

Reef Trust Gully Erosion Control Program in the Mary River Catchment

Australian Government
Department of the Environment

Olympic District Beef
Landscape Grazing Inc.

MARY RIVER
CATCHMENT
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Reef Trust

Gully Erosion Control Project (2016 – 2018)

- Program delivery partnership – MRCCC & GDBLG
- **Where** – predominantly in the Western Mary Catchment grazing lands
- WMC makes up ~30% of Mary catchment area, and runs ~60% of the beef cattle population
- WMC broadly encompasses the Munna, Wide Bay & Widgee Creek sub-catchments
- Includes the districts of Kilkivan, Kinbombi, Woolooga, Widgee, Glastonbury, Miva, Brooweena, Aramara, Mungar, Yengarie etc

- **Objective** - the reduction in sediment and nutrient runoff from highly erodible gullies
- Projects will focus on both hillslope and alluvial gullies on fragile duplex soils
- These soils have a known high erosion risk and export significant fine sediments to the GBR
- The WMC Grazing Land Type booklet identifies these high risk soils in the Landscape Units

The Project will provide grazing landholders with;

- the best available science in practical gully stabilisation
- professional technical advice on cost-effective implementation options
- extension support for the adoption of best grazing land management practices
- demonstrations of existing gully erosion control works
- training days on construction methods eg leaky weirs, hard-walling gully heads etc
- modest financial incentives (\$ for \$ basis) for on-ground works

Examples of eligible on-ground gully control projects could include;

- **Fencing**
 - to protect all gully stabilisation works
 - to remediate early signs of gully formation
 - to manage cattle access to high risk drainage lines
 - of drainage lines & wetlands to improve groundcover to filter sediments and nutrients
 - of ridge lines to facilitate natural tree regeneration to reduce groundwater recharge

More examples of eligible on-ground gully projects could include;

- **Stock watering points**
 - tanks and troughs to provide alternate water supply to drainage lines
 - to position tanks and troughs high in the landscape away from drainage lines
 - to provide additional troughs in large paddocks to improve evenness of grazing

More examples of eligible on-ground gully projects could include;

- **Stabilisation methods**
 - fencing to facilitate groundcover and natural stabilisation of gullies and scalds
 - building leaky weirs etc to trap sediments and build up the gully floor
 - planting salinity-tolerant vegetation to lower the saline watertable
 - direct seeding of stoloniferous grasses and lomandra to trap the fine silts and nutrients
 - hard-walling gully heads to check gully advancement up the slope

Expression of Interest for a Reef Trust Gully Erosion Control on-ground project



Each dollar of Reef Water Quality Grant funding must be matched dollar for dollar in-kind by the property owner.

Please indicate your interest in one or more examples of Reef Trust gully erosion on-ground projects:

- 1. **drainage line &/or wetland fencing projects*** (*please provide details*) * this is a requirement of funding

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- 2. **Stock watering points** (*please provide details*)

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- 3. **Contour or keyline ripping** (*please provide details*)

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- 4. **Stabilization of erosion gullies, salt scalds etc** (*please provide details*)

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- 5. **Other works** (*please provide details*)

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