MORE THAN $1.5 MILLION FUNDING FOR STATE PARKS

The NSW Government has today announced more than $1,595,000 in funding for eight state parks for this financial year.

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, made the announcement at the annual AgQuip primary industry field day at Gunnedah, with Country Labor Convenor and Duty MLC for Tamworth, Christine Robertson.

“This funding will help maintain these valuable natural assets so they can be discovered and enjoyed by future generations for themselves,” Mr Kelly said.

Operational costs amount to $1,280,000:

- Killalea                $249,923;
- Lake Keepit             $187,960;
- Grabine Lakeside        $175,567;
- Wyangala Waters         $155,945;
- Lake Burrendong         $135,290;
- Copeton Waters          $134,257;
- Lake Glenbawn           $127,028;
- Burrinjuck Waters       $64,030.

A further $50,000 has been allocated for common activities including the operation of the State Parks’ Advisory Board. Plant and equipment allocations of $315,000 include:

- $55,000 for a tractor at Lake Burrendong;
- $51,500 for a replacement tractor and electrical repairs at Grabine Lakeside;
- $40,000 for a water purification unit at Wyangala Waters;
- $30,000 for a replacement utility vehicle at Burrinjuck Waters;
- $27,740 for grounds keeping equipment at Lake Keepit;
- $27,000 for replacement utility vehicle tray back at Copeton Waters; and
- $20,000 for a scissor lift and computer upgrade at Lake Glenbawn.

Mr Kelly said State parks are becoming some of the premier tourist attractions in NSW.

“State parks provide locations for fun and affordable activities such as picnics, BBQs, camping, swimming, water sports and bush walks and most also offer low-cost accommodation and are ideal for family holidays,” the Minister said.

Ms Robertson said State Parks are great assets for everyone to share, especially in country areas.

“Our State Parks open up some of the most pristine areas of the State for people to explore and enjoy during their holidays,” Ms Robertson said.

“Country families in particular are able to make the most of the fun and affordable escapes that State Parks offer.”