



Katy Steele, Chair FPRH

## Message from the Chair

This year we released our 11<sup>th</sup> ecosystem health report card and are encouraged the trend over the last 11 years shows the Fitzroy Basin is resilient. Following our ten year milestone last year, our Science team have turned their attention to our 10-year data review to enhance our program design, and our communications and engagement team planned and staged a 10-year celebration event incorporating a Water Management Round Table and Gala Dinner.

We are now the third longest running Report Card group in the world, and it is imperative that for Fitzroy Partnership to remain relevant into the future we must not only continue to assess and report on local waterways for the community but widen our scope to provide a platform for collaboration for partners towards better water management in the Fitzroy Basin.

We were privileged to have the involvement of First Nations representatives at our Water Management Round Table focused on 'Incorporating cultural values in water management' and were proud to support involvement in FBA's CQ Big Data Forum. While we acknowledge we have a long way to go, we hope these small steps will allow us to continue the conversation and work towards better understanding of cultural values and incorporating these into our report card.

With two Science Project Officers engaged in 2021-22, we have been more active with school groups and at community events. We are always eager to support our partners in their efforts as well and will always consider events in the regions as a priority.

I thank our valued partners for their continuing dedication to Fitzroy Partnership for River Health over the past decade. I am confident that with a strong team and a clear vision for the future, the Partnership will continue to contribute to community understanding of waterways and better water management outcomes.

## Our commitment to Fitzroy First Nations

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters within the Fitzroy Basin where we conduct our reporting and pay our respects to them, their cultures and Elders past, present and emerging.

We pledge an increased commitment to understanding and incorporation of cultural values in water management in the Fitzroy Basin.

- Strong support of 1 FBA Indigenous Engagement Coordinator
- First Nations map incorporating 17 First Nations groups produced with agreement of Traditional Owners
- First Nations panel session at Water Management Round Table focusing on 'Incorporation of cultural values in water management in the Fitzroy Basin.'

Strong feedback from panel members and attendees:

**"Still a long way to go, but in the right direction"**

**"Forging new pathways in our region"**

**"Really changed my view"**

**"The feedback responses are fabulous, more than I expected."**



## Our Achievements

### Communications & engagement

**7** Major Partners and 16 Partners



**2000** report cards distributed to stakeholders and community

**13** Community and school groups events and activities educating more than 3000 people about waterway health



More than **51,300** people viewed FPRH news and information on Facebook during 2021/2022



**9** mainstream media reports in print, online and Facebook articles featuring work of Fitzroy Partnership for River Health

### Platform for collaboration

**1** Water Management Round Table held



**10** Panel members and speakers **>70** attendees to contribute to strategic direction for Fitzroy Partnership for River Health

### Third longest

running Report Card group in the world in 2022



### Science

11th Ecosystem Health Report Card released for 2020-21



**483,400** results across **215** sites

assessing the health of some **40,000 kilometres** of waterways for 20-21 Report Card

**C** High C grade overall for 2020-21

**3** new indicators measuring marine condition for 2020-21 year



**11 years** of data to show long-term trends for Basin

**6th HeART of the Basin Scholarship** awarded providing \$3,000 to support waterway health research in the Fitzroy region



**1** Human Dimensions survey undertaken in the Fitzroy region securing **500 respondents**



# Partnership linkages

Fitzroy Partnership for River Health is relevant to a range of regional plans and policies and our reporting links at the local, regional, State and National level. Some of these include:

## Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan

Our work aligns with Water Quality Action 23, to expand integrated water quality monitoring and report card programs in the Fitzroy Basin priority catchment.



## Reef Water Quality Protection Plan 2013

Our report card is aligned to the GBR report card and utilises relevant data from monitoring programs within the Region.



Our reporting meets the requirements of the Queensland **State of the Environment** Indicators to measure the following six overarching Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets: good health and wellbeing, clean water and sanitation, responsible consumption and protection, life below water, life on land and partnerships for the goals.



## Water Quality Improvement Plan

The Partnership utilises the environmental condition information from the WQIP to ensure consistency for management priorities, environmental values and ecologically relevant targets.



We align our monitoring, management and research strategies with **CQSS2030 - Fitzroy Basin Association's Central Queensland Sustainability Strategy 2030** to provide a joint strategic direction for ongoing planning, practice and change.



We work closely with similar **monitoring and reporting initiatives** in South-East Queensland, Mackay, Gladstone, Townsville and the Wet Tropics. For the 2022 'Regional Reef Partnerships Report Card', Fitzroy Partnership for River Health attained an 'A' Grade.



## International Report Card Network

The Partnership founded and continues to contribute as a member of this network of report card practitioners.



## Major Partners



BHP Mitsubishi Alliance



Queensland Government



Australian Government



## Partners



## Our team

### Management Committee

Katy Steele (Chair) <i>BHP BMA</i>	Cr Donna Kirkland <i>RRC</i>	Patrice Brown <i>CQG Consulting</i>
Elyse Riethmuller (Deputy Chair) <i>FBA</i>	Frances Hayter <i>QRC</i>	Sam Tarlinton <i>DNRME</i>
Rachel D'Arcy <i>OGBR</i>	Tim Kendrick <i>Anglo American</i>	Steve Downes <i>Glencore</i>
Adam Christison <i>Origin Energy</i>	John Anger <i>Peabody</i>	Tania Kennedy <i>Kestrel</i>
	Nigel Burnett <i>Cotton Australia</i>	



### Independent Science Panel

Assoc Prof Eva Abal (Chair)	Dr Barbara Robson
Assoc Prof Sue Vink	Assoc Prof Helen Stratton
Dr Roger Shaw	Assoc Prof Nicole Flint
Dr John Platten	Catherine Jones

### Staff

Dr Leigh Stitz
Braden Mitchell
Eva Duerkop
Nicole Dendle



### Statement of Income and Expenditure Fitzroy Partnership for River Health

2021-22 (GST Ex)	
Total income	\$1,053,660
Total expenditure	\$666,630

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