Burnett Mary Region Achieving Goals

Progress towards the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef 2050 WQIP) is in!

The Reef Water Quality Report Card 2020, released in April 2022, has highlighted the Burnett Mary region as on track to achieve Reef water quality targets for sediment and particulate nutrients.

The Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program (Paddock to Reef program) provides the framework for evaluating and reporting progress towards the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef 2050 WQIP). This progress is reported through the Reef water quality report card including an interactive report card.

Burnett Mary Water Quality Targets

Indicator	Burnett Mary Targets	2020 Progress	2020 Grading	Reduction to Date
Dissolved inorganic nitrogen	55% reduction	1.6%	C	34.1%
Sediment	20% reduction	3.2%	A	9.2%
Particulate nitrogen	20% reduction	2.7%	A	10.9%
Particulate phosphorus	20% reduction	2.4%	A	16.3%

Indicator	Burnett Mary Targets	2020 Condition	Change in condition from 2019	2020 Grading
Pesticide condition	Protect 99% of aquatic species at end-of catchment	98.1%	+<1%	B

Highlights from the Burnett Mary region include a fantastic sediment reduction of 7.2% in the Mary catchment for the 2019-2020 year and achieving a score more than halfway towards the dissolved inorganic nitrogen reduction target (34.1% reduction towards the 55% reduction target).

In addition, the pesticide risk improved to 'good' in the Mary and Burrum catchments, and the Baffle, Kolan, and Mary catchments achieved 90% of grazing lands having more than 70% ground cover in the late dry season.

Progress for the broader Great Barrier Reef region is also advancing, with the region more than halfway (15.2%) towards the 25% sediment reduction target, and almost halfway (27.7%) to the dissolved inorganic nitrogen target of a 60% reduction.

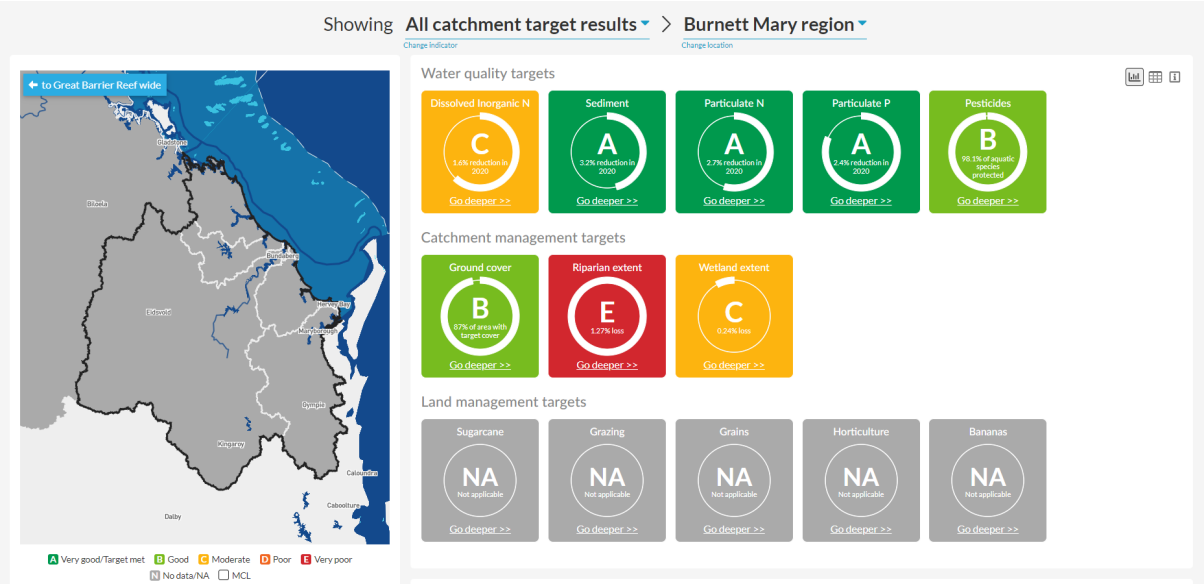
Improving the quality of water flowing from land to sea is critical to improving the resilience of the Great Barrier Reef. Improved land management practices and strategic streambank and gully remediation projects have vastly contributed to the Burnett Mary's success in the Reef Water Quality Report Card 2020.

These include:

- 69,641 hectares of improved grazing and gully management through the Australian Government's Reef Trust: Project Pioneer Innovation in Grazing Land Management project
- 6,887 hectares of improved grazing management through the Queensland Government's Grazing Resilience and Sustainable Solutions (GRASS) program
- 1,377 hectares of management practice improvements through the Australian Government's Reef Trust Partnership Reef Alliance Project Phase 2

- 46 kilometres of streambanks fenced off through the Australian Government's Reef Trust: Great Barrier Reef Riparian Zone Management - a Mary River Project
- 3,845 hectares of management practice improvements through the Queensland Government funded RP200C Isis 20:20 Nutrient Management Planning Project
- 3,810 hectares of sugarcane management practice improvements through the Australian Government's Reef Trust: Project Uplift Farming Systems Initiative
- 1,596 hectares of management practice improvements through the Australian Government's Reef Trust Reef Alliance Project Phase 2

The Reef 2050 WQIP agricultural management practice adoption targets are currently under review and were not reported in the Reef Water Quality Report Card 2020. More information on the review is available here: https://alluviumgroup.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/apa-review



For more information into individual sub-catchments in the Burnett Mary, please visit the interactive Reef Water Quality Report Card 2020, here.