

OVERVIEW OF REEF RESCUE 2 PROPOSALS

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REEF RESCUE 1



	Delivered	% target
Cane property plans	1220	138%
Cane on-ground projects	1484	146%
Cane industry projects	86	1229%
Grazing property plans	477	148%
Grazing on-ground projects	423	118%
Grazing industry projects	28	None set

- Total project cost: \$88 085 029
- Reef Rescue contribution: \$32 480 973 or 37% of total

REEF RESCUE 2: PROJECTS

Covered by this presentation:

- **Mackay Whitsunday Reef Rescue Water Quality Grants**
- **Fast Tracking Adoption of ‘Game Changing’ Sugarcane Nutrient and Pesticide Management Practices**

PRIORITIES FOR REEF RESCUE 2



The Australian Government's Reef Rescue prioritisation process identified that:

“.....management actions in the Mackay Whitsunday region should address pesticide and nutrient loads from sugarcane”.

“.....a high management priority in Mackay Whitsunday region should be efficient nutrient budgeting for sugarcane to match total nutrient inputs to crop requirements”.

REEF RESCUE 2: OVERVIEW

A one on one extension process that will improve productivity and profitability of participating farmers by:

Helping farmers develop and implement block specific nutrient and pesticide management plans that identify opportunities for farmers to improve productivity and get better value from their nutrient and pesticide inputs.

REEF RESCUE 2: NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

- Extension officers will use the six easy steps to work one on one with a farmer to refine nutrient recommendations to a block or soil type to achieve the best possible productivity and economic outcomes.
- A standard methodology for paddock nutrient trials will be developed and implemented on selected blocks to gather more information on yield potential and nutrient rates under the farmers specific management.
- Over time the nutrient rates recommended for a block or soil type on a specific farm may go up or down as more information about yield results, variability and management practice improvements is gathered across all the farms involved in the program.

REEF RESCUE 2: CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

- Extension officers will work one on one with a farmer to draw up a block by block pest pressure map taking account of pest type, landscape, soil type, crop variety, crop stage, and intensity (high, moderate, low).
- Using the pest pressure map the extension officers will assist the farmer to develop a pest management plan for the farm that details effective and economic use of chemical pest control agents and other management strategies to improve productivity.

REEF RESCUE 2: IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Though the nutrient and pesticide planning process opportunities may be identified for the farmer to increase the efficiency of their operation through improvements to their machinery: i.e. replacing a boom sprayer with a shielded sprayer.

REEF RESCUE 2

Questions?