

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MURRAY- DARLING BASIN NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010



**Government
of South Australia**

South Australian
Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources
Management Board

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
Annual Report 2009- 2010

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Government of South Australia

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

28 October 2010

Ms Sharon Starick
Chairperson
Natural Resources Management Council
GPO Box 2834
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Ms Starick

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 38 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report and audited financial statement and report of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board for the year ended 30 June 2010.

On behalf of the Board I commend this report to you, the NRM Council and our partners and stakeholders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Paterson".

William Paterson
Presiding Member
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

1. FOREWORD

On behalf of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board it gives me great pleasure to present our 2009-10 Annual Report.

The major highlight for this year was commencing the implementation of our Regional Natural Resources Plan. The Plan was launched by the then Minister for the River Murray, Hon Karlene Maywald on the 30 June 2009. This plan represents a milestone in natural resources management for the region. It takes a major step towards fully integrated management of all natural resources and builds upon and extends the considerable work, investment and achievements that have already been made to protect, preserve and restore the resource for our benefit and those of our children and grandchildren. The Board is committed to the delivery of this Plan with its partners and to communicate the outcomes through monitoring, evaluation and reporting programs.

The Board recognises that now is a critical time for a fresh approach to the delivery of NRM outcomes: a fresh approach to our service delivery, a fresh approach to the way we invest. Just as importantly, fresh approaches to the way we best use the resources and involve people in our region. To achieve the ambitious targets set within its regional NRM plan the Board will require a fresh approach to how it does business. It is time to move from a system which largely merged a number of disparate organisations together (for sound reasons) to developing a system which is integrated and able to achieve landscape scale change.

The Board is determined in its endeavour to deliver real measurable NRM outcomes in the short and long term. The Board also wants to work in the areas in which it has a unique offering – on-ground, community driven NRM work. The Board now acknowledges that it is timely to review its previous approach to NRM delivery to ensure that it can continue to deliver successful long term integrated landscape scale natural resource management outcomes.

A new State initiative, the regional integration of Department of Environment and Natural Resources with the NRM Boards will further enhance the integration of natural resources within the state and allow for more effective and strategic work in the region. The provision of a regional approach, a shift to landscape approaches, and the collaboration and partnering and engaging of local communities will provide a great opportunity to improve natural resources in our region and the state.

The last seven years have produced the lowest inflow on record into the River Murray and this has challenged irrigators, communities and the environment. As part of the State's response to the drought, and to save water for critical human needs, 11 wetlands were disconnected from the River channel at the start of the year (including Lake Bonney, Barmera). Funding was received from the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) for ongoing monitoring of the condition of these wetlands during their period of closure. Monitoring revealed the need for re-wetting of some sites for which water was secured during 2009-10.

Also as part of the falling river levels, various investigations and trials were undertaken to inform the management of Acid Sulfate Soils in wetlands between Lock 1 and Wellington.

Again throughout the year the Board actively promoted its role and functions to the community through involvement in many field days, workshops, science forums, youth initiatives, media, newsletters and communiqués.

As my term of being on the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board expires in December this year, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Board on what it has achieved since its inception in 2005, the commitment of the members past and present and the input of many community members on our Natural Resources Management Groups and Committees.

The River Murray Advisory Committee again had a challenging year and I thank that Committee and the input from the Chairperson, Joanne Pfeiffer throughout the year. This Committee provides advice to the Minister for the River Murray and the Board on water allocations, flow entitlements and best management practices and hopefully the outlook for the future is more encouraging and less challenging with improved inflows and outlooks.

During the year regrettably we had the resignation of Bruce Munday as Chairperson of the Ranges to River NRM Group. I would like to thank Bruce along with Ken Stokes (Riverland NRM Group), David Lindner (Rangelands NRM Group) and Alan Piggott (Mallee and Coorong NRM Group) and their members for their valued input, time and commitment that they have given as members of our NRM Groups. I wish Monique White who has been appointed as the new Chair for the Ranges to River Group all the best for the future with that Group. These Groups have supported the Board and staff in addressing community issues such as water allocation, land management, consultation and animal and plant control matters.

To the Board members, firstly I would like to thank two outgoing members in Derek Walker who was our community indigenous representative on the Board and Mike Smith as agency representative for the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation for your input and contribution during the term of appointment. To the rest of the Board your involvement this year has most probably been much greater than in the past with additional planning sessions, meetings and workshops as we have explored landscape change proposals, future directions and business and strategic planning for the future. I thank you for your input, effort, time and commitment during the year. To those members that joined me in 2005 on this Board and whose terms expire this coming financial year a particular thank you to you all. To the rest of the Board I wish you all the best for the future and the challenges and interesting times that will be ahead. The support, advice and assistance provided by our Government Agency and Local Government representatives on the Board is invaluable to both myself and the members of the Board and I thank you for your time and commitment.

I would like to thank members of all the other Committees established by the Board including our Water Resource Advisory Committees, Water Allocation Planning Committees, Local Government Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups for your time and contribution.

I would also on behalf of the Board like to thank our past Minister for the River Murray, Hon Karlene Maywald for the time, support and encouragement that she gave to the Board during her time as Minister. The Board looks forward to working in the same capacity with Minister Caica in the future.

The 2009-10 Annual Report highlights a lot of achievements for the year for which much of the thanks go to the dedicated efforts of our General Manager and the staff. I would like to express my appreciation and commend all the members of the staff for their contribution and productivity throughout the year from the members of the Board.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the Hon Paul Caica, the Minister for the River Murray, State Government Agencies, Local Government and the community that the Board has been involved with throughout the past year for their ongoing support and input. It is only possible for the Board to achieve its goals with the support, partnership and active involvement and input of all these people. The Board looks forward to continuing these close working relationships in the future.



William Paterson
Presiding Member
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

2. PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

Natural Resources Management activities undertaken by the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board are consistent with the strategic directions set out in South Australia's Strategic Plan – *Creating Opportunity* and with the State Natural Resources Management Plan.

2.1 Vision

The vision for the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board is:

‘A healthy living landscape meeting the social, environmental and economic needs of the community and ensuring the rights and wellbeing of future generations’.

2.2 Goals

The SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board has identified four goals as part of its Regional Natural Resources Management Plan to address natural resources management within the region. These are:

- Goal 1: Landscape scale management that maintains healthy natural systems
- Goal 2: Using and managing natural resources within ecologically sustainable limits
- Goal 3: Communities, governments and industries with the capability, commitment and connections to manage natural resources in an integrated way
- Goal 4: Integrated management of threats to minimise risks to natural systems, communities and industry.

2.3 Guiding Principles for NRM in the Region

In addition, the Board has designed the below guiding principles to achieve the goals.

- Work together for success—partnering with the community, government and industries to reach goals and targets for our region.
- Build knowledge—sound decision-making in natural resources management is supported by increased awareness and knowledge that is valued by the region.
- Strive for balance—undertaking natural resources management activities that support a healthy economy that is meeting social and environmental objectives.
- Think innovatively—using creativity and leadership to manage our natural resources for the future.

- Manage holistically—ensuring integrated landscape management by managing landscape components and processes together rather than dealing with issues in isolation.
- Learn from results—using an adaptive management approach to natural resources required to drive and support the long-term goal of ecologically sustainable use.
- Work within limits to ensure the future—working within sustainable limits to protect the capacity of our resources to provide services upon which the wellbeing of current and future generations depends.
- Prevent rather than cure—preventing the degradation of natural resources by dealing with causes is preferable to rehabilitation and treating symptoms.

Both the vision and goals are long-term 50-year statements that describe the Board and community's aspirations for NRM in the region.

2.4 South Australia's Strategic Plan

The SA MDB NRM Board completed the development of a new “comprehensive” Regional NRM Plan as required under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. The Plan was approved by the Minister for the River Murray on the 28 April 2009 and became operational on 1 July 2009. Through the development of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Plan, the Board has been cognisant of aligning the organisation to the strategic directions set out in South Australia's Strategic Plan – *Creating Opportunity*.

The six strategic objectives from South Australia's Strategic Plan *Creating Opportunity* are:

- Attaining sustainability
- Growing prosperity
- Improving well-being
- Fostering creativity and innovation
- Building communities
- Expanding opportunity

The Board currently works under program areas and the table below outlines the links between the Board activities and the objectives of the South Australian Strategic Plan and the State Natural Resources Management Plan.

Table 1: How the Board's Regional Plan targets contribute to the SA Strategic Plan

		SA MDB Regional Resource Condition Targets												
		W1	W2	W3	L1	L2	B1	B2	B3	A1	A2	P1	P2	P3
State Strategic Plan Targets	T3.1	Lose no species												
	T3.2	Land Biodiversity												
	T3.3	Soil Protection												
	T3.5	Greenhouse Gas Emissions reduction												
	T3.9	Sustainable water supply												
	T3.10	River Murray – flows												
	T3.11	River Murray – salinity												
	T3.12	Renewable energy												
	T3.14	Energy efficiency – government buildings												
	T5.6	Volunteering												
	T5.8	Multiculturalism												
	T6.24	Aboriginal employees												
			Primary Alignment											
			Secondary Alignment											

The Board's Regional Natural Resources Management Plan came into effect on 1 July 2009 and takes account of all regional responsibilities of the NRM Board specified in the South Australian Strategic Plan. Target Action Plans developed by State Agencies, and the Board align the regional NRM Plan to the sustainability targets of the State Strategic Plan. During this year the Board aligned its current resource condition targets and program-level reporting, as appropriate, to the SA Strategic Plan sustainability targets.

2.5 State Natural Resources Management Plan

The State NRM Plan identifies a 50-year vision for natural resource management in South Australia. The State NRM Plan contains four goals:

- Landscape scale management that maintains healthy natural systems and is adaptive to climate change.
- Prosperous communities and industries using and managing natural resources within ecologically sustainable limits.
- Communities, governments and industries with the capability, commitment and connections to manage natural resources in an integrated way.
- Integrated management of biological threats to minimise risk to natural systems, communities and industry.

The Board's strategic goals, strategies and associated actions are guided by the State NRM Plan goals at all levels.

The Board has developed a vision for the region. *"A healthy living landscape meeting the social, environmental and economic needs of the community and ensuring the rights and wellbeing of future generations"* and adopted goals for the new Regional NRM Plan consistent with those of the State NRM Plan.

To ensure consistency, the Regional NRM Plan was developed in close consultation with state agencies and has many critical links to the State NRM Plan. The Regional NRM Plan's vision aligns well with the State NRM Plan's vision by encompassing the environmental, social and economic aspects of natural resources management. Its guiding principles reflect the same intent as those of the State NRM Plan and the overarching goals provide a regional perspective of the State NRM Plan's goals. There is also natural alignment between the two plans at the target (RCT), milestone (MAT) and strategy (action) levels, recognising the differing terminology between the two plans.

Table 2: Alignment of RCTs in the Regional Plan to the State NRM Plan

		SA MDB Regional Resource Condition Targets												
		W1	W2	W3	L1	L2	B1	B2	B3	A1	A2	P1	P2	P3
State NRM Plan Resource Condition Targets	L1	By 2011, land condition will have improved compared to 2006												
	W1	By 2011, all ecosystems dependent on prescribed water resources have improved ecological health compared to 2006												
	W2	By 2020, all aquatic ecosystems have improved ecological health compared to 2006												
	W3	By 2015, no further net loss of wetlands or estuary extent or condition compared to 2006												
	W4	By 2011, an increase in net water quality compared to 2006												
	B1	By 2020, 50% of species and communities in each of the 2006 risk categories have moved to lower risk categories												
	B2	By 2011, no species and ecological communities have moved to a higher risk category from 2006												

	B3	By 2011, no further net loss of natural habitat (terrestrial, marine and aquatic) extent and condition below that of 2006												
	B4	By 2020, a net increase in ecological connectivity across all terrestrial, marine and aquatic ecosystems compared to the 2006 values												
	P1	By 2011, the capacity of people in the community, institutions and regional organisations to sustainably manage natural resources will be greater than in 2006												
				Primary Alignment										
				Secondary Alignment										

3. OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

3.1 Regional NRM Plan

The Regional NRM Plan was developed through an extensive process of consultation and engagement with the regional community, and was adopted by the Minister for the River Murray, the Hon Karlene Maywald, on 28 April 2009. Following adoption by the Minister, the Regional NRM Plan was presented before the Natural Resources Committee of the South Australian Parliament for endorsement of the regional NRM levy proposed in the Business Plan (Volume Four). The Regional NRM Plan came into full operation on 1 July 2009.

The Regional NRM Plan comprises four volumes:

Volume One - Strategic Plan (2009 – 2019): The Strategic Plan provides direction and sets challenging targets for NRM in the region. It includes the vision, goals, guiding principles, resource condition targets, management action targets and the actions required to achieve these targets.

Volume Two - State of the Region: The State of the Region describes the natural resources of the region, and reports on their current state and condition, as well as trends in state and condition.

Volume Three - Regulatory and Policy Framework: The Regulatory and Policy Framework includes the statutory requirements for water affecting activities, pest control, soil conservation and land management. It also aims to achieve alignment between the Regional NRM Plan, local government development plans, and NRM objectives.

Volume Four - Business Plan (2009 – 2012): The Business Plan outlines the actions to be undertaken by the SA MDB NRM Board in order to implement the Strategic Plan and meet the requirements of the Regulatory and Policy Framework.

The Regional NRM Plan has an asset-based structure, with five asset-classes of People, Water, Biodiversity, Land and Atmosphere. For each asset class there is an asset vision, long-term resource condition targets, medium-term management action targets, and actions.

The development and documentation of the targets and actions was assisted by the use of a program logic approach, a planning tool that is used to help design and evaluate plans or programs, and aims to record the expected cause and effect relationships between the components of the plan (e.g. between goals, RCTs, MATs and actions).

Implementation of the Regional NRM Plan

The Regional NRM Plan sets the direction for natural resources management in the region for the next 10 years. Importantly it is the sole NRM plan for the region and seeks to guide the NRM planning and investment decisions of all regional stakeholders. Through implementation of the Regional NRM Plan, the Board seeks to:

- Strengthen its existing partnerships and develop new partnerships with organisations directly involved in the management of the region's natural resources
- Mutually develop and co-invest in innovative new strategies and actions to achieve the goals and targets of the Regional NRM Plan and thereby the better management and/or protection of the region's natural resources
- Support individuals and organisations to increase their participation in NRM in the region.

The Board will report back on a regular basis to stakeholders and the regional community on progress in the implementation of the Regional NRM Plan. This will include an Annual Review of the Regional NRM Plan as required under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, as well as regular reporting and publication of outcome information.

3.2 Regional NRM Planning and Programs

Implement the Regional Research Plan and Prospectus

The Board hosted a Regional Science Forum in November 2009 to showcase research undertaken in the region to staff from the Board, scientists, Board members and community members.

The event was co-sponsored with the Centre for Natural Resource Science. The common themes of the day were for investors in environmental and natural resources management to form strong partnerships between researchers and planners/policy makers, to invest in long term monitoring and to focus investment where it is likely to achieve greatest outcomes. Over 100 people attended the forum.

Development of the SAMDB NRM Board Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Plan

The MERI Plan sets out the principles and processes that will be used by the Board in reporting progress made against the Regional NRM plan. This plan represents a “learning by doing” approach which is quite different to previous MERI plans that have been developed in the region.

Develop and implement Evaluation and Reporting schedules

The development of the Evaluation and Reporting schedules sets a basis of how information will be reported to different levels of the organisation. This is the first time that these processes have been documented and the clear reporting relationships defined.

Annual Regional Outcomes Reporting

The purpose of the 2010 Regional Outcomes Report is to provide strategic direction for the Board’s Business Unit Managers to scope projects and develop budget forecasts for the 2011-12 Business Plan and to support the Board’s decision making with regard to funding allocations for the 2011-12 Business Plan.

The process to develop the report was an opportunity to reflect on the first year of implementation of the SA MDB Regional NRM Plan: to assess progress against the NRM Plan performances measures and check that the rationale behind the NRM Plan remains sound and is continually improved. The focus of the 2010 Regional Outcomes Report was to assess progress against the 3-5 year Management Action Targets (MATs) and undertake a brief review of the logic and relationships between MATs and Board projects.

The process to develop the report included the collection of data and information, which constituted lines of evidence and context relating to each MAT. A number of facilitated natural resource-themed workshops were held (e.g. sustainable irrigation, water quality, Water Allocation Planning and aquatic biodiversity) that brought experts together to add their expert local knowledge to the lines of evidence and allocate an achievement ‘score’, explanatory statement and confidence rating for the assessment of each MAT.

The workshops and Regional Outcomes Report process were well received by participants with the majority believing that workshops were an effective process to evaluate MAT progress and that participation helped them understand progress toward the MATs, the logic behind the MATs and the types of evidence available to evaluate progress.

The findings of the Regional Outcomes Report will be presented to the Board in the second half of 2010.

Hotspot Evaluations

The Hotspot Evaluations are a new annual initiative of the Board and the Planning Team. The purpose of these evaluations is to enable the Board and staff to take a more in-depth look at a particular component of the Board’s business and activities. The intent is that the evaluations also increase Board and staff understanding and capacity to undertake evaluations. These evaluations were externally facilitated however with an element of shared learning to build staff capacity.

Community Monitoring in the SA MDB NRM Rangelands Region

The project for community stream and groundwater monitoring was undertaken in the Rangelands to support the ongoing and extension of baseline water resource information for the area.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Core communications activities

By 30 June 2010, the review and implementation of the Board's Communications Strategy was 90% completed. A part of the review included the completion of a market analysis survey. These results along with the new NRM delivery strategy being developed in consultation with the NRM Groups will be used as basis of the Communications Strategy for 2011-2014.

Promotion of NRM

Several very successful field days and events were undertaken in various locations throughout the year, including Burra, Eudunda, Karoonda Mt Barker, Mt Pleasant and the Riverland.

Over 79,000 visits to the website were recorded during 2009-2010. The Board's website maintenance upgrades were completed and a statistical monitoring package was implemented and reported on monthly. A new website structure and content was completed.

Two high quality editions of 'The Current' along with a 2010 levy brochure were prepared and distributed to 19,000 homes within the region. These highlighted projects and achievements of the Board.

Communications support

The Board aimed to improve the effectiveness of its communications. In March 2010 it commenced tracking of media activities, and it showed there were 52 media releases distributed, 5 television interviews, 33 radio interviews conducted and 105 newspaper articles in both the Advertiser and regional papers over the four month period March to June.

Water Allocation Planning

The 2009-10 period saw the adoption of the Marne Saunders Prescribed Water Resources (PWR) water allocation plan by the Minister for the River Murray, formal consultation on the Peake Roby and Sherlock PWR water allocation plan and considerable progress made towards completing the Mallee and Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges PWR water allocation plans. Consultation on plan content with Advisory Committees and engagement with the public positively assisted in shaping "fit for purpose" policy across all plans under development. The Business Unit was also instrumental in developing and providing appropriate information from the region for input to the proposed Murray Darling Basin Plan.

NRM Engagement

The NRM Engagement Business Unit includes NRM Education, the Aboriginal Partnerships Project, Community Capacity Building the NRM Volunteers Support Project and Engaging Farming Groups in Improved NRM.

The NRM Education Project continued to work with schools and facilitate a range of programs for teachers and students. The project provided information to 100% of schools in the region and has actively engaged with 83% in one or more of the project's activities.

The Aboriginal Partnership Project (APP) continued to establish partnerships with the Aboriginal community, funding bodies and key NRM properties across the region with its Aboriginal Learning on Country and Working on Country Projects. 19 Aboriginal community members were engaged in full time training and employment projects on Calperum Station, Gerard and Monarto Zoo. APP staff worked closely with the NRM Education project to deliver Aboriginal NRM sessions with school groups in the Riverland.

The Community Capacity Building project is delivered by the ten Local Action Planning (LAP) Associations in the region, the River Murray Urban Users Group, the Regional Council of Goyder NRM Officer and the Strathalbyn and Mt Pleasant Community Natural Resource Management Centres. The project supported eleven LAP Associations and 135 other community groups, facilitated 131 community NRM workshops / tours / displays, produced 28 community NRM newsletters and 312 other publications, engaged 32 schools, evaluated 139 funding applications submitted for community NRM projects (total sought: approximately \$8.7m, total approved approximately \$2.3 million supported 2481 volunteers in the region and engaged 2398 short-term volunteers (Scouts, CVA etc), developed 12 partnerships with Aboriginal communities and undertook 81 activities to promote awareness of Weeds of National Significance.

The major activity of the NRM Volunteer Support Project has been the development of the Regional NRM Volunteer Strategy due for completion in September 2010. The project also implemented the inaugural 'NRM Volunteer Small Grants' using a simplified application and reporting process. Forty community groups accessed support through this grant for a broad range of projects including the purchase of plants, equipment for on-ground works and monitoring, volunteer training, community workshops and field days, the production of education materials, newsletters and signage and the employment of contractors to assist volunteer groups with weed control projects.

The Engaging Farming Groups in improved NRM project resulted in the installation of two automatic weather stations and three soil moisture monitoring sites across the Mallee, the development and completion of a Mallee Landholder survey and working with landholders on specific farming issues.

Sustainable Irrigation

Key achievements for the Sustainable Irrigation Business Unit included a successful round 1 application in the Australian Government's *On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program*. This program will see in excess of \$1.6 million invested in on-farm water savings projects in the SA MDB region over the next 2 years.

Additional external funding was also sourced through both the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) and Woolworths/Landcare that supported the implementation of regional irrigated land management projects.

The regional weather station network continued to operate to a high standard during 2009-10 with the recent Hotspots Evaluation confirming that irrigators use this resource extensively to

help inform their on-farm decision making. Seven rainfall monitoring sites were upgraded with funding provided by the BoM. Funding has also been received through the BoM program to significantly upgrade the network's data management system and web interface including a formal data quality control system.

The unit presented to the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) Basin Salinity Management Strategy (BSMS) Independent Audit Group at their annual review. This allowed the auditors to gain a better understanding of the work that the Board's Sustainable Irrigation Program has been undertaking in the SA MDB region that contributes towards the achievement of the high level BSMS objectives.

Staff from the Sustainable Irrigation unit worked collaboratively with the Riverland West LAP during 2009-10 to support the newly formed Young Irrigator Group in this region. The group was established as a result of a successful application into the DAFF Next Generation Farmers program. The group and its associated activities will continue in 2010-11 with funding provided through the State NRM program.

WATER QUALITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Support Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in fostering growth/development of supply side of greywater treatment system market

Board investment supported the finalisation of the new Australian Standard (AS4995-2009) for "Greywater Treatment Systems for Vessels Operated on Inland Waters" during 2009-10. The Technical Committee for this standard was awarded the "Outstanding Committee" award from Standards Australia for 2009. The EPA and its partners (including the NRM Board) received a Premier's Award in 2009-10 for world-leading efforts towards improving houseboat greywater management on the River Murray in South Australia.

Urban/Industrial water management resources for stakeholders

Strengthening Basin Communities - SA Planning Component

The Board played a pivotal role in securing \$1.6 million of Australian government funding for our region's local governments, positioning them to access more funding in the future, and achieving many NRM Plan MATs/activities at the same time. This program is building working relationships between the NRM Board and the local governments.

Cities as Water Supply Catchments

The Board's investment and leadership in facilitating other South Australian investment in this \$16 million national project over 5 years is an example of how collaborations with other NRM Board's and state agencies can be formed to benefit all of South Australia.

Integrated Pest Management

In 2009-10, the Land Operations Business Unit implemented programs in accordance with the Boards Regional Pest Management Strategy. Notable control programs included:

Control Program	Staff Hours Invested
Branch Broomrape Program	450
Coolatai grass	20
Golden Dodder	370

African boxthorn	2272
Khaki weed	140
Boneseed	490
Wheel cactus	320

Priority programs for 2009-10 included:

Preventative Pest Management

Salvinia

NRM Officers removed a quantity of the aquatic water weed Salvinia found growing in a pond, on a property in Goolwa. Follow up monitoring and control will be undertaken by relevant staff to ensure this plant does not enter the Goolwa waterways.

Mexican Feathergrass

Working collaboratively with the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges NRM Board throughout the Fleurieu region, articles were placed in the local newspapers highlighting the discovery of the declared plant Mexican Feathergrass being offered for sale in nurseries. All of the nurseries immediately withdrew all plants from sale. In addition, plants were surrendered from the Goolwa and Strathalbyn townships. All sites have been recorded and will be monitored to ensure any possible new germinations are eradicated.

Managing New And Establishing Infestations

Riverland Feral Pig project

In partnership with local landholders a feral pig information workshop was held on the 10 June 2010. Forty stakeholders attended. The information presented helped to facilitate a program with landholders to remove feral pigs congregating in larger numbers at water holes along the main river channel. State NRM funding enabled the construction, by local landholders, of fifteen traps. These traps were trialled at priority sites. The initial program provided a valuable opportunity for the landholders to see if trapping utilising the designed traps, would work. In less than four weeks a total of 68 pigs were trapped and destroyed. Stage two of the project is expected to continue in the summer of 2010/11.

Goat Management in the Mallee

Working in collaboration with the South East NRM Board a goat control program involving aerial shooting was undertaken in the Mallee area of the Boards. A combination of trapping and aerial shooting on at least 30 properties resulted in 867 goats, 6 deer and 1 fox being destroyed.

Managing Existing Pests

Wheel Cactus and other Opuntia species

A cross-NRM boundary program with the South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board funded by the state government enabled the SA MDB NRM Board to approach landowners within the Terowie district with land infested with *Opuntia robusta*. Six landowner agreements were established whereby the Board through approved contractors funded up to 50% of the cost of *Opuntia* control on their land. This resulted in a total of 24,000 hectares of land and 6078 individual plant recorded points being controlled within the Terowie district.

\$5,000 was received from the Department for Water Land and Biodiversity Conservation to implement the control of Hudson pear, *Cylindropuntia rosea*, on a parcel of Crown Land. In the future this area will be monitored to ensure that further germinations are treated when detected.

Deer policy implementation

Deer property inspections of 25 properties, managing approximately 1050 deer were undertaken to ascertain fencing standards in line with State regulations. Individual reports for each property outlining the condition of the fence and the required upgrades that are expected to be undertaken by the landholder so as to comply with the regulations were completed. The majority of landholders complied with the required upgrades.

Rabbit Control

Summer rabbit control programs were undertaken by 150 landowners and on the key Crown Lands and railway corridors with approximately 22 tonnes of oats and 2 tonnes of pindone treated carrots supplied to landowners.

In addition, at least 45 landholders conducted subsidised rabbit control on targeted road reserves as a result of State complementary funding.

Roadside Control Program

The Board in association with its respective NRM groups undertook summer and winter roadside control programs. Winter weeds of particular importance were: African boxthorn, boneseed, Salvation Jane, Horehound, Cape Tulip and Wild Artichoke. Summer weeds of particular importance were: Gorse, Blackberry, Golden Dodder, Innocent Weed and Khaki Weed.

Golden Dodder

This annual program to protect downstream horticultural and fodder producers adjacent to the River Murray was successfully implemented on private and crown lands adjacent the River Murray. Inspections along the River Murray from the Victorian Border to Murray Bridge to identify and destroy golden dodder infestations were completed. Land based inspections were also undertaken within known infested areas in the Riverland and the Noonawirra and Yarramundi lagoon system above Swan Reach. Areas still continue to yield small scattered infestations.

African Boxthorn

A co-ordinated program of roadside compliance for control of African boxthorns, across 13 rural council areas was undertaken. The program included mapping infestations, processing and forwarding of compliance letters, receipt of replies and enforcement of non-compliance, either by co-ordinating contractors or implementing minor spray works on roadsides.

LAND MANAGEMENT

On-ground works to manage 10,120 hectares of land at long term erosion risk

This project is on target to achieve 10,120 hectares of long term erosion risk land stabilised and managed by approximately 400 land managers over four years, if current hectares achieved during 2009-10 continue.

Increasing the knowledge and skills of land managers in natural resources management

The formation of localised farming interest groups across the region and the continued support offered to those groups through the land management program has given farmers the opportunity to develop projects in consultation with the Board staff. This generated interest from other farmers to establish similar network groups. The establishment of on-farm grazing trials has increased farmers' awareness on stubble management, identifying trigger points for livestock management and identifying trigger points to minimise erosion. The data collected and collated at the local level is being linked with similar projects across the broadacre farming area to build a regional perspective.

Protection and management of land

Recognition of the Board's role and responsibilities under the NRM Act for the management and protection of land is increasing with a rise in the information on land degradation issues or land at risk of degradation received from the community.

FLOODPLAIN AND WETLAND MANAGEMENT

Wetland Disconnection

As part of the State's response to the drought, and to save water for critical human needs, 6 wetlands were closed in 2008 (including Lake Bonney). The Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) funded monitoring of the condition of these wetlands during their period of closure. Monitoring revealed the need for re-wetting of some sites for which water was secured during 2009-10. The wetlands (except Lake Bonney) have since become dry again.

Murray Futures Riverine Recovery Program

An inventory was generated of the existing infrastructure within the SA River Murray floodplain which is used for wetland management, to restrict water passage or for access across waterways within the SA River Murray corridor. As well as locating existing structures accurately, the condition and performance of each structure was also assessed against minimum design standards. A total of 547 structures were located and assessed. Depending on the type of structure and the work required, repair and maintenance costs have been generated. These data will inform discussion around decisions on which structures should be repaired or replaced as part of any rationalisation effort. In addition, it provides a basis for recommendations on responsibility for ongoing ownership, operation, and maintenance of the structures, issues of liability and potential costs associated with the above.

The Board has taken the lead in establishing an inter-agency working group to progress this matter.

WETLAND PROGRAM

The Wetland Program achieved the following:

In working with community groups (LAP Associations), five priority wetlands were identified and assessed for on-ground works. Investment in these wetlands focused on works to address pest plant and animal control (ie. carp screens, willow removal etc). This work was completed by 30 June 2010.

An additional five wetlands were prioritised for investment through Local Action Planning Associations for the installation of new and/or upgrading of existing wetland water regulating infrastructure.

Ongoing community monitoring programs were undertaken at 11 wetlands while once-off monitoring was undertaken at a further 19 high priority wetland sites. The data collected for a range of parameters has been used to identify the condition of these wetlands in terms of their ecological health and threats, in an attempt to manage these wetlands with little available water.

Identified climate change adaptation strategies to inform wetland and floodplain management along the River Murray in South Australia. This project has produced an assessment method and shortlisted relevant species to be assessed. Assessment of species using this method has commenced. A methodology report and progress report were produced.

A 2GL environmental water allocation was secured from the Commonwealth Environmental Waterholder and The Living Murray. Pumping of water to the wetland assets took place at 19 sites. The majority of the sites were ones where watering last had taken place 3-4 years ago.

The Board facilitated the successful release of endangered purple-spotted gudgeons in Piawalla wetlands.

Acid Sulphate Soils

Various investigations and trials were undertaken in order to better inform the management of acid sulphate soils in wetlands between Lock 1 and Wellington, which had been exposed as a result of falling river levels. These investigations enabled the establishment of the bathymetry for 25 wetlands; assessment of the wetlands' characteristics such as ecology, landscape setting, accessibility, floodplain and levee conditions, structure and vegetation; options for controlling water within wetlands and for separating wetlands from the river channel; and identification of the acid sulphate soil status and spatial extent.

Further work enabled the creation of maps identifying where water would be situated at different river levels; ongoing monitoring at 25 wetlands; understanding the actual hazards presented by acid sulphate soils; reviewing the literature to understand what may happen to each wetland upon re-wetting; development of costing analysis for various management options; the development of a community engagement strategy and case studies of wetlands above Lock 1 that were dried and then re-wet.

TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

Strategic habitat restoration program in the SA MDB

The completion of the Northern Murray Mallee Landscape Assessment Framework highlighted the need for specific works targeting the sandy dune systems surrounding the Bakara Conservation Park. It specifically identified *Triodia* understorey within a mallee and tea-tree system on sand as being the key component of landscape. It was identified as critical habitat that was in decline for a suite of small threatened birds of the Mallee. Southern scrub-robin was identified as an indicator species for this suite of birds. Building on this project the Woorinen Recovery Project commenced to implement three years of on-ground works to

improve condition and extent of this priority vegetation community. The first year of on-ground works of the recovery project has resulted in 54 hectares of revegetation on dunes surrounding the Bakara Conservation Park being replanted using 8,500 tubestock and 75 kilometres of direct seeding. In addition, over 25 kilograms of seed was collected locally.

Community volunteers regenerating bushland

Bush for Life (BLF) manages 55 sites in the region incorporating 2,127 hectares. Three training events were held by the BFL program in the SA MDB NRM regions including workshops on introductory biodiversity conservation methods and more advanced topics such as native grass management, vegetation identification, propagation, revegetation and maintenance and woody weed control. As a result 127 volunteers were encouraged to get involved in managing BLF sites.

Biodiversity on-ground works

The funding of on-ground works to conserve the priority ecological habitats of the region through contracting of Local Action Planning Associations resulted in significant community engagement along with nearly 700 hectares of remnant vegetation protection and another 700 hectares of weeds of national significance weed control within remnant vegetation.

Northern Arid Woodlands Biodiversity Stewardship (Northern BushBids)

Woodland BushBids has protected 6,799 hectares of priority vegetation communities consisting of peppermint box woodlands, black oak woodlands and mallee remnants. This area contains critical habitat for threatened species such as the Diamond fire-tail finch and for iconic species such as the southern hairy nosed wombat. The project was funded by the Native Vegetation Council.

BushBids

During 2009-2010 conservation management continued on the 2256 hectares of land protected through ten year management plan contracts with private landholders through the BushBids program across the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges. Data from the Bushland Condition Monitoring sites, set up as part of this project in 2005 and 2006, were resurveyed, as part of the Bushland Condition Monitoring (BCM) report undertaken by the Nature Conservation Society in 2009. This assisted our understanding about changes that can be measured in the BushBids sites. In addition it identified that by increasing the number and spread of BCM sites across the region, change can be monitored in all of our vegetation communities. As a result, a monitoring project focusing on developing a regional baseline for vegetation condition for the region was developed.

Landscape restoration

A Regent Parrot Flight Path plan for implementation by community groups in the Riverland was developed. Greening Australia provided technical expertise to community groups and facilitated the creation of action plans and maps to assist habitat recovery for this nationally threatened species. On-ground actions included watering of nesting trees at Hogs Wash Bend and the revegetation of fodder shrubs within flight zones.

The Bush Management Advisor project assisted landholders across the Mallee with the control Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) control within remnant vegetation. Thirty hectares of previously known infestations of boneseed were searched and the remaining plants were completely removed. It was noted that one of the previously known infestation areas

has been eradicated, and that over time the small number of remaining plants will also be eliminated.

Biodiversity Program Support

The success of Woodland BushBids as a method to encourage conservation management at a large-scale, across a connected landscape, was a highlight.

ATMOSPHERE

Gap identification for SA MDB NRM region's vulnerability assessment and sector profile investigation

Projects that will provide information toward the region's climate vulnerability assessment have been supported. In particular, "Strengthening Basin Communities" project through the local government team and Riverland project "Helping Landholders Adapt to Climate Change".

The Board's participation in the University of Adelaide's Climate Change, Communities and Environment project funded by the Premier's Science and Research Fund continued to evolve during 2009-10. The Board has representation on both the Steering Committee and Management Group of this project.

Carbon Neutral Plan for the SA MDB NRM Board

A carbon footprint baseline for the Board has been established for power, water, and waste fuel at most offices. The Board's green team plan 2008-14 continued to be a document to progress internal initiatives and bring about internal energy efficiency behavioural change. The Board continued to decrease its fleet vehicle fuel use in 2009-10.

Renewable energy options and energy efficiencies

The promotion of renewable opportunities through "champions" was a positive and effective way of demonstrating mitigation and adaptation opportunities in the region. Many articles were produced and renewable case studies were developed for promotion.

4. ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board was established in December 2004 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. This report for the 2009-10 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 38 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

4.1 Object of the Natural Resources Management Act

The objects of the Act include assisting in the achievement of ecologically sustainable development in the State by establishing an integrated scheme to promote the use and management of natural resources in a manner that—

- (a) recognises and protects the intrinsic values of natural resources; and
- (b) seeks to protect biological diversity and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, to support and encourage the restoration or rehabilitation of ecological systems and processes that have been lost or degraded; and

- (c) provides for the protection and management of catchments and the sustainable use of land and water resources and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, seeks to enhance and restore or rehabilitate land and water resources that have been degraded; and
- (d) seeks to support sustainable primary and other economic production systems with particular reference to the value of agriculture and mining activities to the economy of the State; and
- (e) provides for the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of animals and plants that may have an adverse effect on the environment, primary production or the community; and
- (f) promotes educational initiatives and provides support mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to be involved in the management of natural resources.

4.2 Administration of the Act

The Minister for Environment and Conservation is responsible for the administration of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. Pursuant to Section 6 of the *Administrative Arrangements Act 1994*, certain functions and powers of the Minister for Environment and Conservation in relation to the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board have been conferred on the Minister for the River Murray.

4.3 Role of the Board

The regional NRM Board's role is defined in the Natural Resources Management Act and includes:

- Taking an active role in the management of natural resources within the region and providing advice on natural resource issues;
- Preparing a regional natural resources management plan;
- Implementing the Board's three-year business plan;
- Promoting public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable NRM;
- Providing advice on the assessment of activities or proposals referred under legislation or on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources; and
- Undertaking and supporting educational activities and increasing community capacity to undertake sustainable natural resource management.

4.4 Functions of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

Section 29 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM board are—
 - (a) to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region; and

- (b)
 - (i) to prepare a regional NRM plan in accordance with this Act; and
 - (ii) to implement that plan; and
 - (iii) to keep the plan under review to ensure that the objects of this Act are being achieved; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management, and to provide mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programs or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources; and
 - (d) to provide advice with respect to the assessment of various activities or proposals referred to the board under this or any other Act; and
 - (e) to resolve any issues that may arise between any NRM groups that are relevant to the management of natural resources within its region; and (ea) to undertake an active role in ensuring-
 - (i) that any Development Plan under the Development Act 1993 that applies within its region promotes the objects of this Act; and
 - (ii) insofar as is reasonably practicable, that those Development Plans and the board's regional NRM plan form a coherent set of policies, and, in so doing, when a Development Plan amendment under the Development Act 1993 that is relevant to the activities of the board is under consideration under that Act, to work with-
 - (iii) in the case of a Development Plan amendment proposed by a council- the council; or
 - (iv) in the case of a Development Plan amendment proposed by a Minister- that Minister's department; and
 - (f) at the request of the Minister or the NRM Council, or on its own initiative, to provide advice on any matter relevant to the condition of natural resources within its region, or on the management of those resources, to conduct any inquiry or audit, or to provide any other advice or report that may be appropriate in the circumstances; and
 - (g) such other functions assigned to the board by the Minister or by or under this or any other Act.
- (2) To avoid doubt, a regional NRM board may act with respect to a particular matter despite the fact that the matter may not fall within the scope of its regional NRM plan.
- (3) However, if a regional NRM board acts with respect to a particular matter in the circumstances described in subsection (2), the board must furnish a report on the

matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament (unless the matter is not, in the opinion of the board, significant).

- (4) In performing its functions, a regional NRM board should (as far as is reasonably practicable) seek to work collaboratively with—
 - (a) the other regional NRM boards whose regions adjoin the region of the board; and
 - (b) other State agencies, agencies of the Commonwealth, and agencies of the other States and Territories, that have functions that are relevant to those of the board; and
 - (c) NRM groups with areas that fall (wholly or partially) within the region of the board; and
 - (d) the constituent councils for the region, and other councils as may be relevant; and
 - (e) relevant industry, environment and community groups and organisations; and
 - (f) persons who own or occupy land within the region of the board (insofar as may be relevant).
- (5) A regional NRM board will, with respect to the performance of its functions, report to the Minister.
- (6) If the Minister assigns a function to a regional NRM board under subsection (1)—
 - (a) the Minister must furnish a report on the matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament; and
 - (b) the regional NRM board must cause a statement of the fact of the assignment to be published in its next annual report.

4.5 The Board's Region

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (the SA MDB NRM Board) is responsible for one of eight natural resources management regions in South Australia. The SA MDB NRM region supports a population of approximately 126,000 people and extends over more than 5.6 million hectares, from the Victorian and New South Wales borders to the catchment boundary along the Mount Lofty Ranges, to the Murray Mouth, and up to 14 kilometres into the Southern Ocean. This is one of South Australia's most ecologically diverse and agriculturally productive regions. It supports a wide range of flora, fauna, natural environments and human activities. The proper management of these natural resources will maintain a capable and prosperous South Australia.

The Region's ecological areas

The region can be divided into six distinct ecological units and bioregions, as detailed below.

River Corridor

From the border of South Australia and Victoria to Overland Corner, the River meanders through a floodplain some 5–10 km wide that includes a complex pattern of anabranches and billabongs. Beyond Overland Corner, the River has incised a narrow gorge through limestone where geological structure largely determines its course. The ecology of the River Corridor is unique in the region, given the fluvial (riparian) processes involved in its formation. Aeolian (wind) processes dominate the rest of the region.

Coorong and Lower Lakes

The Coorong and Lower Lakes area features low-lying alluvial and coastal plains overlain by low sand ridges, with some outwash fans and isolated remnant hills along the western edge, and calcrete-capped old coastal dunes, up to 40 m high adjacent to the Coorong. This area consists of sedgeland, grasslands and low shrublands providing a wide range of habitats and is of international importance for migratory birds.

Murray Mallee and Murray Plains

Murray Mallee and Murray Plains includes the majority of the region's agricultural area and consists predominantly of low rainfall mallee and shrubland communities.

Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges

The Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges supports stringy-bark forest, woodland and grassy woodland communities. A number of small tributary catchments drain the Ranges, joining either the River Murray or Lake Alexandrina.

South Olary Plains

The South Olary Plains, a pastoral region of low rainfall, extends north of the River Murray and west of the border with New South Wales. It features mallee, woodlands and chenopod shrubland vegetation, the majority of which remains uncleared.

A number of species in this region are listed as threatened due to over-grazing by domestic stock, goats, rabbits and kangaroos.

In addition to the terrestrial systems above, the Coorong bioregion is also an important ecological system within the SA MDB NRM region. The Coorong marine habitats, including complex near-shore reef systems and the marine organisms they support, are highly diverse. Species of conservation significance include the Leafy Sea Dragon, as well as migrating Southern Right and Humpback Whales. The bioregion also supports a number of marine species which are of importance to commercial and recreational fisheries.

More about the Region

The region is in the rainshadow of the Mount Lofty Ranges, resulting in a marked reduction in rainfall compared to the country to the west. Even over short distances, a large reduction in rainfall can occur. Annual rainfall ranges from an unreliable 235 mm near Yunta, just beyond the northern extremity of the region, to 387 mm at Lameroo, near the south-eastern corner of the region, to 768 mm at Mount Barker near the western edge of the region.

For a map of the region see Appendix 7.

4.6 Membership

Section 25 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.

The Board comprises of nine members who are appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister. Each of the appointed members of the Board is a person who, in the opinion of the Minister, meets the standards stipulated by section 25 (4) of the Natural Resources Management Act for the appointment of members:

- (4) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Minister must (as far as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances)—
 - (a) give consideration to nominating persons so as to provide a range of knowledge, skills and experience across the following areas:
 - (i) community affairs at the regional level;
 - (ii) primary production or pastoral land management;
 - (iii) soil conservation and land management;
 - (iv) conservation and biodiversity management;
 - (v) water resources management;
 - (vi) business administration;
 - (vii) local government or local government administration;
 - (viii) urban or regional planning;
 - (ix) Aboriginal interest in the land and water, and Aboriginal heritage;
 - (x) pest animal and plant control;
 - (xi) natural and social science;
 - (xii) if relevant—coast, estuarine and marine management, fisheries or aquaculture; and
 - (b) nominate persons who are able to demonstrate an interest in ensuring the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources and an awareness of natural resource issues across the relevant region; and
 - (c) ensure
 - (i) that a majority of the members of the board reside within the relevant region; and
 - (ii) that a majority of the members of the board are engaged in an activity related to the management of land.
- (5) In addition, the Minister must, before finalising his or her nominations for the purposes of this section, consult with the designated Ministers.
- (6) At least one member of a regional NRM board must be a woman and at least 1 member must be a man.
- (7) At least one member of a regional NRM board must be a member or officer of a council at the time of his or her appointment, unless—
 - (a) the board's region does not include any part of the area of a council; or
 - (b) the Minister cannot, after taking reasonable steps, find a member or officer

of a council who—

- (i) in the opinion of the Minister, is suitable to be appointed as a member of the board; and
 - (ii) is willing and available to be a member of the board.
- (8) The Governor must appoint a suitable member of a regional NRM board to be the Presiding Member of the board.
- (9) The Governor may appoint a suitable person to be the deputy of a member of a regional NRM board.
- (10) A deputy may act as a member of a regional NRM board during any period of absence of the member in relation to whom the deputy has been appointed.
- (11) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, authorise a person or persons to attend any meeting of a regional NRM board in order to represent the interests of the Commonwealth, the State or local government.

The membership of the Board during 2009-10 was:

Member	Basis of Appointment	Term of Appointment
William (Bill) Paterson	Presiding Member	14 April 2005 to present
Joanne Pfeiffer	Community Member	14 April 2005 to present
Joe Keynes	Community Member	14 April 2005 to present
Frances Simes	Community Member	14 April 2005 to present
Anne Hartnett	Community Member	2 November 2006 to present
Colin Milburn	Community Member	14 February 2008 to present
Emily Jenke	Community Member	14 April 2008 to present
Sheridan Alm	Community Member	24 July 2008 to present
Derek Walker	Community Member	14 April 2005 to 13 April 2010
Vacancy		Vacancy from 13 April 2010 created by Derek Walker

In addition to these representatives, the Board has State Government Agency staff and a representative from Local Government.

These members are:

Government members

- Gerry Davies (Primary Industries and Resources)
- Merridie Martin (Environment and Heritage)
- Mike Smith (Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation) – ceased appointment September 2009

- Rachel Barratt (Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation) – appointed October 2009
- Peter Scott (Environment Protection Authority)
- Rodney Ralph (Local Government Association)

4.7 Board Meetings

A total of 11 general Board meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year. No special Board meetings were held during the financial year.

Member	No. of Meetings Attended	No. of Meetings Not Attended	Reason (s) for non-attendance
W Paterson	11	0	
J Pfeiffer	6	5	Other commitments
J Keynes	8	3	Other commitments
F Simes	9	2	Other commitments
D Walker	2	7	Other commitments – term expired 13 April 2010
A Hartnett	11	0	
C Milburn	11	0	
E Jenke	9	2	Other commitments
S Alm	9	2	Other commitments
M Smith	2	0	Appointment ceased September 2009
R Barratt	7	1	Appointed October 2009 to replace M Smith Other commitments
G Davies	9	2	Other commitments
M Martin	11	0	
P Scott	8	3	Other commitments
R Ralph	10	1	Other commitments

4.8 Relationships with other Agencies

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* works closely with the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (DWLBC), Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH), SA Water and Primary Industry and Resources SA (PIRSA) to improve sustainability and achieve improved health and productivity of our natural resources. The Board also works closely with the NRM Council, the other regional NRM Boards, regional organisations, and community and non-Government organisations to develop the Regional NRM Plan and implement its works programs.

The Board also has a strong relationship with the Australian Government to ensure national priorities are addressed with planning processes and through investments.

The Board has signed Service Level Agreements with Government Agencies to assist in the delivery of its programs and injury management services.

4.9 Governance Arrangements

No new governance policies or arrangements were developed in the reporting period but all the Board's current policies have been or are in the process of being fully reviewed to ensure compliance with current legislation, Agreements and Awards. The Board's Finance Committee assists the Board through the oversight of these policies and procedures to ensure that the Board meets its statutory obligations, particularly in respect of audit and financial management. The Finance Committee has reviewed all the current Board level policies including delegations and procurement procedures. A risk management policy is being finalised.

4.10 Delegated Functions and Powers

Section 36 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* allows the Board to delegate functions or powers of the Board to members of the Board, Committees of the Board, Council, members of staff, NRM Groups or other persons or bodies. The Board has delegated the functions and powers of the below Sections of the Act to the General Manager of the Board, with the authority to further delegate to members of staff or NRM Groups:

The delegations are relative to the following Sections of the Act:

S31	Special powers to carry out works
S34 (3);(4);(6)	Appoint staff
S67	Appoint Regional Authorised officers
S122	Special provisions relating to land
S123	Implement Action Plan
S127 (3)(d);(5)(a)-(h)	Water Affecting Activities
S130	Notice to rectify unauthorised activity
S131	Notice to maintain watercourse or lake
S179	Offence to release animals or plants (Recovery of costs for capture/collection)
S182	Owner of land to take action to destroy or control animals or plants (Power to provide exemptions)
S185	NRM authorities may recover certain costs from owners of land adjoining road reserves (Invoicing only)
S188	Permits
S192	Protection of certain vegetation and habitats
S193	Protections orders
S195	Reparation orders
S199	Registration
S230	Recovery of technical costs associated with contraventions

4.11 Board Committees

Under the Act, the Board is able to create committees to provide advice in specific areas of expertise or NRM activity. The following Committees operated in 2009-10:

- Finance Committee
- Executive Committee
- Regional Integration Committee
- Communications Committee

- Policy Committee
- Investment and Evaluation Committee
- River Murray Advisory Committee

Membership of these Committees is provided in Appendix 2.

To facilitate local input into the development of Water Allocations Plans, address local government issues, water resource management and the Living Murray Program management, a number of Planning/Advisory Committees and Groups are established. Those operational during this year are:

- Mallee Water Resources Committee
- Marne Saunders Water Resources Committee
- Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges Water Resources Committee (2 Committees)
- Angas Bremer Water Resources Committee
- Riverland, Rangelands, Ranges to River, Mallee and Coorong Local Government Natural Resources Advisory Committees (4 Committees)
- River Murray Water Allocation Planning (Upper, Mid and Lower Murray) Advisory Committee (3 Committees)
- Chowilla Community Consultative Committee
- Lower Lakes, Murray Mouth and Coorong Icon Site Consultative Committee.

4.12 NRM Groups

The Board supports four community based NRM Groups in the Riverland, Rangelands, Ranges to River and Mallee and Coorong areas of the region. The Groups assist and support the Board in planning, land management, animal and pest plant control, water related issues, biodiversity protection and community engagement at the local level.

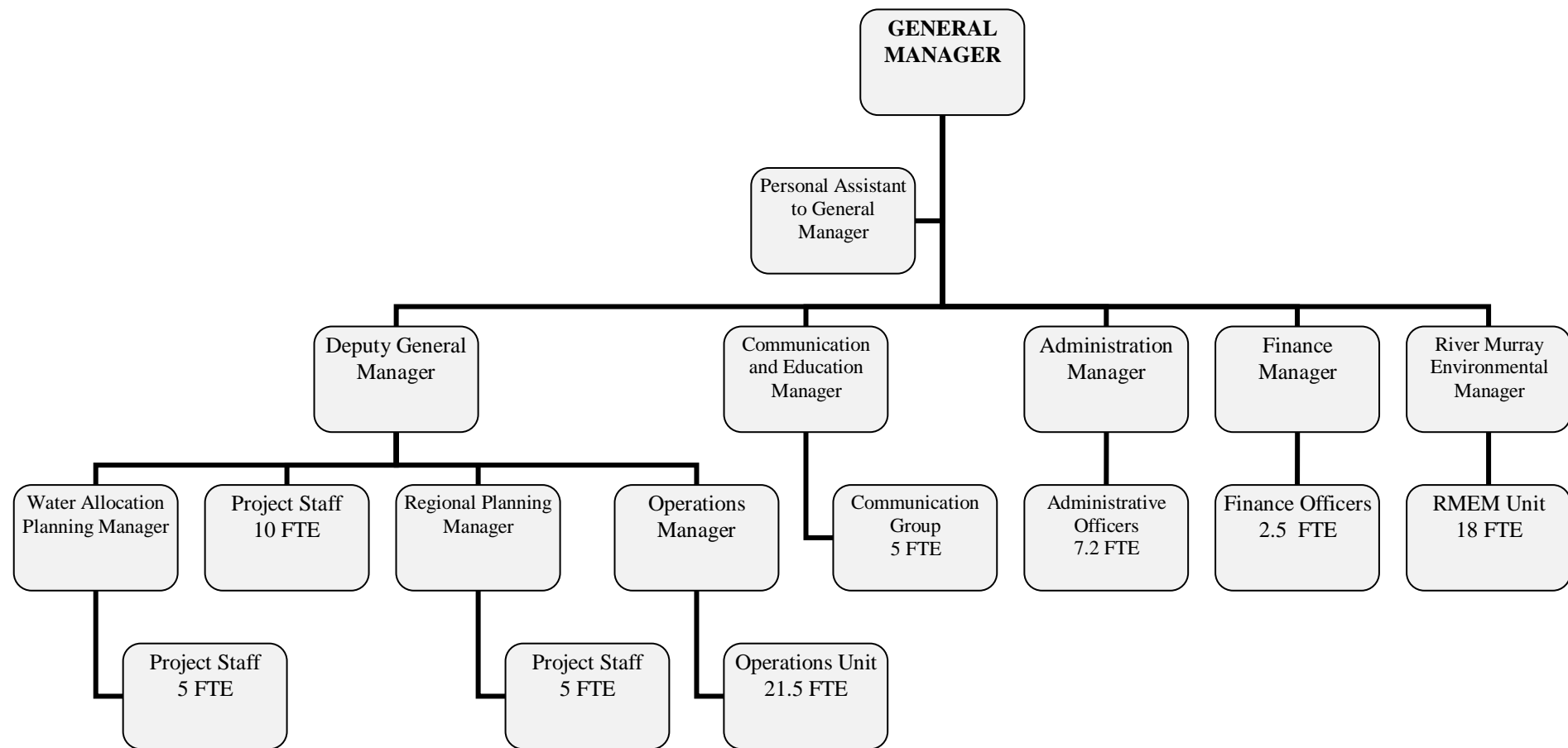
A report from each of the NRM Groups of their achievements is attached as Appendices 3 -6.

5. HUMAN RESOURCES

On 30 June 2010, the Board had 77 employees occupying 69.2 full-time equivalent positions of the 84.2 approved FTE positions. Information relating to the Board's employees, leave management, workforce diversity, equal employment opportunities, customer service and occupational health and safety and injury management follows.

5.1 Organisational Structure

For the period ending 30 June 2010 the Board had a total number of 84.2 FTE approved positions as shown on the organisation chart below



5.2 Management of Human Resources

Employee Numbers, Gender and Status

Total Number of Employees		
Persons	77	
FTEs	69.2	(FTEs shown to 1 decimal place)

Gender	% Persons	% FTEs
Male	48.5	51.88
Female	51.95	48.12

Number of Persons During the 2009-10 Financial Year	
Separated from the agency	17
Recruited to the agency	10

Number of Persons at 30 June 2010	
On Leave without Pay	5

Number of Employees by Salary Bracket

Salary Bracket	Male	Female	Total
\$0 - \$49,199	2	1	3
\$49,200 - \$62,499	16	18	34
\$62,500 - \$80,099	14	17	31
\$80,100 - \$100,999	4	4	8
\$101,000+	1	0	1
TOTAL	37	40	77

SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE BOARD

STATUS OF EMPLOYEES IN CURRENT POSITION

FTEs	Ongoing	Short-Term Contract	Long-Term Contract	Other (Casual)	Total
Male	13	4.9	18	0	35.9
Female	2.2	11.2	19.9	0	33.3
TOTAL	15.2	16.1	37.9	0	69.2

PERSONS	Ongoing	Short-Term Contract	Long-Term Contract	Other (Casual)	Total
Male	13	6	18	0	37
Female	3	14	23	0	40
TOTAL	16	20	41	0	77

EXECUTIVES

EXECUTIVES BY GENDER, CLASSIFICATION AND STATUS

	Ongoing		Term Tenured		Term Untenured		Other (Casual)		Total				
Classification	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	%	Female	%	Total
EXECOPS	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	1

LEAVE MANAGEMENT

AVERAGE DAYS LEAVE PER FULL TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEE

Leave Type	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Sick Leave	4.3	5.9	4.35	7.15
Family Carer's Leave	0.2	0.38	0.64	0.726
Miscellaneous Special Leave	0	1.27	0.62	0.909

WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EMPLOYEES

Salary Bracket	Aboriginal Employees	Total Employees	% Aboriginal Employees	Target*
\$0 - \$49,199	0	3	0	2%
\$49,200 - \$62,499	1	34	2.9412	2%
\$62,500- \$80,099	1	31	3.2258	2%
\$80,100 - \$100,999	0	8	0	2%
\$101,000+	0	1	0	2%
TOTAL	2	77	2.5974	2%

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES BY AGE BRACKET BY GENDER

Age Bracket	Male	Female	Total	% of Total	2010 Workforce Benchmark*
15-19	1	0	1	1.3	6.1%
20-24	0	0	0	0	10.6%
25-29	2	8	10	12.99	10.5%
30-34	4	14	18	23.38	9.4%
35-39	6	5	11	14.29	11.2%
40-44	4	3	7	9.09	11.1%
45-49	6	4	10	12.99	12.2%
50-54	5	5	10	12.99	11.0%
55-59	6	1	7	9.09	9.2%
60-64	2	0	2	2.6	6.0%
65+	1	0	1	1.3	2.9%
TOTAL	37	40	77	100	100.0

*Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian Demographic Statistics, 6291.0.55.001 Labour Force Status (ST LM8) by sex, age, state, marital status – employed – total from Feb78 Supertable, South Australia at May 2010.

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY

	Male	Female	Total	% Agency	SA Community*
Number of employees born overseas	2	1	3	3.9	20.3%
Number of employees who speak language(s) other than English at home	1	1	2	2.6	16.6%

* Benchmarks from ABS Publication Basic Community Profile (SA) Cat No. 2001.0, 2006 census.

TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES (ACCORDING TO COMMONWEALTH DDA DEFINITION)

Male	Female	Total	% of Agency
0	0	0	0

TYPES OF DISABILITY (WHERE SPECIFIED)

Disability	Male	Female	Total	% of Agency
Disability requiring workplace adaptation	0	0	0	0
Physical	0	0	0	0
Intellectual	0	0	0	0
Sensory	0	0	0	0
Psychological/ Psychiatric	0	0	0	0

VOLUNTARY FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

	Male	Female	Total
Purchased Leave	0	0	0
Flexitime	36	40	76
Compressed Weeks	0	0	0
Part-time	2	16	18
Job Share	0	0	0
Working from Home	0	0	0

5.3 Performance Development

DOCUMENTED REVIEW OF INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Employees with ...	% Total Workforce
A review within the past 12 months	57.14
A review older than 12 months	11.69
No review	31.17

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING EXPENDITURE

Training and Development	Total Cost	% of Total Salary Expenditure
Total training and development expenditure	\$ 54,526	0.89%
Total leadership and management development expenditure	\$ 2,745	0.045%

ACCREDITED TRAINING PACKAGES

ACCREDITED TRAINING PACKAGES BY CLASSIFICATION

Classification	Number of Accredited Training Packages
ASO3	1
ASO5	2
PO4	1
UPTT10	1

5.4 Equal Employment Opportunity programs

The gender balance of the Board is always taken into consideration when members are appointed. During the reporting period the Board staff consisted of 37 male and 40 female members.

The members of the Board are aware of and abide by their obligations under the State *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*. The Board endeavours to comply by:

- Promoting a work environment where everyone is treated with respect, fairness, equality and dignity
- Ensuring an environment free from discrimination, bullying and harassment
- Preventing discrimination, bullying and harassment in the workplace
- Ensuring management and staff are aware they may be liable for any unlawful act which occurs in the work area under their supervision
- Ensuring prompt, serious, sensitive, impartial and confidential investigations of complaints, enquiries and questions relating to discrimination, bullying and harassment

- Ensuring any person who feels they have just cause for a complaint is able to use the complaint procedure without fear of retribution or disadvantage

The Board support but currently does not engage any staff under the SA Government Youth Training Schemes and Trainee Employment Register, the SA Public Sector Aboriginal Recruitment and Development Strategy and Aboriginal Employment Register or Employment of People with Disabilities or the Disability Employment Register.

During 2009-10 the Board engaged two trainees under the following schemes:

- Australian Apprenticeship Incentives Program (School based Training) under the Drought Apprenticeship Retention Program 2009-10
- Statewide Group Training Scheme (IT Based Traineeship)

5.5 Occupational Health, Safety and Injury Management

TABLE 4: OHS NOTICES AND CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN

Number of notifiable occurrences pursuant to OHS&W Regulations Division 6.6	0
Number of notifiable injuries pursuant to OHS&W Regulations Division 6.6	0
Number of notices served pursuant to OHS&W Act s35, s39 and s40 (default, improvement and prohibition notices)	0

TABLE 5: AGENCY GROSS¹ WORKERS COMPENSATION EXPENDITURE FOR 2009-10 COMPARED WITH 2008-09 ²

EXPENDITURE	2009-10 (\$)	2008-09 (\$)	Variation (\$)+ (-)	% Change + (-)
Income Maintenance	5856.82	2814.07	3042.75	108%
Lump Sum Settlements Redemptions - Sect.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lump Sum Settlements Permanent Disability – Sect. 43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medical/Hospital Costs combined	2086.35	6469.65	(4383.30)	(67.75)%
Other	903.41	1925.17	(1021.76)	(53.07)%
Total Claims Expenditure	\$8,846.58	\$11,208.89	(\$2,362.31)	(21.07)%

¹ before 3rd party recovery

² Information available from IDEAS RS/SIMS (for detailed advice on data extraction contact PSWD)

TABLE 6: MEETING SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS³

	Base: 2005-06	Performance: 12 months to end of June 2010 *			Final Target
	Number s or %	Actual	Notional Quarterly Target**	Variation	Numbers or %
1. Workplace Fatalities	0	0	0	0	0
2. New Workplace Injury Claims	0	4	0	4	0
3. New Workplace Injury Claims Frequency Rate	0.00	34.6			0.00
4. Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate ***	0.00	17.3			0.00
5. New Psychological Injury Claims	0	0	0	0	0
6. Rehabilitation and Return to Work:					
6a. Early Assessment within 2 days	0.00%	75.00%	80.00%	-5.00%	80% or more
6b. Early Intervention within 5 days	0.00%	0.00%	80.00%	-80.00%	80% or more
6c. RTW within 5 business days	0.00%	50.00%	75.00%	-25.00%	75% or more
7. Claim Determination:					
7a. Claims determined in 10 business days	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	-75.00%	75% or more
7b. Claims still to be determined after 3 months	0.00%	0.00%	3.00%	-3.00%	3% or less
8. Income Maintenance Payments for Recent Injuries:					
2008-09 Injuries (at 24 months development)		\$3,725.46	\$11,234.28	-\$7,508.82	Below previous 2 years average
2009-10 Injuries (at 12 months development)		\$2,328.82	\$1581.98	\$746.85	Below previous 2 years average

³ Information available from IDEAS RS/SIMS (SIPS target report)

6. FINANCIAL

6.1 Financial Reports

The Board's financial reports and audit statement are included as Appendix 1.

6.2 Contractual Arrangements

No contractual arrangements were entered into during the reporting period where the total value of the contract exceeded \$4 million.

6.3 Account Payment Performance

Particulars	Number of accounts paid	Percentage of accounts paid (by number)	Value in \$A of accounts paid	Percentage of accounts paid (by value)
Paid by due date*	4353	95.50%	\$24,818,994	92.36%
Paid late, within 30 days of due date	179	3.93%	\$1,364,955	5.08%
Paid more than 30 days from due date	26	0.57%	\$687,132	2.56%

6.4 Fraud

During the 2009-10 financial year there were no instance of fraud detected in the Board.

6.5 Consultants

During the 2009-10 financial year there were no consultants employed by the Board

7. OTHER

7.1 Disability Action Plan

The Board does not have a specific Disability Plan, but wherever practicable the Board ensures that its services are accessible to people with disabilities.

Should an issue arise, the organisation is in a position to address a disability issue immediately and would implement measures to address the issue by either action or within its current policies and procedures.

Promoting Independence – Disability Action Plans for South Australia provides a framework of action for agencies to meet the requirements of the *Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *SA Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.

In performing its functions the Board:

- Ensures accessibility of their services to people with disabilities, both as a customer and employee

- Ensures information about their services and programs is inclusive of people with disabilities
- Delivers advice or services to people with disabilities with awareness and understanding of issues affecting people with disabilities
- Provides opportunities for consultation with people with disabilities in decision making processes regarding service delivery and in the implementation of complaints and grievance mechanisms
- The General Manager ensure that the Board has met the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act and Equal Opportunities Act
- The Board is aware of the South Australian Strategic Plan target “to double the number of people with disabilities employed in the Public Sector by 2014”.

7.2 Asbestos management in government buildings

A review was finalised in May 2009 of all facilities leased or owned by the Board (16 sites including depots) to identify management issues, including whether asbestos was present. Some sites had a combination of finding from removing asbestos as soon as practical to no asbestos present or identified without further testing. The table below outlines the findings of this review.

Annual Asbestos Management Report 2009-10

Category	No. of Sites		Category Description	Interpretation one or more items at these sites
	At start of Year	At end of Year		
1	0	0	Remove	Should be removed promptly
2	1	1	Remove as soon as practical	Should be scheduled for removal at a practical time
3	9	9	Use care during maintenance	May need removal during maintenance works
4	2	2	Monitor Condition	Has asbestos present. Inspect according to legislation and policy
5	8	8	No Asbestos identified/identified asbestos has been removed	All asbestos identified and has been removed or no asbestos present at this site.
6	0	0	Further information required	Sites not yet categorised

7.3 Urban Design Charter

The South Australian Government adopted the South Australian Urban Design Charter as a whole-of-government urban policy which was released in November 2004. The Urban Design Charter aims to promote the benefits of good urban design, embed the principles into government processes and record the South Australian Government’s commitment to good urban design. The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board has not undertaken any activities relevant to the implementation of the Urban Design Charter during 2009-10.

7.4 Freedom of Information

It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that it complies with the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*. The Board's Administration Manager, Stephanie Weinert, is the designated and accredited Freedom of Information Officer.

There were no formal applications for information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* during 2009-10.

7.5 Energy Efficiency Action Plan

Performance against annual energy use targets is outlined below.

The Board will aim to achieve the government target of a 25% improvement on the base year by 2014.

	Energy Use (GJ)	GHG Emissions	Business Measures
Base Year 2006-07	544	26.75	65.6 FTE'S
Base Year 2006-07	MJ/business measure/annum		
Year Being Reported 2009-10	539	26.50	69.2 FTE's
Portfolio Target 2009-10	MJ/business measure/annum		
Final Portfolio Target (for 2014)	528	26	85 FTE's

7.6 Greening of Government Operations Framework

The Greening of Government Operations Framework (GoGO) Framework was approved by Cabinet in February 2006 to provide the implementation framework for South Australian Government agencies to progress greening programs.

GoGO Priority Area 1: energy management

GoGO Priority Area 3: waste management

GoGO Priority Area 5: travel and fleet management

The Board will endeavour to work closely with agencies to progress improvements in environmental performance in accordance with the key actions of its sustainability action plan. The Board has developed an implementation plan that will give effect to the action plan addressing energy management, green buildings, travel and fleet management, green procurement, human resource management and sustainability (Green Team Plan 2008-2014)

ACTION PLAN GOALS:

- BIODIVERSITY: *Improve biodiversity of office surrounds by 2014*
- WASTE: *Improve the reduction, re-use and recycling of office waste by 2014*
- ENERGY: *Increase carbon efficiency of offices by 20% by 2014*

- WATER: *Reduce “Mains” water consumption by 50% by 2014*
- FUEL: *Increase carbon efficiency of vehicles by 20% by 2014*
- PAPER: *Reduce consumption of office goods by 20% by 2014*
- AWARENESS: *Staff are aware and supportive of Green Team initiatives*

Objective 3 in the South Australia’s Strategic Plan (Attaining Sustainability) contains a number of targets that focus on protecting our biodiversity, securing sustainable water and energy supplies, and minimising waste. SA MDB NRM Board progress toward these sustainability targets is included.

Action plan tasks	2009-2010 progress notes
1. Calculate carbon footprint quarterly to monitor usage on water/energy/waste audit.	Quarterly update completed as part of broader Board goal in reducing carbon footprint and meeting office efficiency goals.
2. Revegetate around buildings this year and next year with natives. Purchased indoor plants to increase CO2 absorption.	Native plantings and negotiation with owners ongoing. New plants planted Sept/Oct 09 at Murray Bridge Office.
3. Replace halogen down lights with LED or CF when old globes have blown using less power/energy.	Halogen down lights turned off when illumination is sufficient through natural lighting. 20 fluorescent tubes removed from the Mount Barker office after a light audit at each work station, office, meeting room, etc. Adequate lighting standards are being met. Fluorescent tube recycling instituted.
4. Set default double sided printing and print in black and white from computers and photocopiers.	Completed and ongoing.
5. Recycling Weekly pick up of waste paper, toilet paper towels, cardboard, plastics, bottles and cans for recycling and monthly pick up of documents disposed in secure locked bin.	Recycling occurs at all Board offices. Waste audit undertaken at Murray Bridge office in June 2009 (results demonstrate food waste reduction). Working with Zero Waste where possible on events and encouraging other event organisers in the region to establish recycling systems.
6. Staff turning off lights, computers, air conditioning, Piccadilly Urn when not in use and Friday afternoons to save energy.	Heated/cooler urn system replaced by use of water filter and electric jugs to achieve energy and water savings in 2010. Signs at air conditioning panels to advising of optimum temperatures for summer and winter.
7. Switched to 100% recycled copier paper.	Completed.
8. Trial using data sticks at Board meetings and other initiatives to save	Ongoing. The Board has implemented an electronic records management system (2009-10)

on paper.	and work flow training has been substantially completed to be implemented 2010-11 year.
9. Purchasing stationery items made from recycled materials where appropriate ie pens, erasers, pencils, notebooks, plastic rubbish bins, plastic desk tidy trays	Ongoing.
10. Hot desks available in NRM Board offices. Laptops use less energy than computers where suitable.	Established and ongoing.
11. Composting/Bokashi bins – Worm farm for waste.	New composting arrangements Sept 09 – worm farm discontinued in favour of all in compost bins. Waste reduction demonstrated from 2008 figures.
12. Car pool operational where possible between staff travelling to and from work and during work hours.	Promoted and ongoing.
13. Order Fleet SA vehicles with dual fuel or 4 cylinders to maximise efficiency where possible.	The Board has been down-sizing from 6-cylinder Commodores to 4-cylinder Camry. Car pooling is being promoted. Reductions in fuel use have occurred over 2009-10 (see graph below).
14. Installed rainwater tanks for toilet and bathroom water use.	Rainwater tanks installed at Karoonda office. Rainwater plumbed in at Murray Bridge office.
15. Set air conditioning thermostats – higher in summer/lower in winter. Set to 21° Winter, 25° Summer for better efficiency.	Ongoing.
16. Installed skylights in dark areas of building.	Ongoing.
17. E-mail messages to save on copy paper consumption – Think before you print on emails and Be green and read from the screen	Promoted.

Sustainability Highlights for 2009-2010

Vehicle Fuel Use:

The Board has been able to demonstrate progress toward targets and savings. One significant reduction is shown in fuel use, where approximately 10% has been achieved over 3½ years (3% per year).

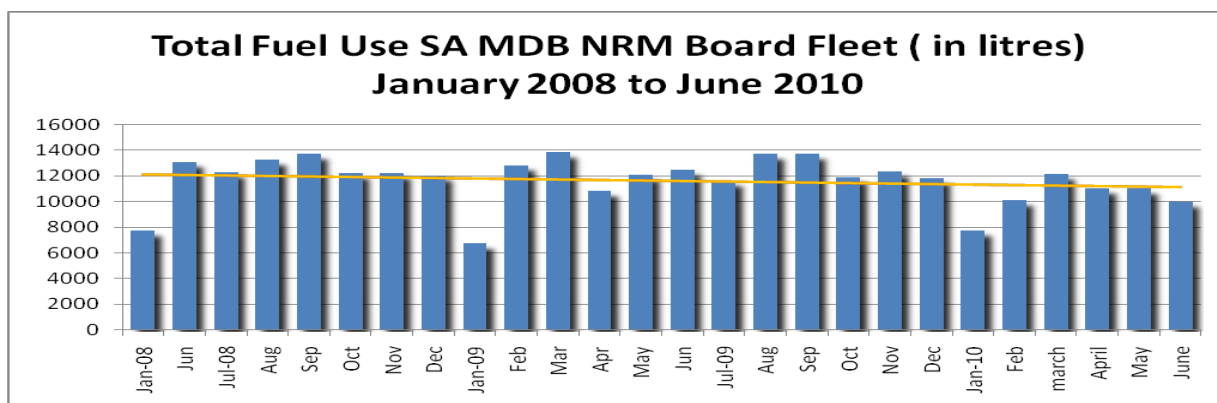


Figure 1: Shows a 10% reduction over the 4 months March – end June 2009 -2010 comparisons

Office Power use:

All SA MDB NRM Board offices are being progressively moved toward 20% green energy as the electricity contracts fall due. Office energy efficiency is the first priority with individual office audits demonstrating the majority of offices recording reduced electricity use based on power consumption to the end of 2009. Of the ten offices, five offices recorded stable consumption; five offices marginally down and two offices increased power use.

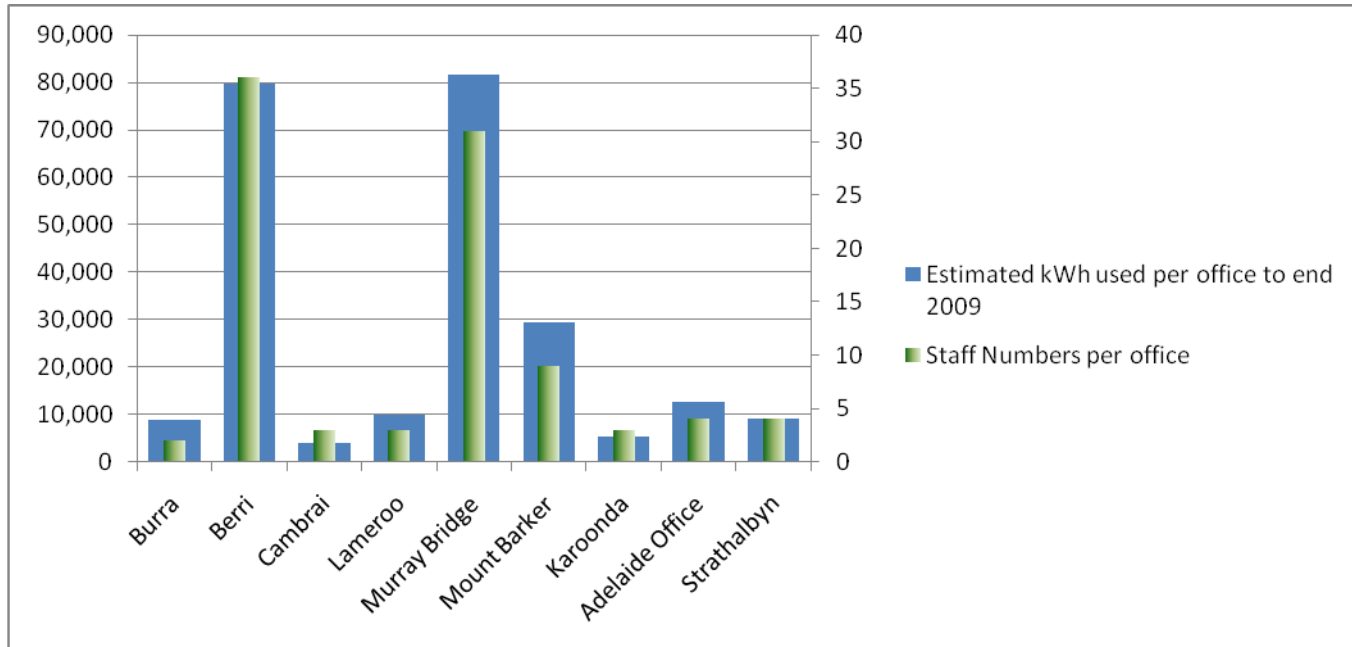


Figure 2: Power use / Staff numbers comparison shows that energy use equates well with staff numbers. Taillem Bend storage facility excluded as it has no staff.

7.7 Regional Impact Assessment Statements

The Board did not undertake any regional Impact Assessment Statements during the 2009-10 financial year.

7.8 Reconciliation Statement

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board acknowledges the land on which it meets is the traditional lands for Aboriginal people and that it respects their spiritual relationship with their country. The Board also acknowledges the Ngarrindjeri, Ngargad, Meru, Ngadjuri, Peramangk, Danggali and Barkindji people as the custodians of the region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living people today.

In fulfilling its functions, the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board is cognisant of the cultural and natural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve positive outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

The Board had an indigenous representative, Mr Derek Walker as a member of its Board. Mr Walker's term expired on 13 April 2010 and a replacement Board member will be appointed soon.

The Board also has engaged the indigenous community in projects and committees wherever possible.

Two indigenous facilitators for The Living Murray project were appointed to the region with one officer based in Adelaide and the other in Berri. The Board has funded an Aboriginal Partnerships Coordinator and two Aboriginal Project Officers to actively engage with aboriginal communities across the region.

7.9 Statement of Fact for Significant Ministerial Directives

No Ministerial Directives have been issued to the Board by the Minister in relation to Sections 24 and 30 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

7.10 Statement of Fact for Significant Functions Assigned by Minister

Under Section 6 of the *Administrative Arrangements Act 1994* the ministerial functions and powers of the Minister for the Environment and Conservation in relation to the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board the following sections of the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 were conferred on the Minister for the River Murray on 27 January 2005.

- Sections 11; 23(2)(c); 23(3)(a); 23(4), (5), (6) and (7); 24(3); 25; 29; 30; 33; 34; 35; 36; 39; 40; 43; 44; 45; 46; 48; 49; 50; 53; 54; 58; 59; 61; 75; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 84; 88; 89; 171; 225; Schedule 1, Clauses 4 and 5; Schedule 4, Clause 54 (12) and (13).

There were no new significant functions assigned to the Board by the Minister in 2009-10.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board would like to thank the Minister for the River Murray, Hon Karlene Maywald MP and the Ministers for Environment and Conservation, Hon Jay Weatherill MP and Hon Paul Caica MP, and staff of the SA Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation, the staff of the SA Department for Environment and Heritage, SA Water Corporation, Primary Industries and Resources SA, Environment Protection Authority, Local Government and the community for the support and encouragement that it has received in 2009-10.

9. GLOSSARY

APP	Aboriginal Partnerships Program
AS	Australian Standards
The Board	South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
BCM	Bushland Condition Monitoring
BFL	Bush for Life Program
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
BSMS	Basin Sustainability Management Strategy
CAC	Community Advisory Committee
CFOC	Caring for Our Country
CVA	Conservation Volunteers Australia
DAFF	Department of Agriculture Forest and Fisheries
DWLBC	Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation
DEH	Department for Environment and Heritage
DENR	Department for Environment and Natural Resources
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
FTE	Full time equivalent
FOI	Freedom of Information
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GJ	Gigajoules
GL	Gigalitre
GoGo	Greening of Government Operations
Group (the Group)	Natural Resources Management Group
Ha	Hectares
Km	Kilometre

LAP	Local Action Planning
MAT	Management Action Target
MDBA	Murray-Darling Basin Authority
MDB	Murray-Darling Basin
MERI	Monitoring, Evaluation Reporting and Improvement
NRC	Natural Resource Centre
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NRM Act (Act)	Natural Resources Management Act 2004
NRM Plan (Plan)	Regional Natural Resources Management Plan (the Plan or Regional NRM Plan)
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Resource South Australia
PWR	Prescribed Water Resource
RCT	Resource Condition Target
R2R	Ranges to River (NRM Group)
S	Section
SA	South Australian
SE	South East
WoNS	Weeds of National Significance

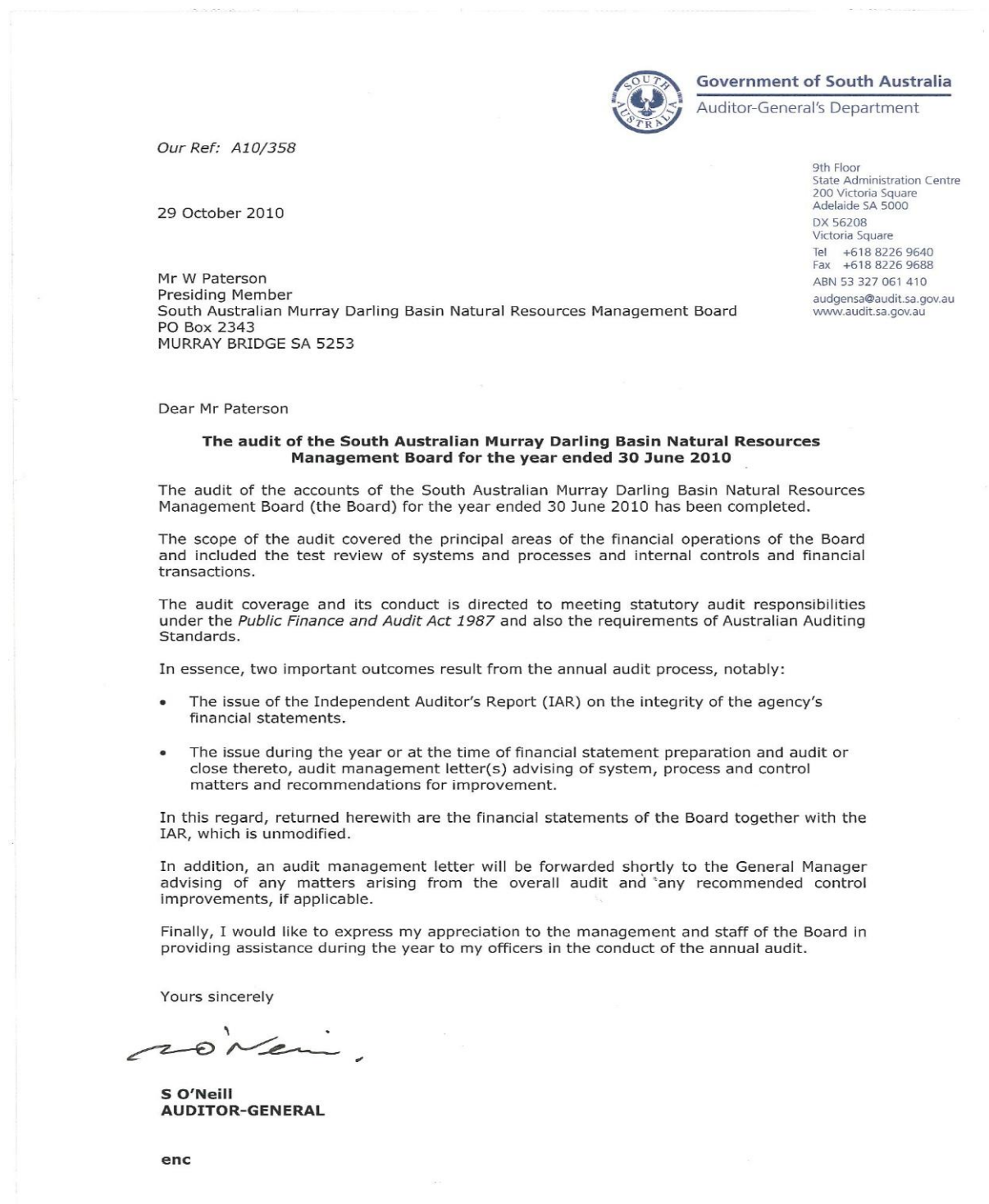
10. PUBLICATIONS RELEASED OR UPDATED DURING 2009-2010

Listed below are the publications which have been released or updated during 2009-10:

- Annual Water Use report for the Mallee Prescribed Wells Area 2008/2009”
- MERI Plan
- Bookpurnong to Lock 4 Land and Water Management Plan, November 2009
- Bookpurnong to Lock 4 Land & Water Management Plan, Perched Water Investigations, 2009
- 2010-11 Business Plan.

11.APPENDICES

11.1 APPENDIX 1: 2009-10 Audited Financial Reports and Statement



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Government of South Australia
Auditor-General's Department

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200 Victoria Square
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To the Members

South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

As required by section 31 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 37(2) of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2010. The financial statements comprise:

- A Statement of Comprehensive Income
- A Statement of Financial Position
- A Statement of Changes in Equity
- A Statement of Cash Flows
- Disaggregated Disclosures - Expenses and Income
- Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statement, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- A Certificate from the Presiding Member, the General Manager and Finance Manager of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.

The responsibility of the Members of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board for the financial statements

The Members of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board are responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. The Auditing Standards require that the auditor complies with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plans and performs the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the

accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Members of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board, as well as the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my auditor's opinion.

Auditor's opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board as at 30 June 2010, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards.



S O'Neill
AUDITOR-GENERAL
29 October 2010

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2010

	Note	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
EXPENSES			
Grants and subsidies	4	403	2,885
Staff benefits	5	6,245	6,237
Supplies and Services	6	14,925	18,085
Other expenses	7	1,085	814
Depreciation	8	102	253
Board, Group and Committee expenses		215	212
Borrowing costs		2	3
Net Loss on disposal of non current assets	9	-	1
Total Expenses		22,977	28,490
INCOME			
Regional NRM and Water Levies	11	5,540	3,344
Caring for Our Country	12	5,757	4,064
Grants Received	13	9,758	14,252
Interest received		103	240
Other income		1,362	1,743
Total Income		22,520	23,643
NET RESULT		(457)	(4,847)
Total Comprehensive Result		(457)	(4,847)

The net result and comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.
The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2010

	Note	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash and cash equivalents	14	1,935	2,631
Receivables	15	6,365	6,635
Total Current Assets		8,300	9,266
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:			
Property, Plant and Equipment	16	1,058	1,212
Total Non-Current Assets		1,058	1,212
Total Assets		9,358	10,478
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Payables	17.1	2,943	3,817
Borrowings		12	11
Staff Benefits	18.1	595	589
Provisions	18.1	15	15
Total Current Liabilities		3,565	4,432
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Payables	17.2	88	69
Borrowings		6	18
Staff Benefits	19.2	886	688
Provisions	18.2	50	41
Total Non-Current Liabilities		1,030	826
Total Liabilities		4,595	5,258
NET ASSETS		4,763	5,220
EQUITY:			
Retained Earnings		4,763	5,220
TOTAL EQUITY		4,763	5,220

The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Unrecognised contractual commitments 20
Contingent assets and liabilities 21

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity		
For the year ended 30 June 2010		
	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
Balance 1 July 2008	10,067	10,067
Net result for 2008-09	(4,847)	(4,847)
Total comprehensive result for 2008-09	(4,847)	(4,847)
Balance at 30 June 2009	5,220	5,220
Balance 1 July 2009	5,220	5,220
Net result for 2009-10	(457)	(457)
Total comprehensive result for 2009-10	(457)	(457)
Balance at 30 June 2010	4,763	4,763

All changes in equity are attributable to SA Government as owner.

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2010		
	2010 Inflows (Outflows) \$'000	2009 Inflows (Outflows) \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash Outflows:		
Payments to staff, Board, Group & Committee members	(6,266)	(6,287)
Payments to suppliers, service providers, grantees	(18,394)	(22,716)
GST paid to ATO	(1,594)	(1,774)
Cash used in operations	(26,254)	(30,777)
Cash Inflows:		
NRM Levies & other revenue received	24,109	23,815
Interest received	103	240
GST recovered from the ATO	1,646	2,175
Cash generated from operations	25,857	26,230
Net cash used in operating activities	(397)	(4,547)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash Outflows:		
Purchase of plant and equipment	(288)	(399)
Cash used in investing activities	(288)	(399)
Cash Inflows:		
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	-	43
Cash generated from investing activities	-	43
Net cash used in investing activities	(288)	(356)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash Outflows:		
Repayment of borrowings	(11)	(11)
Cash used in financing activities	(11)	(11)
Net cash used in financing activities	(11)	(11)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(696)	(4,914)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD	2,631	7,545
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	1,935	2,631

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DISAGGREGATED DISCLOSURES - EXPENSES AND INCOME
For the year ended 30 June 2010

	Atmosphere	Biodiversity	Coastal & Estuarine	Monitoring	Land	People	Water	River Murray Environmental Manager Unit	Total	2009 \$000's
	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's	2010 \$000's
EXPENSES										
Grants and subsidies		118		6	38	94	66	81	403	2,885
Staff benefits	32	129		919	1,711	721	1,169	1,564	6,245	6,237
Supplies and Services	41	1,453	172	444	2,460	3,709	1,539	5,107	14,925	18,085
Other expenses	43	94	65	118	255	48	155	307	1,085	814
Depreciation	12	13	12	13	13	13	13	13	102	253
Borrowing costs				-	2	2			2	3
Board, Group and Committee expenses	26	26	26	29	26	27	29	26	215	212
Net Loss on disposal of non-current assets									-	1
Total Expenses	154	1,833	275	1,529	4,505	4,612	2,971	7,098	22,977	28,490
INCOME										
Regional NRM and Water Levies	90	575		334	2,631	533	1,377		5,540	3,344
Caring for Our Country		1,350	239	1,013	624	1,935	77	519	5,757	4,054
Grants Received		1,074		47	464	2,248	736	5,189	9,758	14,252
Interest Received							103		103	240
Other income		52	22	1	612	219	305	151	1,362	1,743
Total Income	90	3,051	261	1,395	4,331	4,935	2,598	5,859	22,520	23,643
Net result	(64)	1,218	(14)	(134)	(174)	323	(373)	(1,239)	(457)	(4,847)

The Board has determined that assets and liabilities cannot be reliably attributed to individual Activities/ Themes. Comparatives have not been provided as new programs have been implemented this financial year.

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Objectives

1.1 Establishment of the Board

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (the Board) was established on 9 December 2004 pursuant to section 23 (1) of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (the NRM Act).

The Board operates under a Natural Resources Management Plan (NRM Plan) which was adopted by the Minister for the River Murray on 28 April 2009, for implementation on 1 July 2009. The NRM Plan contains a three-year Investment Plan which identifies strategies, management action targets and the Board's investment themes as detailed in Note 3.

The Board serves the Government and the people of South Australia by achieving excellence in the provision of Natural Resources Management.

1.2 Objectives of the Board

The objectives of the Board as defined in the NRM Act are:

- to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region;
- to prepare a regional NRM plan in accordance with the NRM Act, to implement the plan and to keep the plan under review to ensure the objects of the NRM Act are being achieved;
- to promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, to undertake or support educational activities with respect to natural resources management, and to provide mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programmes or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources;
- to provide advice with respect to the assessment of various activities or proposals referred to the Board under this or any other Act;
- to resolve any issues that may arise between the NRM groups that are relevant to the management of natural resources within its region;
- at the request of the Minister or the NRM Council; or of its own initiative, to provide advice on any matter relevant to the condition of natural resources within its region, or on the management of those resources, to conduct any inquiry or audit, or to provide any other advice or report that may be appropriate in the circumstances; and
- any other functions assigned to the Board by the Minister by or under this or any other Act.

2 Statement of significant accounting policies

2.1 Statement of compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with relevant Australian accounting standards and Treasurer's Instructions and accounting policy statements promulgated under the provision of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987.

Except for Australian Accounting Standard, AASB 2009-12, which the Board has early adopted, Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the Board for the reporting period ending 30 June 2010. The Board did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2009-10.

2.2 Basis of preparation

The preparation of the financial statements requires:

- the use of certain accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Board's accounting policies. Areas involving a higher degree of judgement or where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are outlined in the applicable notes;
- accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events are reported; and
- compliance with accounting policy statements issued pursuant to section 41 of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987. In the interest of public accountability and transparency the accounting policy statements require the following note disclosures, which have been included in this financial report:

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South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- a) revenues, expenses, financial assets and liabilities where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at reporting date, classified according to their nature. A threshold of \$100,000 for separate identification of these items applies;
- b) staff whose normal remuneration is \$100,000 or more (within \$10,000 bandwidths) and the aggregate of the remuneration paid or payable or otherwise made available, directly or indirectly by the entity to those employees; and
- c) board/committee member and remuneration information, where a board/committee member is entitled to receive income from membership other than a direct out-of-pocket reimbursement.
- d) expenses incurred as a result of engaging consultants (as reported in the Statement of Comprehensive Income).

The Board's Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, and Statement of Changes in Equity have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets that were valued in accordance with the valuation policy applicable.

The Statement of Cash Flows has been prepared on a cash basis.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a twelve month period and presented in Australian currency.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 and the comparative information presented.

2.3 Reporting entity

The Board was established on 9 December 2004 pursuant to section 23 (1) of the NRM Act.

The Board operates under a Natural Resources Management Plan (NRM Plan) which was approved by the Minister for the River Murray in April 2009.

The Board is an administrative unit acting on behalf of the Crown.

The Board's financial statements include the use of income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled or incurred by the Board in its own right.

NRM Groups

The function of the NRM Groups is defined by the NRM Act 2004, (section 52) and the NRM Group Charter. The NRM Act provides that the NRM Groups are subject to the direction of the Board (section 72(3)(b)).

In accordance with a direction issued by the Board under the NRM Groups Charter, the NRM Groups do not have the power to enter into contracts or procure goods or services in their own right; rather they make recommendations for projects undertaken by the Board. The Board has ensured NRM Group projects undertaken by the Board and the related financial information has been incorporated in the accounts and financial statements of the Board for financial reporting purposes.

2.4 Comparative information

The presentation and classification of items in the financial statements are consistent with prior periods except where specific accounting standards and/or accounting policy statements has required a change.

Where presentation or classification of items in the financial statements have been amended, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation or classification in these financial statements unless impracticable.

2.5 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

2.6 Taxation

The Board is not subject to income tax. The Board is liable for payroll tax, fringe benefits tax, goods and services tax (GST), emergency services levy and local government rates. Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable; and
- receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office is classified as part of operating cash flows.

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the Australian Taxation Office. If GST is not payable to, or recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, the commitments and contingencies are disclosed on a gross basis.

2.7 Events after the reporting period

Adjustments are made to amounts recognised in the financial statements, where an event occurs after 30 June and before the date the financial statements are authorised for issue, where those events provides information about conditions that existed at 30 June.

Note disclosure is made about events between 30 June and the date the financial statements are authorised for issue where the events relate to a condition which arose after 30 June and which may have a material impact on the results of subsequent years.

2.8 Income

Income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits to the Board will occur and can be reliably measured.

Income has been aggregated according to its nature and has not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose income where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.



South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Regional NRM and Water Levies

Under the NRM Act the Board receives two forms of levies, being the Regional NRM Levy and the NRM Water Levy.

The Regional NRM Levy is collected by constituent councils from ratepayers and is based on the value of rateable land. Councils can seek to recover any outgoing costs associated with the collection of the levy.

The Water based Levy is collected by the Department for Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation who collects from licensed water users. This Levy is based on water allocated and water used.

Contributions from constituent councils collected from ratepayers are recognised as income following determination of the share of each council by the Minister and publications of those amounts in the Government Gazette. Contributions are required to be paid on a quarterly basis to the Board. Levies are recognised as revenue when the Board obtains control of the funding. Control over levies is obtained on receipt.

Natural Resources Management Fund

The Natural Resources Management Fund (NRM Fund) was established pursuant to subsection 117(1) of the NRM Act. The Minister for Environment and Conservation administers the NRM Fund and may apply any part of the NRM Fund in making payments to the Board. The Board receives the following Commonwealth and State Funding through this fund.

Commonwealth Funding- Caring for Our Country

The State and the Board entered into a Regional Proponent Agreement for the implementation of the Commonwealth's Caring for our Country initiative from 1 July 2008.

In order to ensure the continuity of regional base level funding from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2013 this agreement was varied by both parties in January 2010 whilst a new multilateral National Partnership Agreement and a cross-jurisdictional implementation plan was finalised by the Commonwealth for the 2009-2013 regional base level funding.

The goal of Caring for our Country is an environment that is healthy, better protected, well managed, resilient and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate. Caring for our Country has six National Priority Areas for Investment.

Under the Agreement to reflect the intent of the Commonwealth, the State and the Board work together as partners with the community and other stakeholders, in natural resource management for the Region. Pursuant to that commitment the Commonwealth agreed to fund programs undertaken by the Board.

Grants received

Grants received predominately represent contributions from State government agencies, various Commonwealth government agencies and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (formerly the Murray-Darling Basin Commission) toward various activities of the Board.

To complement the Commonwealth's Caring for Our Country initiative, the Government of South Australia implemented the State NRM Program. Through a Proponent Agreement the State agreed to fund projects to be undertaken by the Board through the Regional NRM Plan that meet the priority areas for investment at achieving the goals of the State NRM Plan. The Proponent Agreement covers the arrangements for the implementation of the State NRM Program 2009-2010 to 2012-2013, with funding for any projects post 2009-2010 subject to Ministerial approval.

Grants received are recognised as an asset and income when the Board obtains control of the grant or obtains the right to receive the grant and the income recognition criteria are met (ie the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).



South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Commonwealth and Grant Contributions received

Contributions are recognised as an asset and income when the Board obtains control of the contributions or obtains the right to receive the contributions and the income recognition criteria are met (i.e. the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).

Generally, the Board has obtained control or the right to receive for:

- Contributions with unconditional stipulations - this will be when the agreement becomes enforceable ie the earlier of when the receiving entity has formally been advised that the contribution (eg grant application) has been approved; agreement/contract is executed; and/or the contribution is received.
- Contributions with conditional stipulations - this will be when the enforceable stipulations specified in the agreement occur or are satisfied; that is income would be recognised for contributions received or receivable under the agreement.

All contributions received by the Board have been contributions with unconditional stipulations attached and have been recognised as an asset and income upon receipt.

Other income

Other income includes revenue generated through contracting of animal and plant control services conducted on Crown or private land and Payroll Tax refunds. All income relates to the operating activities of the Board. Other Income is recognised when the service has been performed.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised when earned.

Net gain on sale of non-current assets

Income from disposal of non-current assets is recognised when the control of the asset has passed to the buyer and determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount.

2.9 Expenses

Expenses are recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits from the Board will occur and can be reliably measured.

Expenses have been aggregated according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose expenses where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Staff benefits expenses

Staff benefit expenses includes all cost related to employment including wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and leave entitlements. These are recognised when incurred.

Superannuation

The amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income represents the contributions made by the Board to the superannuation plan in respect of current services of current Board staff. The Department of Treasury and Finance centrally recognises the superannuation liability in the whole of government financial statements. In addition where staff belong to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme the liability is held with that Fund.

Depreciation

All non-current assets, having a limited useful life, are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Assets' residual values and useful lives are periodically reviewed and adjusted if appropriate.

Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate, which is a change in accounting estimate.

Land is not depreciated.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the following classes of

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

assets as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Infrastructure	40
Buildings	70
Minor Plant/Field Equipment	5
Furniture Fixtures and Fittings	10
Office Equipment	5
Computer Equipment	3
Motor Vehicles	12

Grants and Subsidies

The Board provided financial assistance to local government, State Government agencies, community groups and private bodies during the year. Funds are paid by way of grants and all recipients are required to comply with conditions relevant to each grant. The details of amounts provided, organisations receiving grants and the purpose for each grant are shown in the Annual Report, as required under section 42 of the NRM Act.

For contributions payable, the contribution will be recognised as a liability and expense when the entity has a present obligation to pay the contribution and the expense recognition criteria are met.

All contributions paid by the Board have been contributions with unconditional stipulations attached.

Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are recognised as expenses.

2.10 Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are characterised as either current or non-current in nature. Assets and liabilities that are sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle even when they are not expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting date have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Where asset and liability line items combine amounts expected to be realised within twelve months and more than twelve months, the Board has separately disclosed the amounts expected to be recovered or settled after more than twelve months.

2.11 Assets

Assets have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

Where an asset line item combines amounts expected to be settled within twelve months and more than twelve months, the Board has separately disclosed the amounts expected to be recovered after more than twelve months.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose financial assets where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position include cash at bank and on hand.

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above.

Cash is measured at nominal value.

Receivables

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Receivables include amounts receivable from goods and services, GST input tax credits recoverable, prepayments and other accruals.

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are generally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Accrued revenue arises when goods and services have been provided but no invoice has been raised by the Board at the reporting date.

Non-current asset acquisition and recognition

Non-current assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Non-current assets are subsequently measured at fair value less accumulated depreciation.

The Statement of Financial Position includes Property, Plant and Equipment controlled by the Board.

Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructure of administrative arrangements then the assets are recognised at book value ie the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure.

All non-current tangible assets with a value equal to or in excess of \$5,000 are capitalised. Previously recognised assets with a carrying value of \$340,000 were written off during the year when the capitalisation threshold was increased from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Revaluation of non-current assets

All non-current tangible assets are valued at written down current cost (a proxy for fair value); and revaluation of non-current assets or group of assets is only performed when its fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years. As the Board does not hold assets that meet this criteria, assets have not been revalued.

Impairment

All non-current tangible and intangible assets are tested for indication of impairment at each reporting date. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. An amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

2.12 Liabilities

Liabilities have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

Where a liability line item combines amounts expected to be settled within twelve months and more than twelve months, the Board has separately disclosed the amounts expected to be settled after more than twelve months.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose financial liabilities where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

Payables

Payables include creditors, accrued expenses and employment on-costs.

Creditors represent the amounts owing for goods and services received prior to the end of the reporting period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Creditors include all unpaid invoices received relating to the normal operations of the Board.

Accrued expenses represent goods and services provided by other parties during the period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period and where an invoice has not been received.

All payables are measured at their nominal amount, are unsecured and are normally settled within 30 days from the date of the invoice or date the invoice is first received.



South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Staff benefit on-costs include payroll tax, WorkCover and superannuation contributions in respect to outstanding liabilities for salaries and wages, long service leave and annual leave.

The Board makes contributions to State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board and the Local Government Superannuation Board.

Leases

The Board has no finance leases.

The Board entered into operating lease agreements in relation to vehicles, office premises and office equipment whereby the lessors effectively retain all of the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the property held under the operating leases. Refer note 20.1.

Lease payments are included as expenditure in equal instalments over the accounting periods covered by the lease terms. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The straight-line basis is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

Staff benefits

These benefits accrue for staff as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Long-term staff benefits are measured at present value and short-term staff benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Wages, salaries, annual leave and sick leave

The liability for salary and wages are measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at reporting date.

The annual leave liability is expected to be payable within twelve months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid. In the unusual event where salary and wages and annual leave are payable later than 12 months, the liability will be measured at present value.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by staff estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised after staff have completed 5.5 years of service. An actuarial assessment of long service leave undertaken by the Department of Treasury and Finance based on a significant sample of employees throughout the South Australian public sector determined that the liability measured using the short hand method was not materially different from the liability measured using the present value of expected future payments. This calculation is consistent with the Board's experience of staff retention and leave taken.

Workers Compensation

The Board is registered with Work Cover as an exempt employer and has entered a service level agreement with the Department of Premier and Cabinet to provide insurance cover for work caused injuries.

A provision is raised to reflect the liability for any outstanding (unsettled) workers compensation claims for lump sum payments, adjusted for potential recoveries from negligent third parties. The provision is based on an actuarial assessment performed for the Public Sector Workforce Relations division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

These figures reflect an apportionment of the whole-of-government estimate of workers compensation liability, according to the Board's experience of claim numbers and payments.

The whole-of-government estimate can be found in a report prepared by Taylor Fry Pty Ltd, consulting actuaries, and submitted to the Public Sector Workforce Relations division.

2.13 Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingent assets and liabilities

Commitments include operating, capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

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South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the Australian Taxation Office. If GST is not payable to, or recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, the commitments and contingencies are disclosed on a gross basis.

3 Activities of the Board

In achieving its objectives, the Board provides a range of services classified into the following Activities:

Activity 1: People

The People program recognises the significant role that people play in natural resources management outcomes. This program has a strong focus on raising the awareness of the communities within the Region and then engaging those people by building their understanding and involvement in the natural resources management projects implemented.

The program also has a specific focus on engaging the Region's Aboriginal populations in NRM. This program aims to ensure the continued use, support and reinvigoration of traditional knowledge to underpin the natural resource outcomes for the Region.

Activity 2: Water

The Water program is focused on three groups of strategies:

- sustainably managing all water resources
- improving water quality
- achieving environmental water requirements.

Water resource assessment and water allocation planning are key elements of the program and are a statutory obligation of the Board.

Working with the irrigation community ensures that water is used sustainably throughout the Region. The Board also invests in sustainable water management through the development and implementation of land and water management plans.

Activity 3: Biodiversity

The Biodiversity program contributes to the Region-wide programs that focus on protecting, improving and increasing the area of natural ecosystems in the Region. The Board facilitates community groups to undertake on-ground works in priority areas. The Board's role in this program is to provide technical support for groups implementing projects and to build the understanding and involvement of the wider community in biodiversity activities.

The Board also plays a role in facilitating actions related to managing aquatic threatened species.

Protecting and managing priority wetlands and floodplains is a feature of this program. The Board works with key local community groups to develop wetland and floodplain management plans, implement on-ground works and to monitor wetland and floodplain health.

The Board works closely with the community and the Department for Environment and Heritage in implementing the Biodiversity program.

Activity 4: Land

The Land program is focused on working with industry, government and farmer groups to improve soil and land condition to increase productive capacity and reduce the impacts of land degradation processes.

The Land program focuses on rain-fed production systems with the management of irrigated land falling under the Water Asset. The Board's statutory obligation to undertake pest plant and animal control activities is contained within the Land program.

Activity 5: Atmosphere

The Atmosphere program focuses on raising awareness of the issue of climate change and the potential impacts on the Region. The Board promotes renewable energy and its uptake within the Region. The Board also focuses on improving its own energy efficiency and emissions through improvements in its buildings and vehicle fleet.



South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Activity 6: Monitoring

Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) activities are fundamental to NRM. Implementing the regional NRM plan requires a MERI Plan that structures actions to provide accurate, cost-effective and timely performance data to inform our decisions. Implementation of the MERI Plan ensures that we learn, enhance understanding, demonstrate accountability and continuously improve our actions to achieve NRM outcomes.

Activity 7: Coastal and Estuarine Environment

Activities aim to maintain and improve the capacity of the River Murray discharge to the sea to keep the Mouth open so that oxygenated sea water can flow into the Coorong to improve its health; to restore, maintain and enhance biodiversity and priority ecosystems; to improve water quality for economic, social and environmental purposes and to provide water for environmental needs.

Activity 8: River Murray Environmental Manager Unit

Activities include the management and implementation of environmental flow strategies and co-ordinated wetland and floodplain management. The disaggregated disclosures schedule presents expenses and income information attributable to each of the activities as reflected in the Board's NRM Plan for the year ended 30 June 2010.



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. Grants and Subsidies		2010	2009
		\$'000	\$'000
Grants and Subsidies paid to:			
Local Government and community groups		110	2,019
Other		293	866
Total Grants and subsidies		403	2,885
5. Staff Benefits			
Salaries and Wages		5,461	5,446
Superannuation		499	509
Payroll Tax		285	282
Total Staff Benefits		6,245	6,237
Remuneration of Staff		2010	2009
The number of staff whose total cost of employment to the Board falls within the following bands:		Numbers	Numbers
		Staff	Staff
\$100,000 - \$109,999		1	2
\$110,000 - \$119,999		1	1
\$130,000 - \$139,999		1	1
\$170,000 - \$179,999		-	1
\$190,000 - \$199,999		1	-
Total number of staff		4	5
The table includes all staff who received remuneration of \$100,000 or more during the year. Remuneration of staff reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, superannuation contributions, fringe benefits tax, vehicle lease costs, any other salary sacrifice benefits and pay adjustments in relation to executive salary increases from previous years. The total remuneration received or receivable by these staff members for the year was \$543,000 (\$641,000).			
6. Supplies and Services		2010	2009
		\$'000	\$'000
Supplies and services provided by entities within the SA Government:			
Contractors		216	2,255
Other		-	110
Total Supplies and Services - SA Government entities		216	2,365
Supplies and services provided by entities external to SA Government:			
Contractors		11,715	12,901
Motor Vehicles Expense		792	814
Office Accommodation and services		790	744
IT Services		255	274
Minor Equipment		221	85
Postage, Printing & Stationery		219	287
Travel		118	141
Other		599	474
Total Supplies and Services - Non SA Government entities		14,709	15,720
Total Supplies and Services		14,925	18,085
Consultancies	No.	2010	2009
		\$'000	\$'000
The number and dollar amount of consultancies paid/payable that fell within the following bands:			
Below \$10,000	-	-	1
Total paid/payable to the consultants engaged	-	-	1
7. Other Expenses		2010	2009
		\$'000	\$'000
Unexpended Grants returned		745	814
Asset write-off		340	-
Total Other Expenses		1,085	814
8. Depreciation			
Buildings		8	7
Computer Equipment		19	130
Furniture & Furnishings		4	18
Infrastructure		6	-
Minor Plant & Equipment		36	36
Motor Vehicles		12	16
Office Equipment		18	46
Total Depreciation		102	253
9. Net loss from the disposal of non-current and other assets			
Motor Vehicles			
Proceeds from disposal		-	43
Less net book value of assets disposed		-	44
Net loss from disposal of motor vehicles		-	(1)
Total assets			
Total proceeds from disposal		-	43
Less total value of assets disposed		-	44
Total net loss from disposal of assets		-	(1)

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	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
10. Auditors' Remuneration		
Audit fees paid / payable to the Auditor - General's Department	32	36
Total audit fees	32	36
No other services were provided by the Auditor - General's Department		
11. Regional NRM and Water Levies		
Regional NRM and Water Levies received/receivable from entities external to the SA Government:		
Regional NRM Levy collected through Councils	1,086	905
Water Levy collected through Department for Water Land & Biodiversity Conservation	4,454	2,439
Total Regional NRM and Water Levies - Non SA Government entities	5,540	3,344
Total Regional NRM and Water Levies	5,540	3,344
12. Caring for Our Country		
Caring for Our Country - Regional Component made up of the following programs:		
Coastal Environments & Critical Aquatic Habitats Program 4,5,6,7	281	1,653
Biodiversity and Natural Icons Program 9,10,11	267	1,248
Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement Program 12,13,15	468	1,163
Restoring Terrestrial Native Habitats in the SAMDB	1,394	-
Restoring Aquatic Habitats in the SAMDB	505	-
Increasing Community Engagement and Participation	1,416	-
Aboriginal Partnerships Project	461	-
Protecting the Coorong, Lower Lakes & Murray Mouth RAMSAR	241	-
Improving Land Management in the SAMDB	590	-
Engaging Farming Groups in Improved NRM	144	-
Total Caring for Our Country	5,757	4,064
The Commonwealth revenue has terms which specify that the funding must be spent by June 2013. Revenue was recognised upon receipt of funds as the probability of repayment to the Commonwealth Government is unlikely.		
13. Grants Received		
Commonwealth Funding		
National Action Plan for Salinity & Water Quality (Investment Strategy)	-	867
Natural Heritage Trust	-	290
National Landcare	-	220
Other	824	-
Total Commonwealth Funding	824	1,377
Grants received from SA Government entities		
State Complementary NRM Fund	498	-
Department of Water, Land & Biodiversity Conservation	1,986	2,850
Department of Water, Land & Biodiversity Conservation-Water Levy Relief	905	1,825
Department for Environment & Heritage	1,731	-
Other	783	-
Total Grants - SA Government entities	5,903	4,675
Grants received/receivable from entities external to the SA Government		
Murray-Darling Basin Commission	-	1,010
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	2,824	6,673
Other	207	517
Total Grants - Non SA Government Grants	3,031	8,200
Total Grants Received	9,758	14,252
14. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Bank balance and cash on hand	1,935	2,831
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,935	2,831
15. Receivables		
Receivables	6,312	6,363
GST Receivable	-	141
Accrued Interest	7	13
Prepayments	46	118
Total Current Receivables	6,365	6,635
Government / Non Government Receivables		
Receivables from SA Government entities		
Receivables	1,780	1,199
Total Receivables from SA Government entities	1,780	1,199
Receivables from Non SA Government entities		
Receivables	4,532	5,164
GST Receivable	-	141
Accrued Interest	7	13
Prepayments	46	118
Total Receivables from Non SA Government entities	4,585	5,436
Total Receivables	6,365	6,635

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Interest rate and credit risk

Receivables are raised for all goods and services provided for which payment has not been received. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days. Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing.

It is not anticipated that counterparties will fail to discharge their obligations. The carrying amount of receivables approximates net fair value due to being receivable on demand. There is no concentration of credit risk.

a. Maturity analysis of receivables - please refer to Note 22.

b. Categorisation of financial instruments and risk exposure information - please refer to Table 22.1 in Note 22.

16. Property, Plant and Equipment

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Buildings		
Buildings at cost	533	534
Less: Accumulated depreciation	29	22
Total Buildings	504	512
Computer Equipment		
Computer Equipment at cost	144	593
Less: Accumulated depreciation	135	405
Total Computer Equipment	9	188
Furniture, Fixtures & Furnishings		
Furniture, Fixtures & Furnishings at cost	40	186
Less: Accumulated depreciation	13	60
Total Furniture, Fixtures & Furnishings	27	126
Infrastructure		
Infrastructure at cost	234	15
Less: Accumulated depreciation	5	-
Total Infrastructure	229	15
Minor Plant & Equipment		
Minor Plant & Equipment at cost	307	444
Less: Accumulated depreciation	168	287
Total Minor Plant & Equipment	139	157
Motor Vehicles		
Motor Vehicles at cost	164	167
Less: Accumulated depreciation	64	65
Total Motor Vehicles	100	102
Office Equipment		
Office Equipment at cost	178	335
Less: Accumulated depreciation	128	223
Total Office Equipment	50	112
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	1,058	1,212

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant, and equipment assets at 30 June 2010.



Reconciliation of Non-Current Assets

The following Table shows the movement of Non-Current Assets during 2009-10.

	Buildings \$'000	Computer Equipment \$'000	Furniture Fittings & Fixtures \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Minor Plant & Equipment \$'000	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Office Equipment \$'000	2010 Total \$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	512	188	126	15	157	102	112	1,212
Additions	-	-	-	219	52	10	7	288
Assets Written Off	-	(160)	(95)	-	(34)	-	(51)	(340)
Depreciation	(8)	(19)	(4)	(5)	(36)	(12)	(18)	(102)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	504	9	27	229	139	100	50	1,058

Reconciliation of Non-Current Assets

The following Table shows the movement of Non-Current Assets during 2008-09

	Buildings \$'000	Computer Equipment \$'000	Furniture Fittings & Fixtures \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Minor Plant & Equipment \$'000	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Office Equipment \$'000	2009 Total \$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	519	144	121	-	76	162	88	1,110
Additions	-	174	23	15	117	-	70	399
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(44)	-	(44)
Depreciation	(7)	(130)	(18)	-	(36)	(16)	(46)	(253)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	512	188	126	15	157	102	112	1,212

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
17. Payables		
17.1 Current:		
Creditors	2,691	2,853
Accrued Expenses	167	783
Staff on-costs	78	81
Unearned Revenue	-	100
GST Payable	7	-
Total current payables	2,943	3,817
17.2 Non-Current:		
Staff on-costs	88	69
Total non-current payables	88	69
Government / Non Government Payables		
Payables to SA Government entities		
Creditors	285	694
Total payables to other SA Government entities	285	694
Payables to non-SA Government entities		
Creditors	2,406	2,159
Accrued expenses	167	783
Staff on-costs	166	150
Unearned Revenue	-	100
GST Payable	7	-
Total payables to non-SA Government entities	2,746	3,192
Total payables	3,031	3,886

Interest rate and credit risk

Creditors and accruals are raised for all amounts owed to the Board (billed and un-billed) but unpaid. Creditors are normally settled within 30 days. Staff on-costs are settled when the respective staff benefit that they relate to is discharged. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to the amounts being payable on demand.

a. Maturity analysis of payables - Please refer to Note 22.

b. Categorisation of financial instruments and risk exposure information - please refer to Table 22.1 in Note 22.

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
18. Provisions		
18.1 Current:		
Workers Compensation	15	15
	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>
18.2 Non Current:		
Workers Compensation	50	41
	<u>50</u>	<u>41</u>
Total Provisions	<u>65</u>	<u>56</u>

	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period 1 July 09	56
Increase in provisions recognised	9
Carrying amount at the end of the period 30 June 10	<u>65</u>

A liability has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment performed by the Public Sector Workforce Relations Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

19. Staff Benefits		
19.1 Current:		
Annual leave	379	400
Accrued salaries and wages	185	154
Long service leave	31	35
Total current staff benefits	<u>595</u>	<u>589</u>
19.2 Non Current:		
Long service leave	886	698
Total non current staff benefits	<u>886</u>	<u>698</u>
Total staff benefits	<u>1,481</u>	<u>1,287</u>

Staff benefit on-costs such as payroll tax and other similar on-costs, are recognised as liabilities and expenses when the staff benefits, to which they relate are recognised. These staff benefit on-costs are disclosed as Payables in Note 17. The total current and non-current liability (i.e aggregate staff benefit plus related on-costs) for 2010 is \$673,000 and \$974,000 respectively.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance, the benchmark for the measurement of long service leave liability has changed from the 2009 benchmark 6.5 years to 5.5 years. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is an increase in the long service liability of \$100,000 and employee benefit expense by \$110,000. The impact on future periods is impracticable to estimate as the benchmark is calculated using a number of assumptions - a key consumption is the long-term discount rate. With current conditions, the long-term discount rate is experiencing significant movement.

20. Unrecognised contractual commitments		
20.1 Operating Lease Commitments (excluding GST)		
Commitments in relation to operating leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:		
Not later than one year	427	511
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,588	1,382
Later than five years	678	951
Total lease commitments	<u>2,693</u>	<u>2,844</u>

Operating lease commitments comprise the following:

The property leases which are non-cancellable. Rental is payable monthly with reviews indexed annually, alternating between market value and CPI Indexation. Options exist to renew the leases at the end of the current term.

The equipment leases which are non-cancellable. Lease payments are payable monthly and options exist to renew or cancel the lease at the end of the current term.

20.2 Other commitments (excluding GST)		
Not later than one year	5,167	3,011
Later than one year and not later than five years	42	35
Total other commitments	<u>5,209</u>	<u>3,046</u>

Several projects in the form of grants and contracts have been committed as at 30 June 2010. These projects are undertaken by Local Action Planning Groups, community groups and government agencies. The value of these projects is not reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position.

20.3 Remuneration Commitments		
Commitments for the payment of salaries and other remuneration under fixed-term employment contracts in existence at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:		
Within one year	3,102	3,827
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,758	3,316
Total remuneration commitments	<u>7,860</u>	<u>7,143</u>

Amounts disclosed include commitments arising from executive and other staff contracts. The Board does not offer fixed term remuneration contracts greater than five years.

21. Contingent assets and liabilities

The Board is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities.

22. Financial Instruments

Interest Rate Risk Exposure

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in Note 2 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies.

Table 22.1 - Categorisation of financial instruments			2010		2009	
Statement of Financial Position line item	Note	Category of financial asset and financial liabilities	Carrying Amount \$'000	Fair Value \$'000	Carrying Amount \$'000	Fair Value \$'000
Financial assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	14	Cash and cash equivalents	1,935	1,935	2,631	2,631
Receivables	15	Receivables (at cost)	3,136	3,136	5,381	5,381
Total financial assets			5,071	5,071	8,012	8,012
Financial liabilities						
Payables	17	Liabilities (at cost)	2,858	2,858	3,636	3,636
Borrowings		Liabilities (at cost)	18	18	29	29
Total financial liabilities			2,876	2,876	3,665	3,665

The amount of receivables and payables stated above do not include those arising from statutory obligations, including levies, workers compensation liability, staff on-costs, and GST. They are carried at cost.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Board's debtors defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Board. The Board measures credit risk on a fair value basis and monitors risk on a regular basis. The Board has minimal concentration of credit risk.

Provisions for impairment of financial assets is calculated on past experience and current and expected changes in client credit rating. Currently the Board does not hold any collateral as security to any of its financial assets. At reporting date, there is no evidence to indicate that any of the financial assets are impaired.

The following table discloses the aging of financial assets.

Table 22.2 - Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Overdue for < 30 days \$'000	Past due by Overdue for 30 - 60 days \$'000	Overdue > 60 days \$'000	Total \$'000
2010				
Not impaired				
Receivables	29	44	314	387
2009				
Not impaired				
Receivables	266	78	47	391

The amount of receivables stated above do not include those arising from statutory obligations, including levies. They are carried at cost.

Maturity Analysis

All financial assets and liabilities have a maturity less than 1 year with the exception of the non-current portion of borrowings which has a maturity of 1 - 5 years.

Liquidity Risk

The Board is funded principally from NRM Levy funds, State and Australian Government grants.

Market Risk

Market risk for the Board is primarily through interest rate risk. There is no exposure to foreign currency or other price risks.

Sensitivity Analysis

A sensitivity analysis has not been undertaken for the interest rate risk for the Board as it has been determined that the possible impact on profit and loss or total equity from fluctuations in interest rates is immaterial.

23. Remuneration of Board, Group and Committee Members and Related Party Disclosures

Remuneration of Board Members

Members that were entitled to receive remuneration for membership during the 2009/10 financial year were:

The Board

Mr William Paterson (Presiding Member)
Mrs Joanne Pfeiffer
* Ms Frances Simes
Mr Derek Walker
Mr Joe Keynes
Ms Anne Hartnett
Mr Colin Milburn
Ms Emily Jenke
Ms Sheridan Alm

Some members of the Board are also members of other Board Committees, and their remuneration is included in the table below.

Remuneration of Groups and Committee Members

Members that were entitled to receive remuneration for membership during the 2009/10 financial year were:

Groups

Mallee & Coorong NRM Group

Alan Piggott (Chairperson)
Damien Berger
Gordon Hancock
Clement Mason
Stephen Murray
Keith Scobie
* Donna Haslam (Nussio)

Rangelands NRM Group

David Lindner (Chairperson)
Christopher Neal
Kevin Smith
Jacalyn Matthey
Jane Kellock
Joanne Gebhardt
Alicia Patten

Ranges to River NRM Group

Bruce Munday (Chairperson) Resigned 31/5/10
Monique White (Chairperson)
Greg Sarre - Resigned 8/6/10
Beryl Belford - Resigned 2/6/10
Inez Bormann - Resigned 24/11/09
Cris Crosby
Matthew Starrick
* Paul Barnes - Appointed 18/6/10
* Deana Mildren - Appointed 18/6/10

Riverland NRM Group

Kenneth Stokes (Chairperson)
Michelle Campbell
Dean Kerley
David Reilly
Stuart Martin - Resigned 14/1/10
Gavin McMahon
Barry Kelly - Resigned 16/10/09
Kate Thom - Appointed 14/1/10
* Mardi Miles - Appointed 11/1/10

Marne-Saunders Water Resources Committee

* Rosemary Laucke
* Alan (David) Lillecrapp
* Roger Lillecrapp
* Roger Schmidt
* Giola Small
* Sharon Starick
* Peter Ward

Mallee Water Resources Committee

Raymond McDonald
Ross Day
* Stephen Hall
Kevin Oakley
Jeffrey Pfitzner
Joyleen Ziersch
Neville Pfeiffer

The number of Board, Group and Committee members whose income from the entity falls within the following bands is:

	2010 Number of Members	2009 Number of Members
\$1 - \$9,999	40	48
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2	4
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	-
\$60,000 - \$69,999	-	1
Total number of Board, Group and Committee members	43	53

Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing Board, Group and Committee member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, fringe benefits tax and any other salary sacrifice arrangements. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$201,000 (\$205,000). The figures recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income also includes other Board, Group and Committee expenses such as travelling and meeting expenses.

* in accordance with Department of Premier and Cabinet Circular No. 018, government employees did not receive any remuneration for Board/Committee duties during the financial year. Some Non-Government employees elected not to receive remuneration.

Unless otherwise disclosed, transactions between members are on conditions no more favourable than those that is reasonable to expect the entity would have adopted if dealing with the related party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

Related Party Disclosures

During the year transactions were entered into where members had either a direct or indirect pecuniary interest. Payments made are listed below:

Member	Related Party	Value of transactions	
		2010	2009
Joseph Keynes	Keyneton Station	\$ 3,000	\$ -
Colin Milburn	Riverland Rural Contractors Pty Ltd	\$ 29,000	\$ 12,000

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24. Note to the Statement of Cash Flows	2010	2009
24.1 Reconciliation of Cash and cash equivalents	\$'000	\$'000
For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, the Board considers cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand and in banks and those investments that are able to be converted to cash within two working days		
Cash at Bank	1,933	2,629
Cash on Hand	2	2
	<u>1,935</u>	<u>2,631</u>
24.2 Reconciliation of net used in operating activities to net result:		
Net cash used in operating activities	(397)	(4,547)
Add/(less) non-cash items		
Depreciation	(102)	(253)
Loss on assets written off or disposed	(340)	(1)
Movement in assets and liabilities		
(Decrease)/Increase Receivables	(270)	1,382
Decrease/(increase) Payables	855	(1,190)
Increase in Staff Benefits	(194)	(162)
Increase in Provisions	(9)	(56)
Net result	<u>(457)</u>	<u>(4,847)</u>

24

CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We certify that the attached general purpose financial statements for the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board:

- comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under section 41 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, and relevant Australian Accounting Standards;
- are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board; and
- present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 30 June 2010 and the results of its operation and cash flows for the financial year.

We certify that the internal controls employed by the Board for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of the general purpose financial statements have been effective throughout the reporting period.



Bill Paterson

Presiding Member

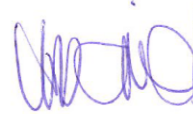
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board



John Johnson

General Manager

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board



Margaret Tschirpig

Finance Manager

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board



11.2 APPENDIX 2: Boards and Committees Listing

The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board members contribute to sub-committees and working groups established to provide the Board with ongoing advice. The Board has established the following Committees:

COMMITTEE	MEMBERS
Finance Committee	C Milburn (Chair) J Pfeiffer B Paterson A Hartnett M Tschirpigg (Finance Manager) J Johnson (General Manager) S Weinert (Administrative Support)
Policy Committee	F Simes (Chair) A Hartnett M Martin E Jenke G Davies M Smith J Johnson (General Manager) D Fowles (Deputy General Manager) L Schmaal (Administrative Support)
Regional Integration Committee	B Paterson (Chair) J Keynes F Simes K Stokes – Chair Riverland NRM Group D Lindner – Chair Rangelands NRM Group B Munday – Chair Ranges to River NRM Group A Piggott – Chair Mallee and Coorong NRM Group J Johnson (General Manager) D Fowles (Deputy General Manager) P Michelmore (Operations Manager) S Weinert (Administrative Support)
Communications Committee	E Jenke (Chair) B Paterson A Hartnett S Alm P Scott J Johnson (General Manager) Kerry Rosser (Communications and Engagement Manager) K Smith (Administrative Support)

Executive Committee	B Paterson (Chair) J Pfeiffer J Keynes F Simes G Davies M Martin E Jenke J Johnson (General Manager) D Fowles (Deputy General Manager) S Weinert (Administrative Support)
River Murray Advisory Committee	J Pfeiffer (Chair) F Simes (Deputy Chair) B Paterson C Milburn S Alm J Johnson Community Members: C Mason S Phillips N Shillabeer R Wheaton T McAnaney H Jones J Lory Y Smith B Lewis G Jones J Cawthorne D Brown M Campbell M Lewis C Phillips D Webb M White Technical Support to the Committee J Goode, B Hollis - SA MDB NRM Board J Cann, M Smith, J Eaton - DWLBC G Davies - PIRSA

In addition to the formal sub-committees established by the Board as detailed above, members represent the Board on the Water Resource Planning Committees, Water Allocation Planning Advisory Committees, Lower Murray, Coorong and Murray Mouth Icon Site Community Reference Committees and Local Government Advisory Committees. These Committees all have representation from both the Board and NRM Groups.

**RIVERLAND
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
GROUP**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2000 to 30 June 2010



Government of South Australia

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

Mr Bill Paterson
Presiding Member
SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
PO Box 2343
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

6 October 2010

Dear Mr Paterson

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 59 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Riverland Natural Resources Management Group for the year ended 30 June 2010.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Stokes', is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Ken Stokes
Presiding Member
Riverland Natural Resources Management Group

NRM GROUP MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE NRM BOARD'S REPORT

The following annual reporting requirements are not included in this report as they are reported in the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board's Annual Report:

Plans and Objectives

- Links between the Board and the SA Strategic Plan
- Links between the Board and the State NRM Plan.
- Object of the Natural Resources Management Act
- Organisational Structure
- Management of Human Resources
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Occupational, Health, Safety and Injury Management
- Account Payment Performance
- Fraud
- Reporting against the Carers Recognition Act
- Disability Action Plans
- Asbestos Management in Government Buildings
- Urban Design Charter
- Freedom of Information
- Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993
- Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report
- Greening of Government Operations Framework
- Regional Impact Assessment Statements
- Reconciliation Statement

OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

Significant Achievements and Initiatives:-

- A number of Group members attended the combined Board and Group forum at Meningie.
- Rainfall Charts for the 2010 calendar year were distributed at the 2009 Riverland Field Days with representatives of the Riverland NRM Group attending at the Board's exhibition site.
- Worked with the Team Leader in developing the Riverland Operations Team Operations Plan
- The Group visited the Yatco Lagoon wetlands site and held its meeting at Moorook.
- The Group visited Dave & Anita Reilly's Date Farm and held its meeting there.
- Group members along with staff and agency representatives participated in a flyover of the Chowilla floodplain.
- The Group adopted its Business Plan and circulated it to Irrigation Trusts, LAP Groups, Local Government and the NRM Board.
- Received presentations from the Berri Barmerra LAP and the Renmark to the Border LAP.
- Received a presentation and update from the Lake Bonney Management Committee.
- Received an overview on the Pike Project.

ROLES, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE

The Riverland Natural Resources Management Group was established on 21 February 2006 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. This report for the 2009-10 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 57 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

ROLE OF THE GROUP

- The Board's role is defined in the Natural Resources Management Act and includes:
- Taking an active role in the management of natural resources within the region and providing advice on natural resource issues.
- Contributing to the preparation of a regional natural resources management plan;
- Implementing the Board's three-year business plan
- Promoting public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable NRM
- Providing advice on the assessment of activities or proposals referred under legislation or on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources; and
- Undertaking and supporting educational activities and increasing community capacity to undertake sustainable natural resource management.

FUNCTIONS OF THE RIVERLAND NRM GROUP

Section 52 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the Riverland Natural Resources Management Group:

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM Group are—
 - (a) to be actively involved in the development and implementation of any relevant regional NRM plan at the local level (to the extent specified or envisaged by that plan or specified by the relevant board or boards); and
 - (b) to develop, implement or participate in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its area and to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management; and
 - (d) to provide advice to regional NRM boards, and other bodies and agencies, with respect to the assessment of various activities, proposals, situations or circumstances within its area; and

Such other functions prescribed by the regulations or assigned to the NRM Group by a regional NRM board, or by or under this or any other Act.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 48 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the Riverland Natural Resources Management Group. The Group consists of up to 7 members, appointed by the regional NRM board, being persons who collectively have, in the opinion of the board, knowledge, skills and experience determined by the board or boards to enable the NRM Group to carry out its functions effectively.

The membership of the Riverland NRM Group during 2009-10 was:

Members

Ken Stokes
Dean Kerley
Gavin McMahon
David Reilly
Michelle Campbell
Mardi Miles
Kate Thorn
Barry Kelly
Stu Martin

Meetings: general and special

A total of 12 general Group meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Comments	Reason for non attendance
Ken Stokes	11		Other Commitments
Dean Kerley	11		Other Commitments
Gavin McMahon	6		Other Commitments
David Reilly	7		Other Commitments
Michelle Campbell	8		Other Commitments
Mardi Miles	6		Other Commitments
Kate Thorn	3		Other Commitments
Barry Kelly	3	Resigned	Resigned December 2009
Stu Martin	4	Resigned	Resigned 14 January 2010

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The Riverland NRM Group members regularly network with a number of other agencies. See list of Group member's community links.

- Loxton to Bookpurnong LAP
- Berri Barmera LAP
- Renmark to the Border LAP
- Riverland West LAP
- Lake Bonney Management Group
- Riverland Youth Council

- Central Irrigation Trust
- Riverland Futures Taskforce
- River Murray Youth Council
- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group
- River Murray Advisory Committee
- Banrock

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Riverland NRM Group Business Plan

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial transactions are completed by the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT BOARD DIRECTIVES

Under Section 47 of the NRM Act the Rangelands NRM Group area is solely contained in and under the direction of the SAMDB NRM Board.

A planning day was conducted to formulate a three year work plan for the Group as directed by the Board.

COMMITTEE LISTINGS

- Investment and Evaluation
- River Murray Advisory Committee
- River Murray WAP
- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Group would like to thank the Minister and staff of SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year.

**RANGELANDS
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
GROUP**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010



Government of South Australia

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

Mr Bill Paterson
Presiding Member
SA MDB Natural Resources Management Board
PO Box 2343
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

Dear Mr Paterson

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 59 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group for the year ended 30 June 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lindner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

David Lindner
Chair
Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group

NRM GROUP MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE NRM BOARD'S REPORT

The following annual reporting requirements are not included in this report as they are reported in the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board's Annual Report:

Plans and Objectives

- Links between the Board and the SA Strategic Plan
- Links between the Board and the State NRM Plan.
- Object of the Natural Resources Management Act
- Organisational Structure
- Management of Human Resources
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Occupational, Health, Safety and Injury Management
- Account Payment Performance
- Fraud
- Reporting against the Carers Recognition Act
- Disability Action Plans
- Asbestos Management in Government Buildings
- Urban Design Charter
- Freedom of Information
- Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993
- Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report
- Greening of Government Operations Framework
- Regional Impact Assessment Statements
- Reconciliation Statement

OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

Significant Achievements and Initiatives

- The Group developed a Draft Goat Management Options Paper which has travelled through the Board processes for consultation with other NRM Groups, and DWLBC for their response and then presentation to the Board for action.
- The recently published Rangelands Pest Plant Ute Guides were well received within the area by landowners.
- A fact sheet on Livestock and Water Quality was printed and distributed to landowners through stock agents.
- The Group was represented at the Local Government Off Road Vehicle Forum.
- The Group actively participate annually, in the review and development of the Rangelands Operation Plan.

- The Group works closely with the newly appointed SAMDB and Regional Council of Goyder, Community NRM Officer to build greater community understanding and appreciation of natural resources management including presence at local shows, grant applications for projects.
- The Group has a free standing banner, which is used at local shows to promote the Group, their role and focus issues of the Rangelands area.
- The Group worked collaboratively with DEH, Northern Yorke NRM Board and Greening Australia and attended the Burra and Eudunda Shows. Feedback from attendees included “this is a great idea and worthwhile” with the public more aware of NRM.
- Although in its infancy, Junior Youth NRM Forums are gaining momentum with increased numbers attending activities and interest in NRM.
- The Group was represented at the Board’s NRM Science Forum in Adelaide.
- Group/Board staff facilitated and hosted a community event “Windows to the Watertable workshop” on 27 October 2009.
- Two sets of portable goat yards are available from the Burra Office for use by landowners.
- The Group were very pleased to view the “Biological Survey of Permanent Water Sites within the SA Murray Darling Basin Rangelands” compiled by the Nature Conservation Society of South Australia.
- One of the Authorised Officer staff vacancies was filled in March 2010. The remaining position is still unfilled.
- Group members attended the opening of the SA Museum Biodiversity Gallery on 11 February 2010.
- The Group convened a Board staff facilitated, special Planning day to formulate their three year Work Plan for forwarding to the Board.
- Group members and the NRM Community Officer are visiting landowners in the pastoral zone to find out what the issues are what the people want and include community education/consultation which previously hasn’t been done before.

PRESENTATIONS, FIELD TRIPS

- All Group members attended the Board/Groups Forum held at Meningie on 2 and 3 July 2009.
- Greg Sweeney from SARDI spoke on “The opportunities to support and improve sustainable livestock enterprises and their feed systems in the Rangelands”
- Update on the Water Resources for the Burra region

- S Sherriff from the Board spoke on the Water Affecting Activities Policy.
- C Welsh from the Board spoke on “What is a WAP in the Rangelands?”
- Tour of Baldon Station to view destruction of cropping and watercourse edges by wombats.
- Burra staff highlighted the work done to date for the Opuntia Program for 2010-11 with a large scale area treated by June 2010
- Jo Spencer from Greening Australia spoke on Habitat 141 in SA/Vic/NSW and its importance in the Rangelands.
- Chowilla Station hosted the Group on 13 May 2010 enabling them to learn about land systems outside their expertise and talk to the locals.

GROUP WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:-

- Draft Management Plans for Silverleaf Nightshade and Wheel Cactus.
- Position Statements – Genetic Modification, NRM Plan Implementation, Volunteers in NRM, Compliance activities during drought conditions, Defining our deliverables, Grazing, Support for sponsorship, Goat Management, Climate Change.
- Battling Boneseed in the Upper South East and SAMDB
- The Board’s Annual Budget Review and attended Board Business Plan Review meetings.
- Future Communication needs for the Group when attending local shows
- Various Board Position Statements, eg Support for Sponsorship, Goat Management, Climate Change
- Community Grant Applications
- Pre-planning for Danggali Wilderness Protection and Danggali Conservation Park
- Management Plan from DEH.
- Comment on and participate in the Board’s “Regional Outcomes Report – process and participation” workshops.

ISSUES OF CONCERN FOR THE GROUP

- Water quality and quantity of surface and underground water in the Burra area
- Management of goat numbers and options for control
- Wombats, a land management issue – are they spreading or is it climate change? Biodiversity monitoring Program with private trusts/individuals – eg Bushbanks Blocks

- Kangaroo Management
- Inability to control declared plants in the Rangelands area due to lack of staff and funding, as it is the Group's legal responsibility under the NRM Act
- Potential opening of the old mine site at Burra if current exploration is viable and its affect on underground and surface water in the area.

The impact of the Board's new landscape scale approach for the Rangelands, when funding of work in the region is based on focus areas.

ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE

The Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group was established on 16th February 2006 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. This report for the 2009-10 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 57 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

ROLE OF THE GROUP

The Boards' role is defined in the Natural Resources Management Act and includes:

- Taking an active role in the management of natural resources within the region and providing advice on natural resource issues;
- Preparing a regional natural resources management plan;
- Implementing the Board's three-year business plan;
- Promoting public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable NRM;
- Providing advice on the assessment of activities or proposals referred under legislation or on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources; and
- Undertaking and supporting educational activities and increasing community capacity to undertake sustainable natural resource management.

FUNCTIONS OF THE RANGELANDS NRM GROUP

Section 52 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group:

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM Group are—
 - (a) to be actively involved in the development and implementation of any relevant regional NRM plan at the local level (to the extent specified or envisaged by that plan or specified by the relevant board or boards); and
 - (b) to develop, implement or participate in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level; and

- (c) to promote public awareness of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its area and to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management; and
- (d) to provide advice to regional NRM boards, and other bodies and agencies, with respect to the assessment of various activities, proposals, situations or circumstances within its area; and

Such other functions prescribed by the regulations or assigned to the NRM Group by a regional NRM board, or by or under this or any other Act.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 48 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group.

The Group consists of up to 7 members, appointed by the regional NRM board, being persons who collectively have, in the opinion of the board, knowledge, skills and experience determined by the board or boards to enable the NRM Group to carry out its functions effectively.

The membership of the Rangelands Group during 2009-10 was:

Members

David Lindner
Harvey Neal
Kevin Smith
Jane Kellock
Jacki Matthey
Alicia Patten
Jo Gebhardt

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of six general Group meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

A total of two special Group meetings (Goat Planning by phone and Work Plan) were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Comments	Reason for non attendance
David Lindner	8		-
Harvey Neal	6		Illness
Kevin Smith	7		Illness
Jane Kellock	4		Illness
Jacki Matthey	7		Other commitments
Alicia Patten	7		Other commitments
Jo Gebhardt	7		Other commitments

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

- Department for Environment and Heritage
- South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board
- Regional Council of Goyder
- Northern Yorke NRM Board
- Pastoral Board

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Three year Work Plan 2010 - 2013

Annual Operational Work Plan 2009 - 2010

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial transactions are completed by the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT BOARD DIRECTIVES

Under Section 47 of the NRM Act the Rangelands NRM Group area is solely contained in and under the direction of the SAMDB NRM Board.

A planning day was conducted to formulate a three year work plan for the Group as directed by the Board.

COMMITTEES LISTING

Committees that the Rangelands Group members are associated with or represented on are:

- BRAG (Burra Rangeland Action Group)
- Eastern Districts Progress Association
- Regional Council of Goyder
- Burra Community Management Group
- Investment and Program Committee
- Investment and Evaluation Committee
- Chowilla Reference Group
- Mid North Grasslands Working Group
- Rangelands Monitoring Committee
- Worlds End Biodiversity Project Group

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Group would like to thank the Minister and staff of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year.

**RANGES TO RIVER
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
GROUP**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010



Government of South Australia

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

Mr Bill Paterson
Presiding Member
SAMDB Natural Resources Management Board
PO Box 2343
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

31 August 2010

Dear Mr Paterson

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 59 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Group for the year ended 30 June 2010.



Monique White
Acting Chair
Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Group

NRM GROUP MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE NRM BOARD'S REPORT

The following annual reporting requirements are not included in this report as they are reported in the Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Board's Annual Report:

Plans and Objectives

- Links between the Board and the SA Strategic Plan
- Links between the Board and the State NRM Plan.
- Object of the Natural Resources Management Act
- Organisational Structure
- Management of Human Resources
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Occupational, Health, Safety and Injury Management
- Account Payment Performance
- Fraud
- Reporting against the Carers Recognition Act
- Disability Action Plans
- Asbestos Management in Government Buildings
- Urban Design Charter
- Freedom of Information
- Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993
- Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report
- Greening of Government Operations Framework
- Regional Impact Assessment Statements
- Reconciliation Statement

OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

Significant Achievements and Initiatives:-

- Group members attended the Annual Board/Group's Forum hosted in the Mallee/Coorong NRM Group area at Meningie on 2 and 3 July 2009.
- After drawing the Board's attention to the damage occurring within its area by off road vehicles, with the Board last financial year, the Group Chair attended an "Off Road Vehicles Forum" hosted by the Local Government Association on 28 July 2009. This huge statewide issue still needs to be addressed adequately.
- Following on from last year's initiative, of displaying specific river data for the public's interest on signs on Ferry's within the Board area, only two signs have been designed and completed for attachment on the Mannum and Swan Reach Ferry's.
- The group produced and distributed show bags for Horses in Action competitors at the Murray Bridge Show on 26th and 27th of September 2009.
- Members from the Group also attended the Strathalbyn Show on 5 October 2009 with other local community groups and featured a declared plant display.

- The 2009 Rainfall Chart was such a success, that a reprint of 2,000 copies was made in February 2010.
- The Group instigated and in conjunction with Bremer Barker Catchment Group Inc hosted a very successful “Ranges to River Science Forum” at Mt Barker Golf Club on 25 August 2009 with over 100 people attending. Six speakers spoke on topics of Planning, Development, Geography, Waste Management, Transport and Agriculture in Peri-urban environment.
- Group members attended the opening of the Purtinga Wetland Opening and dedication at Cornerstone College Mt Barker on 15 September 2009.
- Off-road vehicle damage in the R2R and other Group areas has been raised as a significant concern for some time. After some early negotiations, the Local Government Association then took the lead and co-ordinated a Forum on 28 July 2009 which was attended by some Board staff and Group members to devise a way forward on the issue.
- The Group successfully obtained a further grant through the Bremer Barker Catchment Group Inc and hosted a “Water Smart Forum” for students and community members on 4 June 2010 at Cornerstone College Mt Barker with over 140 attending. Significant Group member effort and participation went into the staging of this very successful event.
- Updated the Group’s Work Plan for 2010, which encompasses specific activities that the Group wish to undertake during the year.
- Media Releases were initiated by the Group including Soil erosion,
- Group members actively participated with a site, in conjunction with the AMLR NRM Board at the Mt Pleasant Show on 20 March 2010 and the Mt Barker Show on 27-28 March 2010.
- Two Group members attended the National Landcare Conference in March.
- Participation in NRB Board Hotspot Evaluation process.
- Two new Group members were welcomed to the Group for the last meeting of the financial year in June.

PRESENTATIONS

- Hydro Vortex Blade – Dean Thomas and Rick Capaldo – In the design stage and they wish to trial in the Murray Mouth to drag sand back out to sea keeping the Mouth open using wave action.
- Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plan update by Lyz Risby.

- “How can CSIRO create national momentum around the topic of climate change and its relation to energy, what will change the way Australians think and act about energy and climate change?” Sarah Crossman from SA Energymark spoke on how this project brings small groups of people together to discuss climate change, energy technologies and behaviour.
- Building and Home Sustainability Information session – Australian Governments Green Loans Program – providing assessments and interest-free Green loans for recommended improvements.
- Group members attended the opening of the SA Museum Biodiversity Gallery on 11 February 2010.
- Water Dropwort in the Meadows Creek area and the significant impact that this “Sleeper Weed” has on agriculture in the area.
- Visited Paiwalla Wetlands to view the area, its history, current status and future directions.
- The Lakes Hub at Milang –highlighted how it was developed, projects being undertaken and initiatives to support the community in the Lower Lakes.
- Update on developments within the Dairy Industry

GROUP WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:-

- Draft Management Plans for Silverleaf Nightshade and Wheel Cactus
- Battling boneseed in the Upper South East and SAMDB
- The Board’s Annual Budget Review and attended Board Business Plan Review meetings.
- Future Communication needs for the Group when attending local shows
- Various Board position Statements, eg Support for Sponsorship, Goat Management, Climate Change
- Community Grant Applications

ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE

The Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Group was established on 21st February 2006 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. This report for the 2009-10 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 57 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

ROLE OF THE GROUP

The Boards' role is defined in the Natural Resources Management Act and includes:

- Taking an active role in the management of natural resources within the region and providing advice on natural resource issues;
- Preparing a regional natural resources management plan;
- Implementing the Board's three-year business plan;
- Promoting public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable NRM;
- Providing advice on the assessment of activities or proposals referred under legislation or on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources; and
- Undertaking and supporting educational activities and increasing community capacity to undertake sustainable natural resource management.

FUNCTIONS OF THE RANGES TO RIVER NRM GROUP

Section 52 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Group:

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM Group are—
 - (a) to be actively involved in the development and implementation of any relevant regional NRM plan at the local level (to the extent specified or envisaged by that plan or specified by the relevant board or boards); and
 - (b) to develop, implement or participate in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its area and to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management; and
 - (d) to provide advice to regional NRM boards, and other bodies and agencies, with respect to the assessment of various activities, proposals, situations or circumstances within its area; and

Such other functions prescribed by the regulations or assigned to the NRM Group by a regional NRM board, or by or under this or any other Act.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 48 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the Ranges to River Natural Resources Management Group.

The Group consists of up to 7 members, appointed by the regional NRM board, being persons who collectively have, in the opinion of the board, knowledge, skills and experience determined by the board or boards to enable the NRM Group to carry out its functions effectively.

The membership of the Ranges to River NRM Group during 2009-10 was:

Members

Bruce Munday
Beryl Belford
Monique White
Greg Sarre
Inez Bormann
Ceri Crosby
Matthew Starick
Paul Barnes
Deana Mildren

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of 11 general Group meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

A total of NIL special Group meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Comments	Reason for non attendance
Bruce Munday	9	Resigned 26/5/10	Work commitments
Greg Sarre	6	Resigned 7/6/10	Work commitments
Beryl Belford	10	Resigned 27/5/10	
Monique White	7		Work commitments
Inez Bormann	4	Resigned 24/11/09	
Ceri Crosby	11		
Matthew Starick	4		Work commitments
Paul Barnes	1	Appointed 28/4/10	
Deana Mildren	1	Appointed 28/4/10	

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Group members regularly network with a number of other agencies. See list of Group member community links.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

- R2R Work Plan 2009-2010
- R2R Operations Plan 2009-2010 (some new inclusions were Water dropwort, quarries, railway corridors, livestock inspections and goats).

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial transactions are completed by the SAMDB Natural Resources Management Board

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT BOARD DIRECTIVES

Under Section 47 of the NRM Act the Ranges to River NRM Group area is solely contained in and under the direction of the SAMDB NRM Board.

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED BY THE BOARD

The Group had an active presence at the Mt Pleasant Show on 20 March 2010 and the Mt Barker Show on 27-28 March 2010 collaborating with the adjoining Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges NRM Groups and local NRM community groups. This joint participation further built on cross boundary cooperation and dissemination of information and advice for Hill's small property owners, commenced at 2009 shows.

Group members actively participated in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level through their involvement with MDBA CAC Lower Lakes Consultation, EMLR WAP CAC, Murray Plains Crop Competition, R2R Local Government Advisory Committee, River Murray Advisory Committee, Investment and Programs Committee, Bremer Barker Catchment Group, Eastern Hills and Murray Plains Catchment Group, Goolwa-Wellington LAP and Mid Murray LAP, Mt Barker NRC Management Committee, Mt Pleasant NRC, Tungkillo Landcare Group.

COMMITTEES LISTING

- Mt Barker Natural Resources Centre Management Committee
- Bremer Barker Catchment Group
- Bird in Hand Treatment Plant Community Advisory Committee
- Goolwa-Wellington LAP Association
- Hillgrove Community Consultation Committee
- Mid Murray LAP
- Mid Murray Council
- Eastern Hills & Murray Plains Catchment Group
- Mt Pleasant Natural Resources Centre Management Committee
- Rodwell Creek/Wistow Landcare Group
- Tungkillo Landcare Group
- Monarto Shooting Complex
- Native Vegetation Council
- District Council of Mt Barker
- Marne North Rhine Saunders Catchment Group
- Local Government Native Vegetation Act Review Working Group
- Ranges to River Local Government NRM Advisory Committee
- Lower Murray River Drought Reference Group
- River Murray Advisory Committee
- Murray Mallee Local Government Association
- Marne North Rhine Saunders Creek Catchment Group
- Murray Darling Association
- EMLR WAP CAC
- Mannum to Wellington LAP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Group would like to thank the Minister and staff of SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board and the Bremer Barker Catchment Group for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year.

**MALLEE COORONG
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
GROUP**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010



Government of South Australia

South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

Mr Bill Paterson
Presiding Member
SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
PO Box 2343
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

Dear Mr Paterson

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 59 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Mallee and Coorong Natural Resources Management Group for the year ended 30 June 2010.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Allan Piggott' in a cursive style.

Allan Piggott
Presiding Member
Mallee and Coorong Natural Resources Management Group

NRM GROUP MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE NRM BOARD'S REPORT

The following annual reporting requirements are not included in this report as they are reported in the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board's Annual Report:

PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

- Links between the Board and the SA Strategic Plan
- Links between the Board and the State NRM Plan.
- Object of the Natural Resources Management Act
- Organisational Structure
- Management of Human Resources
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Occupational, Health, Safety and Injury Management
- Account Payment Performance
- Fraud
- Reporting against the Carers Recognition Act
- Disability Action Plans
- Asbestos Management in Government Buildings
- Urban Design Charter
- Freedom of Information
- Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993
- Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report
- Greening of Government Operations Framework
- Regional Impact Assessment Statements
- Reconciliation Statement

OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

Meetings are held in a variety of locations throughout the Mallee and Coorong NRM group area, with regular guests including:-

- Coorong & Murray Mallee LAP – Graham Gates, Rowena Danks,
- Deputy General Manager SA MDB NRM Board – Denise Fowles
- Team Leader Mallee Coorong – Paul Gillen, Steve Baltussen
- Mallee Water –Clinton Seekamp, Joy and Rob Ziersch, Cameron Welsh, Sarah Kuchel
- Soil Issues – Berni Lawson
- Other SA MDB NRM Board guests have included:
- Bill Paterson Presiding Member SA MDB NRM Board
- Sustainable Farming – Leighton Pearce
- Biodiversity - Sarah Lance

The Group has undertaken a number of tours to better understand natural resource issues around the area. Tours have included:

- Lower Lakes – Towitcherie Barrages, Raukkan and Camp Coorong at the combined board/group forum
- Ian Farley's property at Peake to view and hear about a rehabilitated 90ha bare sand hill, which now has good cover.
- Olive Grove near Peake
- Parilla Premium Potatoes expansion
- Pomegranates Australia orchard near Wanbi
- Bioremediation, fencing of the Lower lakes and visit to The Narrows near Meningie

To further the knowledge of members and bring them up to date a number of guest speakers have attended and informed the Group. In the 2009/10 year they have been:

- Lew Westbrook, chairman of the Browns Well Landcare Group on the Goat problem facing the landowners on the west of the Sunset National Park.
- Chris McDonough, Rural Solutions, on Mallee Sustainable farming and rehabilitation of the Mindarie Zircon mine sites.
- Glen and Tracey Hill, fishermen, Meningie spoke on the Fishdown carried out earlier in the year in Lake Albert to catch large amounts of carp.
- John Howard (DEH) spoke on the current health of the Lower lakes and the proposed management plan for the Lakes
- Students from Lamerloo Regional community School presented the River health program they run at their school
- Group members have accompanied Bernadette Lawson (Principal project Manager, Land Management) when viewing properties in the area with soil degradation issues.
- A combined meeting was held with the Mallee Water Resources Committee to better understand the draft Mallee WAP and help prepare for public consultation once the draft WAP is released.
- To promote the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group, the group produced a rainfall chart with contact details for all group members and information on the Group. Small articles have also appeared in Council community newsletters and LAP newsletters on the Group.

ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE

The Mallee and Coorong Natural Resources Management Group was established in December 2004 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. This report for the 2009-10 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 57 of the Natural Resources Management Act.

ROLE OF THE GROUP

The Groups' role is defined in the Natural Resources Management Act and includes:

- Work collaboratively with NRM Groups who adjoin the Mallee and Coorong area
- Take an active role in the management of natural resources within the region
- Provide advice on natural resource issues
- Support the Board on natural resource management implementation
- Support committees active in resource management in the area, through membership
- Promote public awareness on natural resource management in the area
- Preparing an annual work plan for the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group.

FUNCTIONS OF THE MALLEE AND COORONG NRM GROUP

Section 52 of the Natural Resources Management Act describes the functions of the Mallee and Coorong Natural Resources Management Group:

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM Group are—
- (a) to be actively involved in the development and implementation of any relevant regional NRM plan at the local level (to the extent specified or envisaged by that plan or specified by the relevant board or boards); and
 - (b) to develop, implement or participate in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its area and to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management; and
 - (d) to provide advice to regional NRM boards, and other bodies and agencies, with respect to the assessment of various activities, proposals, situations or circumstances within its area; and

Such other functions prescribed by the regulations or assigned to the NRM Group by a regional NRM board, or by or under this or any other Act.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 48 of the Natural Resources Management Act provides for the appointment of the Mallee and Coorong Natural Resources Management Group.

The Group consists of up to 7 members, appointed by the regional NRM board, being persons who collectively have, in the opinion of the board, knowledge, skills and experience determined by the board or boards to enable the NRM Group to carry out its functions effectively.

The membership of the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group during 2009-10 was:

Members

Allan Piggott, Chairman
Keith Scobie
Clem Mason
Gordon Hancock
Damian Berger
Steve Murray
Donna Nussio

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of 9 general Group meetings were held during the 2009-10 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Allan Piggott	9	
Keith Scobie	9	
Clem Mason	5	Work commitments
Gordon Hancock	9	
Damian Berger	9	
Steve Murray	8	Work commitments
Donna Nussio	6	Work commitments and Personal

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The Mallee and Coorong NRM Group members regularly network with the committees listed on page 10 of this report.

The Group also liaises with the former Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH) staff at Lameroo and will continue with relationship with the new Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) staff there.

The Group have also been heavily involved with the preparation and content of the Peake Roby Sherlock Water Allocation Plan which is awaiting approval, and the Draft Mallee Water Allocation Plan, which will soon be going to public consultation.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Mallee and Coorong Work Plan 2010

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial transaction are completed by the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT BOARD DIRECTIVES

Under Section 47 of the Natural Resources Management Act, the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group area is solely contained in and under the direction of the SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board.

STATEMENT OF FACT FOR SIGNIFICANT FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED BY THE BOARD

The Mallee and Coorong NRM Group members provided comment on the Draft Peake Roby Sherlock Water Allocation Plan.

The Group was also consulted on the following NRM Volunteer Small Grants and NRM School small grants:

- Mantung Maggea Land Management Group for Mallee Fowl & habitat conservation project
- Coorong & Mallee Farm Forestry Network for Acquisition of forestry plantation tools for shared community use
- East Murray Area School family grove revegetation project
- Pinnaroo Primary School garden project
- Raukkan Aboriginal School for establishing sustainable food garden.

COMMITTEE'S LISTING

The Mallee and Coorong NRM Group have representatives which regularly attend meetings on the following committees:

- Murray Mallee Local Action Planning Group
- Coorong Local Action Planning Group
- Regional Integration Committee
- River Murray Advisory Committee
- Mallee Water Resources Committee
- Box Flat Dingo Control Coordinating Committee
- Investment and Evaluation Working Group
- Mallee Sustainable Farming Group
- Mallee Coorong Local Government NRM Advisory Group
- Ramsar Task Force
- Murrayville Water Supply Protection Area Committee

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Group would like to thank the Minister and staff of SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board, the Murray Mallee LAP and the Coorong LAP for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year.

11.7 Appendix 7: MAP OF THE SA MURRAY DARLING BASIN NRM BOARD REGION

