

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD — NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GROUPS — SOUTH WEST  
REGION

2880. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) What is the Minister doing to improve funding for Natural Resource Management Groups throughout the South West, struggling to fund programs as a result of the massive natural resource management funding cuts in recent years?
- (2) Does the Minister understand that if funding cannot be secured to continue programs, gains made to date will be lost?
- (3) Please list all funding sources available for Natural Resource Management Groups to access funding and the funding available through these sources?

**Hon Ken Baston replied:**

- (1)–(2) An additional \$24 million was approved in the 2014 State Budget to extend the State NRM Program for three years from July 2015 to support the effort of natural resource management groups in the South West. Grants will continue to be available to support volunteers to undertake on-ground work that is important to their local area and to support volunteers to improve their capability to undertake such work.
- (3) NRM groups are able to access a wide variety of public and private funding sources for a wide variety of purposes. Specifically for NRM purposes, the State Government has available:  
State NRM Program — \$8 million per year for three years from July 2015  
Coastwest Grants — \$500 000 per year  
Lotterywest Grants Program — Funding available not listed  
Coastal Adaptation and Protection Grants — \$1 million available in 2015