

# GRAZING BMP

## GRAZING LAND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

### Grazing BMP to receive three years' further funding from the Queensland Government

29 October 2014

The agriculture industry and graziers across the state will continue to reduce the impact of primary production on the Great Barrier Reef, with the announcement that the Queensland Government will invest in a further three years of the Grazing Best Management Practices (BMP) program.

The Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, Andrew Powell, announced the \$4.5 million funding injection - to be rolled out across three years - at 'Mt Aberdeen' grazing property near Bowen on 24 October 2014.

Grazing BMP Officer Michael Taylor said that industry is committed to continual improvement of practices and the further funding will be a great boost to the Grazing BMP program which has seen strong support from graziers across Queensland.

"Graziers have been working hard to improve their methods and demonstrate environmental stewardship across reef regions," Mr Taylor said.

"The announcement from Minister Powell and government is an excellent opportunity for industry to continue minimising off-farm impacts and improving farming procedures."

The Grazing BMP program has been developed 'by industry for industry' in partnership between AgForce, the Fitzroy Basin Association and Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry along with North Queensland Dry Tropics and a broad selection of graziers making up a producer reference group.

It is a voluntary program to help landholders benchmark their own practices, identify opportunities for continuous improvement and demonstrate their environmental, business and animal welfare standards.

Mr Taylor said that with rising demand for sustainable produce, the Grazing BMP program helps industry show that producers are continually seeking ways to run their enterprises better, while continuing to protect the environment.

"As consumers increasingly demand produce sourced from sustainable production systems, we are confident the industry can utilise their Grazing BMP tool and capture industry progression, foster and support the ongoing development of a sustainable product, and also deliver the real facts across the whole industry."

Grazing BMP is funded by the Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

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A PROUD GRAZING BMP DELIVERY PARTNER

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"This really is an example of both agricultural and environmental values being well considered in the operation of our primary production businesses."

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For more information contact AgForce Projects Media and Communications Officer Caitlin Boucher on (07) 3238 6060 or 0488 002 091.

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