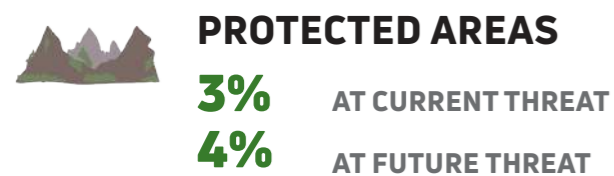
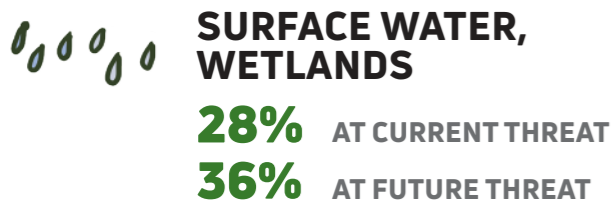
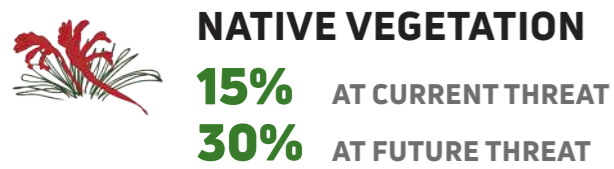


QUEENSLAND'S ASSETS AND THREATS

A summary of findings from EcoFutures, 2021

ASSETS

"Key assets and threats are common between NRM regions"



¹ "there were limitations in data for groundwater which may underestimate areas at threat."

THREATS

"Current threats to natural assets condition will remain the same in the next 10 years but will be intensified by climate change."



FINDINGS

- There are significant limitations on the availability of state wide spatial data on natural resource assets and threats.
- Regional NRM bodies must be engaged as part of priority setting for programs due to local knowledge and regional datasets available.
- Heat maps need refinement using local knowledge and finer-scale regional datasets.
- Better understanding of threats to assets could be a future focus of NRIP investment.



NATURAL RESOURCE ASSET TARGETS AND BENCHMARKS

FINDINGS

- ID of assets and threats is required in regional NRM plans.
- Quantitative targets in regional NRM plans are still under development.
- Monitoring methods established for only some assets.
- Targets do exist for water quality.
- Opportunity for NRIP reporting to be more efficient and effective.
- Statewide targets are not suitable to assess natural asset condition.
- Value in benchmarks and targets for RCE component.

"There is an opportunity to incorporate quantitative benchmarks and targets within regional NRM plans across Queensland. However, the responsibility not only lies with NRM bodies but with Queensland and Australian Governments and other NGOs."



NRIP DELIVERY OF QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES OBJECTIVES: optimise use of land resources; increased and diversified private sector investment in georesources; great careers; positive stakeholder and public sentiment on policies, programs and people; and innovation driven to unlock our data's potential.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES: building Queensland; growing regions; supporting jobs; backing frontline services.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN: backing small business; building Queensland; growing regions; investing in skills; safeguarding our health.

"NRM regions core business is focussed on supporting local economies and natural environments."



ABILITY OF REGIONAL NRM BODIES TO INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT POLICY

NRM BODIES PROVIDE VALUE BY INFLUENCING GOVERNMENT POLICY THROUGH:

- Local leadership building trust and consensus on priorities
- Forums for knowledge, resources, techniques, practical insights
- Adaptation and implementation of policies at local scale, appropriate to circumstances
- ID and integration of local knowledge and concerns into strategic planning (regional NRM plans)
- Identifying conflicts and synergies between policies and advising policy makers.



NRIP HAS IMPROVED NATURAL RESOURCE ASSET CONDITION

EVIDENCE CONFIRMS

- NRIP has made a positive impact on natural resources at a site scale.
- Legacy monitoring of existing NRIP projects is essential for future programs.
- COVID-19 has impacted on the delivery of some projects, but created new and innovative engagement methods and platforms.
- Natural disasters have impacted NRIP projects in some regions, but flexibility in delivery has ensured the successful delivery of these projects.
- Project planning must consider unique seasonality faced by different regions and provide adequate funding to address the scale of regions (i.e. long travel distances between sites).

"NRIP has achieved measurable change in grazing land condition, vegetation condition and sediment reduction as well as improved land practices and reduced environmental threats at a site scale."

"NRIP projects have fostered connections between NRM regions and Traditional Owners which have led to new approaches to mitigating threats and maintaining natural assets"

RESPONDING TO KEY DRIVERS OF CHANGE

- "There are opportunities to improve community capacity building such as utilising Indigenous organisations to deliver projects."
- "Climate change is not currently captured well in NRIP or State Government priorities."
- "Funding would need to be significant to make a landscape-scale impact."

"Overall, Queensland NRM bodies are well established organisations, skilled and with strong connection to local communities... well placed to deliver on future policy and address emerging threats with an appropriate level of continued investment"



RELIANCE ON NRIP FUNDING

10 – 18% NRIP COMPRISES AN AVERAGE 10-18% OF TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR REGIONAL NRM BODIES.

100% All NRM bodies have a diverse range of funding sources.

100% All NRM bodies identified Regional Liaison Officers as a useful asset.

10 / 11 Majority of NRM bodies say NRIP allows them to build and maintain relationships with local landholders, which were difficult to maintain in the past.

100% All on-ground projects have multiple partners and significant in-kind resources, knowledge, capacity. This is a foundation for generating large outcomes for relatively small investment inputs.

