

**Katrina Hodgkinson MP**  
**Minister for Primary Industries**  
**Minister for Small Business**



**Robyn Parker MP**  
**Minister for the Environment**  
**Minister for Heritage**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 16 May, 2013

### **INVESTMENT BOOST FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE + NRM**

The NSW Government will invest \$112 million over four years to fund community-driven natural resource and productive landscape projects, Minister for Primary Industries Katrina Hodgkinson and Minister for the Environment Robyn Parker announced today.

“Catchment Action funding is provided to Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) for farmer-driven projects that underpin sustainable, productive agriculture and community-driven projects to look after beaches, estuaries, regional and suburban bushland,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“CMAs and their community partners such as Landcare, Bushcare and Coastcare are working on hundreds of projects across NSW and today’s funding announcement provides certainty for these groups to continue their good work.

“The allocations for the 2013/14 financial year are an increase of between \$300,000 and \$1.4million per CMA when compared to 2012/13 allocations which is a great result. The funding will be invested in line with regional Catchment Action Plans, which have been developed in close consultation with communities.

“Importantly, this announcement clearly demonstrates the NSW Government’s commitment to funding natural resource management projects for the next four year period.”

Environment Minister Robyn Parker said that protecting soil quality, reducing erosion and restoring rivers and creeks will support sustainable agricultural production and deliver long lasting environmental benefits.

“This funding is a great example of how the NSW Government is delivering resources to local communities to restore and protect the quality of their environment,” Ms Parker said.

Catchment Action funding will support a variety of projects ranging from stabilising and re-vegetating river banks and wetlands to controlling feral pig, dog and rabbit populations to prevent damage to agricultural land and native flora and fauna.

“The partnerships and investments managed by CMAs are critical to ensuring primary industries and communities benefit from improved land and water management practices now and into the future,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“CMAs will become part of Local Land Services from next January and the continuing Catchment Action NSW funding demonstrates the NSW Government’s long-term commitment to support natural resource management.”

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