



Fact Sheet

Paddock to Reef - Normanby Catchment

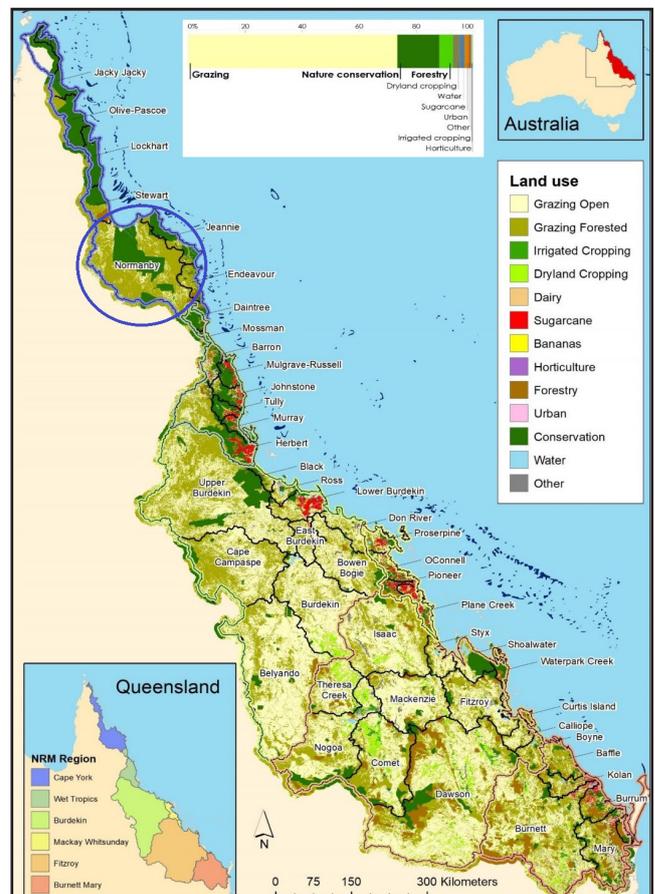
Project aim | To improve the delivery of the Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program in the Normanby Catchment

Program outline

The Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program is a collaboration involving Australian and Queensland Governments, industry, regional natural resource management bodies and research organisations.

The region is largely dominated by seasonal rainfall and river discharge. Project officers work with land managers to reduce potentially high influxes of sediment, nutrient and pesticide inputs into Great Barrier Reef catchments.

The Paddock to Reef Program ranges from paddock scale through to sub-catchment, catchment, regional and Great Barrier Reef-wide scales, evaluating management practice adoption and efficiency, catchment condition, pollutant run-off and marine condition.



Showing the Normanby River Catchment in relation to the remaining 34 basins included in Paddock to Reef Program, and identifying allocated land use. (Ref. WQIP 2050)



“
Good water quality sustains the outstanding universal value of the GBR, builds resilience, improves ecosystem health, and benefits communities.
 ”

Program objectives

The Paddock to Reef project objectives aim to improve and maintain environmental, social and economic outcomes.



Above Ref. WQIP 2050

This is targeted through improving environmental values like; coral, seagrass, wetland condition and land management to improve the overall biodiversity of regions involved in paddock to reef initiatives. Environmental objectives are measured through dissolved inorganic nitrogen, fine sediments, particulate phosphorus and particulate nitrogen loads in draining water, which when shed, impose emanating threats at local, regional, national and international scales. P2R targets also aim to improve and maintain the social values of governance, culture of stewardship and the viability of communities for the projects lifespan.

Planned outcomes 2018–2022

- Targeted communication of the importance of Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef WQIP) targets, highlighting regional activities being undertaken by key stakeholders to achieve these targets.
- Active participation in the Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting program to enable and refine analysis and reporting of regional data for the purpose of reporting progress against Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef WQIP) targets.
- High quality measurement and reporting of regional activities toward achieving Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef WQIP) targets.

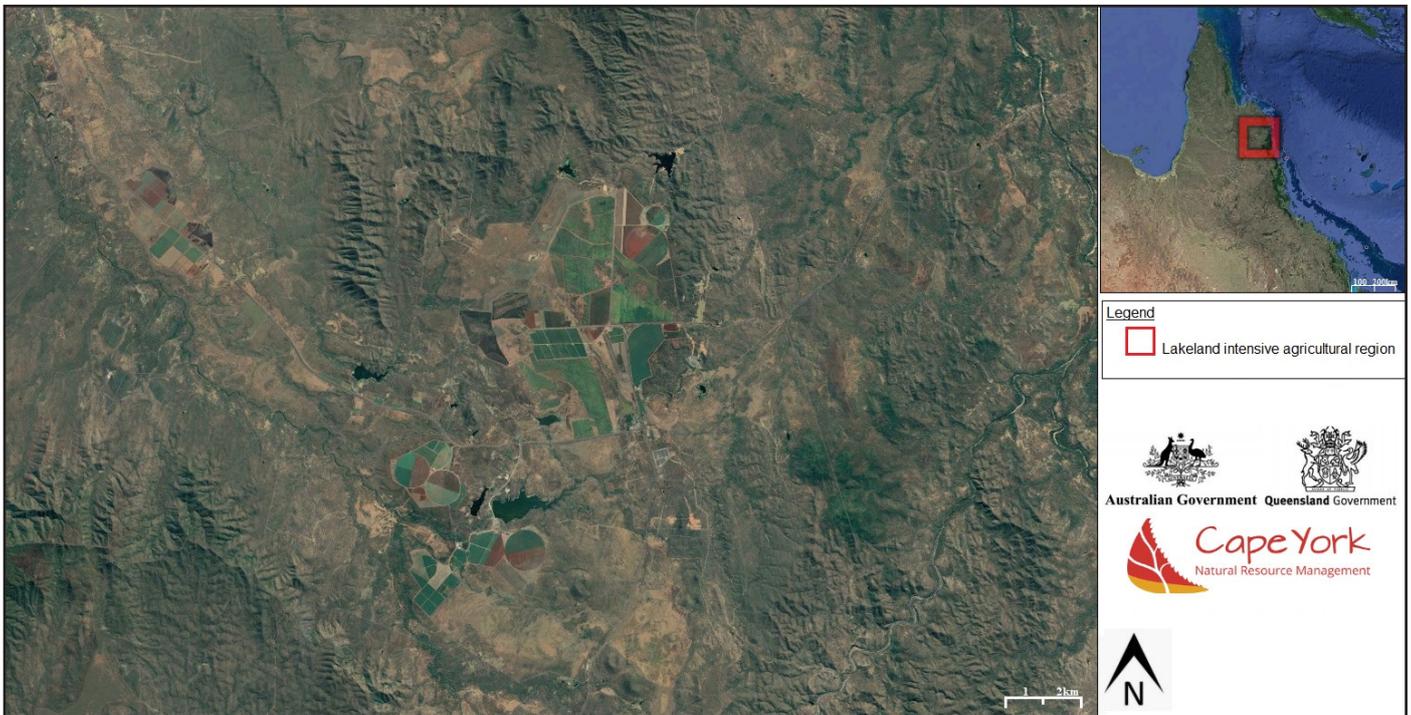
Approach

Cape York NRM Paddock to Reef staff are working with Lakeland horticulture landholders to improve on farm management practices. This progresses toward best management practices, a healthier catchment and more resilient GBR.

This is monitored, modelled and reported through:

- Collecting and integrating regional data and information on land management practices focusing on fertiliser and pesticide use
- Data collection, data management and reporting for industry specific nutrient and pesticide information for use as an alternate line of evidence in Reef reporting
- High quality measurement and reporting of regional activities toward achieving Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef WQIP) targets
- Contribution to activities and documents related to the production of the Reef Report Card.





About the region

Cape York is the northernmost region involved in the P2R project and is divided into seven separate catchments.

The Paddock to Reef project targets intensive horticulture properties within the Lakeland region (76km southwest of Cooktown), which drains into the Normanby River catchment, impacting Princess Charlotte Bay and the GBR lagoon. As identified by the Reef 2050 WQIP, the overall region is of minimal and low management priority, thus targets aim to maintain current loads in dissolved inorganic nitrogen, fine sediments, particulate phosphorus and particulate nitrogen across the properties.

Through Paddock to Reef initiatives, Cape York NRM been able to connect and establish working relationships with Lakeland landholders to progress on farm practices toward Best Management Practices, minimising property runoff which holds the ability to impede the health and resilience of the Normanby catchment and the Great Barrier Reef. Intensive horticulture methods practiced in Lakeland include; bananas, mixed cropping, watermelons and small scale avocados.

Partners

- Reef Alliance
- Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
- Office of the Great Barrier Reef (OGBR)
- QDAF - Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Regional Waterway Health Partnerships

Who's involved

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