

14 September 2009

## **Southern Rivers CMA Wins NSW Landcare Award**

Hard work, passion and dedication were rewarded when Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) took out the Australian Government Landcare Natural Resource Management Body award at a ceremony held in Port Macquarie on Thursday, 10 September.

The award recognises Southern Rivers CMA's outstanding performance in collaborating with its Landcare partners and the community at large to protect, repair and improve our urban, rural and coastal environments.

"To me, regardless of the outcome, we won; our community nominated us," said Chair of Southern Rivers CMA, Mrs Pam Green.

"The award is a testament to our staff's dedication and willingness to work in partnership with groups that include farmers and other land managers, Aboriginal people, local government and industry to protect our bushland and restore our natural resources across the landscape", she added.

In acknowledging the valuable work undertaken by local communities in caring for our environment, Southern Rivers CMA general manager, Noel Kesby, emphasised the importance of building strong relationships and working with groups to achieve good environmental outcomes.

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“We have worked closely with our partners since our inception in 2004 and our team has offered advice and hands-on help with jobs that range from putting up fencing to filling out funding applications”, said Mr Kesby.

The 2009 NSW Landcare Awards celebrate 20 years of Landcare and recognise the contribution of Landcare volunteers to caring for the environment.

The Southern Rivers catchment covers a 32,000 square kilometre area of south-east NSW—from Stanwell Park in the north to the Victorian border in the south and west into Snowy Mountains country. It includes the major river systems of the Snowy, Shoalhaven and Genoa.

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**Image:** (left to right) Noel Kesby, General Manager; Mandi Stevenson, Board Member and Pam Green, Chair, accept the award on behalf of Southern Rivers CMA. Image courtesy Hydro Photographics.

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