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### **Fitzroy Partnership for River Health welcomes new Executive Officer**

Fitzroy Partnership for River Health Co-Chair, Daniel Yates has welcomed Dr. Leigh Stitz as the new Executive Officer for the partnership.

“Leigh will drive the future directions of the Fitzroy Partnership for River Health, a collective that sees members from government, agriculture, resources, industry, research and community investing and working together to deliver an annual report card on the health of the Fitzroy Basin,” Mr Yates said.

“With a Doctor of Philosophy focused on freshwater ecology under her belt and an extensive background in aquatic resource management including water quality and data analysis, Leigh is well placed to meet the challenges of waterway health reporting and ensure the partnership’s ongoing success,” he said.

Dr. Stitz said she is impressed by the level of expertise and experience involved in producing such a high standard of waterway health reporting to the community.

“I am excited by what the future holds for the Fitzroy Partnership for River Health, we are very fortunate to have such a significant program that reports on water health at such a large scale,” Dr Stitz said.

“The Fitzroy Basin is diverse ecosystem and I hope to improve people’s understanding of the importance of this system, not only in central Queensland, but across Australia.

“It is absolutely crucial to sample and monitor our waterways regularly. This provides data that is collated and assessed to track the ongoing health of our freshwater ecosystems.

“As we track this data over time, the more important the story becomes as long-term trends can form future management decisions for our waterways.

“With population growth and increased pressures on our waterways, it has never been more important to ensure we are tracking changes across our basin and independently reporting on them,” she said.

Fitzroy Partnership for River Health will release the eighth report card on the health of Fitzroy Basin waterways at the end of May.

**ENDS**

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