




Queensland Government Annual Investment Plan 2015–2016

Reef Water Quality Protection Plan

An underwater photograph showing two divers swimming in clear blue water. The divers are positioned in the middle ground, surrounded by a vast school of small, colorful fish. In the foreground, a large, diverse coral reef structure is visible, featuring various types of coral and sponges. The water is bright and clear, with sunlight filtering through from above, creating a shimmering effect. Bubbles from the divers' breathing apparatus are visible in the water.

Prepared by: Office of the
Great Barrier Reef, Department
of Environment and Heritage
Protection

© State of Queensland, 2015.
The Queensland Government
supports and encourages the
dissemination and exchange of its
information. The copyright in this
publication is licensed under a
Creative Commons Attribution 3.0
Australia (CC BY) licence.



Under this licence you are free,
without having to seek our
permission, to use this publication
in accordance with the licence
terms. You must keep intact the
copyright notice and attribute
the State of Queensland as the
source of the publication.

For more information on this
licence, visit
[http://creativecommons.org/
licenses/by/3.0/au/deed.en](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/deed.en)

Image credits: Tourism
Queensland; Reef Catchments;
Burnett Mary Regional Group;
Terrain Natural Resource
Management; Queensland
Government Department of
Agriculture, Fisheries and
Forestry; Queensland Government
Department of Environment
and Heritage Protection; Paul
Dymond.

March 2016

#30964

Table of contents

Executive summary	2
Introduction	4
What is included in the \$35 million?	5
Foundational activities	6
Alignment with broader reef improvement	6
Governance and coordination	6
Measuring success	7
Purpose of the annual investment plan	7
Principles for investment	8
Investment across key work areas	8
Prioritising investment and knowledge	9
Improved practices	9
Understanding the reef and its catchment	9
Planning and prioritisation for management -regulation, planning and policy	9
Responding to the challenge	10
On-ground	10
Best Management Practices	11
Extension, education and economic cost-benefit analysis	11
Evaluating performance	12
Monitoring and modelling	12
Reporting	12
Table 1: Snapshot of investment 2015-16	13-15
Annual investment report	16



Executive Summary

The Queensland Government has committed to providing \$35 million per year to activities that support Reef Water Quality Protection Plan outcomes. In 2015 the Queensland Government committed an additional \$100 million over five years and set new targets for water quality to achieve up to 80% reduction in nitrogen and up to 50% reduction in sediment from priority catchments by 2025. This takes the Queensland Government's commitment to \$275 million over five years.

The purpose of this Annual Investment Plan 2015-2016 is to detail the investment committed by the Queensland Government aligning to the outcomes and key work areas identified in the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan Investment Strategy 2013-2018. This will ensure that investment is targeted, or in the process of becoming targeted, at activities that genuinely address water quality improvement for the Great Barrier Reef and avoid duplication in investments across the Queensland Government.

The 2015-16 investment plan has an overall performance measure: to demonstrate a contribution to at least a 1% reduction in annual loads of nitrogen, sediment and pesticides. This reduction will be measured against the 2009 baseline and reported through the Reef Report Card. Future annual investment plans will deliver accelerated progress each year to meet the government's water quality targets. Key performance indicators have been established for the programs that contribute to Queensland's ongoing investment in water quality improvement. These performance indicators will be monitored by the Office of the Great Barrier Reef and reported on in the next investment plan.

A range of programs across multiple agencies contribute to water quality improvement adding up to just over \$35 million in 2015-16. Multiple agencies also undertake policy and program work that is foundational to supporting reef water quality outcomes but are not primarily targeted at water quality so are not included.

Programs in this plan include:

Prioritising investment and knowledge

Planning, research and management:

- Total: \$7.32 million such as:
 - Policy and planning activities including implementation of the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, other planning such as wetlands management
 - Reef Water Quality research and development
 - Support for Sugar Research Australia.

Responding to the challenge

On-ground action:

- Total: \$15.2 million such as:
 - Regional Natural Resource Management Program on-ground projects
 - Best Management Practice programs
 - Extension and education
 - Economic cost-benefit analysis.

Evaluating performance

Monitoring and review:

- Total: \$12.63 million such as:
 - Water quality monitoring and modelling
 - Reporting management practice adoption
 - Reporting including Reef Report Card and regional report cards.

It is proposed that a number of programs be better aligned to water quality outcomes including the River Improvement Trusts and the Rural Water Use Efficiency Program, as well as a greater focus on water quality projects delivered by regional natural resource management groups. A reprioritisation process for the Queensland Natural Resource Management Program is under development and will be finalised in 2015-16, ensuring that investment is better focused on delivering water quality outcomes.





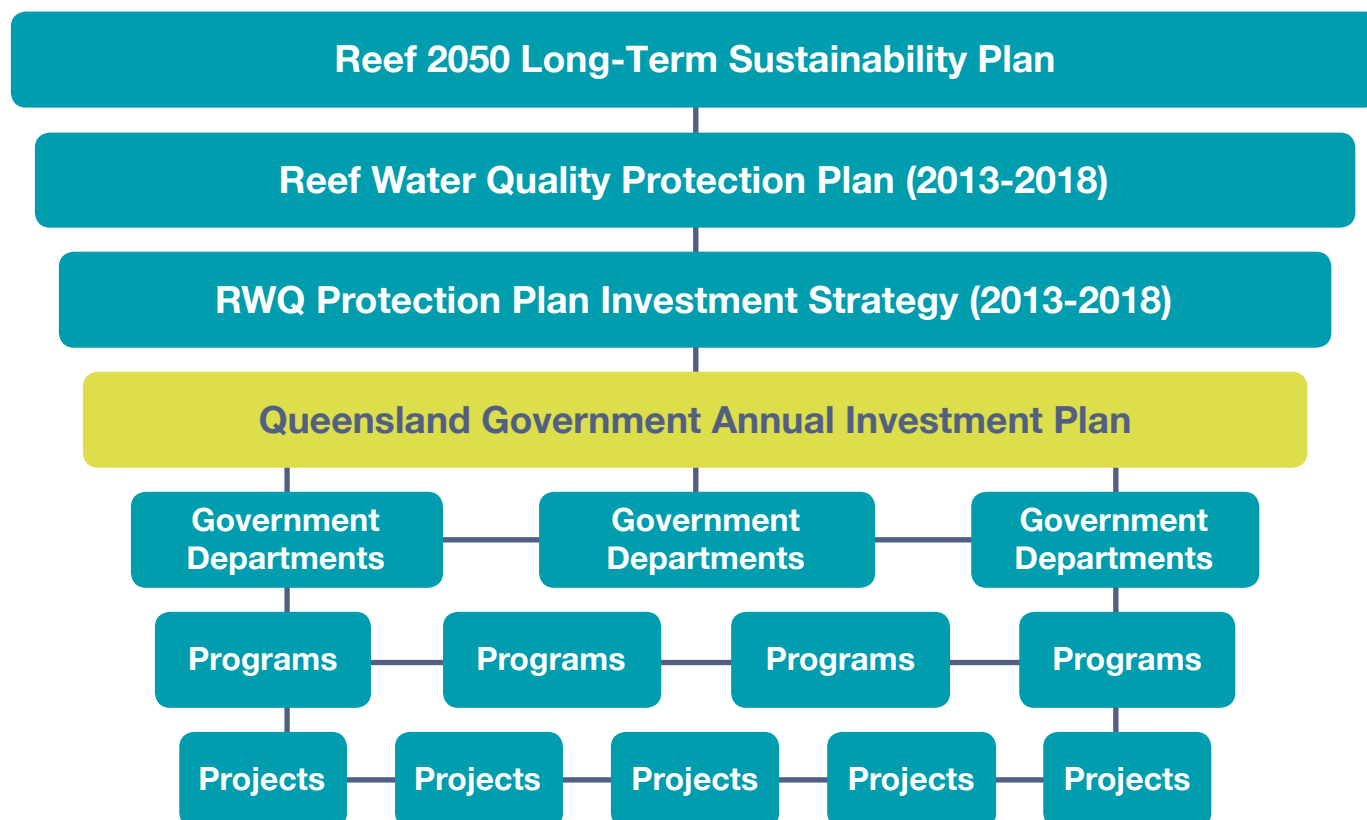
Introduction

The Reef Water Quality Protection Plan was first launched in 2003 and was updated in 2009 and again in 2013. The Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan was launched in 2015 with 139 actions to deliver whole-of-system outcomes to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the Great Barrier Reef. This includes continuing to deliver the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan which is key to the delivery of water quality outcomes for the Great Barrier Reef. The Reef Water Quality Protection Plan Investment Strategy broadly describes the Queensland and Australian Governments' investment in activities that contribute to reef water quality improvement.

The Queensland Government has committed to providing \$35 million per year to activities that support Reef Water Quality Protection Plan outcomes. In 2015 the Queensland Government committed an additional \$100 million over five years 2015–2020 and set new targets for water quality to achieve up to 80% reduction in nitrogen and up to 50% reduction in sediment from priority catchments by 2025. This takes the Queensland Government's commitment to \$275 million over five years. This annual investment plan will demonstrate a contribution to at least a 1% reduction in nitrogen, sediment and pesticide loads.

Allocation of available funds from the additional \$100 million will be based on the recommendations of the Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce. Allocation of the \$35 million annual funding includes a range of existing government programs and activities. This investment plan will be updated on a yearly basis to direct the Queensland Government's \$35 million annual investment. Figure 1 shows how this investment plan fits within the framework of delivering reef water quality improvement.

Figure 1 – Framework for improving Reef water quality



What is included in the \$35 million?

The \$35 million commitment includes funding from a number of Queensland Government agencies.

- **Department of Environment and Heritage Protection**
\$13.88 million
 - Reef Water Quality Program
 - Great Barrier Reef Report Card
 - Regional waterway health report cards
 - Wetlands management
 - Environmental values
 - Reef Water Quality Protection Plan secretariat
 - Reef water quality offsets
 - Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan secretariat
 - Reef Trust project management and joint planning.
- **Department of Natural Resources and Mines**
\$14.89 million
 - Regional Natural Resource Management Program
 - River Improvement Trusts
 - Rural Water Use Efficiency Program
 - Catchment and regional planning
 - Water monitoring
 - Fitzroy Partnership for River Health
 - Paddock scale monitoring and modelling.
 - Catchment loads monitoring
 - Catchment water quality modelling
- **Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation**
\$2.68 million
 - Catchment loads monitoring
 - Catchment water quality modelling
 - Remote sensing
 - Wetlands assessment
 - Reef science oversight
 - QSCAPE landscape processes research and development.
- **Department of Agriculture and Fisheries**
\$3.7 million
 - Research, development and innovation
 - Identifying critical, cost-effective and profitable practices
 - Extension and education
 - Management practice adoption reporting

Some programs are discrete funding that solely deliver toward the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan such as the Reef Water Quality Program. Others, such as the Queensland Wetlands Program, are state-wide activities and therefore only have part of their budgets allocated as part of the \$35 million commitment.



Foundational activities

A range of other Queensland Government activities are foundational to ensuring the appropriate policy environment to continue to support the capacity to deliver water quality improvements. For example, the protection of catchment and riparian vegetation is foundational to water quality outcomes. An effective statutory planning framework is essential to managing development pressures to reduce environmental impact. Managing water extraction through water resource planning is essential to maintaining environmental flows for healthy aquatic ecosystems. These programs are not included in this annual investment plan because their primary objectives are not targeted at water quality improvement however they are essential activities to support the delivery of water quality outcomes.

Alignment with broader reef improvement

The Queensland and Australian Governments have jointly committed to implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan. One action in the Reef 2050 Plan is to continue implementation of the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan while adding further actions to deliver outcomes for ecosystem health, biodiversity, heritage, water quality, economic benefits, community benefits and governance. The Queensland Government's investments under this annual investment plan ultimately contribute to delivery of the Reef 2050 Plan.

Protection of the Great Barrier Reef occurs as a partnership between the Queensland and Australian Governments. Complementing the Queensland Government's investments under this investment plan are Australian Government programs including the Reef Programme and Reef Trust as well as the activities of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA). The collaborative governance arrangements established jointly between the Queensland and Australian Governments and GBRMPA will oversee implementation of all Reef 2050 Plan actions ensuring alignment between the various sources of investment funding. The measures of success identified in this plan will be used as part of the broader Reef 2050 Plan reporting.

Governance and coordination

In 2015, the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) Report 'Managing Water Quality in Great Barrier Reef Catchments,' highlighted the need to improve accountability of Queensland's reef management strategies and programs. In response, the Queensland Government has established the Office of the Great Barrier Reef (OGBR) which is responsible for overseeing implementation of the government's reef strategies and programs.

To improve coordination across multiple Queensland Government departments, the Office of the Great Barrier Reef has established a Reef Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) chaired by the Director-General of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. The Reef IDC will have responsibility for updating this annual investment plan and for reporting on progress through an annual report. Agencies will retain formal accountability for the delivery of their investments with the Office of the Great Barrier Reef coordinating a single point of reporting on the total package of reef water quality investments.

In addition to the concerns of the QAO, the Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce has also raised concerns about fragmentation in funding across government. The taskforce made a number of recommendations in its interim report in December 2015 to better align funding programs and reduce complexity and fragmentation of funding sources.

Measuring success

This annual investment plan improves on the previous coordination of the Queensland Government's reef water quality investment by defining performance measures to assess the contributions made. The overarching objective of this plan is to demonstrate a contribution to at least a 1% reduction in nutrient, sediment and pesticide loads to the Great Barrier Reef. This reduction will be measured against the 2009 baseline and reported through the Reef Report Card.

The Queensland Government's policy and knowledge building activities will improve the coordination of investment and support improvements to on-ground programs. Improved on-ground programs will demonstrate the water quality outcomes delivered. Programs in the process of realignment will demonstrate a change in priorities for future activities. Monitoring and reporting activities will demonstrate the overall improvements made in reef water quality and load reductions.

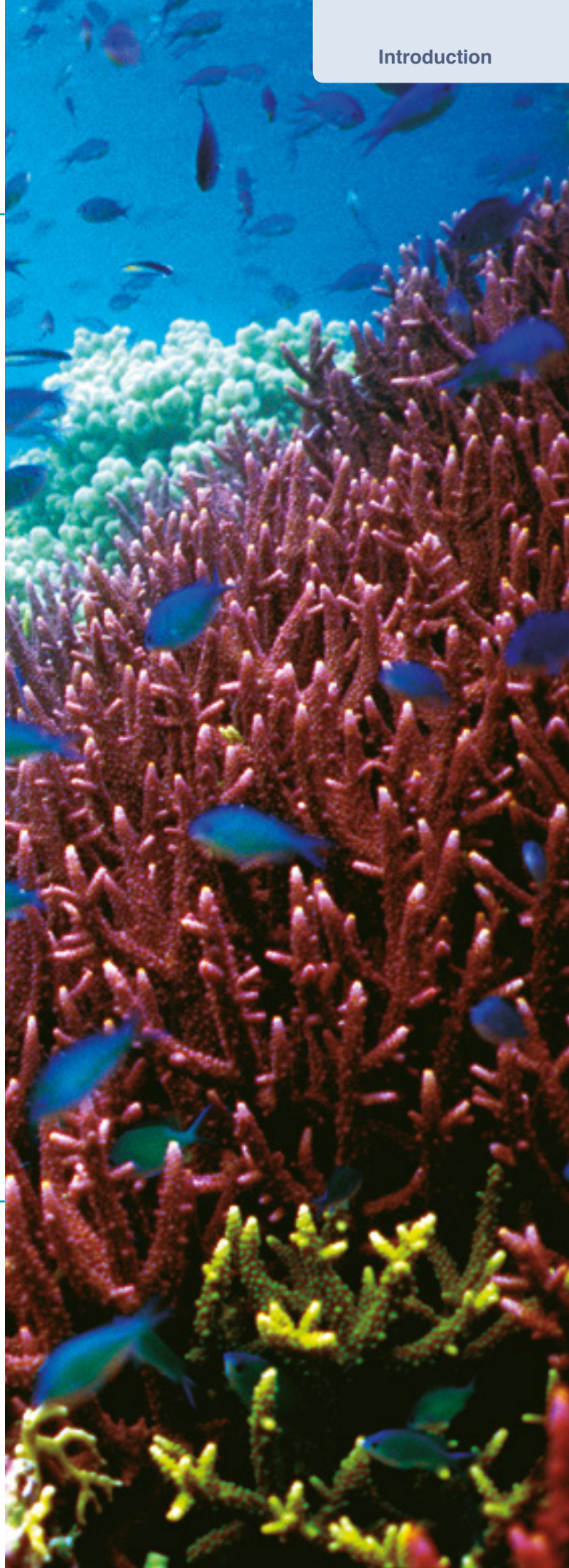
Table 1 on page 13 identifies key performance indicators for each program included in this plan. Due to the system complexity inherent in the Great Barrier Reef and its catchment, combined with the scale of the system, making direct links between activity and water quality outcomes for the reef is not always practicable.

The Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce is currently investigating two major projects in the Burdekin and Wet Tropics catchments which will include fine scale monitoring to build an improved picture of the outcomes delivered. Lessons from these projects can be applied to other investments over time to improve the rigour of outcome reporting associated with government investment.

The Office of the Great Barrier Reef will monitor progress against these indicators which will be included in an annual report and next year's investment plan.

Purpose of the annual investment plan

The purpose of the annual investment plan is to detail the investment committed by the Queensland Government aligning to the outcomes and key work areas identified in the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan Investment Strategy 2013–2018. This will ensure that programs are targeted, or are in the process of becoming targeted, at activities that genuinely address water quality improvement for the reef and avoid duplication in investments across the Queensland Government.



Principles for investment

Investment Principles

Cost-effective

Investment should be targeted at the most cost-effective practices that deliver the greatest water quality benefit.

Targeted

Investment should be targeted to maximise the reef water quality outcomes, particularly by focusing on the highest risk pollutants in the highest risk areas.

Coordinated

Investment should be coordinated and integrated wherever possible across programs to avoid duplication and help leverage resources.

Adaptable

Prioritisation of investment should be based on the best, most up-to-date information.

Continuously reviewed

Investment should be flexible and regularly reviewed to encourage adaptive management based on the latest emerging information.

Collaborative

Opportunities to pool resources and invest more strategically should be explored and adopted where advantageous.

Investment across key work areas

Three priority work areas have been established to improve water quality outcomes:

1. Prioritising investment and knowledge

- a. Investment priorities based on latest science
- b. New research priorities and programs
- c. Future investment priorities
- d. Planning and management.

2. Responding to the challenge

- a. Targeted investment in key reef catchments
- b. Identifying critical, cost-effective and profitable practices
- c. Best Management Practice Programs
- d. Extension and education
- e. Regulations
- f. On-ground funding programs.

3. Evaluating performance

- a. Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program

- b. Reef Report Card
- c. Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program
- d. Regional waterway report cards.

The annual investment plan will detail the investments that the Queensland Government is making in 2015–2016 in these work areas, highlighting where there have been opportunities to realign funding to deliver better water quality outcomes in 2015–16.

The program descriptions will identify if it is:

- R:** A discrete reef-specific program where funding is for reef activities only
- S:** Part of a broader state program where funding can be clearly separated to reef regions
- B:** Part of a broader state program where an approximate allocation is made for reef regions

Prioritising investment and knowledge

The Queensland Government invests in research and development activities to work with industry to help develop improvements to land management practices to deliver water quality outcomes and to support improved understanding of the reef and its catchment.

Improved practices

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's **Reef Water Quality Program Research and Development** supports projects in line with the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan Research, Development and Innovation Strategy 2013-2018. The strategy covers all biophysical and socio-economic research, development and innovation related to the effects of broadscale land use on water quality and reef health—\$3.53 million (R).

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries provides funding to **Sugar Research Australia** for research, development and innovation to address industry research priorities that deliver a water quality outcome—\$880,000 (B).

Understanding the reef and its catchment

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection consults with local communities to determine the environmental values that the community requires from its waterways. By assessing historical water quality information, **water quality objectives** are set to provide locally relevant water quality guidelines which inform planning, decision-making and monitoring program assessments—\$300,000 (B).

The Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation provides oversight of reef science programs—\$220,000 (R).

Planning and prioritisation for management—regulation, planning and policy

The Queensland Government undertakes a range of **regulatory, policy and planning activity** to protect the environment and ensure reef and water quality outcomes are protected. Some activities are solely related to the Great Barrier Reef such as:

- Coordination and governance arrangements for the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan and Reef Water Quality Protection Plan—\$1.6 million (R)
- Reef Trust project management and joint planning—\$100,000 (R)
- Reef water quality offsets—\$100,000 (R).

Some activities are part of broader state-wide programs but have a discrete Reef component:

- Wetlands management—\$400,000 (S)

Other planning and policy activity is relevant state-wide and therefore estimates are made of the reef proportion of activity funding:

- Catchment and regional planning—\$350,000 (B)





Responding to the challenge

The Queensland Government invests in on-ground activities, land management practice improvement programs and in regulation, policy and planning activities to deliver improvements to reef water quality.

On-ground

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines administers the **Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) Program**. The program provides funding for a number of local and state strategic projects across the state. For local projects, funding is provided to regional natural resource management bodies to undertake on-ground projects. Projects may include activities to address:

- invasive weeds and pests
- water quality
- sustainable agriculture
- wetlands
- coastal risk
- biodiversity outcomes.

Some of these investment categories (for example, invasive weeds and pests or biodiversity outcomes) deliver a comparatively limited water quality improvement benefit but are critical to other aspects of protecting the natural environment and natural resources and supporting agricultural productivity. Regional NRM Program funds are already committed for 2015–16, generally as part of multiple year agreements. The Department of Natural Resources and Mines is in the process of realigning the NRM program's priorities to ensure improved Great Barrier Reef outcomes for the remaining years of the program—\$4.17 million (S).

As a part of the NRM program, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines provides funding to **River Improvement Trusts** to undertake river improvement works. Historically, River Improvement Trusts have generally focused on engineering projects to deliver local flood mitigation outcomes. Such projects are not always compatible with contemporary catchment management practices and may not contribute to direct water quality improvements. Changes to the River Improvement Trust Act 1940 in 2014 include significant changes to the objectives of River Improvement Trusts. Objectives now include

the responsible management of river catchments through measures such as those that improve the protection, health and resilience of the rivers and their catchments; protect water security; and improve water quality and river system function. In 2015–16, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines is working closely with the Trusts to clearly identify the types of works that deliver water quality outcomes and guide the works they undertake, such as:

- stream bank/bed stabilisation via appropriate revegetation
- reinstating natural stream roughness
- afforestation of riparian zones
- fencing riparian zones linked to controlled grazing management
- provision of off-stream watering points for grazing lands
- eroding gully remediation
- catchment activities to slow and disperse overland flow
- wetland restoration.

This realignment of River Improvement Trusts funding will ensure greater water quality outcomes—\$400,000 (S).

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines provides funding for the **Rural Water Use Efficiency Program** as a partnership with rural industries also through the NRM program.

The rural water use efficiency—irrigation futures (RWUE-IF) initiative helps irrigators make better use of their on-farm water supplies, through efficient irrigation system design and management. Water quality improvement is a secondary benefit of this program by reducing water use and associated runoff (B). Work will begin this year to elevate the consideration of water quality benefits in the roll-out of this program, particularly in areas of irrigated cane such as the Burdekin, where improved irrigation practices can considerably reduce nutrient runoff—\$1.43 million.

Best Management Practice

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection provides funding for **Agriculture Best Management Practice (BMP) Programs** from its Reef Water Quality Program. BMP focuses primarily on the two major rural industries of grazing and cane and also includes grains and horticulture. Delivered in partnership between industry, natural resource management groups and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, BMP programs provide an opportunity to assess landholder practices against a water quality risk framework to identify where there are opportunities to improve practices and deliver an improved water quality outcome—\$4.53 million (R).

Extension, education and economic cost-benefit analysis

Extension and education link to BMP programs. Where BMP programs identify an opportunity for landholders to deliver improved practices, extension and education services will assist industries to adopt improved practices. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's **Reef Protection Program provides funding for extension and education**—\$2.18 million (R).

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries leverages these funds and provides extension, economics and education services to support landholders to adopt management practices that improve water quality to the reef whilst maintaining enterprise viability—\$1.34 million (S) and \$1.05 million (R).

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines provides resources, extension and training for managing wetlands in agriculture—\$100,000 (S).





Evaluating performance

Evaluating performance through water quality monitoring, modelling and reporting is an important component of assessing the effectiveness of efforts to improve water quality and provides open and transparent public accountability on the health of waterways and the Great Barrier Reef.

Monitoring and modelling

The Queensland Government's **Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program** is the primary vehicle for monitoring and evaluation. Water quality monitoring and modelling is used to estimate the water quality in waterways and the Reef.

Reporting

The **Great Barrier Reef Report Card** reports on the progress toward Reef Water Quality Protection Plan targets and reports on the condition of the marine environment. The report card is based on the monitoring and modelling information collected by the Queensland Government as well as information collected by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. The report card is produced annually as a public communication tool and is supported by more detailed reports that guide investment and program managers in targeting their activities.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries provides funding to collect and report management practice adoption for the reef report cards—\$425,000 (R).

The Great Barrier Reef Report Card is supported by **regional waterway health report cards** that provide information relevant to local communities on the health of their waterways providing a link between local decision-makers and the strategic reef environment. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection provides funding to the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership and the Mackay-Whitsunday Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership and is providing support to roll the report card partnerships out to the Wet Tropics and Burdekin—\$1.5 million (R).

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines provides funding for the **Fitzroy Partnership for River Health**—\$120,000 (R).

Why use modelling to measure pollutant load reductions?

Current scientific evidence indicates that elevated nutrient pollutant loads leaving catchments vary significantly from year-to-year, mainly due to differences in annual rainfall and run-off. Therefore, catchment modelling is used to estimate the long-term annual pollutant load reductions due to the adoption of improved land management practices. This removes the impact of factors such as climate variability. Research suggests time lags to monitor the improvements from land management practice change could range from years for pesticides up to decades for nutrients and sediments due to the high level of climate variability. The models use measured changes in on-ground management and well-documented and accepted methods and assumptions. Long-term water quality monitoring data is used to validate and improve the models, continuously improving confidence in the estimates of water quality over time.

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines funds a range of monitoring and modelling activities to contribute to the Reef Report Card including **paddock monitoring and modelling along with catchment loads monitoring and modelling, groundcover, vegetation, riparian and wetland extent mapping, satellite imagery** and maintains the **data management system**—\$3.32 million (R). The department also undertakes **ambient water monitoring** which is required for validating water quality models—\$4.8 million (S)

The Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation undertakes the **catchment loads monitoring program, water quality modelling, remote sensing and the wetlands assessment** for the Reef Report Card—\$2.46 million (R).



Table 1: Snapshot of investment 2015-16

Program	Investment (15/16) (nearest \$10k)	Funding source	Funding category	Contribution to water quality	Key performance indicators
PRIORITISING INVESTMENT AND KNOWLEDGE					
Water quality improvement					
Reef 2050 Plan and Reef Water Quality Protection Plan implementation and governance	\$1,240,000	Limited life—EHP	R	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of actions underway or complete annually • Annual investment plan produced
Reef Trust—management and planning	\$100,000	Base—EHP	R	☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of joint projects with the Commonwealth annually • Increase in Queensland funds contributed to Reef Trust annually
Reef water quality research and development	\$3,530,000	Limited life—EHP	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus of research and development contributing to Taskforce recommendations • Improved on-ground outcomes deriving from research and development demonstrated
Reef water quality offsets	\$100,000	Base—EHP	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in proportion of offsets that are contributed to Reef Trust
Water quality objectives	\$300,000	Base—EHP	B	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality objectives completed for all waters of the Great Barrier Reef catchments and reviewed every five years
Reef science oversight	\$220,000	Base—DSITI	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science programs contribute to on-ground improvements
Landscape management to support water quality					
Catchment and regional planning	\$350,000	Base—DNRM	B	☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of catchment and regional plans that align to Reef 2050 Plan objectives and accredited water quality improvement plans
Queensland Wetlands Program	\$200,000	Limited life—DNRM	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued reduction in loss of wetlands • Continued improvement in contribution of modified wetlands to ecosystem outcomes
Wetlands Management	\$200,000	Base—EHP	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued reduction in loss of wetlands • Continued improvement in contribution of modified wetlands to ecosystem outcomes
Sugar Research Australia funding	\$880,000	Base—DAF	B	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved nutrient management standards as a result of research
Coastal Planning	\$200,000	Base—EHP	B	☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning decisions reflect water quality outcomes
Total	\$7,320,000				

Program	Investment (15/16) (nearest \$10k)	Funding source	Funding category	Contribution to water quality	Key performance indicators
RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE					
Best Management Practice (BMP)	\$4,530,000	Limited life—EHP	R	***	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the area of land managed under BMP Increase in the number of farmers and graziers participating in the BMP Increase in the number of farmers and graziers accredited for BMP
Extension and training aligned to BMP programs and regional coordination of on-ground activities	\$1,340,000	Base—DAF	S	***	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of one on one extension visits Support the BMP programs through economics, coordination, mentoring, policy advice
	\$1,050,000	Limited life—DAF	R		
	\$2,180,000	Limited life—EHP	R		
	\$100,000	Limited life—DNRM	B		
Regional Natural Resource Management Groups—Local Projects	\$4,170,000	Limited life—DNRM	S	**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise realignment of project priorities
Rural Water Use Efficiency Program (RWUE)	\$1,430,000	Limited life—DNRM	S	**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise realignment of project priorities
River Improvement Trusts (RIT)	\$400,000	Limited life—DNRM	S	*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise realignment of project priorities
Total	\$15,200,000				

Funding categories:

R: A discrete reef-specific program

S: Part of a broader state program where funding can be clearly separated to reef regions

B: Part of a broader state program where an approximate allocation is made for reef regions

DSITI: Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation

DNRM: Department of Natural Resources and Mines

DAF: Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

EHP: Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Contribution to water quality outcomes:

* Low direct contribution ** Moderate direct contribution *** High direct contribution

Program	Investment (15/16) (nearest \$10k)	Funding source	Funding category	Contribution to water quality	Key performance indicators
EVALUATING PERFORMANCE					
Water quality condition and improvement					
Catchment loads monitoring	\$1,050,000 \$500,000 \$240,000	Base—DSITI Limited life—DNRM Base—DNRM	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring data validated and provided within agreed timeframes
Catchment loads modelling and data management system	\$1,280,000 \$360,000	Limited life—DNRM Base—DSITI	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling data validated and provided within agreed timeframes
Regional Report Card partnerships Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership Mackay-Whitsunday Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership Fitzroy Partnership for River Health Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways Partnership	\$1,500,000 \$120,000	Limited life—EHP Base—DNRM	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New report card partnership established each financial year until full coverage of the Great Barrier Reef Production of annual report card for each existing partnership Increasing efficiency and comparability between report cards
Management Practice Adoption	\$430,000	Limited life—DAF	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of new tools to better utilise practice information in investment decisions
Enhanced Fitzroy Monitoring Program	\$500,000	Base—DNRM	R	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring data validated and reported through the Fitzroy River website within agreed timeframes
Water quantity to support water quality					
Ambient water monitoring	\$4,800,000	Base—DNRM	S	☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water monitoring infrastructure within Great Barrier Reef catchment produces reliable data
Landscapes and wetlands					
Landscape monitoring	\$760,000	Base—DSITI	R	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring contributes to reef and regional report cards
State Land and Tree Survey	\$210,000	Base—DNRM	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring contributes to reef and regional report cards
Satellite image archive, calibration and systems	\$340,000	Base—DNRM	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring contributes to reef and regional report cards
Groundcover and riparian mapping	\$100,000	Limited life—DNRM	S	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring contributes to reef and regional report cards
Monitoring wetland extent and condition	\$290,000 \$150,000	Base—DSITI Limited life—DNRM	S	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring contributes to reef and regional report cards
Total	\$12,630,000				
TOTAL	\$35,150,000				



Annual investment report

To improve accountability around the management of the Queensland Government's contribution to improving Great Barrier Reef water quality, an annual investment report will be produced based on six monthly reporting by each agency. The annual investment report will be provided to the Minister for the Great Barrier Reef to be tabled in Parliament at the end of the financial year. The investment report will also form a component of other reef related reporting including implementation of the Reef 2050 Plan to the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Forum and to the World Heritage Committee.



