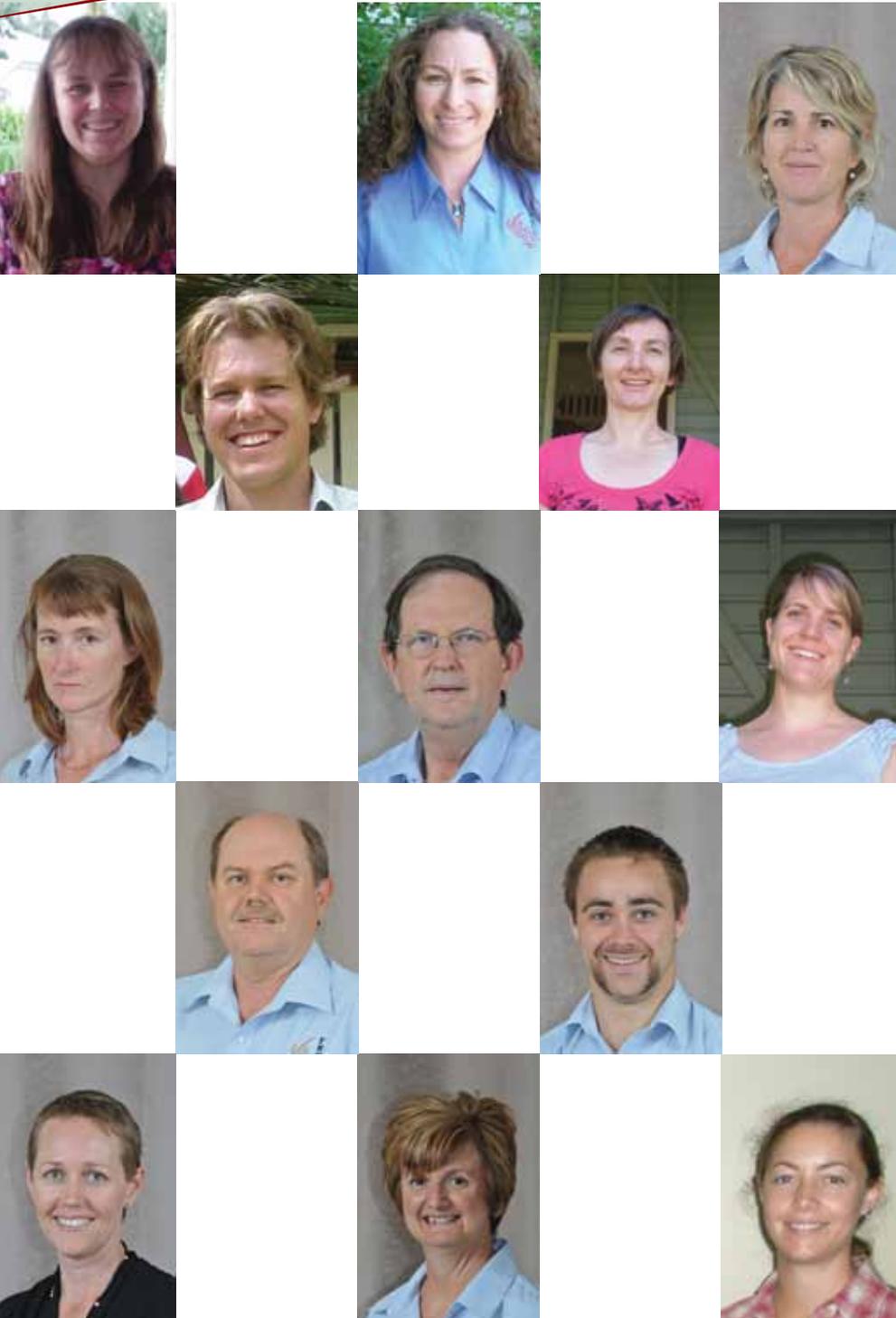


for  
**future  
generations**



Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments Inc.  
Annual Report 2010/11



## Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments Inc.

Fitzroy River & Coastal Catchments Inc (FRCC) was established on 7th January 2005 as a not for profit incorporated association. For over two years prior the catchment group operated as a sub-committee of the Fitzroy Basin Association and during this time received tremendous stakeholder support and input to develop a natural resource management plan.

Through the implementation of the plan, the organisation has continued to grow and expand its membership base and now coordinates the delivery of a range of on-ground projects and capacity building activities across the catchments of the Fitzroy River and the coastal catchments of the Capricorn Coast and Broadsound.

During 2010/11 FRCC employed 14 staff in casual, temporary and fulltime capacities based on six full-time positions. The pictures adjacent are of many of these staff. In September 2010 the position of Executive Officer was vacated by Dr Cameron Wearing with Michelle Hanrahan acting in the position until the appointment of Jeff Krause to this position in late December 2010.

## President's Report

### (Michelle Hanrahan)

Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments Inc. (FRCC) is a community based natural resource management group responsible through the Fitzroy Basin Association for the implementation and adoption of sustainable land use practices for the lower Fitzroy River and the coastal catchments of the Broadsound and Capricornia areas.

A particular feature of the 2010/11 financial year was again the considerable investment that FRCC has made into building capacity within the region to look after our land and water for future generations. This year continued and built upon the excellent work initiated in 2009/10 as part of the "6 Best Things" campaign to raise awareness of the value of the rivers and streams to our local community.

FRCC continued to work closely with staff from the Rockhampton Regional Council (RRC) to plan and deliver training and awareness opportunities for landholders and the wider community. The MoU signed last year between the RRC and FRCC has allowed easier access to RRC staff and resources to support joint projects.

While in many ways the 2010/11 financial year has been a transitional year as far as our staffing, FRCC has developed further links with community groups, increased its membership and contributed to the development and strengthening of networks across our area to assist in delivering better services to landholders and the wider community.

The major wet season and flood event during the summer presented some challenges, creating difficulties with planning and delivering on ground projects, however staff showed their flexibility by providing regular phone and email

contacts for many landholders affected by the flooding as well as delivering training and workshop events. Workshops hosted across our area included activities focused on soil health, property planning, indigenous cultural heritage awareness as well as community and school information sessions.

Water quality has again been an issue for many in our community particularly following the floods, with FRCC Management Committee strongly supporting the provision of more concise information that is regularly updated for the general public on the quality of our water and the overall health of the river.

The many challenges in our local area have continued to inspire the Management Committee to advocate strongly for increased resourcing, to seek new business opportunities and to consider alternative methods of delivering services to our clients.





## Executive Officer's Report (Jeff Krause)

### Strength and Resilience

The organization has experienced many challenges and triumphs during 2010/11. The year began with the news that Cameron Wearing, the Executive Officer was moving to a new position and with the ensuing recruitment process commencing, Michelle Hanrahan acted in the role until the position was filled in late December 2010.

In addition two other permanent staff, Stefanie Carusi and Sandra Grinter also left FRCC, with these positions eventually filled by Rhys Kellow and Shelly McArde. Thanks must go to the temporary and casual staff for filling these positions during the recruitment processes.

Staff changes such as these create instability as well as opportunities for growth and renewal of the organization. Thanks go out to all current members of the FRCC team for their dedication and commitment to achieve our service standards.

A second year university science student was also employed on a casual basis to deliver technical and administrative services as well as to further highlight the value of tertiary science study to the local community. This role has assisted in developing better links with CQU as well as the revitalization of the FRCC bursary to support a prospective first year science student.

Once again the annual strategic planning retreat involving the management committee and staff proved a valuable activity with issues being identified and priorities set for the future.

Priorities included:

- Continue to develop opportunities to engage with and support land managers in natural resource management (NRM)
- Enhanced efforts to engage the wider community in NRM activities
- Further develop significant local NRM projects and seek financial assistance for these

The FRCC office was required to relocate during the latter part of the year which required staff to balance client services and packing and unpacking the office, however the move has provided more room and improved access.

FRCC has continued to collaborate with other organizations and groups, including providing office space for the Greening Australia team as well as a local base for the coordinator of Conservation Volunteers Australia. This collaboration also extended to joint work on projects such as Moore's Creek Information Day, Ergon Park development and various flood recovery projects.

The redevelopment of the website with its launch in December 2010 has produced far greater exposure for FRCC activities and continues to provide a good platform to publicize our services.

Considerable time was spent on investigating and developing flood recovery projects in the local area, with only a small number receiving approval to proceed.

Other projects including the Engaged Community Groups project funded through the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country focused on support for improved land management through local landcare groups, supported the delivery of on-ground work such as weed and erosion control and allowed the delivery of a range of training and awareness activities. The Caring for Coast project funded through FBA also allowed FRCC to work

closely with Rockhampton Regional Council staff deliver support to five groups on the Capricorn Coast to support revegetation activities.

Further grant and funding opportunities continue to be developed and applications submitted to allow this type of support to continue.

This year has seen a renewed focus on working with schools to provide information and resource support on FRCC activities and services. Activities have included support for staff developing student work tasks as well as direct engagement with student groups on local natural resource management issues. Ongoing involvement has continued with The Hall State School and North Rockhampton State High School.

In addition FRCC staff and Management Committee members have supported a range of workshop and community events including: St Lawrence Wetlands Day, World Environment Day, World Wetlands Day at Emu Park, Stocktake workshops, Agforward forestry workshop at Raglan and the series of workshops delivered by RCS on soil health and property planning. FRCC worked closely with FBA staff to coordinate support for many of these events.

FRCC is well positioned to continue to develop and deliver services through its strong networks in the local community. Thank you to everyone for your participation and support of activities throughout the year and we look forward to working with our members to continue to build our services in the future.



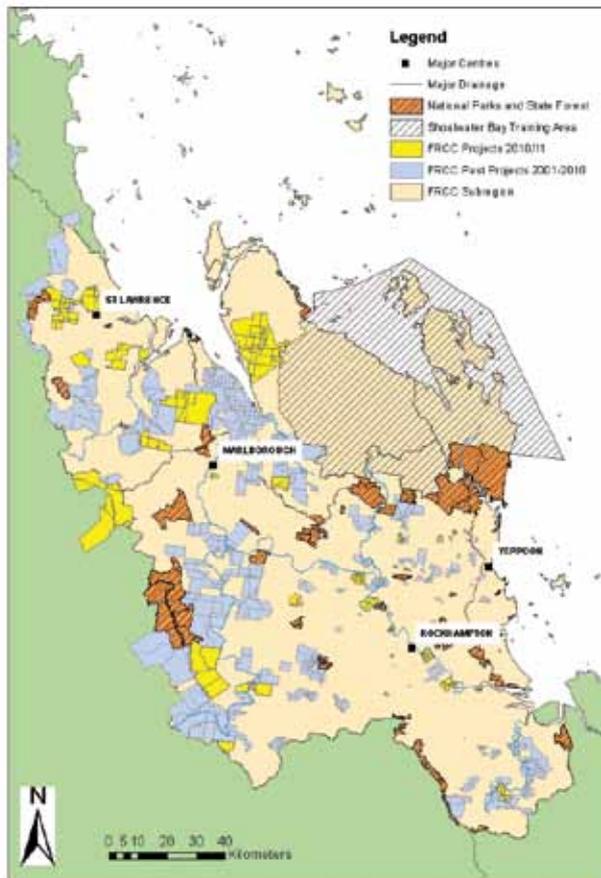
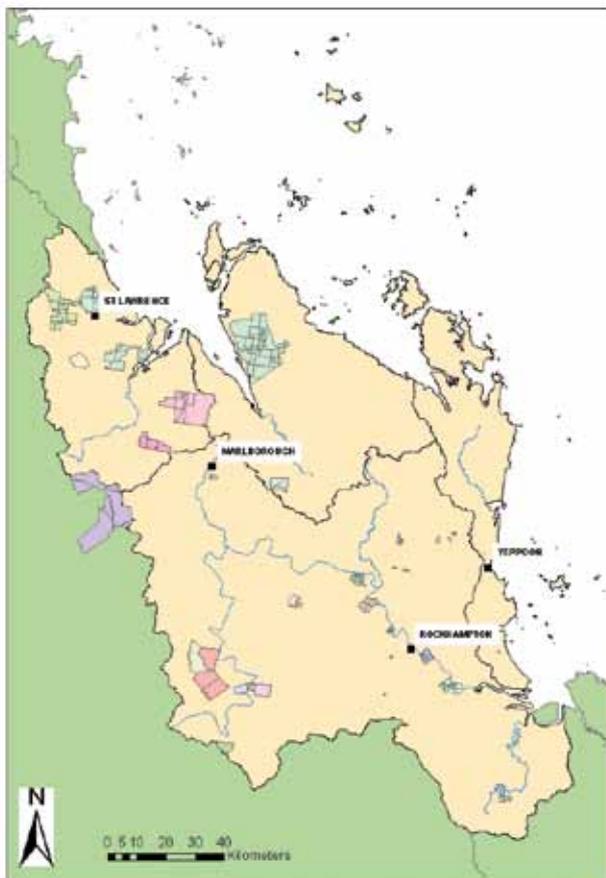
## FRCC on-ground projects

The FRCC Management Committee approved 19 projects in 2010/11 with a total value of \$687,000 comprised of 54% land owner contribution and 46% FBA incentive funding.

With one of the wettest years on record as well as changes to the Neighbourhood Catchment guidelines allowing the introduction of voluntary land management agreements, project development has been more challenging and time

consuming. All projects have outcomes aimed at reducing erosion and sediment or pesticide runoff into streams and waterways and ultimately to the reef.

Other on-ground projects included the investigation of numerous enquiries which eventually lead to the development of three flood recovery projects and the contracting of five coastal community groups as part of FBA's Caring for Our Country open grant project, Communities Caring for Coast.



## Member organisations of FRCC

Agforce Rockhampton Branch		Gladstone Regional Council		CQ Forest Association		Rockhampton Regional Council	
Australian Brahman Breeders Association Ltd.		Greening Australia Qld (Inc).		Department of Employment, Economic Development & Innovation		Rocky Creeks Group	
Australian Braford Society Inc.		Isaac Regional Council		Department of Environment and Resource Management		SeaSpray Project Management Pty Ltd	
Capricorn Branch, Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld		Jemena		Droughtmaster Stud Breeders Society		Stanwell Corporation Ltd	
Capricorn Caves		Livingstone Remnant Veg. Study Group		Emu Park Community Bushcare Group		The Caves Landcare Group	
Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.		Marlborough Landcare Association Inc.		Fitzroy Basin Association Inc.		The Leucaena Network	
Capricorn Conservation Council		Morinish Landcare Group Inc		Fitzroy Basin Elders Committee		Woppaburra Dreaming	
Capricorn Pest Management Group		Qld Fire and Rescue Service		Fitzroy River Fish Stocking Association		Wycarbah & District Landcare Group Inc	
Capricorn Tourism and Economic Development Ltd.		Qld Parks & Wildlife Service		Fitzroy River Water		Yeppoon Fruitgrowers & Local Producers Association	
Capricornia Beekeepers Club Inc.		Qld Rural Adjustment Authority		Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority		Yeppoon Organic & Biodynamic Growers Group	
Charbray Society of Australia		Raglan Creek Catchment Working Group		Gladstone Pacific Nickel Ltd			
Conservations Volunteers		Rockhampton Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association					

## FRCC Management Committee activities

	Management Committee meetings (attended / held)	Management Committee workshops (attended / held)	NC project assessment panel (attended / held)	Interests of Management Committee members
Michelle Hanrahan (President)	6/6	1/1	7/7	Landcare & Industry
Peter Baggett (Secretary)	5/6	1/1	6/7	Grazing & Weeds
Leise Childs (Treasurer)	4/6	1/1	4/7	Conservation
Paul Birch	3/6	1/1	3/7	Finance
Don Black	5/6	0/1	6/7	Grazing & Local Government
Ian Dare	2/6	1/1	3/7	Local Government
Ian Groves	5/6	1/1	6/7	Horticulture
Malcolm Mann <sup>1</sup>				Cultural Heritage
Rob McArthur	4/6	0/1	4/7	Grazing & Landcare
Jeff Mills	5/6	1/1	6/7	Grazing & Landcare
John Wall	5/6	0/1	6/7	Grazing & Landcare

<sup>1</sup> Resigned 17 February 2011



## Images from 2010/11

FRCC publishes a quarterly newsletter detailing its activities. Following are some of the images that have featured in our newsletter and other publications and events over the past year. To obtain a copy of past newsletters please visit [www.frcc.org.au](http://www.frcc.org.au)

## Funding Acknowledgement

This project is supported by Fitzroy Basin Association Inc through funding from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country and Queensland Government.



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY



**Fitzroy River & Coastal Catchments**  
 14 Wandal Road Rockhampton Q 4700  
 T: 07 4921 0573 F: 07 4921 0528  
 E: [info@frcc.org.au](mailto:info@frcc.org.au) [www.frcc.org.au](http://www.frcc.org.au)