Reef Catchments targeted grazing

Project summary

**Proponent:** Reef Catchments  
**Value:** $164,000  
**Project duration:** 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

**Project description**

This project aimed to improve water quality from grazing land within high-priority sub-catchments draining into the Great Barrier Reef through targeted adoption of best management practices. The priority sub-catchments were identified in the [Mackay Whitsunday Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) 2014-2021](#) as sub-catchments with poor or very poor overall condition for annual load and exceedances of total suspended solids and particulate nutrients.

Reef Catchments has engaged with the grazing industry and develop property farm plans across 5000 hectares which outlined a works program for the properties. On-ground activities carried out included:

- installation of fencing to assist in stock management and prevent stock accessing the creeks and rivers within the priority sub-catchments
- riparian revegetation to connect fragmented vegetation corridors and increase the cohesion of the soil through promoting structurally diverse vegetation
- remediation of gullies to prevent continued future erosion.

Reef Catchments has engaged with local grazing landholders to accelerate the adoption of best management practices. This project has provided measurable water quality outcomes to address total suspended solids and particulate nutrients loads in the 16 sub-catchments identified in the [WQIP](#).

All projects have been provided as a spatial dataset to the Paddock to Reef program to allow quantification of the water quality improvement outcomes.

While landholders have been funded to undertake the work, they have been the biggest contributor to the project through cash and in-kind contributions. In addition to this, Reef Catchments have also sub-contracted community groups including Landcare to deliver other outcomes, including growing plants for revegetation and vegetation management.

**Further information**

For further information on the targeted grazing project, please contact [Reef Catchments](#).
Image 1 – Map of project location area