

ON GROUND ACTION



BIODIVERSITY

The Hawkesbury Nepean CMA's Biodiversity Program had major successes in 2005/06 and achieved 36% of its very ambitious Investment Strategy milestone for the area protected. The challenge to meet this milestone has been influenced by:

- Native Vegetation Act (2003) commenced in December 2005 and the CMA's Bushland Conservation Project started half way through the reporting year.
- The starting date of a key CMA partnership project with the Department of Environment and Conservation "Cumberland Plain Incentives Funds for Landholders" was delayed and the outcomes from this project could not be included in the 2005/06 milestones report.
- Finally, the CMA believes the Investment Strategy milestone will need to be reviewed as it was based on the more general approach of the former Native Vegetation Management Fund. The CMA's Bushland Conservation Project which replaced it focuses on higher priority endangered ecological communities, threatened species habitat, regionally significant vegetation, or over-cleared landscapes and vegetation types which are often smaller in size and more costly to protect.

