \$402,804, 2006-07)

This project will increase farm profitability and agricultural sustainability by enhancing the skills, knowledge, abilities and motivation of landholders and landcarers to undertake sustainable agronomic practices and natural resource management at a sub-catchment farm scale.

What lies beneath – a compaction study in the FarmLink region" (\$75,961, 2007-08)

A paddock-scale study will measure the implications of machinery and livestock compaction on red soils in the region, and the potential benefits of implementing controlled traffic technology. Together with a communications strategy, the project will raise awareness of the production and environmental implications of soil compaction, as well as increase the adoption of controlled traffic technology amongst farmers in the FarmLink region.

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Namoi

Improved soil management for sustainable agriculture (\$350,000, 2003-04)

This project involves boosting landholder understanding of soils and property planning, providing technical support, undertaking on-ground works and land management unit mapping. The idea is to increase stakeholder participation and encourage the uptake of soil conservation farming practices.

Planning and works for productive and sustainable properties in the Liverpool Plains Catchment (\$246,860, 2004-05; \$303,110, 2005-06; \$273,480, 2006-07)

The project will increase awareness of natural resource management issues and encourage landholders and landcare groups in the catchment to take up Property Management/Sub-catchment Planning and sustainable agricultural practices.

Planning to ensure productive and sustainable properties in the Lower Namoi (\$197,330, 2004-05; 282,730, 2005-06)

The project will develop five sub-catchment groups that will strategically plan and undertake on-ground works to demonstrate best practice with group formation and works to be replicated throughout the catchment.

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Northern Rivers

Dung beetles for sustainable agriculture and improved water quality (\$52,970, 2004-05)

The project will increase dung beetle activity on the Northern Tablelands and slopes of NSW through an integrated release programme to increase the diversity and abundance of dung beetle species.

Farm forestry extension services for sustainable native forest and plantation management (\$109,875, 2004-05; \$109,875, 2005-06; \$109,875, 2006-07)

The project will develop landowners' understanding of sustainable farm forestry principles, increase knowledge and skills in silviculture, mensuration and monitoring of forests, value-adding and timber certification, and give landholders an extensive central source of information and professional advice.

Sustainable agriculture, grazing and horticultural practices — improving productivity and sustainability across the Northern Rivers CMA area (\$409,000, 2004-05; \$394,600, 2005-06; \$394,600, 2006-07)

This project will allow the Landcare networks to provide — through their networks — the means to achieve on-farm outcomes for sustainable agricultural and horticultural land use and Best Management Practices, erosion control, riparian land protection and water quality maintenance, and improvement and maintenance of, and increase in, on-farm biodiversity.

Sustainable agriculture, grazing and horticultural practices — improving productivity and sustainability across the Northern Rivers CMA area — additions to existing project (\$18,000, 2005-06; \$18,000, 2006-07)

This project will communicate, via field days and a forum, the benefits of sustainable agriculture, grazing and horticultural practices, and improving productivity and sustainability across the Northern Rivers CMA Area.

Dung beetles for sustainable agriculture and improved water quality (\$56,170, 2005-06; \$58,170, 2006-07)

The project involves an integrated release of dung beetles on the Northern Tablelands and Slopes to increase their diversity and abundance.

Farmer targets for change — Northern Rivers (\$50,750, 2005-06)

The project will boost farm profitability and agricultural sustainability by enhancing the skills, understanding and motivation of landholders and landcarers to undertake sustainable agronomic practices and natural resource management at the farm scale.

Towards sustainability – improving livestock industries in northern NSW (\$132,000, 2005-06; \$132,000, 2007-08)

The project will increase the uptake of sustainable agricultural practices in dairy, beef and other livestock industries, through the exchange of information between sub-tropical farming groups. It will involve workshops, field trips, on-ground works, development of best practice riparian management, farm sustainability indicators and using dung beetle as a management tool.

Crowsnest Swamp fish habitat and farming project. (\$45,640, 2007-08)

This project will restore fish passage to the Crowsnest Swamp wetland, and help riparian restoration along an adjacent section of the Coldstream River (a tributary of the Clarence River). The project will be used to demonstrate best environmental practice in agriculture and the benefits of riparian and wetland management on coastal floodplains.

Implementation of on-ground works to support training outcomes (\$200,000, 2007-08)

This project will provide funds to farmers who have participated in recent training activities (including Prograze, pasture management, wetland management, land capability, understanding soils) through the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, to undertake identified on-ground actions to improve the sustainability of their farming activities.

Linking climate change and sustainable farming practice in the upper Clarence (\$14,300, 2007-08)

This project aims to increase climate change awareness and reduce greenhouse emissions in a rural community by adopting farming methods such as no-till farming, retaining native vegetation, planting tree belts and investigating bio-fuel options. Small-scale scientific trials and measurement of soil carbon will quantify these emission reductions.

Soil carbon assessment and rehabilitation: landholders develop and implement new practices (\$121,940, 2007-08)

Soil carbon directly relates to soil condition and is fundamental to sustainability. It is also a major sink, and source, of greenhouse gas. This project will fully assess soil carbon fractions in 10 farms, relating them to soil health and greenhouse gas emissions. The project will establish demonstration plots of a new technology for rehabilitating degraded land and climate change abatement.

Implementing economic and environmental sustainability actions identified through sub-catchment planning (\$121,564, 2007-08)

This project will implement actions identified by cattle and plantation enterprises to increase sustainability, profitability and competitiveness, and to manage waterway impacts in a headwater catchment of the Clarence. Field days and training, and communicating project outcomes, will support activities including on-farm actions to control stock by riparian fencing, establishing off-stream stock watering, undertaking bush regeneration and riparian planting.

Dairy NRM works for healthy soils, rivers and catchments (\$544,000, 2007-08)

This project will provide funding and support for up to 250 dairy farmers in the Northern Rivers Region to implement on-ground natural resource management activities. These activities have and will be planned through agreed farm action plans, prepared through industry-supported Farmer Targets for Change Workshops.

Land, Water & Wool: implementing best management practice in the southern New England (\$158,400, 2007-08)

This project will help southern New England woolgrowers to make changes to practices to increase sustainable natural resource management and wool production, using best management practices developed by the Land, Water & Wool Northern Tablelands research project.

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Southern Rivers

Implementation of priority landcare works in Southern Rivers (\$350,000, 2004-05; \$350,000, 2005-06; \$350,000, 2006-07)

The project will provide resources for landcare and industry groups to address priority resource degradation sites on agricultural land and/or waters used by aquaculture and/or fishing industries. It will also enable landcarers to address small-scale but strategically important sites, which will provide momentum and confidence for groups as they move to implementing larger, broad-scale projects.

Narira sustainable farm planning and action — Stage 2 (\$60,000, 2004-05)

This project will ensure continuity of community engagement, education and implementation of sustainable farm planning. It will deliver farm planning workshops and help coordinate on-ground works, such as control of erosion sites, improved stock management in riparian areas and revegetation.

Shoalhaven Illawarra dairy industry NRM partnership (\$136,050, 2004-05; \$136,050, 2005-06; \$136,050, 2006-07)

The project will provide support and resources for dairy farmers to implement natural resource management projects on their farms. It will address multiple issues, including reduced water quality from sediment and faecal inputs, decreased soil health and productivity from soil compaction, acidification and salinity, and threats to agricultural sustainability from pest plants.

The ABC of saving our soils (\$54,400, 2004-05)

This project will address the issue of soil loss from erosion, especially wind and gully erosion, by stabilising 20 sites using fencing, pasture/vegetation regeneration and/or soil works to benefit the broader landscape.

Demonstrating the role of farm forestry in sustainable land use (\$47,520, 2004-05)

The project will demonstrate the role farm forestry can play in creating diversified and sustainable landscapes, through the implementation of an integrated on ground works program and the use of demonstration sites, workshops, farm planning sessions, forums, newsletters and information sheets for information dissemination and program evaluation.

‘The 4 Bs Project’ (building better nutrient budgets on Bega farms) (\$240,000, 2005-06; \$250,000, 2006-07; \$250,000, 2007-08)

This project involves far south coast dairy farmers improving their nutrient management (including nutrient budgeting, effluent management and other ways of reducing nutrient loss from farms), and improving water quality in the Bega River Catchment and Towamba and Tuross Rivers.

A decade of trees = a lifetime of protection (\$52,500, 2005-06; \$57,750, 2006-07; \$63,525, 2007-08)

The project involves establishing shelter-belts to raise awareness of the benefits they can deliver in terms of sustainable agriculture and conservation.

Mulloon Creek Natural Sequence Farming demonstration (\$101,180, 2005-06; \$19,760, 2006-07; \$32,070, 2007-08)

This project tackles landscape restoration and farm profitability by implementing Natural Sequence Farming. It will establish an accredited learning process and scientifically monitor the Natural Sequence Farming approach to landscape restoration.

Implementation of priority landcare works in Southern Rivers (\$400,000, 2007-08)

This project will provide resources to the seven District Landcare Associations in the Southern Rivers region to engage Landcare groups and other landholders in addressing priority resource issues. It will enable landcarers to address small-scale but strategically important sites, providing momentum and confidence for groups to implement larger, broad-scale projects.

Shoalhaven Illawarra dairy industry NRM partnership (\$203,249, 2007-08)

This project is an extension of a successful National Landcare Programme Shoalhaven Illawarra dairy partnership. The project will enhance dairy farmers' skills and knowledge base for best management practices for nutrient and effluent flows for farm riparian zones, to improve water quality and sustainable production and profitability.

Farming for weed suppression – integrated weed management on the South Coast (\$100,000, 2007-08)

This project will establish on-farm study sites demonstrating a suite of weed management techniques applicable to regionally significant weeds, particularly Fireweed and African Lovegrass. The project will also produce best practice management literature will be produced and establish an awareness-raising program to maximise adoption of integrated weed management on the South Coast of NSW.

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Sydney Metro

From tide to table (\$350,000, 2003-04)

This project will see partnerships created between landcare, community and industry groups to restore riverbank vegetation and fish habitat. It will involve 18 projects in areas that drain directly into estuarine waterways used by commercial fishers.

‘Grow Me Instead’: The nursery industry plant escape project for the Sydney region (\$72,520, 2004-05)

The project will target removing from propagation and sale in the industry all known invasive plant species. It will also help the industry and gardeners proactively identify potential new invasives to prevent their production and sale.

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Western

Sustainable grazing (\$150,000, 2003-04)

This project involves developing a local, best management practice for sustainable farming, with significant input from the region's landholders.

Sustainable farming (\$100,000, 2003-04)

This project involves developing a user-friendly, best management practice for sustainable farming. The region's landholders will contribute to its development and then implement it on their properties.

Degraded land-scrub dominated (\$100,000, 2003-04)

This project involves finalising a code of practice for woody weeds that reflects landholder input. It will be in an easily accessible, user-friendly format that is consistent with the National Weeds Strategy. Target weeds will include Parkinsonia (*Parkinsonia aculeate*), prickly acacia (*A. nilotica ssp. indica*) and mesquite (*Prosopis spp.*).

Degraded land-riparian zone protection on landholdings (\$60,000, 2003-04)

This project will involve finalising a riparian zone health survey. A planning and management programme to help landholders with priority river frontage will also be developed.

Western Catchment National Landcare Programme devolved grant project – run by people from the catchment for people in the catchment (\$300,000, 2004-05; \$200,000, 2005-06; \$100,000, 2006-07)

The project will help fund training and on-ground works to achieve sustainable agriculture across the catchment. It will continue the re-invigoration of landcare activities and encourage catchment stakeholders to take up best management practice.

Western Catchment National Landcare Programme devolved grant project – helping the hands that help the land. (\$200,000, 2007-08)

This project will help fund community engagement, training and on-ground works to boost sustainable agriculture across the catchment. It will encourage the re-invigoration

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Statewide

Consolidating landcare-catchment collaboration (\$93,110, 2003-04)

This Statewide project will provide the opportunity for CMA officials and staff to meet with representatives of all landcare networks at workshops across NSW. Subjects for discussion will include the new CMA structures, NRM priorities and proposed implementation strategies. The workshops will also review the current coverage of landcare networks, and general type and extent of activities. Possible mechanisms and structures to enable close CMA-landcare collaboration will also be discussed.

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