



From the Chair

I'm proud to deliver my first report as Chair. While our previous Chair Charlie Wilson needed to step back from the demands of the role, I'm pleased he has remained a Board Member as he is an excellent ambassador for FBA.

FBA works to strike a balance between industry, development and the environment. In particular, we excel at sharing information that helps farmers and graziers make more sustainable land management decisions.

It is why we were able to successfully deliver our biggest undertaking of on-ground projects to date in 2012-13 through the Reef Rescue component of the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country initiative.

The value of FBA's work, and that of other natural resource management groups, was recognised through the Reef Plan report. It pointed to reductions in sediment reaching the Great Barrier Reef, proof that partnering with land managers to make on-ground changes is making a difference to water quality.

Reef Rescue has been extended for an additional five years so these improvements will become even more significant in the years to come. In addition, funding from the Queensland Government and other grants will help us continue our vital work to improve landscapes, protect native species, wetlands and sensitive coastal areas.

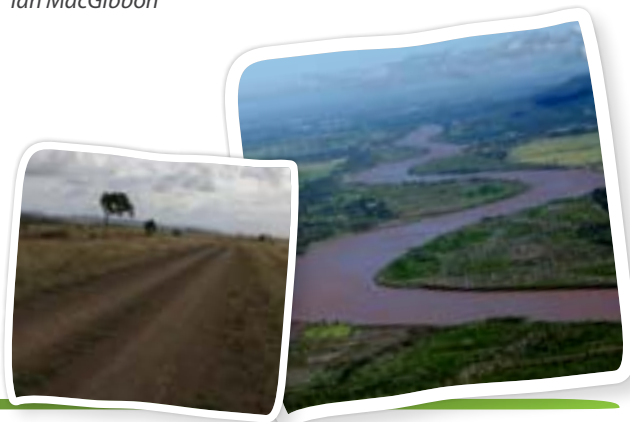
Over the past 12 months our Board has worked closely with senior managers and our delivery partners to review our delivery model. The Board also travelled to Theodore for a regional meeting and enjoyed the opportunity to talk to local land managers at a networking barbecue.

We are very fortunate to have a talented and dedicated team at FBA and I'm excited for the year ahead.

Ian MacGibbon



www.fba.org.au



From the CEO

What a year! In 2012/13 we invested a record amount of funding - \$18.1 million in on-ground projects in the CQ region. This allowed us to work with land managers to develop 450 projects to improve land condition and water quality.

More than 5,600 people have discovered FLOW Visitors Centre, which also celebrated its first anniversary this year. The centre is proving to be a valuable resource for teachers with school groups visiting regularly for tailored education sessions.

Grazing BMP is now in full operation with five modules being delivered, while Grains and Cotton BMPs have continued to expand.

FBA is the host organisation for and a major partner of the Fitzroy Partnership for River Health which delivered the first report card on the collective health of waterways in the Fitzroy Basin. We also helped establish the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership and I took on the role of Chair.

Befitting our role supporting a large, beef-producing region, this year we joined an elite group of industry world leaders as a member of the Global Round Table for Sustainable Beef.

Our Muster event held in October 2012 was a great success and highlighted our achievements and strong partnerships with government, industry, land managers and community groups.

These achievements would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of my staff and our 5 delivery partners (FRCC, CHRRUP, DCCA, Boyne Calliope and Three Rivers). Our delivery partners did an amazing job ensuring our record amount of funding was invested in on-ground projects across the basin, in the biggest year in FBA's history. Congratulations everyone.

Our team looks forward to building on our existing partnerships, and fostering new ones, to continue our vital work to protect and improve the condition of natural assets in Central Queensland.

Paul Birch



www.fba.org.au



2012 - 13 by the numbers



www.fba.org.au

\$18.1 MILLION

Funds delivered by FBA on-ground to manage natural resources and improve water quality.

320

Land managers received training in computer mapping, GPS and pasture budgeting skills.

\$9.8 MILLION

Support for projects from land managers - represents cash, the value of labour and project management.



OVER 6,300 PEOPLE

Have visited FLOW, FBA's Visitors' Centre since opening.

589

Watering points installed to reduce cattle access to creek beds



575 Kilometres of streams and creeks protected.



207,160 HECTARES

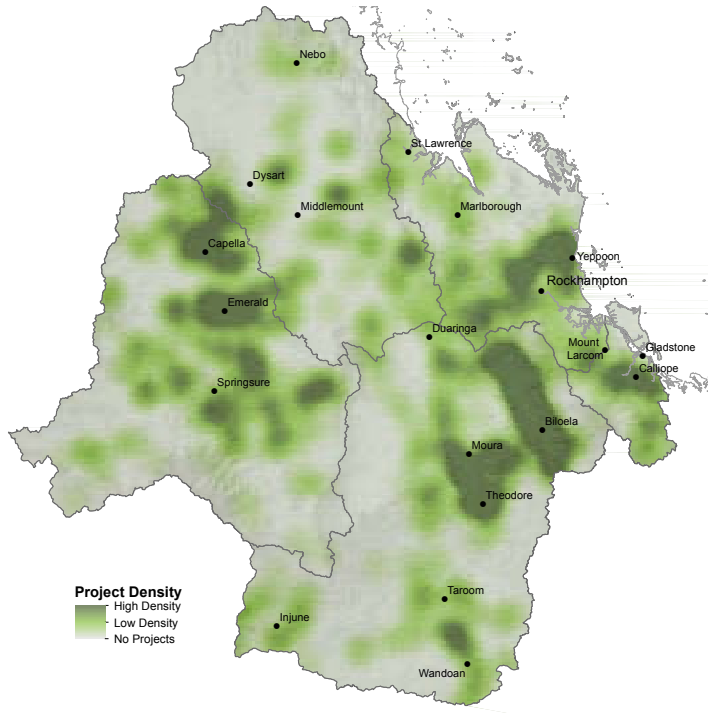
Area of land encompassed by Reef Rescue projects.

That's about 90% of the total area of the A.C.T.



382 Kilometres of pipeline funded for watering systems that protect waterways.

Reef Rescue achievements 2008 - 2013



Project Density calculations are based on the number of FBA projects per 10 km²
Low density: < 3/10 km². High Density ≥ 3/10 km².

OVER **800,000**

Hectares of land encompassed by FBA projects.

\$30 MILLION

Funds delivered by FBA for projects that improved water quality and reef health.

\$24.3 MILLION

Support for projects from land managers. Represents cash, the value of labour and project management.

788 Projects completed to reduce erosion and/or improve water quality.

1,770 Land managers received training in computer mapping, GPS and pasture budgeting skills.



1,640 Kilometres of streams and creeks protected.



About Fitzroy Basin Association



www.fba.org.au

Our vision:

A community that understands, values and uses its natural and cultural resources wisely to coexist in a vibrant and prosperous region.

Our mission:

To achieve resilient, healthy catchments through strong, independent leadership of an engaged regional community.

Our region:

We work across an area more than 156,000 km² in size extending from Nebo in the north to Injune in the south, and west to the Drummond Range. As well as the catchments of the Fitzroy River, we cover adjacent coastal waterways and the Boyne and Calliope Rivers.

We have a plan:

FBA coordinates work to achieve natural resource management targets set out in the regional plan, the Central Queensland Strategy for Sustainability (CQSS), which was developed in consultation with the wider community.

Find out more: www.fba.org.au

Like us on facebook: www.facebook.com/fbafriend

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/FBAupdate

Natural Resource Management

Natural resource management (NRM) is about finding the balance between protecting the environment and land use needs of the community, agriculture and industry.

Fitzroy Basin Association Incorporated (FBA) is one of 14 NRM regional bodies in Queensland and 54 Australia wide that help communities manage natural resources more wisely.

FBA is the voice for sustainable development in central Queensland and has been the leading NRM group in the region since 1994. We invest in on-ground projects, participate in committees and advisory groups, support community consultation, respond to development proposals, and talk directly to governments.

We have years of experience working with the community, graziers, farmers and industry to improve how our landscapes and waterways are used, to ensure they remain in good condition for many more generations!

FBA strives to:

- protect natural assets like habitats and ecosystems, wetlands, plants and animals;
- improve land condition and land management practices; and
- ensure healthy waterways flowing to the reef.



Who does FBA work with?

Delivery Partners: FBA makes on-ground change happen by devolving funds to five delivery partners: Three Rivers Sub Region; Central Highlands Regional Resources Use Planning Cooperative (CHRRUP); Boyne Calliope Sub Region; Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments (FRCC) and the Dawson Catchment Coordinating Association (DCCA).

Australian Government: Through the Caring for our Country funding program, including the Reef Rescue component, and various one-off grants.

Queensland Government: Through Regional NRM Investment Program funding and one-off grants.

Local Government: To provide feedback on planning, deliver projects and raise community awareness.

Farmers and Graziers: To develop, manage and monitor projects on agricultural land - land managers contribute at least 50% of the value of the project and in many cases provide much more in both cash and in-kind.

Industry: To share information that supports sustainable development including our integrated water quality monitoring partnership.

Traditional Owners: By supporting Fitzroy Basin Elders Committee to facilitate gatherings between Traditional Owners and encourage involvement in NRM activities.

Community groups: To complete grass roots natural resource management projects with wide public benefits and build capacity of dedicated volunteers.

Source Fitzroy: Our commercial arm, which provides NRM services to individuals and businesses.

Fitzroy Partnership for River Health: FBA is the host organisation and a major partner.



Get involved, get in touch!



www.fba.org.au



CONTACT YOUR LOCAL GROUP

Three Rivers (Isaac & Mackenzie region):

P: 4985 7511, E: admin.trsr@fba.org.au

CHRRUP (Central Highlands):

P: 4982 2996, E: admin@chrrup.org

DCCA (Dawson region):

P: 4993 1004, E: admin@dcca.net.au

Boyne Calliope Sub Region (Gladstone region):

P: 4975 6555, E: admin.bcsr@fba.org.au

FRCC (Rockhampton & Coast region):

P: 4921 0573, E: admin@frcc.org.au



Statement of Comprehensive Income

For year ended 30 June 2013

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Revenue	22,379,552	13,408,071
Employee expenses	3,448,737	3,405,923
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	260,552	113,604
Rental expense	361,770	379,731
Project expenses	16,535,084	9,466,427
Sundry expenses	84,736	50,345
Net current year surplus	1,688,673	(7,959)
Net current year surplus attributable to members of the entity	1,688,673	(7,959)

Statement of Financial Position

For year ended 30 June 2013

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Current Assets		
Cash on hand	3,177,719	7,697,750
Accounts receivable and other debtors	1,563,175	349,609
Total Current Assets	4,740,894	8,047,359
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	434,427	679,885
Total Non-current Assets	434,427	679,885
TOTAL ASSETS	5,175,321	8,727,244

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other payables	2,929,191	8,251,181
Employee provisions	169,516	164,711
Non-current Liabilities		
Employee provisions	125,325	75,433
Total Liabilities	3,224,032	8,491,325
Net Assets	1,951,289	235,919
Equity		
Retained surplus	1,951,289	235,919
TOTAL EQUITY	1,951,289	235,919

This is an abridged version. A full copy of the Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2013 is available by contacting:
Elyse Riethmuller | (07) 4999 2818 | Elyse.Riethmuller@fba.org.au.

Better beef businesses

A great grazing business needs to be both profitable and sustainable.

Achieving this requires time, money and skill. Juggling the needs of the landscape as well as the stock to achieve these goals isn't easy but FBA can help.

Our network of delivery partners located across the region work with graziers to:

- create a personalised property plan with an up-to-date satellite imagery map.
- provide information and advice on management techniques to reduce erosion, minimise preferential grazing, grow healthier pastures and balance fodder supply with stocking rates.
- offer updates on opportunities such as incentive funding for projects and training events that can help improve infrastructure or management techniques.
- foster participation in our business development program - Grazing Best Management Practices.

To find out more about improving your business give our delivery partner closest to you a call.

For contact details visit www.fba.org.au/our-partners/

CQ Grazing - fast facts

- Almost 80% of land in the Fitzroy Basin is used for grazing.
- More than 3,000 beef cattle businesses operate across over 2.8 million hectares of land.
- Roughly 20% of Queensland's 11 million head of beef cattle are grazed in the Fitzroy Basin.
- Queensland's cattle industry is worth more than \$3.8 billion to Australia's economy, with Fitzroy Basin's grazing industry accounting for around \$900 million alone. (ABS, 2006-07 Agricultural Commodities).



Join Grazing BMP



GRAZING BMP
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Plan for success

Evaluate your business and develop your own action plan to ensure the sustainability of your business for the long-term through Grazing BMP.

You will get free access to the full program of 5 self-assessment modules. These allow you to work through and reflect on your practices and see where you might make a change for the better. You can choose to do this on your own or at workshops with other graziers.

Information collected will always be kept confidential however the aggregated data will help industry to benchmark performance, share its success and advocate for graziers.

The program consists of the following modules:

- Soil health
- Animal health and welfare
- Grazing Land Management
- Animal production
- People and business

Access training and funding

Your action plan may identify management activities or training that aligns to FBA funding. We will help to connect you with these opportunities to improve your knowledge or your business.

Grazing BMP is an initiative of FBA, AgForce and the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Funding is provided by the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program.

Developed in central Queensland, the modules are based on current research, industry knowledge, and input from graziers.

Learn more at www.bmpgrazing.com.au



Farming in CQ

Farmers in central Queensland are the leading adopters of cutting-edge cropping techniques, embracing technology including satellite navigation to farm smarter.

Efficient farms require efficient machinery and land management practices.

Hundreds of farmers across the basin have recognised the benefits of partnering with FBA and our delivery and industry partners to complete our industry-driven business development programs to achieve this goal.

Farmers gain access to advice on:

- assessing their practices and moving towards industry best practice standards,
- improving their property layout,
- improving the efficiency of machinery and spray technology, and
- upcoming training workshops.

For more information on our business development programs please turn over.

CQ Farming - fast facts

- Around 480,000 ha of land in the Fitzroy Basin is used to grow grains, cotton, nuts, flowers, fruit and vegetables.
- The main crops grown on broad acre farms in CQ include wheat, barley, oats, sorghum, soybeans, chickpeas and mung beans.
- A salad made from produce grown in CQ would most likely include capsicum, cucumber, lots of parsley and other herbs like coriander and basil.
- Central Queensland produces a significant amount of Australia's supply of pineapples.
- Cotton crops in the Basin can expect to yield more than 1.5 tonnes of white cotton fibre per hectare – approximately twice the world average.



Improve your farm

Get involved in one of our industry-driven business development programs and make your farm more efficient and sustainable for the years to come.

Learn from the best

You will get access to best practice information to help you improve your business.

Best management practice programs draw on research and the knowledge of industry leaders. They allow you to self-evaluate your enterprise to see how you're performing in key business areas.

You can work through self-assessment modules on your own or in a relaxed workshop setting with other farmers.

Plan for improvement

Identify and prioritise changes and come away with a plan of attack to improve your business by increasing your productivity while caring for the land. If you want your farm to remain viable for generations to come this is a great chance to take a whole-of-property approach to planning.

Access training and funding

Your action plan may identify machinery upgrades, changes to farm layout and management practices or training that aligns to FBA funding. We will help to connect you with these opportunities to improve your knowledge or your business.

Help your industry share its success

Information collected will always be kept confidential however the aggregated data will help industry to benchmark performance, share its success and advocate for farmers.

Partnering with industry

FBA works closely with our industry partners AgForce, Growcom and Cotton Australia, and the extension network within the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to deliver these programs.



www.fba.org.au



Scan QR code for more information.



Protecting our waterways and the reef

Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA) supports a range of activities designed to improve water quality and protect the reef, including:

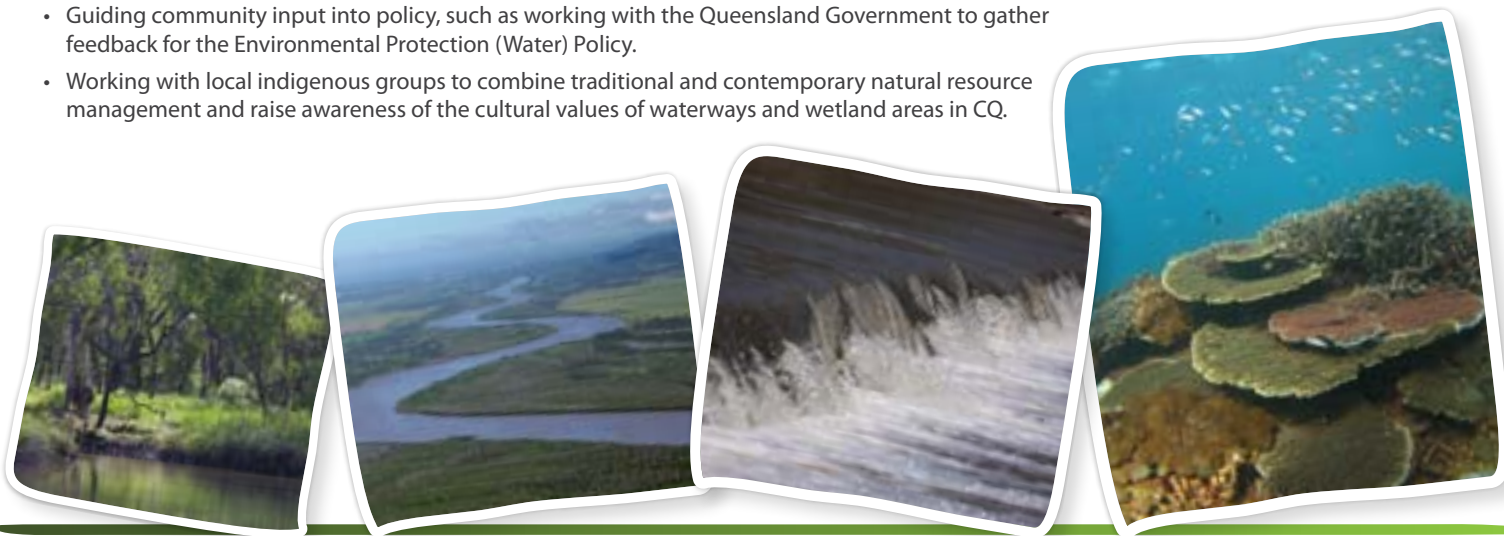
- Helping farmers and graziers protect rivers and wetlands on their property, as well as reduce erosion.
- Supporting work of volunteer groups and councils to keep beaches clean and coastal ecosystems healthy.
- Membership of the Fitzroy Partnership for River Health to contribute to basin-wide monitoring of waterway health.
- Supporting the Australian and Queensland Government's Reef Plan through projects to monitor and model local impacts on the reef.
- Informing development that affects waterways by working with government and industry, and responding to Environmental Impact Statements.
- Guiding community input into policy, such as working with the Queensland Government to gather feedback for the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy.
- Working with local indigenous groups to combine traditional and contemporary natural resource management and raise awareness of the cultural values of waterways and wetland areas in CQ.



www.fba.org.au



Scan QR code for more information.



Internationally significant!

The Fitzroy Basin region is home to a variety of wetlands including rivers, creeks, estuaries, swamps and bays. Some wetlands are recognised worldwide such as Shoalwater and Corio Bays, which are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance – known as the Ramsar convention.

Shoalwater and Corio Bays incorporate 300km of coastline including islands and wetlands, with a remarkably abundant wildlife of tropical and subtropical species.

They play an important role in the environment providing:

- Nursery areas for aquatic species
- Breeding areas and shelter for many bird species
- Zones for sediment deposition and nutrient cycling
- Protection against coastal erosion and storm damage

To find out more about the work FBA does to protect wetlands visit our website.

Protecting wetlands

FBA works in partnership with other organisations and local community groups and their volunteers to protect wetlands in locations across the basin.

FBA receives funding from the Australian Government to reduce critical threats from marine debris to the 1,000 plus species found in our Ramsar wetlands.

Most debris collected is ropes and plastics. These are a serious threat to wildlife as eating or getting tangled in the debris can result in death.





Special plants and animals of the Fitzroy Basin



www.fba.org.au

FBA works to protect special landscapes and species found in the Fitzroy Basin. For some species this is the only place in the world they exist!

Through partnerships with land managers, governments and industry we are protecting thousands of hectares of unique habitats every year across the Fitzroy Basin.

Habitats and species are protected through activities such as:

- weed and pest management,
- fencing,
- research to inform management plans or conservation work, and
- volunteer efforts to monitor species populations.

Fitzroy Basin's special species

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Fitzroy River Turtle | • Australian snubfin dolphin |
| • Capricorn Caves fern | • Kroombit Tinker Frog |
| • Bridled Nailtail Wallaby | • Beach scrub |
| • Byfield Matchstick | • Black breasted button quail |
| • Capricorn Yellow Chat | • Native grasslands |
| • Pisonia grandis | • Brigalow |



Scan QR code for more information.

Rediscovered in CQ

The Bridled Nailtail Wallaby is listed as Endangered, both in Queensland and nationally. It was thought to be extinct before it was rediscovered on a property near Dingo in 1973, later renamed Taunton National Park. Less than 1,000 of these special wallabies remain, so they need some help to boost their numbers.

Wallabies from this population have been translocated over the years to Avocet Nature Refuge and Idalia National Park, where small populations are now established. Captive populations are also maintained by Australian Animals Care and Education Inc. in Queensland, and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy at their Scotia sanctuary in NSW. All populations in Australia originated from wallabies taken from Taunton National Park.

FBA has supported a breeding program and has on-going involvement with monitoring. With support from our project partners, the Bridled Nailtail Wallaby Trust and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, FBA was successful in obtaining \$1.15 M in funding over 5 years from the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund. This project will help restore habitat and improve the resilience of the Bridled Nailtail Wallaby.

Characteristics:

The Bridled Nailtail Wallaby (*Onychogalea fraenata*) is a small macropod weighing up to 6kg.

This cute little wallaby has the appearance of wearing a bridle, with a distinct white line behind its front limbs, a white stripe along the sides of its face and a black stripe down the length of its back.

It has an unusual nail-like spur between 3-6mm long on the tip of its tail, the function of which is unknown. One theory is that it may aid the wallaby to make sharp turns at speed, by acting as a pivot point.





FLOW Fitzroy Basin Association Visitors Centre

You are standing in Australia's second largest
river basin - the Fitzroy River Basin

It is a place where you can see the river and the country
around it. It is a place where you can see the river and the country
around it. It is a place where you can see the river and the country
around it.



FLOW

Fitzroy Basin Association Visitors Centre

Our unique region

- Learn about our special habitats and unique critters - like the Snubfin dolphin, Capricorn Yellow Chat and Kroombit Tinker frog
- Discover the wide range of land uses and industries that drive local growth
- Hear stories of what local communities and farmers are doing to care for our land for future generations

FLOW is the place to go to discover CQ!

www.discovercq.com

VISIT FLOW:

**Old Post Office, Cnr of
East & Denham Streets,
Rockhampton**

**Tuesday to Friday
10am to 4pm
(Closed Public Holidays)**

Fun, free and interactive - an adventure for all ages.

Informative & fun

All ages will enjoy FLOW:

- Engaging information panels
- Fantastic photos
- Huge touchscreen map
- 'Bob the Barra' board game
- Entertaining videos
- Birdwatching binoculars
- 'Flow and Tell' - record your own story



Teacher resource

- Bring along your class for a tailored education session that meets curriculum requirements
- From prep through to Grade 12
- School bus subsidy available to schools who meet criteria - ask us how



Get in touch

Please contact FLOW to:

- Arrange special interest or adult group tours
- Organise school excursions
- Provide feedback
- Join our e-newsletter
- Book a business meeting

E: flow@fba.org.au

P: (07) 4999 2800



A leading voice

FLOW Visitors Centre is an initiative of the Fitzroy Basin Association Incorporated (FBA).

