

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Queensland Already Has the Capability

The opportunity is not to create new capability — it is to recognise and partner with experienced Australian organisations already delivering practical environmental stewardship.

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The most effective environmental outcomes are achieved when government works with organisations that already possess the capability, experience and commitment to deliver practical environmental stewardship.

**Better Environmental Outcomes**

- ✓ Restore native vegetation and ecological communities
- ✓ Reduce invasive weed impacts before they escalate
- ✓ Improve biodiversity, water quality and landscape resilience
- ✓ Deliver measurable environmental outcomes through early intervention

**Australian Capability**

- ✓ Australian Made & Owned
- ✓ Manufactured in regional Queensland
- ✓ Over 20 years of practical vegetation management experience
- ✓ National capability in planning, mapping, stewardship and technical support

**Smarter Implementation**

- ✓ Reduce duplication between State and Commonwealth systems
- ✓ Recognise accredited environmental stewardship activities
- ✓ Focus on measurable environmental outcomes
- ✓ Leverage existing Australian capability rather than recreate it

**WHY THIS MATTERS**

Queensland already has organisations with the manufacturing capability, technical expertise and environmental stewardship experience required to support the successful implementation of the EPBC reforms.

By partnering with experienced Australian organisations, Government can improve environmental outcomes while strengthening regional manufacturing, supporting local jobs and delivering more efficient environmental regulation.



THE QUEENSLAND CHALLENGE

Invasive Weeds Threaten Queensland's Environment and Productivity

Queensland's unique environmental assets and productive landscapes are under increasing pressure from invasive weeds.

QUEENSLAND'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS

-  13 distinct bioregions
-  5 World Heritage Areas
-  Ramsar wetlands
-  14,000+ native plant species
-  Over half of Australia's native reptile and frog species

THE GROWING IMPACT

-  Biodiversity decline
-  Pasture productivity losses
-  Increased erosion and waterway impacts
-  Increased bushfire fuel loads
-  Higher long-term public and private costs



Queensland's greatest environmental challenge is not responsible vegetation management – it is the continued spread of invasive weeds.



INVASIVE WEEDS

Widespread and expanding

-  Lantana
-  Rubber Vine
-  Giant Rat's Tail Grass
-  Chinee Apple
-  African Lovegrass

 **MILLIONS OF HECTARES AFFECTED**
Across Queensland

 **BILLIONS IN PRODUCTIVITY LOSSES**
Reduced agricultural output and land value

 **BIODIVERSITY DECLINE**
Native species and habitats at risk

 **INCREASING BUSHFIRE RISK**
Higher fuel loads across rural landscapes



Better Regulation • Better Stewardship • Better Environmental Outcomes

Sources: Queensland Productivity Commission Call for Submissions, 2026; Queensland environmental and economic context.

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ACTIVE STEWARDSHIP

Early Intervention Delivers Better Outcomes

Active environmental stewardship intervenes early, manages risk at the right scale and delivers lasting environmental and economic benefits.

BENEFITS OF EARLY ACTION

-  Smaller infestations and lower environmental impact
-  Lower chemical, labour and land management costs
-  Higher restoration success and landscape resilience
-  Protect biodiversity, waterways and soil health
-  Reduce bushfire risk and protect community assets



INTEGRATED BENEFITS

-  **Protect Biodiversity**
Conserve native species and ecological communities.
-  **Protect Waterways**
Improve water quality and reduce sediment runoff.
-  **Reduce Bushfire Risk**
Lower fuel loads and support landscape resilience.
-  **Improve Productivity**
Protect pasture productivity and land value.
-  **Restore Landscapes**
Build long-term environmental and economic resilience.

“ What we do today on our land, shapes the landscapes, communities and opportunities of tomorrow.

Active stewardship today delivers a better Queensland for future generations.



AUSTRALIAN CAPABILITY ALREADY EXISTS

Proven Australian Capability Supporting Environmental Stewardship

Queensland already has organisations with the expertise, infrastructure and experience to deliver practical environmental outcomes today.



AUSTRALIAN MADE & OWNED

Proudly Australian owned with regional investment and jobs.



MANUFACTURED IN QUEENSLAND

High quality products manufactured in regional Queensland.



QUALITY ASSURED

Robust QA processes and full APVMA compliance.



20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

Over two decades of practical vegetation management experience.



TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

GIS mapping, planning, EPBC support and technical guidance.



END-TO-END DELIVERY

Research, manufacture, planning, application support and monitoring.



WHY THIS MATTERS

Australian organisations already possess the **manufacturing capability**, **technical expertise** and **environmental stewardship experience** required to support the successful implementation of the EPBC reforms.

Partnering with experienced Australian organisations will improve environmental outcomes while strengthening regional manufacturing, supporting local jobs and delivering more efficient environmental regulation.



Australian capability.
Practical stewardship.
Better environmental outcomes.



Leveraging existing Australian capability is the most efficient and effective way to protect Queensland's environment and support regional communities.



Better Regulation

• **Better Stewardship**

• **Better Environmental Outcomes**

Partnering today for a sustainable Queensland tomorrow.

REAL OUTCOMES

Environmental Outcomes that Last

Early intervention and practical stewardship have delivered measurable environmental and economic benefits.



ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES

- Reduced invasive weed presence
- Improved native vegetation and habitat
- Enhanced biodiversity and ecological resilience
- Better water quality and healthier landscapes



ECONOMIC OUTCOMES

- Lower long-term management costs
- Improved land productivity and land value
- Reduced risk of weed spread and fire impact
- Stronger regional environmental and economic outcomes



“

The early intervention will make a real difference on our property and across the region. Better decisions now will lower weed pressure and provide healthier outcomes to the country, that's the outcome that really matters.

JW Betts

(Chelmer Station)



500+
Hectares Treated



30%+
Native Biodiversity Improvement



Improved
Water Quality



Lower
Ongoing Management Costs



Better Regulation • Better Stewardship • Better Environmental Outcomes

Delivering practical environmental outcomes for Queensland communities and generations.

AUSTRALIAN STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Delivering Measurable Outcomes for Queensland

Australian organisations are already delivering practical environmental stewardship at scale across Queensland.

Real projects. Real outcomes. Lasting impact.



INVASIVE WEED MANAGEMENT

Targeted control of priority weeds across grazing lands, riparian zones and sensitive environments.



NATIVE VEGETATION RESTORATION

Supporting regeneration and recovery of native species and ecological communities.



WATERWAY AND CATCHMENT HEALTH

Reducing erosion, sediment and nutrient run-off to improve water quality and habitat condition.



BUSHFIRE RISK REDUCTION

Strategic fuel management to reduce risk and protect communities, infrastructure and ecosystems.



MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Ongoing monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management to ensure continuous improvement.



Across Queensland, Australian organisations are already investing in people, infrastructure and innovation to deliver practical environmental stewardship and better outcomes for our land and communities.



WHY THIS MATTERS

Measurable environmental outcomes demonstrate that Queensland already has the capability, systems and experience required to support the EPBC reforms and deliver better environmental outcomes.



Proven Results

Delivering measurable environmental benefits across diverse landscapes.



Risk Managed

Science-based planning and targeted intervention reduce environmental risk.



Community Benefit

Local jobs, regional investment and strong community partnerships.



Sustainable Impact

Long-term stewardship delivers outcomes that strengthen Queensland's future.



Practical stewardship today creates a more resilient and sustainable Queensland tomorrow.



Better Regulation • Better Stewardship • Better Environmental Outcomes

Stronger partnerships. Smarter implementation.
Better outcomes for Queensland.

SMARTER REGULATION

A Smarter Way Forward for the EPBC Reforms

Queensland can lead the way by implementing a risk-based, outcomes-focused approach that leverages existing Australian capability and reduces unnecessary regulatory duplication.

THE BENEFITS OF A SMARTER APPROACH

**BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES**

Protect species and habitats, improve landscape resilience and safeguard ecosystems.

**STRONGER REGIONAL ECONOMY**

Support local jobs, regional investment and Australian manufacturing.

**MORE EFFICIENT REGULATION**

Reduce duplication, cut red tape and lower compliance costs for industry.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Work with local communities and landholders to deliver lasting outcomes.

**LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY**

Build resilient landscapes and communities for future generations.



By leveraging existing Australian capability and focusing on measurable outcomes, Queensland can lead the way in delivering practical environmental stewardship and stronger communities.

**PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESS**

These principles will ensure the EPBC reforms deliver better environmental outcomes while supporting Queensland's communities, industries and regional economy.

**FOCUS ON OUTCOMES**

Prioritise measurable environmental outcomes, not just process.

**RISK-BASED APPROACH**

Direct regulatory effort to high-risk activities and areas.

**RECOGNISE ACCREDITED STEWARDSHIP**

Leverage accredited Australian organisations with proven track records.

**LEVERAGE AUSTRALIAN CAPABILITY**

Partner with experienced Australian organisations already delivering results.

**DRIVE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

Use data, monitoring and adaptive management to improve outcomes over time.



Smarter regulation means better outcomes for Queensland's environment, economy and future generations.



THE OPPORTUNITY AHEAD

Strong Partnerships. Stronger Outcomes.

Queensland has the opportunity to lead Australia by partnering with experienced organisations that deliver practical environmental stewardship and measurable outcomes for communities and future generations.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR QUEENSLAND

**PARTNER WITH
EXPERIENCE**

Leverage organisations with proven capability, systems and stewardship track records.

**FOCUS ON
MEASURABLE OUTCOMES**

Prioritise environmental outcomes that can be measured, monitored and demonstrated.

**REDUCE DUPLICATION
AND COST**

Streamline regulation through risk-based approaches and recognition of accredited stewardship.

**STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES
AND REGIONS**

Support local jobs, regional manufacturing and long-term environmental and economic resilience.

**DELIVER A POSITIVE
LEGACY**

Build a Queensland that is environmentally healthy, productively strong and future ready.



The EPBC reforms are an opportunity to build a smarter regulatory system that achieves greater environmental outcomes with less duplication and more collaboration.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

To maximise the benefits of the EPBC reforms, we recommend that Queensland:

1**RECOGNISE EXISTING AUSTRALIAN CAPABILITY**

Partner with Australian organisations that already deliver environmental stewardship at scale.

2**ADOPT A RISK-BASED, OUTCOMES-FOCUSED APPROACH**

Focus regulatory effort on high risk activities while facilitating low risk, high impact stewardship.

3**SUPPORT ACCREDITED STEWARDSHIP**

Recognise and incentivise activities that deliver proven environmental outcomes.

4**STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION**

Ensure ongoing collaboration between Government, industry, landholders and communities.

5**MEASURE, REPORT AND IMPROVE**

Use data, monitoring and transparent reporting to demonstrate results and drive continuous improvement.



THANK YOU

PARTNERING FOR A BETTER QUEENSLAND

Queensland already has the capability, experience and commitment to deliver practical environmental stewardship and measurable outcomes.

By working together, we can deliver a smarter regulatory system that protects our environment, strengthens our economy and supports Queensland communities for generations to come.



THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

We look forward to continuing to work with the Queensland Productivity Commission and Government to achieve better regulation, better stewardship and better environmental outcomes for Queensland.

OUR COMMITMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Committed to delivering practical stewardship that improves environmental outcomes.



AUSTRALIAN CAPABILITY

Proudly Australian made, owned and operated with national expertise and local understanding.



STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Working collaboratively with Government, industry, landholders and communities.



MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

Focused on data, monitoring and continuous improvement to deliver real results.



A BETTER QUEENSLAND

Building a resilient, productive and sustainable future for Queensland.



Better Regulation



Better Stewardship



Better Environmental Outcomes

Thank you.

Together, we can build a better Queensland.