



Reducing Reef Water Pollution

Evaluating Queensland's Reef Water Quality Investments and Impacts



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Cover image: Turbid river plume emerging from the Russell-Mulgrave river mouth following several days of heavy rainfall in Feb 2015.

Paying Respect

The Australian Marine Conservation Society acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and sea country across Australia and the Torres Strait, who have enduring connections to country, sea and community.

We pay our respects to Elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today. AMCS celebrates the continuous living cultures of First Australians acknowledge the important role they play in the life of this country.



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The Queensland Reef Water Quality Program

Water pollution from land-based runoff remains one of the most manageable threats to the long-term health and resilience of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.¹ Since 2003, the Australian and Queensland Governments have worked together to reduce water pollution flowing to the Great Barrier Reef, through a series of joint management plans² that set targets for reducing pollutant loads entering the Reef's waters, underpinned by the best available scientific knowledge (Waterhouse et al., 2024).

While the Queensland Government has been involved in delivering the joint water quality management plans since 2003, a dedicated state program was not established until 2015. The Queensland Reef Water Quality Program (QRWQP) was introduced to strengthen governance and accelerate progress, following findings from the Queensland Audit Office, recommendations by the Reef Water Quality Science Taskforce, and ongoing scrutiny by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (Queensland Audit Office, 2015; State of Queensland, 2016; Zethoven, 2021). The program coordinates and funds actions to achieve the water quality targets established under the consecutive joint management plans. The program is overseen by the Office of the Great Barrier Reef and World Heritage, which reports annually on the program's investments.

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive review of the QRWQP between the financial years 2015/16 and 2023/24. It presents an overview of publicly available investment data, evaluates the effectiveness of current programs and regulatory measures in achieving water quality targets based on publicly available information, and concludes with a set of key recommendations designed to accelerate progress towards these targets.

The QRWQP's budget is scheduled for renewal for another five-year term in mid-2026, warranting an assessment of the program's direction, investment priorities, and overall effectiveness in preserving the health of the Great Barrier Reef.

¹ Queensland Reef Water Quality Program: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/coasts-waterways/reef/reef-program>

² Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan: <https://www.reefplan.qld.gov.au/>



Analysis of government investments

A detailed analysis of investment allocation is fundamental to evaluating program priorities and identifying potential misalignments between spending and strategic goals. The allocation of public funds reveals a heavy reliance on voluntary practice change initiatives at the expense of direct interventions like enforcement of regulations and catchment restoration.

Since 2003, the combined investment from the Queensland and Australian Governments to reduce Reef water pollution totals \$2,248.5M, with the Queensland Government contributing \$964.8M and the Australian Government contributing \$1,283.8M (Australian Marine Conservation Society, 2025). This combined investment represents less than one-quarter of the estimated costs to reach the water quality targets (Alluvium, 2016; Australian Marine Conservation Society, 2025).

At the conclusion of the financial year 2014/15, the Queensland Government had invested a total of \$350M into its water quality program (State of Queensland, 2016). However, no publicly available investment reports were filed until 2015 and there was no requirement to report underspend or carryover into subsequent years (Queensland Audit Office, 2015). This review therefore focuses on the period between the financial years 2015/16 and 2023/24, for which public investment reports are available.³

For the purpose of this review, a set of six broad investment categories were created loosely based on the investment streams reported in the QRWQP investment reports and with the aim to distinguish funding allocation into the main components that make up the program (Appendix, Table A1 and A2). All itemised government investments reported in annual investment plans were allocated to one of the six categories based on the description of the activities and intended outcomes of the investments provided. An additional category was created for investments that could not be linked to providing water quality improvements based on the public information provided (Appendix, Table A4).

Program investments since 2015

The majority of investments since 2015 (Figure 1 and Table 1) have been directed toward practice change programs and initiatives (31.4%) compared to repairing degraded catchment ecosystems through restoration projects (5.5%) and supporting projects that work with industries and communities to deliver a range of local on-the-ground activities (15.4%). Maintaining essential monitoring, modelling and reporting of outcomes for water quality and Reef ecosystem health accounted for one quarter of investments (25.9%). This allocation underscores a primary focus on improving agricultural practices as the principal lever for improving water quality over the last decade.

³ QRWQP investment plans, reports and resources: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/coasts-waterways/reef/reef-program/investment-plans-reports-resources>

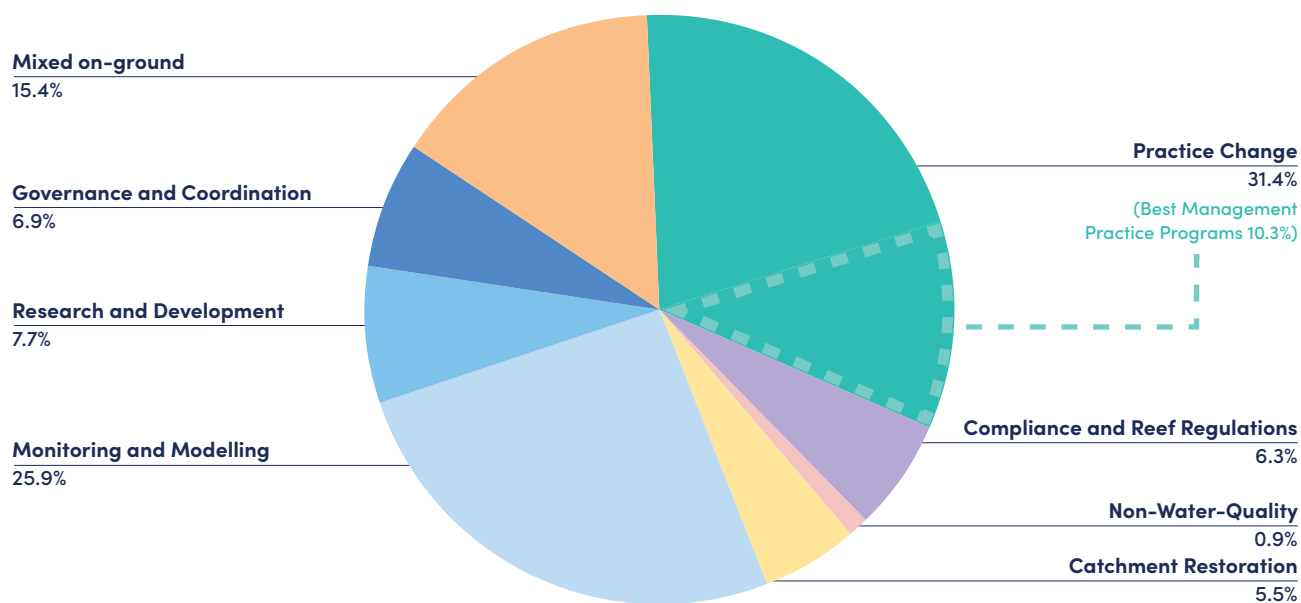


Figure 1. Total investments from 2015 to 2024 by funding category based on QRWQP annual investment reports.

Table 1: Total Queensland Reef Water Quality Program Investments between 2015/16-2023/24.

See Appendix, Tables A1 and A2 for definitions of investment categories and detailed investments per financial year.

Category	Investment in \$AUD
Practice change	137,191,086
Monitoring and modelling	113,026,925
Mixed on-ground	67,324,669
Research and development	33,761,275
Governance and coordination	30,072,932
Compliance and Reef regulations	27,734,537
Catchment restoration	24,223,949
non-Water Quality related	3,867,432
Total	437,202,805

Investments into practice change

Between 2012 and 2015 the Queensland Government invested a total of \$30M into Best Management Practice (BMP) programs and extension programs as part of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) Reef Water Quality program, which also included a science component (State of Queensland, 2016). Since 2015, the Queensland Government has invested over \$137M into voluntary practice change initiatives, including more than \$45M for industry-led BMP programs, and over \$40M for extension work (Table 2).⁴

Table 2: Breakdown of practice change investment from 2015/16 to 2023/24.

Program	Investment in \$AUD
BMP programs	34,712,124
Hort360	1,675,250
Banana	1,497,558
Smartcane	2,400,000
GRASS	4,724,184
Extension work	40,403,629
Other Practice change programs	42,960,605
Total for year	137,191,086

Investments are categorised into general BMP programs (any investments described as supporting BMP programs, where the specific BMP program was not specified), specific BMP programs (including Hort360, Banana, Smartcane, and GRASS), any investments related to extension programs, and other practice change programs (investments into practice change initiatives not specific to any particular BMP program, including the Reef Credits Scheme and the Science in the Paddock, Cane Changer, and Cane to Creek projects).

⁴ Extension work refers to providing technical support to enable landholders to adopt improved agricultural practices.



Evaluation of voluntary practice change programs

The Queensland Government has relied on voluntary, industry-led Best Management Practice (BMP) programs as a primary tool to encourage improved land management practices. The BMP programs are designed to support farmers to identify and adopt practices to improve the long-term profitability and sustainability of their businesses, while also contributing to better water quality outcomes for the Great Barrier Reef (State of Queensland 2018). In 2026, the QRWQP funding is due for renewal for another 5 year period, highlighting the need to examine the opportunities and limitations of BMPs and their capacity to contribute to future pollution reductions.

A previous review of Reef water quality programs concluded that only a small share of landholders adopted practices for improved water quality above minimum standards and that voluntary practice change would be too slow and insufficiently widespread to significantly reduce end of catchment pollution loads (State of Queensland, 2016). A recent evaluation of BMP programs further suggested that their effectiveness is limited by focusing on meeting minimum industry standards as the end goal, offering little incentive for landholders to achieve additional benefits to reef water quality beyond the minimum requirements (Billing and Higham, 2025). Despite significant investment into industry led BMP programs, the Reef 2050 WQIP target of 90% of land being managed under best practice by 2025 was not achieved (Waterhouse et al., 2017, State of Queensland, 2024). For example, the flagship BMP program for the sugarcane industry (SmartCane) reached 44% of the total cane land in all of Queensland by 2025, which is less than half of the 2025 target.

Reporting and transparency

Overall, accreditation through BMP programs has been low. Publicly available data on participation and accreditation is inconsistent, with significant reporting deficits across multiple programs, reported in Table 3, resulting in a lack of evidence linking program participation to reductions in water pollution (State of Queensland, 2016; State of Queensland, 2024). Although publicly available documentation for BMPs include some management practices that could result in improved water quality, the use of ambiguous and optional language (e.g., use of the words “if possible” or “where practical”) makes it difficult to assess to what extent these practices are implemented and whether they result in water quality improvements (Billing and Higham, 2025). Without clear guidance and incentives for continuous improvement farmers are unlikely to continue improving their practices beyond minimum standards, making it difficult to assess additional water pollution reductions achieved by BMPs (Billing and Higham, 2025). Assessing program effectiveness is further hindered by the challenges of accounting for practice disadoption, implementation failures, and long delays in achieving widespread adoption of improved farming methods (Alluvium, 2019; Murray Prior et al., 2024). As a result, tracking progress and assessing the cost-effectiveness of practice change programs remains impractical, which raises questions of their success and the return on public investment (Coggan et al., 2024; Eberhard et al., 2021). Although BMP programs could play an important role in improving environmental stewardship in land management practice, there is little publicly available data demonstrating their effectiveness to produce measurable reductions in water pollution since 2003.

Table 3: Deficits in reporting BMP program performance, based on cumulative accreditation metrics between 2016 and 2025.

	Accreditation	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Recognised accreditation programs											
SmartCane	Businesses	118	206	261	402	560			700		799
	hectares				95,000	125,000			157,739	170,928	173,285
	% area					30	35	35	39	43.7	44
Banana FreshCare	Businesses								94		
	hectares								9,200		
	% area								65		
Acknowledged practice change projects											
GRASS	Businesses						22	150	20		
	hectares						149,575				
	% area						0.48				
Other BMP programs											
Grazing BMP	Businesses	52	87	102	114						
	hectares				1,527,868						
	% area										
Hort360 Reef	Businesses							128	177		
	hectares							19,500	29,945		
	% area										

Grey cells = no available data. Blank cells = program/certification not active. GRASS: Number of projects funded per year - not cumulative.



Assessment of Reef regulations and compliance

The Reef Protection Regulations were enacted to provide a regulatory minimum standard to reduce nitrogen and sediment pollution from agricultural activities, serving as a critical policy tool for accelerating progress towards water quality targets.

The regulatory driver of practice change

In 2016, the GBR Water Science Taskforce recommended the revision and reinvigoration of minimum regulatory standards because of the low levels of farmer participation in practice change programs and accreditation through BMPs since 2003 (State of Queensland, 2016). The introduction of revised regulations in 2019 and the subsequent strengthening of its compliance program, along with increased compliance efforts have resulted in higher levels of compliance and participation in BMP programs (State of Queensland, 2024).

BMP program participation is primarily driven by the Reef Protection Regulations, especially where programs offer government-recognised accreditation as an alternative compliance pathway (Billing and Higham, 2025). The combination of extension work, financial incentives, and improved market access linked to certified products (i.e., under an accredited BMP program) has been proven to accelerate the adoption of practices that exceed minimum standards (Billing and Higham, 2025).

For the regulations to achieve significant water quality outcomes, full compliance is essential, yet the most recent Queensland government compliance reporting until 2023 shows that 54% of landowners were non-compliant at first contact. Regular and updated reporting is imperative to demonstrate progress and highlight shortfalls. Strengthening the regulations and increasing the compliance program effectiveness is a cost-effective approach to accelerate progress towards meeting the water quality targets (State of Queensland, 2024).





Catchment restoration

Catchment restoration, including the remediation of eroded gullies, and the restoration of riparian vegetation and wetlands, is an effective complementary management solution that can deliver significant and lasting water quality improvements and accelerate progress towards targets (State of Queensland, 2016; Waterhouse et al., 2017; Department of Environment, Science and Innovation, 2023; Waterhouse et al., 2024). For example, restoring, rehabilitating, or constructing wetlands can significantly reduce nitrogen pollution while enhancing biodiversity and carbon sequestration (Waltham et al., 2017; Adame and Kavehei, 2021). Natural, restored and purpose-designed constructed wetlands in the lower Burdekin and Herbert River catchments are highly effective at the removal of DIN through the process of denitrification (Roberts et al., 2023; Roberts et al., 2024). Coastal wetlands in tropical Queensland can remove up to 70% of nitrate within the first 24 hours of a flooding event and rehabilitating as little as 5% wetlands on a land parcel can reduce nitrogen pollution to coastal zones by 20–50% (Adame and Kavehei, 2021; Adame et al., 2019).

Nitrogen pollution hotspots consistently contribute two–three times more nitrogen pollution than other regions (Davies and Waterhouse, 2017). Identifying hotspots is critical for directing limited funding to areas with most potential for water quality improvement and co-benefits. While the comprehensive Spatial Management Prioritisation report, which identifies pollution hotspots within regions, and the Queensland Wetland Strategy provide guidance for targeted restoration investments, additional fine-scale data would enhance project efficiency (Department of Environment, Science and Innovation, 2023; Waterhouse et al., 2025).

Remediation of eroded gullies and protection and restoration of vegetation in riparian areas (50 m area on either side of a waterway) reduces erosion, increases streambank stability and helps intercept overland flows, reducing sediment and nutrient pollution. However, recent government restoration efforts and investments to reduce pollution have been undermined by the clearing of native vegetation in Reef catchments. A substantial proportion of tree clearing in Queensland occurs in Reef catchments (44% of the State's total clearing), increasing the risk of fine sediment runoff to the Great Barrier Reef (Taylor and Zethoven, 2025). Recent reforms to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, including strengthened provisions to limit land clearing in the Reef catchments, may improve this outlook if they are adequately implemented and enforced.

Despite its potential, Queensland Government investment in on-ground catchment restoration (5.6%) has been minimal compared to the funding allocated to practice change initiatives (Figure 1). Further, the success of previously funded restoration has been constrained by the small geographical scale of individual projects and the short timeframes associated with competitive, short-term funding cycles, limiting the delivery of sustained, catchment-scale water quality benefits (Department of Environment, Science and Innovation, 2023).

Coordination, accountability and transparency

Public investment in water quality initiatives for the Great Barrier Reef over the past two decades has been insufficient to achieve the water quality targets (Figure 2). In their resolution from July 2025, UNESCO expressed regret that the 2025 water quality targets were not achieved and requested that Australia ensure that management actions to reduce water pollution are sufficiently ambitious and funded.⁵ In May 2026, revised targets, to be met by 2032, were set against a new baseline including available knowledge up to 2023, which is why they are not comparable to previous targets. However, at the current rates of improvement, the 2025 sediment target would not be met until 2047, and the target for the pollutant dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) would not be met until 2114.⁶ These timelines are incompatible with the urgent need to protect the Great Barrier Reef and enhance its resilience to accelerating impacts from climate change as well as meeting commitments made to UNESCO.

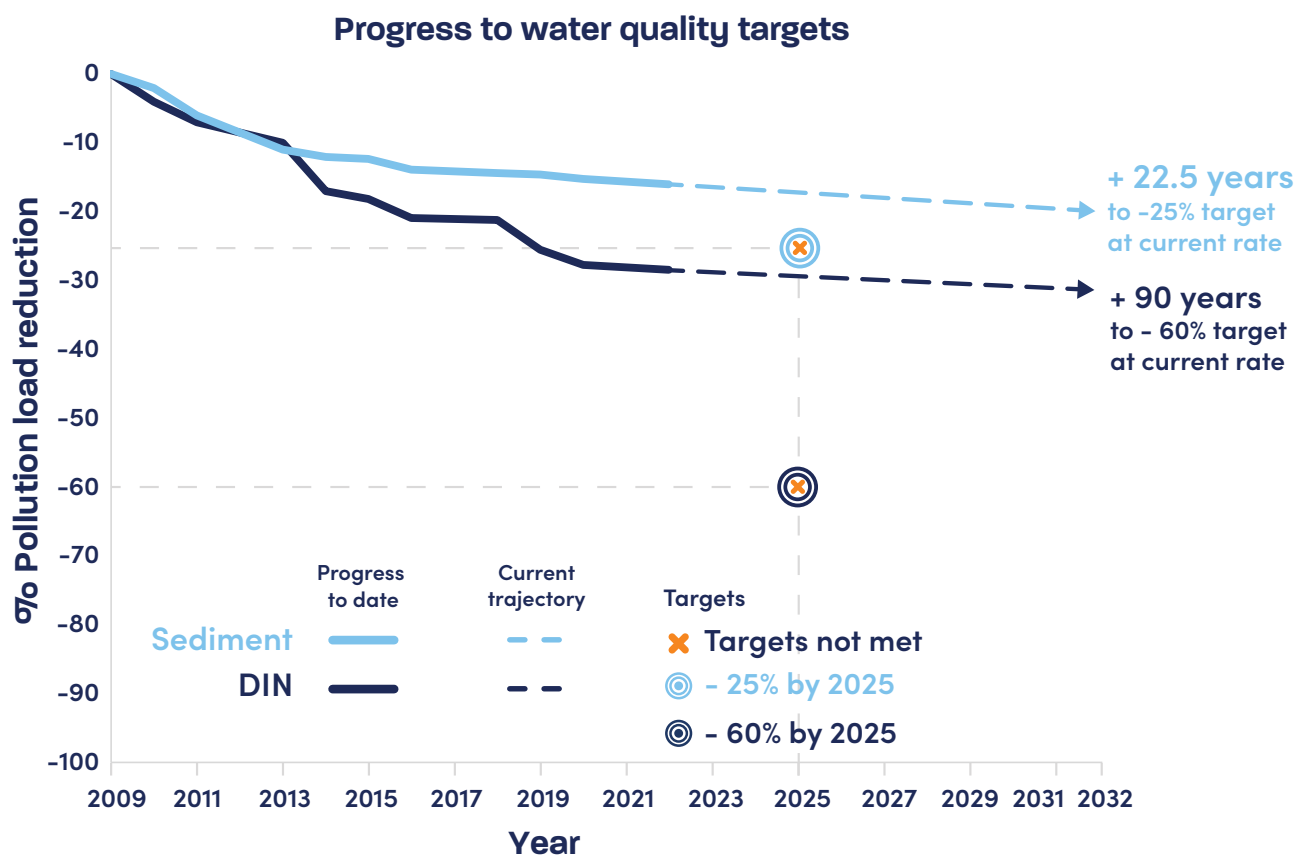


Figure 2: Progress towards water quality targets of two main water pollutants, fine sediment (light blue) and DIN (dissolved inorganic nitrogen; dark blue), measured in percent pollution load reduction against a baseline established in 2009. At the current rate of progress (per year based on the Reef Water Quality Report Card 2021 and 2022) the 2025 targets, on their current trajectory, would not be met until 2047 (fine sediment) and 2114 (DIN) based on the levels of investment committed preceding the reporting period. In May 2026, the deadline for meeting revised targets was extended until 2032.⁷

⁵ <https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/47COM/decisions/>

⁶ Based on the average rate of progress per year reported in the Reef Water Quality Report Card 2021 and 2022: <https://www.reefplan.qld.gov.au/tracking-progress/reef-report-card/2021-22>

⁷ https://www.reefplan.qld.gov.au/___data/assets/pdf_file/0031/427837/reef-2050-catchment-water-quality-strategy.pdf

In 2015, the Queensland Audit Office found that the QRWQP lacked coordination and accountability, characterised by disparate projects with no central authority and no clear accountability for their delivery (Queensland Audit Office, 2015). A follow-up evaluation by the audit office in 2018 highlighted that, despite more transparent reporting, the government was still unable to evaluate the effectiveness of investments due to the lack of access to key data on the progress made by the programs it funds (Queensland Audit Office, 2018). This continued lack of transparency was also reflected in this report. Several investments showed no clear link to improving Reef water quality, reported as non-water quality related investments in Figure 1, while others provide insufficient information to assess their contribution towards water quality outcomes (Table A4). The Audit office's repeated recommendations to increase transparency in reporting have yet to be fully implemented (Queensland Audit Office, 2018).

Investments since 2003 and current funding commitments through to 2029/30 represent only about one quarter of the financial resources previously estimated to be needed to meet the targets (Australian Marine Conservation Society, 2025). To sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the Reef and meet revised targets, a substantial increase in investment and a more strategic and coordinated investment approach is required. Investments need to focus on the most cost-effective management interventions, targeting areas that contribute the highest pollution loads, tailored to catchment-specific circumstances (Waterhouse et al., 2024; Waterhouse et al., 2025).

To demonstrate the impact from public investments, improved tracking and public reporting of pollution reductions achieved from all government-funded projects through a single publicly accessible database is urgently needed (The State of Queensland, 2009; State of Queensland, 2016; Alluvium, 2023). This would allow for a clear assessment of how public funds are translating into tangible water quality improvements.



Policy recommendations

The following policy recommendations could enhance the effectiveness of the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program.

- Prioritise sustained, large-scale investment in riparian, wetland, and coastal ecosystem restoration, targeting high-pollution areas tailored to catchment-specific conditions.
- Prevent further land clearing in Reef catchments.
- Ensure government funded practice change programs exceed minimum regulatory standards, have clear objectives around improving water quality, target the most cost-effective farming practices tailored to catchment-specific conditions with a focus on research and innovation.
- Require all government-funded BMPs to meet consistent accreditation standards, including transparent third-party audits and regular re-accreditation with public reporting on accreditation.
- Strengthen the compliance program through sustained funding, compliance staff capacity building, improved data management, and better coordination between extension, NRM, and compliance officers.
- Improve program governance and coordination through developing a long-term investment roadmap, establishing a single public reporting platform, and implementing a formal five-year review cycle supporting the continuous improvement of the program.



Appendix

Table A1: Total Queensland Reef Water Quality Program Investment in \$AUD between 2015/16–2023/24.
See Table A2 for definitions of investment categories. Grey cells: No investments reported for this category.

Category	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
Practice Change	9,635,000	13,187,579	14,045,139	22,196,509	21,215,073	18,050,072	10,250,643	12,412,275	16,198,796	137,191,086
Compliance and reef regs		1,000,000	2,954,943	2,726,516	3,858,578	5,546,409	3,762,674.33	3,638,424	4,246,993	27,734,537
Non-Water Quality			3,000,000					59,074	808,358	3,867,432
Catchment restoration	400,000	1,150,000	1,474,589	5,947,851	4,332,693	4,588,323	4,153,719	569,589	1,607,185	24,223,949
Monitoring and modelling	12,190,000	17,460,702	10,285,560	11,414,235	14,107,627	12,575,805	12,150,607	11,802,029	11,040,360	113,026,925
Research and development	3,640,000	5,773,634	2,566,816	5,121,140	6,003,555	2,717,182	2,384,025	1,108,938	4,445,985	33,761,275
Governance and Coordination	2,710,000	5,486,620	1,911,754	1,636,017	2,402,821	2,076,636	1,959,483	6,337,019	5,552,582	30,072,932
Mixed on-ground	4,170,000	3,087,245	6,652,431	14,210,927	9,036,838	4,955,875	5,953,691	10,759,525	8,498,137	67,324,669
Total for year	32,745,000	47,145,780	42,891,232	63,253,195	60,957,185	50,510,302	40,614,842	46,686,873	52,398,396	Grand total 437,202,805

Table A2: Description of categories drawn from the various programs that make up the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program.

Categories	Description
Practice change	Investments supporting the adoption and implementation of improved land management practices. This includes Best Management Practice (BMP) programs, extension services, delivering technical support, training, regional coordination of on-ground and engagement activities, behavior change initiatives and other programs aimed at driving practice change, including the Reef Credits Scheme.
Compliance and regulations	Investments related to enforcing Reef protection regulations through the Queensland Compliance Program, building compliance capacity (e.g., education, training and compliance engagement), and the development, review, and implementation of regulatory standards.
Catchment ecosystem restoration	Funding for physical, on-ground ecosystem repair projects. This includes gully and streambank remediation, riparian revegetation, and the physical restoration or construction of wetlands for pollution reduction.
Monitoring, modelling and reporting	Activities related to the ongoing collection, analysis, modeling, and routine reporting of water quality data and landscape indicators, including catchment loads monitoring, development and maintenance of data management systems, vegetation/land use mapping, and the production of Reef and regional Report Cards.
Research and development	Funding for scientific research, innovation, and RDI projects to generate new knowledge, techniques, and technology related to Reef water quality. This includes developing new models, emerging technologies (e.g., sensors), evaluating the efficacy and economics of management practices, and research aimed at accelerating progress towards water quality outcomes.
Governance, coordination & planning	Investments in program oversight, administration, and strategic policy formulation. This covers financial planning and reporting, development of policy documents (e.g., Reef 2050 WQIP) and governance of the development of strategies and underpinning scientific reports (i.e. Scientific Consensus Statement), support for advisory committees, high-level planning exercises (e.g., Great Barrier Reef synthesis workshops, Water Quality Synthesis workshops), and government communication and education initiatives related to the overall program.
Mixed on-ground water quality projects	Funding for integrated, locally-delivered projects (e.g., Major Integrated Projects and Reef Assist) that involve community engagement and mixed activities which cannot be clearly separated into Practice Change or Catchment Restoration.
Non-water-quality-related investments	Investments that have no clear link to improving Reef water quality.



Table A3: Breakdown of practice change investments in \$AUD from 2015/16 to 2023/24.

Program	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
BMP programs	4,540,000	4,723,533	3,179,113	5,101,585	7,258,598	4,777,775	3,268,916	1,518,311	344,293	34,712,124
Hort360								801,800	873,450	1,675,250
Banana								847,816	649,742	1,497,558
Smartcane								1,200,000	1,200,000	2,400,000
GRASS								1,890,088	2,843,837	4,724,184
Extension work	3,665,000	4,519,000	5,490,375	8,807,995	7,909,800	8,049,181	5,610,572	2,021,701	3,138,000	40,403,629
Other practice change programs	1,430,000	3,945,046	5,375,651	8,286,929	6,046,675	5,223,116	1,371,155	4,132,559	7,149,474	42,960,605
Total for year	9,635,000	13,187,579	14,045,139	22,196,509	21,215,073	18,050,072	10,250,643	12,412,275	16,198,796	Grand total 137,191,086

All data was taken from QRWQP annual investment reports. Investments are categorised into BMP programs (any investments where BMP program is not specified), specific BMP programs (including Hort360, Banana, Smartcane, and GRASS), any investments related to extension programs, and other practice change programs (all investments into practice change initiatives not specific to any particular BMP program, including the Reef Credits Scheme, Science in the Paddock, project Cane Changer, project Cane to Creek).

Table A4: A summary of investments with unclear reporting or lacking a link to water quality improvement.

Year	Investment	Project or investment title and description (summarized from investment reports)	Evaluation
17/18	3,000,000	<p>Reef Islands Project</p> <p>The Reef Islands Initiative aims to deliver a tailored program of on-ground and in-water actions across a network of Great Barrier Reef islands of high conservation value, boosting their resilience, and providing critical habitat for important land and marine species in the face of climate change.</p>	<p>No clear link to improving water quality.</p> <p>Assigned to non-Water Quality related category.</p>
17/18	460,911	<p>No title. Reported under “Science and knowledge”</p> <p>A range of communication and engagement activities are being delivered to support large scale practice change and track social dimensions of Reef management. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES provided sponsorship for the World Science Festival in March 2018. • DES partnered with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and Container Exchange (CoEx) for a display at the World Science Festival Street Science precinct in March 2018. The display focused on actions to protect the Reef including reducing marine debris, and introducing the lightweight single-use plastic shopping bag ban and container deposit scheme. 2,000 reusable bags were distributed. • DES provided sponsorship to Beef 2018—the national beef expo and one of the world’s premier beef cattle events—held in Rockhampton in May. 	<p>The investment covers a broad mix of activities including the development of communication products and some research and development, but also several activities that have no clear link to improving water quality.</p> <p>Assigned to Governance, coordination and planning category.</p>
22/23	59,074	<p>K’Gari World Heritage Project</p> <p>No description or detail provided.</p>	<p>No clear link to improving water quality.</p> <p>Assigned to non-Water Quality related category.</p>
22/23	54,308	<p>Reef Compliance and Regulation Program (Human dimensions)</p> <p>No description or detail provided.</p>	<p>Lack of transparency. No information is provided on how funding is contributing to the improvement of water quality.</p> <p>Assigned to Compliance and regulations category.</p>
23/24	808,358	<p>Nest to Ocean Turtle Protection Program</p> <p>Projects have continued to deliver conservation outcomes for marine turtles within key marine turtle stock areas in Queensland through the control of predation on turtle nests by feral pigs, foxes, wild dogs, and the exclusion of goannas.</p>	<p>No clear link to improving water quality</p> <p>Assigned to non-Water Quality related category</p>
23/24	135,978	<p>Urban water quality projects</p> <p>No description or detail provided.</p>	<p>Lack of transparency. No description or detail provided to evaluate how the investment improves water quality.</p> <p>Assigned to Mixed on-ground category</p>

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Green sea turtle, Lady Elliot Island, Great Barrier Reef.

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