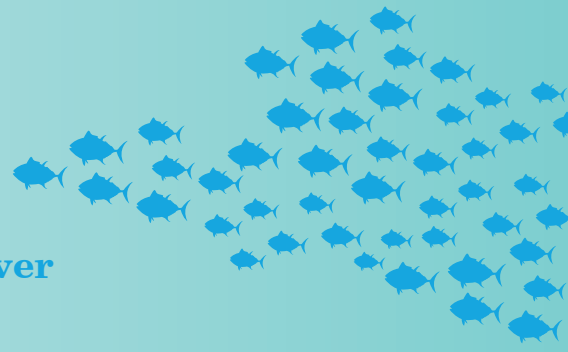


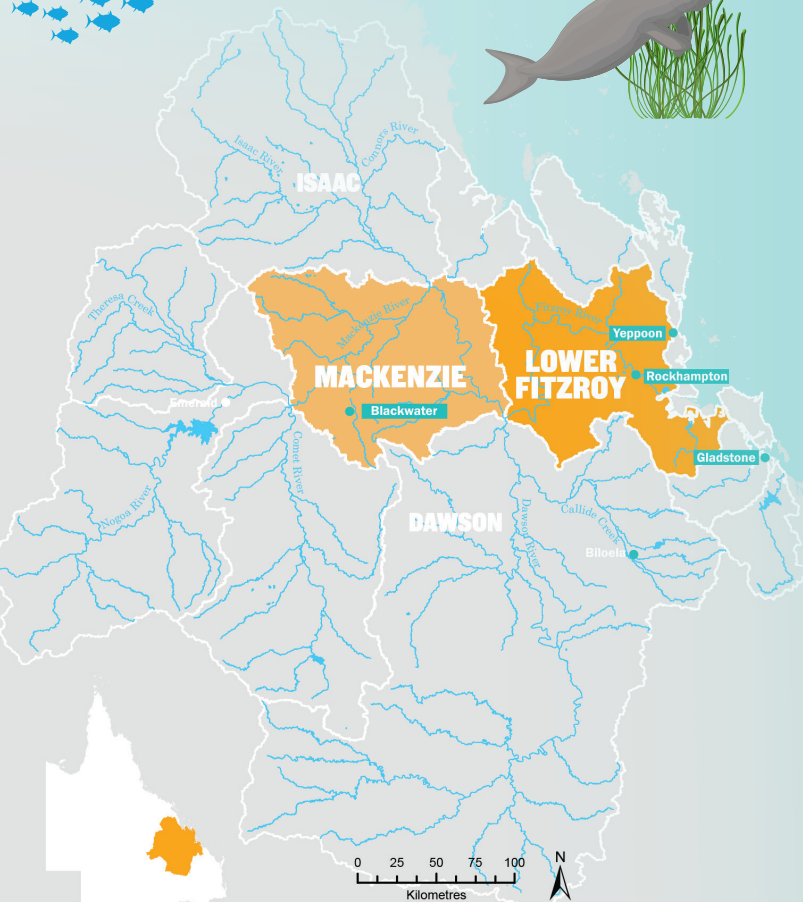
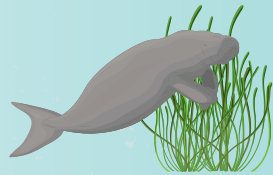
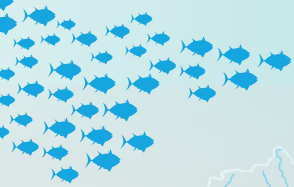
FITZROY WATER QUALITY PROGRAM



The Fitzroy Water Quality Program aims to stop 50,000 tonnes of fine sediment from the Fitzroy River basin entering the Reef's waters every year

Waterways in the Fitzroy River Catchment carry approximately 1,800,000 tonnes of sediment to the Great Barrier Reef each year. A legacy of historic land clearing and poor grazing management practices, combined with highly erosive soils, make it the second highest contributor of sediment across the Reef's catchments. The region is economically important, supporting 26% of Queensland's beef cattle production, accounting for 75% of land use in the region.

The four-year, \$20 million program aims to stop approximately 20 olympic size swimming pools of sediment a year, keeping it on the land where it belongs, instead of smothering Reef ecosystems. The program is coordinated by the Fitzroy Basin Association and works with landholders across the Fitzroy and Mackenzie catchments. The projects implemented will stabilise and revegetate badly eroded river and stream banks, remediate severe gully erosion, and introduce improved grazing land management practices.



PROJECTS

Reducing Streambank Erosion

Tens of thousands of tonnes of fine sediment each year are being stopped flowing to the Reef by undertaking two major streambank restoration projects on the banks of the Fitzroy River; creating an environment for vegetation to re-establish, to provide natural bank stability and erosion protection in the future.

Best Practice Grazing

Traditional Owners are being supported to implement best practice grazing across the Woorabinda Pastoral Company's seven properties. Sediment losses will be reduced through improved grazing practices for both land condition and water quality improvements with additional co-benefits such as soil carbon storage.

Grazing Land Management and Gully Rehabilitation

Through whole-of-property grazing management practices including active pasture and cover improvement, species diversification, rotational grazing, gully remediation and close monitoring of biomass and herd numbers, graziers are reducing sediment runoff while improving production.

Riparian Zone Rehabilitation

Riparian zones will be protected through fencing off long sections of river and streambanks from grazing and providing off-stream watering points. Natural regeneration in riparian zones will re-establish good vegetation cover to hold the soil in place during flood events.

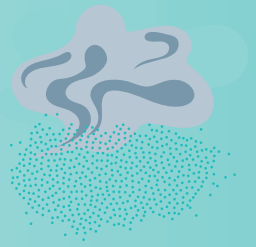
Resilient Riparian Habitats

Working with landholders to advance grazing practices will improve the health and resilience of riparian zones. Habitat restoration and improved riparian connectivity will reduce fine sediments reaching the waters of the Reef from the Fitzroy and Mackenzie sub-catchments.



The Fitzroy Water Quality Program is funded by the partnership between the Australian Government's Reef Trust and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

FITZROY WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

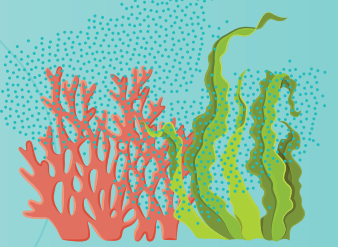


The Fitzroy Water Quality Program continues the years of previous work done to stabilise streambanks and gullies, and improve grazing land management practices

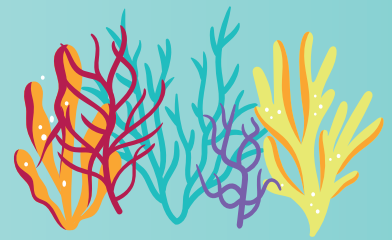
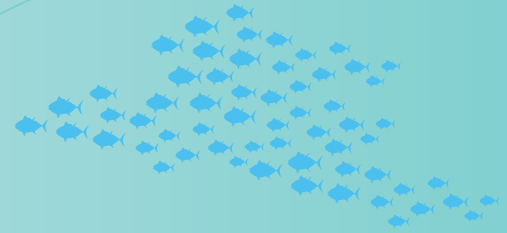


Reducing sediment also reduces phosphorous and dissolved inorganic nitrogen, other pollutants that harm Reef ecosystems

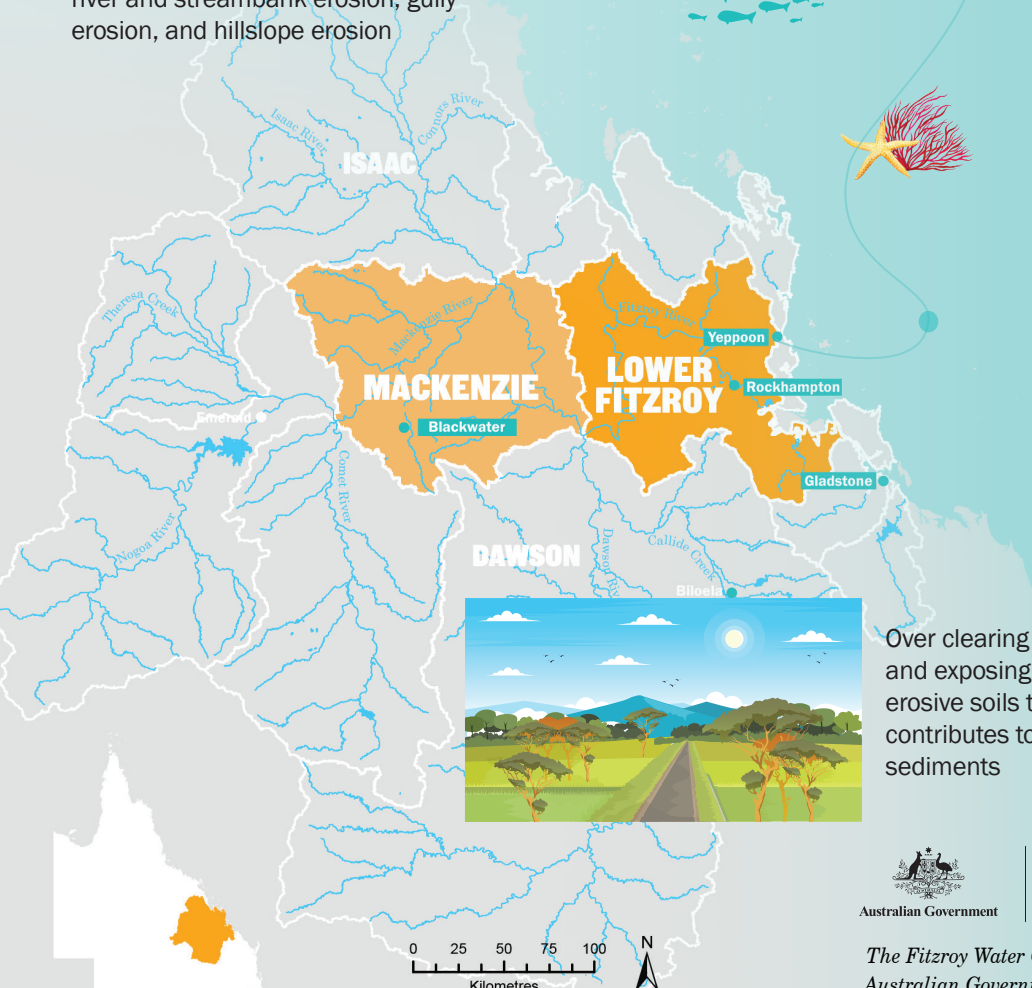
Fine sediment smothers corals and seagrasses, affects filter feeding organisms and hinders coral recruitment



Sources of erosion in the Fitzroy are river and streambank erosion, gully erosion, and hillslope erosion



Of the 35 catchments that flow into the Great Barrier Reef, the Fitzroy region is the second highest contributors of fine sediment



Over clearing vegetation and exposing highly erosive soils to rainfall contributes to loss of fine sediments



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