

# 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

