LANDS INVESTS IN RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

Minister for Lands Tony Kelly said more than half the Lands Department $284 million 2009-10 Budget will be invested in rural and regional NSW.

“The Department of Lands will be investing more than $160 million in employment and businesses in regional centres such as Bathurst, Newcastle, Wollongong and many smaller towns across rural NSW,” Mr Kelly said.

Rural and regional highlights of the 2009-10 Lands Budget include:

- $5.5 million for the Tweed River sand bypassing scheme
- $2.9 million for the minor ports and river entrances program, including dredging at Coffs Harbour ($500,000), repairs to the fishing moorings at Port of Eden ($500,000) and jetty repairs at Ulladulla Harbour ($200,000)
- $1.5 million for popular state parks including Copeton Waters, Burrinjuck Waters, Killalea, Wyangala Waters and lakes Burrendong, Grabine and Keepit
- $1.4 million to expedite the conversion of perpetual leases no longer required for public purposes
- $2 million for the sale of Crown ‘Paper’ roads no longer required for public purposes
- The majority of the $10 million Public Reserves Management fund for improving showgrounds, caravan parks, walking tracks and local parks

“The Rees Government is committed to funding the maintenance of the State’s Crown Reserves which contribute to the social infrastructure of regional communities and their economies now and in the future,” Mr Kelly said.

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