

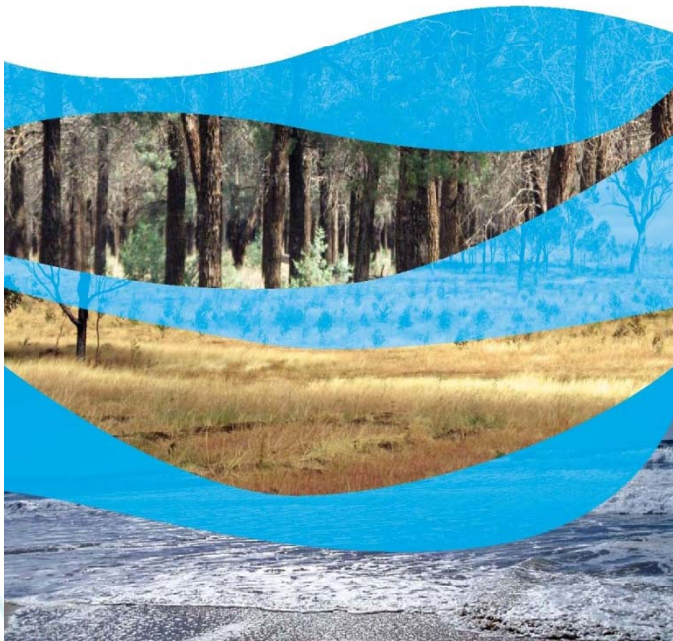
natural
resources
commission

Update on NRC work program

Presentation to NRAC 22 November 2010



Recently completed work



- **Cloud Seeding in the Snowy Mountains**
- **Allocation of NSW investment funding to CMAs**
- **Public presentations and papers on**
 - Management of native vegetation in NSW
 - Agriculture, Water and Catchment Management
 - Urban Salinity
- **NRC Annual Report**

A bit more on cloud seeding...

- **Covers 2004 to 2009 snow seasons**
- **Trial complies with Act - high scientific standard**
- **No rain-shadow impacts and to date no detected environmental impacts**
- **Does increase snowfall in right conditions**



Cloud Seeding?

- **But some important outstanding questions....**

- where are seeding chemicals actually going?
- How are these chemical to be managed over the long term?
- how much more new water in dams/rivers?



- **Trial should continue until 2014 as intended**

Current NRC focus

- **Progress Report 2010 – standard, targets, CAPs**
- **Assessing 2 pilot CAPs – Namoi & Central West**
 - use of thresholds and systems approaches
 - can now refine NRC's Criteria and Attributes
- **Supporting upgrades of remaining 11 CAPs**
 - whole of government CAP
 - policy alignment
 - NRM and planning alignment
 - *Practice Notes* for CMAs and agencies
 - timetable and groupings of CMA regions
- **Prep for 2013 State of Catchments Rpts**



Heads up on Progress Report 2010

- **CMAs and Catchment Action Plans are effective**
 - integrated delivery mechanisms for multiple programs
 - effective in encouraging voluntary landscape stewardship
- **Next steps are policies to better complement stewardship**
 - emerging whole of government support for new CAPs
 - align Aust, NSW, Local Government NRM programs
 - align relevant legislation, policies and regulatory plans
- **Need ongoing investment in right data at the right scales**
 - targets and monitoring should focus on landscape functions
 - prioritise data sharing and spatial expression of targets
- **NRM needs more sustained and adequate funding**
 - more stable and flexible funding mechanisms
 - better coordination of diverse sources of NRM expenditure

NRC and NRAC working together?

- **Is there a better way forward for Basin communities**
 - how can communities adapt to new futures?
 - when and how will we start planning?
 - what can NRC and NRAC do to help?
- **Building whole-of-government support for CAPs**
 - how do we bring statutory planning in?
 - *SOG is committed to this.*
 - mid-term review of Caring for our Country
- **Monitoring – using data to inform decisions**
 - how do we improve access to data in useable forms?



CAP and LEP problem?

Whole of Government?