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MEDIA RELEASE

Southern Gulf community to benefit from Targeted Investment Program

Land managers, community groups and Traditional Owners will have access to \$183,700 thanks to a Targeted Investment Program driven by Southern Gulf Catchments Limited.

Funded through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, grants are available under three categories: Sustainable Grazing, Critical Habitats, and Community and Schools Natural Resource Management.

Southern Gulf Catchments Limited (SGC) Chief Executive Officer, Bob Wilson, said the available categories will benefit a diverse range of community members and contribute to local Natural Resource Management priorities.

"These grants are an excellent opportunity to make improvements to properties and develop initiatives that build on the relationship between nature and communities," said Mr Wilson.

The Sustainable Grazing Targeted Investment Program is focussed on supporting producers to increase economic outcomes through the protection and recovery of native pastures.

Examples of potential projects under this category include fencing off weed infestations to control spread into productive pastures, equipping of water points in underutilised pastures and fencing to assist with wet season spelling or other grazing programs.

SGC is also encouraging land managers including graziers, producer groups and traditional owners to apply for Critical Habitats funding in support of activities that will reduce threats to nationally-significant biodiversity values in the region.

Mr Wilson said weed control, off-stream watering points, and fencing to control stock, pest animals or people are all first-rate examples of ways in which the Critical Habitats funding can be utilised.

The funding program also recognises the unique role of traditional owners in establishing projects which document or share Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Past projects include a calendar put together by the Mitakoodi people, and the 'Cattle, Campfires and Corrobborees' DVD created by the Kalkadoon and Mitakoodi people.

Mr Wilson said young people play a vital role in the future of Natural Resource Management within our community. "The Community and Schools category is in search of events or projects which protect, enhance or educate about the natural environment and indigenous culture,"

"Two recent successful projects saw the creation of a school run native plant nursery and a yarnning circle to share indigenous culture." said Mr Wilson.



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Mr Wilson said SGC staff are available to all members of the community to help develop ideas into robust project applications.

“Staff will also be available to assist with some elements of project management,” Mr Wilson said.

Southern Gulf Catchments can be contacted on 07 4743 1888 and admin@southerngulf.com.au.

Further information about the Targeted Investment Program and available funding can be found on the Southern Gulf Catchments Limited website www.southerngulf.com.au.

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Media Contact: Bob Wilson, Chief Executive Officer
Southern Gulf Catchments Limited p. 07 4743 1888 ceo@southerngulf.com.au