



Carmel Tebbutt MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce

Wednesday, 3 June 2009

NSW Government announces \$250,000 for the Northern Rivers environment

Three environmental projects in the Northern Rivers region will share a total of \$250,000 from the NSW Government's 2008/09 Environmental Trust program, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt, announced today.

Two of the grants will be used by WetlandCare Australia for the rehabilitation of the Northern Rivers upper tributaries and the third grant will be used by Southern Cross University to develop an environmental education strategy for recreational fishers.

"A grant of \$99,710 for the Northern Rivers upper tributaries rehabilitation project will protect and enhance biodiversity values and will result in a significant increase in water quality," Ms Tebbutt said.

"Project works will be carried out on up to 12 properties and will include fencing, weed control, stock management and regeneration.

"An additional amount of \$99,410 has been granted to identify and restore significant wetland sites across the Northern Rivers region.

"These works will aim to reduce the amount of sediment that could potentially fill shallow wetlands during the land preparation and tree planting phase of forestry plantations and prevent stock access."

Southern Cross University has been granted \$50,000 to strengthen the role that recreational fishers play in the protection of aquatic habitats in NSW.

"Southern Cross University has shown great leadership by establishing an education strategy on this significant environmental issue. Many aquatic habitats in NSW are under threat and several have been highly modified or degraded," Ms Tebbutt said.

These local grants are three of 185 totalling over \$36 million provided by the NSW Environmental Trust in 2008/9, and just part of an expected \$90 million it is investing in environmental projects and programs across the state.

"These innovative projects represent some of the amazing research, education and restoration projects funded through the NSW Government's 2008/09 Environmental Trust program.

"Each year this important program highlights the innovative thinking taking place around the environment in NSW and this year has been no exception."



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The Environmental Trust is an independent statutory body established by the NSW government to support exceptional environmental projects that do not receive funds from the usual government sources.

For information on the Environmental Trust visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm

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