

REEF PROTECTION REGULATIONS

Compliance: Agricultural Environmentally Relevant Activity (ERA) standard

This affects your business if you are a grazier in the Wet Tropics, Burdekin, Mackay Whitsunday, Fitzroy and Burnett Mary regions from 1/12/2022

PRA maintains the Reef Regulations are an unnecessary imposition. The following is FYI about the regulations compulsory requirements.

A glovebox resource compiled by: Property Rights Australia 2023

Please consult the relevant government website/fact sheets for detailed information. Especially the details on cropping a new area not farmed for commercial return, in the previous 10 years. Pasture renovation and planting pasture species are not included as new cropping while for exclusive property use.



Ground Cover

- ❖ To comply with the standard, you must take actions to retain or improve land condition which is assessed by the amount of ground cover at 30 September yearly.
- ❖ 50% and above requires ongoing maintenance
- ❖ 50% to 20% land is considered to be in poor condition
- ❖ measures must be implemented to improve to 50%
- ❖ Less than 20% is considered degraded condition measures must be implemented to improve to 50%
- ❖ Exceptions:
 - ❖ Land traditionally unable to achieve 50%
 - ❖ Severe gully erosion or scalding, undertake preventative measures to stop expansion

Measures that may improve land condition

(but not limited to these prescriptions)

Herd Management

- ❖ Adjust stocking rate to long term carrying capacity
- ❖ Utilise forage budgets to assess short term stocking rate
- ❖ Wet season spelling
- ❖ Managing preferential grazing: more fencing, more water points, move water points, manage grazing pressure with attractants eg. lick placement

Measures that may improve land condition

(but not limited to these prescriptions)

Infrastructure and Improvements

- ❖ Managing linear infrastructure to minimise erosion
- ❖ Establishing diversion banks
- ❖ Sowing pastures
- ❖ Managing weeds
- ❖ Additional fencing / water points / lick stations



Relevant activity records

Records for grazing or cropping lands should include:

- ❖ document relevant activity within 3 days
- ❖ record name of product (fertiliser, herbicide etc)
- ❖ application rate (kg/ha, L/ha)
- ❖ percentage of nitrogen and phosphorus for fertiliser
- ❖ must be kept for 6 years

Invoices for inputs:

- ❖ fertiliser
- ❖ chemicals

Location of the activity:

- ❖ property address(es)
- ❖ farm identification number(s) (if applicable)
- ❖ a list of the cadastral lots included in all the farms within the agricultural enterprise

Person details:

- ❖ person(s) who carries out the agricultural ERA
- ❖ name of person making record
- ❖ company name (if applicable)
- ❖ postal address

