

Protecting the Great Barrier Reef

Welcome

Welcome to the Protecting the Great Barrier Reef e-newsletter which features work the Queensland Government is doing alongside our partners to protect the Reef.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and encourage you to share it with your friends and colleagues who can subscribe [here](#).

What's new



UNESCO recognises ongoing work to protect the Great Barrier Reef

The Queensland and Australian governments have welcomed UNESCO's latest draft decision not to add the [Great Barrier Reef](#) to its World Heritage 'In Danger' list.

The decision demonstrates how strong government action has protected the health of the Great Barrier Reef and recognises our urgent and active progress to deliver on the recommendations in the [Reactive Monitoring Mission](#) report.

The Queensland Government remains committed to ongoing efforts to combat climate change and other threats, working alongside the scientists and experts, Traditional Owners, industry, conservationists, and Reef communities.

The draft decision will be considered at the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee in New Delhi in July.



Progress towards Great Barrier Reef water quality targets

The [Reef Water Quality Report Card 2021 and 2022](#) was released by the Australian and Queensland governments last month.

The Report Card assesses the results of the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan actions up until June 2022, and provides valuable data for experts in Reef conservation and water quality management.

The [interactive report card](#) allows you to fully explore the results and supporting information and includes some detailed [FAQs](#) online.



Parts of Cape York Peninsula added to Australia's World Heritage List

The *Cultural Landscapes of Cape York Peninsula* World Heritage Tentative Listing has been accepted by UNESCO's World Heritage Centre which is the first step towards a [World Heritage](#)

[nomination](#).

The Queensland Government is planning the next steps of the years-long nomination process and will continue to support a pathway that prioritises the free, prior and informed consent of Traditional Owners. [Learn more here](#).

Great Sandy Marine Park zoning changes now in place

Zoning and management changes aimed at further protecting the [Great Sandy Marine Park's](#) unique habitats, while supporting enhanced nature-based tourism and recreational fishing, came into effect in May.



[Visit the website](#) to learn more about the new zoning plan and to download the handy new Marine Parks Zoning App.

New Reef animation videos available

Two new Reef animation resource videos are now available on the Queensland Government YouTube channel.

Designed to communicate simply why [Water Quality is so important to the Great Barrier Reef](#) and [demonstrate the diversity of this unique ecosystem](#), they're great for audiences of all ages.



Producer updates



Sugarcane program provides tailored practice change support to growers

Six organisations have received funding through the \$4.38 million Sugarcane Practice Change Program to support growers implement improved practices that will boost productivity on their farms and improve water flowing to the Great Barrier Reef.

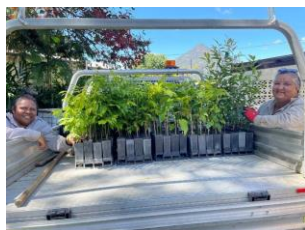
The six organisations are:

- Sugar Research Australia Limited (Wet Tropics and Burnett Mary regions)
- Tropical Agricultural Services Pty Ltd (Herbert)
- Farmacist Pty Ltd (Wet Tropics, Burdekin and Mackay Whitsunday regions)
- Innisfail District Cane Growers Organisation Limited
- Resource Consulting Services Pty Ltd (Mackay Whitsunday), and
- Tully Cane Productivity Services Ltd.

The organisations are currently seeking participants and invite growers to reach out directly or to email OfficeoftheGBR@des.qld.gov.au. Participants will receive expert agronomic advice and support. In return, growers will be invited to share their learnings to encourage broader uptake across their growing communities.

The Sugarcane Practice Change Program is funded through the Queensland Government's [Queensland Reef Water Quality Program](#).

Project updates



Reef Assist program delivers for Reef regions

The [Queensland Government's \\$33.5 million Reef Assist program](#) continues to deliver priority environmental projects linked to the Queensland Government's ongoing commitment to protect the Great Barrier Reef.

Projects extending across all Reef catchment regions create meaningful jobs supported by formal and informal training activities, enhancing the employability of program participants, with a focus on First Nations people.

Tracy Satini, Madjandji Ranger (First Nations woman):

"Starting with Greening Australia gave us the opportunity to work on Country for Madjandji Aboriginal Corporation. Starting off this project I had no skills, I've upgraded my skills now, I'm doing my Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management. Feeling blessed that we are ticking all the boxes and that eventually in the end I will be qualified and have all those skills to carry me through for future employment."

Tracy is part of the Reef Assist 2.0 Project RAP 2.3 led by Greening Australia, working with the

Madjandji Aboriginal Corporation in the Mulgrave catchment of the Wet Tropics.

Image: Madjandji Rangers Rosemary Ambrum (left) and Tracy Satini (right).

Did you know?

The Reef Joint Field Management Program has just released the third edition of Insight Magazine, which covers all of the achievements of their program.

[Access Insight Magazine here.](#)

Get involved



The Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan review

A [review](#) of the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef 2050 WQIP) is underway. The review provides an opportunity to incorporate knowledge and experience of Reef communities in future planning.

The WQIP guides how governments, Reef communities, Traditional Owners, industry, and partners work together to improve the quality of water flowing through local waterways and wetlands to the Great Barrier Reef.

As part of the review, you can [complete a survey and attend information seminars](#).

Input received will inform the development of the next plan – including the objectives, implementation principles and priority actions.

Feedback received from landholders, natural resource managers, industry, Traditional Owners, researchers and communities during the review will be used to develop priorities and guide investment for the next Reef 2050 WQIP.

[We're celebrating Dugongs with these fun facts | LinkedIn](#)

[Did you know turtles have besties, roommates, and even freeloaders? | Facebook](#)

[Can you name this Great Barrier Reef species? | Instagram](#)

[Why is Water Quality important to the Great Barrier Reef? | YouTube](#)

[Our Reef's animals and plants | YouTube](#)

Contact us

For more information about any of these projects, to provide feedback or story ideas, email officeoftheGBR@des.qld.gov.au.



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