



Media Release



November 26, 2008

Federal funding for South East habitat restoration

ForestrySA has secured \$135,000 funding for a habitat restoration project, as part of the Federal Government's latest round of *Caring for Our Country* funding.

Caring for Our Country is the Federal Government's Natural Resource Management initiative, which began on July 1 2008, with an aim to create and manage healthy ecosystems in a changing climate.

ForestrySA has been a leader in environmental protection in the South East for many years, and currently actively manages more than 11,000 hectares of native forests in 50 Native Forest Reserves, for conservation and recreation.

ForestrySA is already committed to a 10 year program of biodiversity strategic corridor development linking large areas of native vegetation with corridors of native vegetation.

The corridors create a network of habitat, increasing the resilience of native animal and plant populations, such as the Southern Brown Bandicoot and Red-Tailed Black-Cockatoo.

The *Caring for our Country* funding will enable ForestrySA to enhance its existing conservation programs, with additional resources being directed to habitat restoration, weed control within Native Forest Reserves and biodiversity corridors, and community involvement through additional on ground works programs and public education initiatives.

Work will take place across ForestrySA Native Forest Reserves in the Green Triangle.

ForestrySA Operations Policy and Projects Manager Ms Jan Newport said ForestrySA was proud to receive the funding.

"It's not only the natural environment which will benefit from this program, but the whole community," Ms Newport said.

"Increasing community skills and knowledge is a key project outcome and we look forward to sharing the information gained through this program."

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