**Catchment Protection Scheme (Regional Project)**

**Project Summary:** The Catchment Protection Scheme is a joint project between SRCMA and Sydney Catchment Authority that assists landholders to control severe and moderate erosion in the drinking water catchments of the Upper Shoalhaven River and Kangaroo Valley. The Scheme offers financial support and practical advice on erosion control and stock management. The types of activities supported by the Scheme include:

- Fencing of sensitive riparian areas.
- Revegetation of eroded areas with local native species.
- Stabilisation of creek stock crossings.
- Installation of off-stream watering points.
- Construction of stream bank and streambed erosion controls such as V notch log weirs and engineered log jams.
- Construction of diversion banks and dams.

Construction of flumes and rock chutes. Projects are assessed on a site-by-site basis using an objective rating system. This assessment combined with information gathered in the field forms the basis of an erosion control program. For severely eroded sites the Scheme can offer up to 90 per cent towards the cost of remediation. For less severe erosion the Scheme can provide a 25 per cent subsidy towards erosion control work that landholders undertake. The benefits of the Scheme include soil conservation, improved water quality in farm dams and creeks, improved river health and improved property values.

**Partners:** Sydney Catchment Authority and local landholders.

**Funding:** NSW Government and local landholders.

**Value of Project:** $400,000
Southern Rivers Bush Incentives Program (Regional Project)

Project Summary: This program recognises the important role landholders play in protecting and maintaining native vegetation across the region. SRBI provides funding to landholders for the conservation management of native vegetation communities (plants that occur together naturally) which have high conservation values, including: grasslands, open forests, rainforests, woodlands, heathlands and wetland plant communities. The program is particularly focussed on protecting vegetation communities that are not otherwise well conserved in national parks or other reserves, and communities that are officially listed as threatened and have been largely cleared or exist only as small, remnant patches in the landscape. A tender process is used to allocate funding. Each site is assessed for its conservation value and given a score. Participating landholders submit a bid for the amount of funds they need to carry out management activities. Bids that offer the best conservation value for money in protecting vegetation are funded.

Partners: Local community and local landholders.
Funding: Commonwealth and NSW Governments
Value of Project: $1.1 million

Araluen Creek Restoration Project

Project Summary: SRCMA has been supporting and working with Upper Deua Catchment Landcare Group to repair sections of Araluen Creek identified as high priority. The Creek was significantly disturbed when gold was discovered in the area in the 1800s. The project aims to address ongoing and increasing erosion and sedimentation to improve the water quality, environmental health and biodiversity of the Creek, including increasing fish passage and native water-based plants. Project works have included the installation of streambed control and streambank protection structures in the form of log sills and rock sausages; removal of debris blockages to reduce erosion pressures on streambed and streambanks; flow monitoring; and ongoing maintenance of structures damaged during high flows.

Partners: Upper Deua Catchment Landcare Group and local landholders.
Funding: Commonwealth and NSW Governments and Rivercare.
Value of Project: $150,000

Working with local people to achieve healthy, natural ecosystems and sustainable productive landuse.