Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019

Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins

Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives

Basins 122, 123 and 124, including all surface waters of the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins, and adjacent coastal waters



Prepared by: Environmental Policy and Planning Division, Department of Environment and Science

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June 2022

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1 Introduction to 2022 amendments

This amendment document is made pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019. It amends the *Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives* schedule 1 document (2013), as outlined below.

Section 13(2)(b) of the EPP (Water and Wetland Biodiversity), and section 1.5 (Matters for amendment) of the schedule 1 document outline permissible amendment types. These include changes to environmental values, management goals, water quality objectives (WQOs), management intent (level of protection), water type boundaries/descriptions; and updates to information/data sources, websites and email contact details, agency/departmental names, other institutional names, references.

1.1 Amendments

Details of amendments are explained in section 2, tables 1 and 2.

1.2 Great Barrier Reef end-of-basin load objectives

The Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017–2022 (Reef 2050 WQIP) is a joint commitment of the Australian and Queensland governments that seeks to improve the quality of water flowing from the catchments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef. The plan identifies how catchment water quality outcomes under the broader Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan will be delivered. The long-term (2050) outcome under the Reef 2050 WQIP is that 'Good water quality sustains the outstanding universal value of the Great Barrier Reef, builds resilience, improves ecosystem health and benefits communities'. The Reef 2050 WQIP includes the following commitment, identified as contributing to the delivery of Reef 2050 action 1.2: Review and update water quality objectives and water quality guidelines at regionally relevant scales under the Environmental Protection Policy (Water) 2009 [remade to become the EPP (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) in 2019].

The Reef 2050 WQIP contains end of basin annual load reduction targets for dissolved inorganic nitrogen and fine sediment across mainland basins draining to the Great Barrier Reef. These have been reflected in the document titled 'Great Barrier Reef River Basins End-of-Basin Load Water Quality Objectives' (September 2019), pursuant to section 11 of the EPP (Water and Wetland Biodiversity), and are available from the department's website.

The Reef 2050 WQIP also contains targets for pesticides such that end of catchment concentrations of pesticides protect 99% of aquatic species. This corresponds to a high ecological value level of protection. Further information is available from the reef plan website.

2 Amendments

2.1 Summary of amendments

Table 1 summarises the 2022 amendments. Content in left column of Table 1 is amended by content in right column. Table 1 amendments include updates to coastal waters mapping, updated references to national water quality guidelines and other sources, and updated aquatic ecosystem WQOs (detailed in Table 2). Where no changes are specified, refer to the 2013 schedule 1 document content.

Table 2 specifies amended aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives:

- toxicant WQOs: updates for fresh, estuarine and coastal waters (new or updated technical guideline sources)
- estuarine and coastal water WQOs: updates to WQOs for a range of parameters (e.g. nutrients, sediments), and specification by season (dry season, wet season), for some coastal water parameters
- updated reference sources and advice on water quality testing protocols, listed after Table 2.

No amendments have been made to freshwater aquatic ecosystem WQOs, except as indicated for toxicants in relation to updated water quality guideline reference sources.

Table 1 Summary of amendments

| 2013 content | 2022 amended content |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Coastal waters mapping shown on Mackay Whitsunday Coastal Waters plan WQ1222 (Extracts of coastal waters are also shown on plan WQ1221.) | Refer to amended (2022) Mackay Whitsunday Coastal Waters plan WQ1222, available from the department's website. |
| References to Environmental Protection (Water) Policy and relevant provisions, definitions | Refer to Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019 on the Queensland legislation webpage |
| Table 1 and plan WQ1222: Environmental values – Northumberland Islands freshwaters | 'Human consumers of aquatic foods' is added as a relevant environmental value to be protected in Northumberland Island fresh waters (shown on amended plan WQ1222). |
| Table 2 Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (WQOs) | Refer to Table 2 of this addendum for updated aquatic ecosystem WQOs (including nutrients, sediments in identified estuarine and coastal waters). This includes seasonal splits (dry season, wet season) for some parameters in coastal waters |
| Sections 3.1.2, 3.1.3: riparian, stormwater links | Refer to updated legislative links provided in Amendment section 2.3 |
| Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (October 2000) AWQG or ANZECC guidelines (2000) | Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG), published on the ANZG website. |
| Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011) ADWG (2011) | Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG), published on the NHMRC website |
| Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water (2008) | Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water, published on the NHMRC website |
| Monitoring and Sampling Manual 2009 | Monitoring and Sampling Manual 2018, as amended. Published on the department's website. |
| All legislative references | Refer to the latest version under the <i>Acts Interpretation Act</i> , 1954, as amended |

2.2 Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives – updates 2022

Table 2 Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (2022)

| | | PROSERPINE RIVER, WHITSUNDAY ISLAND AND O'CONNELL RIVER BASINS (refer plan WQ1222) Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (WQOs) ¹⁻⁷ Note: WQOs for indicators are shown as a range of 20 th ,50 th and 80 th percentiles to be maintained or achieved (e.g. 3–4–5), lower and upper limits (e.g. pH: 7.2–8.2), or as a single | | | | | | | | | | | | | a single | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of | value (e.g. 15). otherwise state HEV – high ecc Sources: S1: Lo Monitoring Pro Seasons: Dry so | . For sing ted, HEV/sological values ocal datas ogram da | gle value W SD WQOs a alue; SD – s sets/report tasets; S5: | QOs, medians are an annual ra slightly disturbe ting; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); s | (or means ange, and Need; MD – mage) guidelines | where speci MD WQOs a noderately d s and /or da ources | ified) of test are an annual listurbed. Re ta; S3: GBRN | data should be I median (refer efer to accomp IPA (2010) WC | e less than note 7 af panying pla QG; S4: GB | or equal to ter table for ans for detail RMPA analys | the WQO, more deta s; ID – insu | unless oth ils on com ifficient da | erwise ind paring tes | dicated. Exe at data with | cept where n WQOs). | |
| | | | g/L) (μg/L) (β sat) (NTU) (m) (mg/L) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FRESH WATERS – TOXICANTS (INCLUDING METALS, BIOCIDES) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HEV, SD fresh waters: Toxicants (s5, s6) | Toxicants (including metals, biocides) in water: refer to 99% species protection values contained in: ANZG (2018) 'toxicant default guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fresh waters not mapped as HEV, SD: Toxicants (s5, s6) | as HEV, D: SMD Refer to 95% species protection values contained in sources below. Note: refer to 99% species protection values where indicated by ANZG (including for toxicants with bioaccumulation, toxicity effects): ANZG (2018) 'toxicant default guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended ANZG guideline value, or where there is no ANZG value specified for a toxicant (Note: the ANZG specifies the date of guideline development for each toxicant) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of protection | value (e.g. 15 otherwise sta HEV – high e Sources : S1: Monitoring F | 5). For sing ated, HEV/ cological v Local data Program da | tors are sho gle value W (SD WQOs a alue; SD – s sets/report atasets; S5: | own as a range (QOs, medians are an annual r slightly disturbe- ting; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); set season: Nov- | of 20 th ,50 th (or means ange, and Ned; MD – m 6 guidelines s6: Other so | atic ecos th and 80th p where spec MD WQOs a moderately c and /or da purces | ercentiles to ercentiles to fied) of test re an annua disturbed. Re ta; S3: GBRN | be maintaine data should be median (reference efer to accomp | y object d or achieve less than r note 7 aft panying pla QG; S4: GBI | ved (e.g. 3-vor equal to ter table for ns for detail | 4–5), lower the WQO, more deta | and upper unless oth ills on com | r limits (e., erwise inc paring tes | g. pH: 7.2– dicated. Ex it data with | cept where n WQOs). | C . |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|
| | | Amm N (μg/L) | Oxid N (μg/L) | Partic N (μg/L) | Total Diss N (μg/L) | Total N (μg/L) | FRP (μg/L) | Partic P (μg/L) | Total Diss P (μg/L) | Total P (μg/L) | Chl-a (μg/L) | Silicate (μg/L) | DO (% sat) | Turb (NTU) | Secchi (m) | TSS (mg/L) | рН |
| | | Toxicants in sediments: refer to ANZG 'toxicant default guideline values for sediment quality' Anti-fouling: Comply with Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines (2015, as amended) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ESTUARIES AND COASTAL WATERS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Note: Information on toxicants, seagrass, temperature provided at end of table.

MID ESTUARY WATERS

| SD and HEV Mid estuary waters of Mackay Whitsunday (e.g. fish habitat areas) (s1, s2) | HEV | 2–5–10 (s1) | 1-7-30 (s1) | NA | NA | 190-240- 380 (s1) | 8–15–25 (s1) | NA | NA | 15-25-40 (s1) | 0.7–1.1–1.8 (s1) | NA | 70–105 (s1) | 3–5–8 (s1) | 1–1.3–1.7 (s1) | ID | 7–8.4 (s2) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------|----------------|----|----|-------------------------|-----------------|----|----|------------------|---------------------|----|----------------|---------------|-------------------|----|---------------|
| Mid estuary waters (moderate tidal estuaries from Mackay north) ^A (s1, s2) | MD | 10 (s1) | 30 (s1) | NA | NA | 400 (s1) | 30 (s1 | NA | NA | 40 (s1) | 2 (s1) | NA | 70–105 (s1) | 10 (s1) | ≥1 | ID | 7–8.4 (s2) |

Notes on mid estuary waters:

A: MD mid estuarine waters from Mackay north include MD reaches of Pioneer River, Proserpine River, O'Connell River, Murray estuaries.

| | | Pio | serpine Ki | ver, vvriitsuri | day Island and | O Conneil i | River basins | Elivironmen | tai values and | ı vvaler Qi | iality Objectiv | es – Adder | idum Secu | On | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | PROSI | ERPINE RIV | | | | AND O'Co | | | - | efer plai | n WQ1 | 222) | | |
| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of protection | value (e.g. 19 otherwise st HEV – high e Sources : S1: Monitoring F | 5). For sin ated, HEV, cological v Local data Program d | gle value W /SD WQOs a value; SD – s asets/report atasets; S5: | own as a range QOs, medians are an annual ra- dightly disturbe ing; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); set season: Nov- | or means of the control of the contr | where spec MD WQOs a oderately c and /or da ources | ified) of test re an annual listurbed. Re ta; S3: GBRM | data should be median (refe fer to accomp IPA (2010) WO | e less than r note 7 a panying pl QG; S4: GE | n or equal to fiter table for ans for detail RMPA analys | the WQO, more deta s; ID – insu | unless other | erwise ind paring tes | dicated. Ex st data wit | ccept where h WQOs). | |
| | | Amm N (μg/L) | Oxid N (μg/L) | Partic N (μg/L) | Total Diss N (μg/L) | Total N (μg/L) | FRP (μg/L) | Partic P (μg/L) | Total Diss P (μg/L) | Total P (μg/L) | Chl-a (μg/L) | Silicate (µg/L) | DO (% sat) | Turb (NTU) | Secchi (m) | TSS (mg/L) | рН |
| COASTAL/M | ARINE WA | TERS (NO | ORTH- | SOUTH) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HEV2381 open coastal waters (Whitsundays – south to Thomas island) seaward of Plume line shown in WQ1222) (s3, s4) | HEV | 0-1-6 (s4) | 0.14- 0.49-2.0 (s4) | 10–14–20 Dry season mean: 16 Wet season mean: 24 (s3, s4) | 50–70–95 (s4) | 75–95– 125 (s4) | 0-1-3 (s4) | 1.6–2.3–3.0 Dry season mean: 2.3 Wet season mean: 3.3 (s3, s4) | 3–6–9 (s4) | 8–11–14 (s4) | 0.25–0.36– 0.54 Dry season mean: 0.32 Wet season mean: 0.63 (s3, s4) | 30–50–90 (s4) | 95–105 (s2) | 0.7–1.1– 2.1 (s4) | ≥10 (ann. mean) (s3) | 0.9–1.4– 2.2 Dry season mean: 1.6 Wet season mean: 2.4 (s3, s4) | |
| HEV2382 offshore waters (around Circular Quay Reef), shown in WQ1222 (s3, s4) | HEV | 0–2–6 (s4) | 0.27- 0.71-2.87 (s4) | 11–14–18 (annual) Dry season mean: 14 Wet season mean: 20 (s3, s4) | 45–65–85 (s4) | 70–85– 120 (s4) | 0–1–3 (s4) | 1.4–1.8–2.4 Dry season mean: 1.6 Wet season mean: 2.3 (s3, s4) | 3–5–9 (s4) | 6–10–15 (s4) | 0.40 (ann. mean) Dry season mean: 0.24 Wet season mean: 0.56 (s3, s4) | 20–35–90 (s4) | 95–105 (s2) | 1 (ann. mean) (s4) | ≥17 (ann. mean) (s3) | 0.4–0.6– 1.1 Dry season mean: 0.6 Wet season mean: 0.8 (s3, s4) | 8.1–8.4 (s2) |
| HEV2383 open coastal waters (southern Cumberland region – south of Thomas Island), seaward of plume line shown in WQ1222 (s3, s4) | HEV | 1–2–6 (s4) | 0.0–0.21– 0.99 (s4) | 14–18–24 (annual) Dry season mean: 16 Wet season mean: 24 (s3, s4) | 45–75–95 (s4) | 55–90– 115 (s4) | 1–2–4 (s4) | 1.6–2.1–3.0 Dry season mean: 2.3 Wet season mean: 3.3 (s3, s4) | 4–9–17 (s4) | 6–12–20 (s4) | 0.45 (ann. mean) Dry season mean: 0.32 Wet season mean: 0.63 (s3) | 40–60– 100 (s4) | 95–105 (s2) | 2 (ann. mean) (s3, s4) | ≥10 (ann. mean) (s3) | 1.1–1.6– 2.4 Dry season mean: 1.6 Wet season mean: 2.4 (s3, s4) | 8.1–8.4 (s2) |

PROSERPINE RIVER, WHITSUNDAY ISLAND AND O'CONNELL RIVER BASINS (refer plan WQ1222) Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (WQOs)1-7 Note: WQOs for indicators are shown as a range of 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained or achieved (e.g. 3-4-5), lower and upper limits (e.g. pH: 7.2-8.2), or as a single value (e.g. 15). For single value WQOs, medians (or means where specified) of test data should be less than or equal to the WQO, unless otherwise indicated. Except where otherwise stated, HEV/SD WQOs are an annual range, and MD WQOs are an annual median (refer note 7 after table for more details on comparing test data with WQOs). Management Water area/type intent /Level of (Source: s1-s6) HEV – high ecological value; SD – slightly disturbed; MD – moderately disturbed. Refer to accompanying plans for details; ID – insufficient data protection Sources: S1: Local datasets/reporting; S2: QWQG guidelines and /or data; S3: GBRMPA (2010) WQG; S4: GBRMPA analysis of Marine Monitoring Program and/or AIMS Long Term Monitoring Program datasets; S5: ANZG (2018); s6: Other sources Seasons: Dry season: May-Oct; Wet season: Nov-April (Refer notes after table for more details on seasonal splits.) Oxid N Total Diss N FRP Partic P Total Diss P Total P DO Turb Amm N Partic N Total N Chl-a Silicate Secchi TSS рΗ $(\mu g/L)$ (NTU) $(\mu g/L)$ $(\mu g/L)$ $(\mu g/L)$ $(\mu g/L)$ (% sat) (m) (mg/L)0.9 - 1.4 -0.25-0.36-10-14-20 1.6-2.3-3.0 2.2 0.54 SD2381N open coastal waters. Dry season Dry season ≥10 Dry season 0.14 -75-95-0.7 - 1.1 -Dry season landward of the 0-1-6 mean: 16 50-70-95 0-1-3 mean: 2.3 3-6-9 30-50-90 95-105 8-11-14 (ann. mean: 1.6 8.1-8.4 0.49-2.0 HEV 125 mean: 0.32 2.1 (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s2) plume line shown mean) (s2)(s4) (s4) (s4) Wet season Wet season (s3)Wet in WQ1222 Wet season mean: 24 mean: 3.3 season (s3, s4) mean: 0.63 (s3, s4) (s3, s4) mean: 2.4 (s3, s4) (s3, s4)1.1-1.6-0.45 14-18-24 1.6-2.1-3.0 2.4 (ann. mean) SD2381S Repulse Bay south open 2 Dry season Dry season ≥10 Dry season 0.0-0.21-Dry season 40-60-(ann. coastal waters, 1-2-6 mean: 16 45-75-95 55-90-115 1-2-4 mean: 2.3 4-9-17 6-12-20 95-105 mean: 1.6 8.1-8.4 (ann. HEV 0.99 mean: 0.32 100 (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s2) landward of the (s4) (s4) (s2)mean) mean) (s4)(s4) Wet season Wet season (s3, s4)(s3) Wet plume line Wet season mean: 3.3 mean: 24 season (s3, s4) mean: 0.63 (s3, s4) (s3, s4) mean: 2.4 (s3) (s3, s4)2.0 Open coastal 20 2.8 0.45 (ann. waters landward (ann. mean) (ann. mean) (ann. mean) mean) of the plume line, ≥10 shown in Dry season Dry season 2 (ann. Dry season Dry season SMD, mapped 2 1 75 90 2 9 12 ≥60 95-105 8.1-8.4 (ann. WQ1222 mean: 2.3 mean: 0.32 mean: 1.6 mean: 16 mean) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) as MD (s4) (s4) (s4) (s4) (s2)mean) (s2) (s3, s4) **Includes OC** (s3)Wet season Wet season Wet season Wet waters outside of mean: 24 mean: 3.3 mean: 0.63 season port sub-zones (s3) (s3)(s3) mean: 2.4 and not identified

(s3)

Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives – Addendum Section

| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of protection | PROSERPINE RIVER, WHITSUNDAY ISLAND AND O'CONNELL RIVER BASINS (refer plan WQ1222) Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (WQOs) ¹⁻⁷ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----|
| | | value (e.g. 19 otherwise standard HEV – high e Sources : S1: Monitoring F | 5). For sing ated, HEV, cological v Local data Program da | gle value W /SD WQOs a ralue; SD – s sets/report atasets; S5: | own as a range QOs, medians are an annual range slightly disturbe ting; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); set season: Nov- | (or means that ange, and Need; MD – missinguidelines) (6): Other so | where speci MD WQOs a oderately d and /or dat ources | fied) of test re an annual isturbed. Re ta; S3: GBRN | data should be median (refer efer to accomp IPA (2010) WC | e less than note 7 af panying pla QG; S4: GB | or equal to ter table for ans for detail RMPA analys | the WQO, more deta s; ID – insu | unless oth ils on com ufficient da | erwise ind paring tes | dicated. Exc at data with | cept where n WQOs). | |
| | | Amm N (μg/L) | Oxid N (μg/L) | Partic N (μg/L) | Total Diss N (μg/L) | Total N (μg/L) | FRP (µg/L) | Partic P (μg/L) | Total Diss P (μg/L) | Total P (μg/L) | Chl-a (μg/L) | Silicate (μg/L) | DO (% sat) | Turb (NTU) | Secchi (m) | TSS (mg/L) | рН |
| as SD or HEV (s3, s4) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enclosed coastal waters | MD, SD, HEV | For toxicants | s, seagrass | and tempe | rature refer to | rows belov | v. No other | updates to \ | VQOs for thes | e waters a | and indicator | s. Refer to | 2013 sche | edule docu | ument Tabl | e 2. | |
| Marinas, boat harbours – including Abel Point and Hamilton Point marinas, Laguna Quays, Shute Harbour | MD | For toxicants, seagrass and temperature refer to rows below. No other updates to WQOs for these waters and indicators. Refer to 2013 schedule document Table 2. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives – Addendum Section

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| | | | | PRUS | ERPINE KIV | | | | ater quality | | | • | eiei pia | ii wqi | 222) | | |
| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of protection | value (e.g. 15 otherwise sta HEV – high ed Sources : S1: Monitoring P | i). For sing ated, HEV/ cological v Local data rogram da | gle value W /SD WQOs a ralue; SD – s sets/report atasets; S5: | own as a range QOs, medians are an annual ra slightly disturbe ing; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); s et season: Nov- | of 20 th ,50 th (or means ange, and for means ange, and for means ange) of the second of the secon | th and 80th p where speci MD WQOs a noderately d s and /or dat ources | ercentiles to fied) of test re an annual isturbed. Re ta; S3: GBRM | be maintaine data should be median (refe fer to accomp PA (2010) WC | d or achie e less thar r note 7 af panying pla QG; S4: GB | ved (e.g. 3–4 n or equal to ter table for ans for detail RMPA analy | I–5), lower the WQO, more deta | unless oth ails on com ufficient da | erwise in paring tes | dicated. Exe st data with | cept where n WQOs). | |
| | Amm N (μg/L) (μ | | | | | | | | | | | | рН | | | | |
| | TOXICANTS (INCLUDING METALS, BIOCIDES) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mid estuary waters mapped as HEV, SD: Toxicants (s5, s6) | HEV | ANZ The guid Note: For Toxicants Ship-sour | gg (2018) 't following s deline devel Biocides: - King from r informatio s in sedimer | oxicant defautources, when the courses, when the course of | des) in water: re ult guideline valure their guideline each toxicant): as amended) (vol Government publication of toxica ANZG 'toxicant de g sewage): Disch | es for water values post 1 and 2) Pro- blications) ant guideline efault guidel arge of ship | equality in aq e-date the spe coposed aquat es in estuaries ine values for -sourced polli | uatic ecosyste cified ANZG g ic ecosystem p , refer to ANZ sediment qua utants (includi | ms', as amende uideline value, o protection guide G Guideline valu ality' ng sewage) to b | line values ues for other | for pesticides er water types | commonly u | used in the G | reat Barrie | er Reef catch | ment area (a | available |
| Act 1995 and Regulation 2018. (Refer to Maritime Services Queensland website for further information.) Anti-fouling: Comply with Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines (2015, as amended) Toxicants (including metals, biocides) in water: Refer to 95% species protection values contained in sources below. Note: refer to 99% species protection values where indicated by ANZG (including for toxicants with bioaccumulation, toxicity effects): ANZG (2018) 'toxicant default guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended The following sources, where their guideline values post-date the specified ANZG guideline value, or where there is no ANZG value specified for a toxicant (Note: the ANZG specifies the date of guideline development for each toxicant) Biocides: King et al (2017, as amended) (vol 1 and 2) Proposed aquatic ecosystem protection guideline values for pesticides commonly used in the Great Barrier Reef catchment area (available from Queensland Government publications) Note: For information on the application of toxicant guidelines in estuaries, refer to ANZG Guideline values for other water types Noticants in sediments: refer to ANZG 'toxicant default guideline values for sediment quality' Ship-sourced pollutants (including sewage): Discharge of ship-sourced pollutants (including sewage) to be controlled in accordance with requirements of the Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995 and Regulation 2018. (Refer to Maritime Services Queensland website for further information.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| Water area/type (Source: s1–s6) | Management intent /Level of protection | value (e.g. 15) otherwise state HEV – high eco Sources: S1: L Monitoring Pr |). For sing ted, HEV/ ological v ocal data: ogram da | gle value W /SD WQOs a ralue; SD – s sets/report atasets; S5: | own as a range QOs, medians are an annual ra- dightly disturbe ing; S2: QWQG ANZG (2018); set season: Nov- | (or means vange, and Need; MD – missinguidelines 66: Other so | where speci MD WQOs a oderately d and /or dat ources | fied) of test re an annual isturbed. Re ra; S3: GBRN | data should be median (refer efer to accomp IPA (2010) WC | e less than note 7 af eanying pla QG; S4: GB | or equal to ter table for ans for detail RMPA analy | the WQO, more deta s; ID – insu | unless others on com | erwise inc paring tes ta | licated. Exc t data with | cept where n WQOs). | |
| | | Amm N (μg/L) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Anti-foulir | nti-fouling: Comply with <i>Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines</i> (2015, as amended) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coastal waters outside marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) | HEV | O ANZO O The f guide E Note: For Toxicants Ship-sourc Act 1995 a | G (2018) 'trofollowing seline devel Biocides: G GBRMI G King et from C information in sedimer ced polluta and Regula | oxicant defau ources, wher lopment for e PA (2010) We t al (2017, as Queensland G on on the app nts: refer to A ants (including | des) in water: re ult guideline valu re their guideline each toxicant): ater quality guide amended) (vol 1 covernment publication of toxica aNZG 'toxicant de g sewage): Disch tefer to Maritime uling and in-wat | es for water values post- elines for the and 2) Propications) ant guideline: efault guideli arge of ship- e Services Qu | quality in aquadrate the spe of Great Barrier osed aquatic s in estuaries ine values for sourced polluseensland we | uatic ecosyste cified ANZG g r Reef Marine ecosystem pro refer to ANZ sediment qua utants (includi bsite for furth | ms', as amende uideline value, c Park 2010 otection guidelin G Guideline valu ality' ng sewage) to b er information.) | or where the see values for other econtroller | r pesticides co er water types | mmonly use | d in the Gre | at Barrier I | Reef catchm | ent area (ava | ailable |
| Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (s3, s5, s6) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries (some provided in the grounds) (biocides: HEV) Coastal waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for water quality in aquatic ecosystems', as amended Coastal waters in guideline values for guideline values on the grounds in the grounds | | | | | | | | | | | e date of | | | | | | |

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PROSERPINE RIVER, WHITSUNDAY ISLAND AND O'CONNELL RIVER BASINS (refer plan WQ1222) Aquatic ecosystem water quality objectives (WQOs)¹⁻⁷ Note: WQOs for indicators are shown as a range of 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained or achieved (e.g. 3-4-5), lower and upper limits (e.g. pH: 7.2-8.2), or as a single value (e.g. 15). For single value WQOs, medians (or means where specified) of test data should be less than or equal to the WQO, unless otherwise indicated. Except where otherwise stated, HEV/SD WQOs are an annual range, and MD WQOs are an annual median (refer note 7 after table for more details on comparing test data with WQOs). Management Water area/type intent /Level of (Source: s1-s6) HEV – high ecological value; SD – slightly disturbed; MD – moderately disturbed. Refer to accompanying plans for details; ID – insufficient data protection Sources: S1: Local datasets/reporting; S2: QWQG guidelines and /or data; S3: GBRMPA (2010) WQG; S4: GBRMPA analysis of Marine Monitoring Program and/or AIMS Long Term Monitoring Program datasets; S5: ANZG (2018); s6: Other sources Seasons: Dry season: May-Oct; Wet season: Nov-April (Refer notes after table for more details on seasonal splits.) Oxid N Partic N Total Diss N Total N FRP Partic P **Total Diss P** Total P Chl-a Silicate DO Secchi Amm N Turb TSS рΗ $(\mu g/L)$ (% sat) (NTU) (mg/L)(m) • Ship-sourced pollutants (including sewage): Discharge of ship-sourced pollutants (including sewage) to be controlled in accordance with requirements of the Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995 and Regulation 2018. (Refer to Maritime Services Queensland website for further information.) • Anti-fouling: Comply with Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines (2015, as amended) ESTUARIES AND COASTAL WATERS – SEAGRASS Light requirements are specified as a photosynthetic active radiation (PAR) moving average, depending on seagrass species. Levels specified here are derived to support the health of all species present either as the dominant species or as one of a suite of species that are known to occur in the region. It does not reflect requirements for macroalgae or other organisms. **Coastal waters:** Deep water areas (>10m): 2.5 mol m⁻² day⁻¹ over a rolling 7 day average # (Collier et al 2016; Chartrand et al 2014; Rasheed et al 2014; York et al 2015) biological all Shallow inshore areas (<10m): 6 mol m⁻² day⁻¹ over a rolling 14 day average # (Collier et al 2016; Chartrand et al, 2012) (s1, s3) Note: # Absolute light requirements for seagrass may vary between sites. Values described here provide a conservative guide to the levels of light likely to support seagrass growth from acute water quality impacts. Locally derived absolute thresholds ideally should be obtained for management of specific activities likely to impact on the light environment. Higher light requirements may be needed for the management of longer term chronic impacts.

ESTUARIES AND COASTAL WATERS – TEMPERATURE

| Estuaries and coastal waters: temperature | all | Estuaries: Temperature varies daily and seasonally, is depth-dependent and highly site specific. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a temperature range (20 th – 80 th percentiles) based on local waterways not impacted by anthropogenic thermal influence. From an ecological effects perspective, daily maximum temperature and daily variation in temperature are key indicators, and seasonal variations also need to be identified. |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (s2, s3) | | Coastal and marine waters: increases of no more than 1°C above long-term (20 year) average maximum. (GBRMPA, 2010) |

Abbreviations: ANZG – Australian and New Zealand guidelines for fresh and marine water quality; GBRMPA – Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority; QWQG – Queensland water quality guidelines; ID – insufficient data. Will be updated if information becomes available; NA – not applicable; HEV – high ecological value; SD – slightly disturbed; MD – moderately disturbed.

Indicators: Amm N – ammonia nitrogen; Oxid N – oxidised nitrogen; Partic N – particulate nitrogen; Total Diss N – total dissolved nitrogen; Total N – total nitrogen; FRP – filterable reactive phosphorus; Partic P - particulate phosphorus: Total P - total phosphorus: Chl-a - chlorophyll-a: DO - dissolved oxygen: Turb - turbidity: TSS - total suspended solids.

Units: µg/L - micrograms per litre; % sat - percent saturation; NTU - nephelometric turbidity units; m - metres; mg/L - milligrams per litre.

Management intent:

Waters for which all physico—chemical WQOs (e.g. nutrients, toxicants) have been set corresponding to HEV management intent are identified in columns 1 and 2 of the table (and shown in accompanying plans). An HEV management intent does not preclude the need for management actions to address historical or ongoing threats to those values. Slightly disturbed (SD) waters are similarly identified in the table. The management intent (level of protection) for waters other than HEV or SD is to achieve a 'moderately disturbed' (MD) condition, for which corresponding WQOs have been derived. For some indicators and water types, WQOs correspond with a 'slightly to moderately disturbed' (SMD) level of protection, based on management intent categories specified in source technical guidelines, in particular the Australian water quality guidelines (ANZG, 2018). For ease of interpretation, this document and accompanying mapping include these within the MD level of protection. For some MD waters a higher level of protection may be provided for toxicants (e.g. pesticides).

Notes:

- 1. Nutrients: Ammonia N comprises both un-ionised ammonia (NH_3) and ionised ammonium (NH_4). Oxidised N = $NO_2 + NO_3$. Ammonia N + Oxidised N = Dissolved inorganic N (DIN). Except where specified for event conditions, nutrient WQOs do not apply during high flow events in fresh and estuarine waters. During periods of low flow and particularly in smaller creeks, build-up of organic matter derived from natural sources (e.g. leaf litter) can result in increased organic N levels (generally in the range of 400 to 800µg/L). This may lead to total N values exceeding the WQOs. Provided that levels of inorganic N (i.e. NH_3 + oxidised N) remain low, then the elevated levels of organic N should not be seen as a breach of the WQOs, provided this is due to natural causes. See QWQG (section 5 and Appendix D) for more information on applying guidelines under high flow conditions.
- 2. Dissolved oxygen (DO): Dissolved Oxygen (DO) guidelines apply to daytime conditions. Lower values will occur at night in most waters. In estuaries, reductions should only be in the region of 10–15 per cent saturation below daytime values. In freshwaters, night-time reductions are more variable. Following significant rainfall events, reduced DO values may occur due to the influx of organic material. In estuaries post-event values as low as 40 per cent saturation may occur naturally for short periods but values well below this would indicate some anthropogenic effect. In freshwaters, post-event DO reductions are again more variable. In general, DO values consistently less than 50 per cent are likely to impact on the ongoing ability of fish to persist in a water body while short term DO values less than 30 per cent saturation are toxic to some fish species. Very high DO (supersaturation) values can be toxic to some fish as they cause gas bubble disease. DO values for fresh waters should only be applied to flowing waters. Stagnant pools in intermittent streams naturally experience values of DO below 50 per cent saturation.
- 3. Total suspended solids coastal waters: TSS (and hence turbidity and Secchi depth) levels in coastal waters are naturally highly variable depending on wind speed/wave height and in some cases on tidal cycles. The values in this table provide guidance on what the long term values of turbidity, Secchi depth or TSS should comply with. However, these values will often be naturally exceeded in the short term during windy weather or spring tides. They therefore should not be used for comparison with short term data sets. Where assessable coastal developments are proposed, proponents should carry out site specific intensive monitoring of these indicators (or equivalent light penetration indicators) and use these as a baseline for deriving local guidelines and for comparison with post development conditions.
- 4. Open coastal/marine waters GBR plume line: The GBR plume discharge area is derived from a smoothed version of the 'high' and 'very high' risk classes of modelled outputs from the risk assessment element of the Reef Plan Scientific Consensus Statement 2013 (Waterhouse et al. 2013).
- 5. Open coastal/marine waters seasonal splits: While seasonal means are estimated based on biotic responses the relationship is not as strong as it is for annual mean values. They are provided here as indicative objectives to allow comparison with single season collected data sets. Wet and dry seasons can start and end at different times of the year. Seasonal dates indicated are generally applicable. Applying these values for any management action should take both of these matters into account.
- 6. Open coastal waters Secchi depth: For waters shallower than the specified Secchi depth of ≥10m the depth to seafloor is the WQO.

7. Comparison of test data with WQOs: The following protocols are recommended when comparing fresh, estuarine or coastal/marine water quality (at a 'test' site) with the corresponding aquatic ecosystem water quality objective (WQO). For concentration-based indicators (e.g. nutrients) and turbidity (NTU), the intent is for test site water quality value to be less than or equal to the corresponding WQO. For WQO indicators where a range is specified (e.g. pH, DO), the intent is that the test site water quality median value falls within the specified WQO range. For Secchi and silicate (typically used in estuarine, coastal and marine waters), the intent is for the test site water quality value to be greater than or equal to the stated WQO. Further detail on protocols for assessing test data against WQOs is provided in the QWQG.

For HEV and SD waters:

- Where the WQO is expressed as a 20th–50th–80th percentile range of values (e.g. Total N: 65–100–125 μg/L), the 20th–50th–80th percentile distributions of the test data should meet the specified range of values. The sample number is a minimum of 24 test values over the relevant period (12 months if a continuous activity or alternatively a shorter period for activities where discharge occurs for only part of the year).
- For DO and pH, the median value of preferably five or more independent samples at a monitoring (test) site is compared with, and should fall within, the specified percentile range.
- Where a single WQO value is provided, the median value of preferably five or more independent samples at a monitoring (test) site should be compared with, and should be less than or equal to, the corresponding aquatic ecosystem WQO (except where otherwise indicated).

For MD and HD waters:

- The median value (e.g. concentration) of preferably five or more independent samples at a monitoring (test) site should be compared with, and should be less than or equal to, the corresponding aquatic ecosystem WQO (except where otherwise indicated).
- For DO and pH, the median value of preferably five or more independent samples at a monitoring (test) site is compared with, and should fall within, the specified percentile range.

For toxicants in water: unless otherwise stated, WQOs for toxicants are derived from the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG, 2018) default guideline values for the corresponding level of species protection. The ANZG recommends that the 95th percentile of test data is compared against the default guideline value. As the proportion of test values that is required to be less than the default guideline value is high, the ANZG indicates that a single observation greater than the default guideline value is considered an exceedance.

For comparisons of toxicants in sediments, refer to ANZG.

Great Barrier Reef coastal/marine waters: Further to the above, some parameters in Great Barrier Reef waters have WQO values specified as an annual (or seasonal) mean, rather than as a median or percentile range. For these waters, the mean water quality value of a number of independent samples at a particular monitoring ('test') site should be compared with, and should be less than or equal to, the corresponding aquatic ecosystem WQO (except where otherwise indicated). The sample number is preferably five or more samples for within season comparison, and five or more samples taken during each of the wet and dry seasons for annual mean comparisons. However, more samples may be required depending on the inherent variability in the measurement data (Queensland Monitoring and Sampling Manual; Section 1.9.1).

Refer to notes after the WQOs tables for further details on marine water season splits.

Further information: Refer to the QWQG, the Queensland Monitoring and Sampling Manual (2018), and ANZG for more details.

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2.3 Vegetation management and planning provisions

This following is provided for information on habitat management and planning matters. While it is current at time of publication, readers should refer to relevant Queensland websites and legislation to ensure they are referring to current materials.

2.3.1 Riparian vegetation

The clearing of native vegetation in Queensland is regulated by the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*, the *Planning Act 2016* and associated policies and codes. This includes the regulation of clearing within a defined distance of watercourses and drainage features.

For vegetation management relating to waterways, reference should be made to:

- State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP) State Code 16: Native vegetation clearing. This code
 requires clearing of native vegetation to meet performance outcomes relating to the protection of wetlands,
 watercourses and drainage features. The code outlines buffer areas where clearing cannot occur within a
 specified distance of watercourses or drainage features. If clearing within these buffers cannot be reasonably
 avoided, an offset must be provided to counterbalance any significant residual impact to a wetland,
 watercourse or drainage feature. For more information on SDAP State code 16, refer to the Queensland's
 Planning System website.
- on SDAP State Code 9: Great Barrier Reef wetland protection areas
 - The relevant Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCC) under the Vegetation Management Act 1999. These codes allow self-assessable clearing for certain purposes in particular land tenures and regional ecosystems. It is a requirement across all codes for landholders to use best practice methods when clearing vegetation to prevent soil erosion and instability and to prevent increased sediment run-off entering a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature. The codes also contain riparian protection zones to prevent clearing within a defined distance of a wetland, a stream ordered watercourse or a drainage feature. Where a code permits clearing within these areas, there are additional requirements to rehabilitate the area or (for clearing of regulated regrowth vegetation) to legally secure an exchange area to counterbalance the impact. For more information on the ADVCCs and guidance material, refer to the Queensland Government vegetation management and Department of Resources websites.

Clearing of native vegetation in a watercourse may also require a riverine protection permit under the *Water Act* 2000. Further information is available at www.business.gld.gov.au.

Local Government Planning schemes under the *Planning Act 2016* may also specify riparian buffers (for example under catchment protection or waterway codes). Refer to the Queensland's Planning System website and relevant local government websites for further information about planning schemes.

2.3.2 Wetlands

The Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019 defines environmental values for wetlands.

The State assesses impacts from earth works that may have impacts on freshwater wetlands of High Ecological Significance in Great Barrier Reef Catchments against State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP) State Code 9: Great Barrier Reef wetland protection areas.

This includes performance requirements to ensure:

- adverse effects on hydrology, water quality and ecological processes of a wetland are avoided or minimised
- any significant adverse impacts on matters of state environmental significance and on riparian areas or wildlife corridors in strategic environmental areas are avoided.

2.3.3 Marine protected areas

In Queensland, declared fish habitat areas (under the *Fisheries Act 1994*) protect the State's key estuarine and coastal fish habitats from development impacts to support sustainable fishing.

Works within declared fish habitat areas may be assessable development for which a development approval is required under the *Planning Act 2016*, or be accepted development under the *Fisheries (General) Regulation 2019*. The State assesses building work or operational development that may have impacts on declared fish habitat areas against the State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP) State code 12: Development in a declared fish habitat area. (For more information on SDAP State codes, refer to the Queensland's Planning System website.

Performance outcomes for all assessable development include (but are not limited to):

- development does not increase the risk of mortality, disease or injury, or compromise the health, productivity, marketability or suitability for human consumption of fisheries resources, having regard to (but not limited to)
 - o biotic and abiotic conditions, such as water and sediment quality
 - o substances that are toxic to plants or toxic to or cumulative within fish
- development maintains or improves water quality
- development likely to cause disturbance to potential or actual acid sulfate soil, prevents the release of contaminants.

In most cases a resource allocation authority is also required under the *Fisheries Act 1994* before assessable development can proceed. The Department of Environment and Science website contains further information on approvals, accepted development requirements and other aspects relating to declared fish habitat areas.

Marine parks (under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*) protect tidal lands and waters to conserve the marine environment while allowing for sustainable use. Depending on the zone, activities can occur "as of right" or with permission. For more information about declared fish habitat areas and marine parks, see the department's website.

2.3.4 Marine plants (including mangroves)

Marine plants grow on or adjacent to tidal lands. They include tidal plants such as mangroves, seagrass, saltcouch, algae, samphire (succulent) vegetation and seasonally connected adjacent plants, such as melaleuca (paper barks) and casuarina (coastal she-oaks). Marine plants support local fish populations, fish catches and general aquatic health, and for this reason they are protected under the *Fisheries Act 1994*.

A material change of use, reconfiguring of a lot, and operational work that will remove, damage or destroy a marine plant is either assessable development for which a development approval is required under the *Planning Act 2016*, or accepted development under the *Fisheries (General) Regulation 2019*. Work types that are described as accepted development must comply with the relevant Accepted Development Requirements in all respects. If all requirements are not met, then the development is assessable and must be applied for.

The State assesses development applications that may have impacts on marine plants using the State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP) State code 11: Removal, destruction or damage of marine plants. (For more information on SDAP State codes, refer to the Queensland's Planning System website.

Performance outcomes for all development include (but are not limited to):

- development does not increase the risk of mortality, disease or injury, or compromise the health, productivity, marketability or suitability for human consumption of fisheries resources, having regard to (but not limited to)
 - biotic and abiotic conditions, such as water and sediment quality
 - o substances that are toxic to plants or toxic to or cumulative within fish
- development likely to cause drainage or disturbance to acid sulfate soils, prevents the release of contaminants and impacts on fisheries resources and fish habitats.

A marine plant is a matter of state environmental significance under the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014* and an environmental offset may be required for any significant residual impact that is approved.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website contains further information on approvals, accepted development requirements and other aspects relating to marine plants.

2.3.5 Waterways providing for fish passage

Waterway barrier works may inhibit the free movement of fish along waterways and onto floodplains, injure fish or affect fish health and habitat. Many native fish need to access a range of habitats for food, breeding and refuge and move or migrate to complete their lifecycle.

Adequate fish passage must be provided at any proposed waterway barrier. Operational work that is to construct or raise a waterway barrier is assessable development for which a development approval is required under the *Planning Act 2016*, or is accepted development under the *Fisheries (General) Regulation 2019*. Work types that are described as accepted development must comply with the relevant Accepted Development Requirements in all respects. If all requirements are not met, then the development is assessable and must be applied for. The State assesses development applications that may have impacts to fish passage using the State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP) State code 18: Constructing or raising waterway barrier works in fish habitats. For more information on SDAP State codes, refer to the Queensland's Planning System website.

Performance outcomes for all development include (but are not limited to):

• development does not increase the risk of mortality, disease or injury, or compromise the health, productivity, marketability or suitability for human consumption of fisheries resources, having regard to (but not limited to)

- biotic and abiotic conditions, such as water and sediment quality
- o substances that are toxic to plants or toxic to or cumulative within fish
- sufficient water exchange and flow is maintained and provided to sustain and where necessary restore, water quality and the health and condition of fisheries resources, ecological functions and fish passage
- development likely to cause drainage or disturbance to acid sulfate soils, prevents the release of contaminants and impacts on fisheries resources and fish habitats.

A waterway providing for fish passage is a matter of state environmental significance under the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014* and an environmental offset may be required for any significant residual impact that is approved.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website contains further information on approvals, accepted development requirements and other aspects relating to waterway barrier works and fish passage.

2.3.6 State Planning Policy (state interest – water quality)

The State Planning Policy (SPP) defines the Queensland Government's policies about matters of state interest in land use planning and development (a state interest is defined under the *Planning Act 2016*).

Water quality is a state interest. The SPP (state interest – water quality) seeks to ensure that 'the environmental values and quality of Queensland waters are protected and enhanced'. It includes provisions relating to receiving waters, acid sulfate soils and water supply buffer areas.

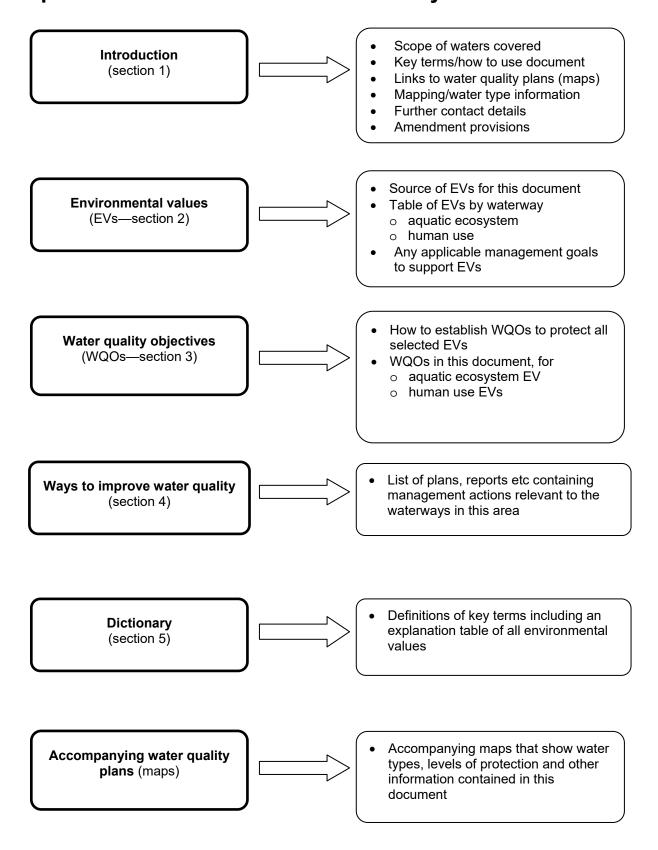
The provisions of the SPP are applied through their 'integration' into local government planning schemes. Planning schemes adopt measures prescribed in the SPP that ensure development is planned, designed, constructed and operated to manage stormwater and wastewater in ways that support the protection of environmental values and meet the water quality objectives identified in the Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019.

This is achieved by compliance with the policy provisions of the SPP (state interest – water quality).

Stormwater management design objectives for construction include developments using measures to manage the velocity of stormwater flows and prevent erosion, sediment, litter and other contaminates entering waterways while construction is occurring. Post construction stormwater management design objectives generally apply to lots over 2500m² that results in six or more dwellings or lots. The objectives seek to limit the amount of nutrients and litter, including nitrogen, phosphorus and suspended sediments, entering waterways from the operation of the development.

The SPP is supported by guidance materials which include Integrating state interests in a planning scheme – guidance for local governments (by Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning). These and other SPP materials are available from the State Planning Policy website. Supplementary guidance is available from the Department of Environment and Science website on post construction phase stormwater management (phase 5b).

Main parts of this document and what they contain



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1 Introduction

This document is made pursuant to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 (EPP (Water)), which is subordinate legislation under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The EPP (Water) provides a framework for:

- identifying environmental values (EVs) for Queensland waters, and deciding the water quality objectives (WQOs) to protect or enhance those EVs. (WQOs are long term goals for receiving waters, not individual point source emission objectives.)
- including the identified EVs and WQOs under Schedule 1 of the EPP (Water).
- This document contains EVs and WQOs for waters in the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River basins and adjacent coastal waters, and is listed under schedule 1 of the EPP (Water).

1.1 Waters to which this document applies

This document applies to fresh and estuarine surface waters and groundwaters draining the basins of the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island, and O'Connell River (basins 122, 123 and 124¹), and coastal waters as indicated in the accompanying plans (WQ1221—surface waters, WQ1222—coastal waters)².

Waters covered by this document include:

- Proserpine River Basin (excluding those waters within Abbot Point port limits), including fresh and estuarine
 waters of the Proserpine River, Eden Lassie Creek, Gregory River, Thompson, Myrtle and Repulse creeks, and
 Lethe Brook
- O'Connell River Basin, including fresh and estuarine waters of the O'Connell and Andromache rivers, Waterhole, Blackrock, St Helens, Murray, Constant, and Reliance creeks. (A small southern section of the O'Connell River Basin near Mackay has been included with the Pioneer River Basin EVs document.)
- · Whitsunday Islands, including fresh and estuarine waters
- · wetlands, lakes and reservoirs
- groundwaters
- waters on islands
- enclosed coastal and open coastal waters, excluding Edgecumbe Bay and other waters within Abbot Point port limits.

The geographical extent of waters addressed by this document is shown in plans WQ1221 and WQ1222, and is broadly:

- north to the boundary of the Proserpine River Basin with the Abbot Point port limits
- west to the boundary with the Don and Burdekin river basins
- · south to and including the Reliance Creek subcatchment
- east and north-east to the limit of Queensland Coastal Waters.

¹ Australia's River Basins 1997—Product User Guide. Published by Geoscience Australia. Canberra, ACT (3rd edition, 2004).

² This document and the accompanying plans are available from the department's website at www.ehp.qld.gov.au. The boundaries in the accompanying plans WQ1221 and WQ1222 are indicative only. EVs, water types and aquatic ecosystem management intent (level of protection) depicted in the accompanying plans are stored in electronic form as part of the Central Queensland Environmental Values Schedule 1 Geodatabase August 2013, and held at the department's offices at 400 George Street Brisbane. Geodatabase regions are based on the regions established in the Queensland Water Quality Guidelines. Spatial (GIS) datasets can be downloaded free of charge from the Queensland Government Information Service (QGIS) at http://dds.information.qld.gov.au/dds. For further information, email the department at epa.ev@ehp.qld.gov.au.

1.2 Guidance on using this document

1.2.1 Key terms (refer to dictionary for additional terms)

ADWG means the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011), prepared by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in collaboration with the Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council (NRMMC)³.

AWQG means the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (October 2000), prepared by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) and the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ)⁴.

Environmental values (EVs) for water means the EVs specified in Table 1 of this document for the corresponding water.

EVs for water are the qualities of water that make it suitable for supporting aquatic ecosystems and human water uses. These EVs need to be protected from the effects of habitat alteration, waste releases, contaminated runoff and changed flows to ensure healthy aquatic ecosystems and waterways that are safe for community use. Particular waters may have different EVs. The range of EVs and the waters they can potentially apply to are listed below, and further details are provided in the dictionary (refer section 5).

List of EVs and applicable waters

| Environmental value (EV) | Potentially a | applicable to: |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | Tidal waters | Fresh (non-tidal) waters |
| Protection of aquatic ecosystems (aquatic ecosystem EV) | | |
| Protection or enhancement of aquatic ecosystem values, under four possible levels of ecosystem conditions: | √ | ✓ |
| high ecological value (effectively unmodified) waters | | |
| slightly disturbed waters | | |
| moderately disturbed waters | | |
| highly disturbed waters. | | |
| (Suitability for seagrass and wildlife habitat have also been specifically identified for some Queensland waters as a component of this EV). | | |
| EVs other than aquatic ecosystem EV (called human use EVs) | | |
| Suitability for drinking water supplies | | ✓ |
| Suitability for primary contact recreation (e.g. swimming) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for secondary contact recreation (e.g. boating) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for visual (no contact) recreation | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for human consumers of wild or stocked fish, shellfish or crustaceans (suitability for oystering has also been specifically identified for some Queensland waters) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Protection of cultural and spiritual values, including traditional owner values of water | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for industrial use (including mining, minerals refining/processing) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for aquaculture (e.g. red claw, barramundi) | ✓ | ✓ |
| Suitability for crop irrigation | | ✓ |
| Suitability for stock watering | | ✓ |
| Suitability for farm supply/use | | ✓ |

³ The ADWG are available on the National Health and Medical Research Council website at <u>www.nhmrc.gov.au</u>.

⁴ The AWQG are available on the Australian Government's National Water Quality Management Strategy website.

Level of protection for a water (aquatic ecosystem EV) means the level of aquatic ecosystem condition specified in Table 2 of this document that the corresponding WQOs for that water are intended to achieve (refer to management intent definition below for further information).

Management goal means the goals (if any) stated in section 2 of this document to support the EVs for waters identified in Table 1.

Management intent (level of protection) for a water (aquatic ecosystem EV) means the level of aquatic ecosystem condition specified in Table 2 of this document that the corresponding WQOs for that water are intended to achieve. For example, the intent for high ecological value waters is that their effectively unmodified condition is maintained.

QWQG means the Queensland Water Quality Guidelines.5

Water quality guidelines (defined in the EPP (Water)) are numerical concentration levels or statements for indicators that protect a stated environmental value. Under the EVs setting process contained in the EPP (Water), water quality guidelines are used as an input to the development of WQOs.

Water quality indicator (for an EV) means a property that is able to be measured or decided in a quantitative way. Examples of water quality indicators include physical indicators (e.g. temperature), chemical indicators (e.g. nitrogen, phosphorus, metals), and biological indicators (e.g. macroinvertebrates, seagrass, fish).

Water quality objectives (WQOs) means the WQOs specified in tables 2–12 of this document to support the EVs for waters identified in Table 1.

WQOs are long-term goals for water quality management. They are numerical concentration levels or narrative statements of indicators established for receiving waters to support and protect the designated EVs for those waters. Water quality objectives are not individual point source emission objectives, but the receiving water quality objectives.

They are based on scientific criteria or water quality guidelines but may be modified by other inputs (e.g. social, cultural, economic).

Examples of WQOs include:

- total phosphorus concentration less than 20 micrograms per litre (μg/L)
- chlorophyll a concentration less than 1 μg/L
- dissolved oxygen between 95 per cent and 105 per cent saturation
- family richness of macroinvertebrates greater than 12 families
- · exotic individuals of fish less than five per cent.

Water type means groupings of waters with similar characteristics, as shown in the accompanying plans. The water types covered by this document are based on mapping and definitional rules for water types established in the QWQG and, where available, other site-specific studies and documents. Water types can include fresh waters (lowland, upland, lakes/reservoirs), wetlands and groundwaters, estuarine waters (lower, middle and upper estuaries), tidal canals, constructed estuaries, marinas and boat harbours, and coastal marine waters (open coastal, enclosed coastal). WQOs applying to different water types are outlined in this document. More detail on water types is provided in section 1.4.

Refer to dictionary for additional terms.

1.2.2 Main components of this document

The main components of this document are:

- Plan WQ1221—showing the spatial extent and boundaries of surface water types covered by this document
- Plan WQ1222—showing the spatial extent and boundaries of coastal water types covered by this document
- Section 1—introduction and guidance on how to use the document
- Section 2 (Table 1)—EVs applying to waters covered by this document
- Section 3 (Tables 2–12)—WQOs applying to different EVs:
 - o Table 2 provides WQOs to protect the aquatic ecosystem EV, and closely links to the water types shown on

⁵ The QWQG are available on the department's website.

plan WQ1221, and plan WQ1222 (coastal waters)

- o tables 3 to 12 provide WQOs to protect human use EVs
- Section 4—ways to improve water quality: containing a list of relevant documents, provided for information purposes only
- Section 5—a dictionary of other terms relevant to EVs and WQOs.

1.2.3 Use of this document

Section 2 (Table 1) lists the identified EVs for protection for particular waters. The aquatic ecosystem EV is a default applying to all Queensland waters. Reference to section 3 (Table 2) provides the corresponding WQOs to protect the aquatic ecosystem EV. Where relevant, different WQOs are specified to protect the aquatic ecosystem EV in different water types (refer to the tables and the accompanying plans). For the human use EVs specified in Table 1, tables 3 onwards provide the corresponding WQOs to support these EVs.

Where reference to Table 1 indicates more than one EV applies to a given water, the adoption of the most stringent WQO for the identified EVs applies to each water quality indicator in order to protect all identified EVs. Further detail on selection of most stringent WQOs is provided in section 3.

This document also refers to a number of guidelines, codes and other reference sources on water quality. In particular, the QWQG prepared by the department provide a technical basis for the WQOs contained in this document. The QWQG also provide more detailed information on water types, water quality indicators, derivation of local water quality guidelines, application during flood events, monitoring, and predicting and assessing compliance.

1.3 Information about mapped areas and boundaries

The boundaries in the accompanying plans WQ1221 and WQ1222 are indicative only. EVs, water types and aquatic ecosystem management intent (level of protection) depicted in the accompanying plans are stored in electronic form as part of the Central Queensland Environmental Values Schedule 1 Geodatabase August 2013, and held at the department's offices at 400 George Street Brisbane. Geodatabase regions are based on the regions established in the QWQG. Spatial (GIS) datasets can be downloaded free of charge from the Queensland Government Information Service (QGIS) at http://dds.information.qld.gov.au/dds. For further information, email the department at epa.ev@ehp.qld.gov.au.

1.4 Water types and basis for boundaries

1.4.1 Water types

Waters in this document have been classified into the following different water types (not all water types are present in all areas):

- Fresh waters— freshwater streams and rivers
- freshwater lakes/reservoirs
- groundwaters
- mid estuary—waters extending the majority of the length of estuaries with a moderate amount of water movement from either freshwater inflow or tidal exchange
- enclosed coastal/lower estuary—waters occurring at the downstream end of estuaries and including shallow coastal waters in adjacent enclosed bays
- marinas, boat harbours, tidal canals, and constructed estuaries,
- wetlands
- open coastal waters—waters extending to the seaward limits of Queensland waters.

The water types are based on local water quality studies in the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River basins (refer to the source documents listed after Table 2), the AWQG and mapping and definitional rules contained in the QWQG. Further detail on water types is contained in these sources.

Water types identified in this document are shown in Table 2 and the accompanying plans (WQ1221, WQ1222).

1.4.2 Water type boundaries

The boundaries of different water types have been mapped using a variety of attributes, including:

- 1. geographic coordinates
- 2. catchment or subcatchment boundaries
- 3. highest/lowest astronomical tide
- 4. tidal limiting structure (weirs)
- 5. maritime mapping conventions
- 6. coastline
- 7. surveyed terrestrial boundaries
- 8. altitude.

The basis of different boundaries is shown in the plan. The boundaries of water types may be confirmed or revised by site investigations. Refer to section 1.3 above.

1.5 Matters for amendment

Amendments of the following type may be made to this schedule 1 document for the purposes of replacement under section 12(2)(b) of the EPP (Water):

- · changes to EVs
- · changes to management goals
- changes to WQOs
- changes to management intent (level of protection) categories
- changes to waterway or water type boundaries/descriptions
- updates to information/data sources, websites and email contact details, agency/departmental names, other institutional names, references.

2 Environmental values

2.1 Environmental values

Table 1 and the accompanying plans WQ1221 and WQ1222 outline the EVs for waters in the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River basins, and adjacent coastal waters. These are based on stakeholder EVs consultations undertaken by the department and Mackay Whitsunday NRM (Reef Catchments) as part of the Mackay Whitsunday region water quality improvement plan, and additional consultation by the department in preparing this document. Consultation results from the water quality improvement plan are reported in:

 Mitchell, C & Higham, W 2008. Water quality improvement plan (WQIP): Community consultation, Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group, Reef Catchments, Mackay.

The dictionary to this document provides further explanation of EVs (refer section 5).

2.2 Management goals to support environmental values

There are no management goals specified under this document.

Table 1. Environmental values for Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basin waters

| | Environmental values 1,2,3,4,5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Aquatic ecosystems | Irrigation | Farm supply/use | Stock water | Aquaculture | Human consumer | Primary recreation ⁵ | Secondary recreation ⁵ | Visual recreation | Drinking water | Industrial use | Cultural and spiritual values |
| Subcatchment / waterway name (alphabetically listed—fresh water, estuarine, coastal/marine) | | | •••• | | | | | 4 | | | | Ü |
| Andromache River fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Blackrock Creek fresh waters | √ | √ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Blackrock Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Coastal / marine waters - refer to 'Whitsunday Islands' and 'Southern Cumberland Islands' rows | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Constant Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Constant Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Eden Lassie Creek fresh waters (outside Abbot Point port limits) | √ | ✓ | √ | ✓ | √ | ✓ | | | ✓ | √ | | ✓ |
| Eden Lassie Creek estuarine waters (outside Abbot Point port limits) | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | √ |
| Gregory River fresh waters (outside port limits) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Gregory River estuarine waters (outside port limits) | √ | | | | √ | ✓ | | √ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Island waters - refer to 'Whitsunday Islands', 'Cumberland Islands' rows | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | Environmental values 1,2,3,4,5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Aquatic ecosystems | Irrigation | Farm supply/use | Stock water | Aquaculture | Human consumer | Primary recreation ⁵ | Secondary recreation ⁵ | Visual recreation | Drinking water | Industrial use | Cultural and spiritual values |
| Subcatchment / waterway name (alphabetically listed—fresh water, estuarine, coastal/marine) | | | ≘ ∏ | | | | • | 4 | | | | Ĩ |
| Lethe Brook fresh waters | √ | √ | ✓ | √ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Lethe Brook estuarine waters | √ | | | | | ✓ | | √ | √ | | | ✓ |
| Murray Creek fresh waters | √ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | √ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Murray Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | √ | | | ✓ |
| Myrtle Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | | ✓ | ✓ | | √ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| O'Connell River fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| O'Connell River estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Proserpine River fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Proserpine River estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Reliance Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Reliance Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Repulse Creek fresh waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | √ | | √ | √ | | ✓ |

| | Environmental values 1,2,3,4,5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Aquatic ecosystems | Irrigation | Farm supply/use | Stock water | Aquaculture | Human consumer | Primary recreation ⁵ | Secondary recreation ⁵ | Visual recreation | Drinking water | Industrial use | Cultural and spiritual values |
| Subcatchment / waterway name (alphabetically listed—fresh water, estuarine, coastal/marine) | | | ≘ ∏ | | | | • | 4 | | | | Ĩ |
| Repulse Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | √ | √ | | | ✓ |
| Repulse Bay | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Southern Cumberland Islands fresh waters | ✓ | √7 | | | | | | ✓ | √ | √ ⁷ | | ✓ |
| Southern Cumberland Islands coastal and marine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | √ | ✓ | ✓ | √ ⁶ | | ✓ |
| St Helens Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | √ | ✓ | √ | | ✓ |
| St Helens Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| St Helens Bay | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Thompson Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Thompson Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Upper Proserpine River fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | √ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | | ✓ |
| Lake Proserpine (Peter Faust Dam) | ✓ | √ | | √ | | ✓ | √ | ✓ | √ | √ | | ✓ |
| Waterhole Creek fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| | Enviro | Environmental values 1,2,3,4,5 | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Aquatic ecosystems | Irrigation | Farm supply/use | Stock water | Aquaculture | Human consumer | Primary recreation ⁵ | Secondary recreation ⁵ | Visual recreation | Drinking water | Industrial use | Cultural and spiritual values |
| Subcatchment / waterway name (alphabetically listed—fresh water, estuarine, coastal/marine) | | | •••• | | | | | 4 | | | | Ţ |
| Waterhole Creek estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | √ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Whitsunday coastal creeks fresh waters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | √ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Whitsunday coastal creeks estuarine waters | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | √ ⁶ | | ✓ |
| Whitsunday Islands fresh waters ⁷ (including Whitsunday, Lindeman groups) | ✓ | √7 | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | √7 | | √ |
| Whitsunday Islands estuarine waters ⁷ (including Whitsunday, Lindeman groups) | ✓ | | | | | √ | | ✓ | ✓ | √ 6 | | ✓ |
| Whitsunday Islands coastal and marine waters (including Whitsunday, Lindeman groups, Circular Quay Reef) - see plan WQ1222 | ~ | | | | | ~ | √ | √ | ~ | √ 6 | | √ |
| Groundwaters | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | √ | | | | | | √ | ✓ | ✓ |

Notes:

- 1. Refer to the accompanying plans WQ1221 and WQ1222 for locations of EVs. For fresh water and estuarine rows, the EVs shown relate to waters within each subcatchment. For example the EVs for 'Andromache River fresh waters' apply to all riverine freshwaters in the Andromache River subcatchment.
- 2. ✓ means the EV is selected for protection. Blank indicates that the EV is not chosen for protection.
- 3. Refer to the dictionary for further explanation of EVs.
- 4. Refer to section 3 for WQOs applying to the EVs in this table.
- 5. The selection of recreational EVs for waters does not mean that these waters are free of venomous or dangerous aquatic organisms, for example venomous organisms (e.g. marine stingers including box jellyfish, irukandji jellyfish), crocodiles, and sharks. Direct contact with venomous or dangerous aquatic organisms should be avoided. Refer to council websites, www.health.qld.gov.au, <a href=

Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River Basins Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives

www.marinestingers.com.au and other information sources for further details on swimming safety and information on specific waters.

- 6. In some areas (particularly islands) reverse osmosis plants may be in use to treat sea water for drinking water.
- 7. This is a generic list of EVs for islands. EVs for specific islands may differ according to degree of development, available facilities and management intent for individual islands.

3 Water quality objectives to protect environmental values

This section provides WQOs to support and protect different EVs identified for waters within the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River basins in Table 1. WQOs are long-term goals for water quality management. They are numerical concentration levels or narrative statements of indicators established for receiving waters to support and protect the designated EVs for those waters. Water quality objectives are not individual point source emission objectives, but the receiving water quality objectives.

This section is in two main parts:

- Section 3.1 (Table 2) outlines WQOs to protect the aquatic ecosystem EV. The aquatic ecosystem EV is a
 default applying to all Queensland waters, and therefore the WQOs for aquatic ecosystems form the minimum
 WQOs for all waters. Where no human use EVs are identified, the WQOs identified for aquatic ecosystem
 protection remain applicable.
- Section 3.2 (tables 3 to 12) provides WQOs for EVs other than aquatic ecosystem ('human use EVs') such as recreational water use, irrigating crops, and aquaculture.

Sources used in deriving WQOs are provided after the tables.

Reference to the identified EVs in Table 1 of this document provides guidance on the EVs applying to waters within the catchment. Where reference to Table 1 indicates more than one EV applies to a given water (for example aquatic ecosystem and recreational use), the most stringent WQO for each water quality indicator applies, which will then protect all identified EVs. Refer to the two following examples on selection of most stringent WQOs. Note that these are examples only and should not be directly adopted for use.

Example 1

For freshwater streams with aquatic ecosystem and drinking water EVs, the respective turbidity WQOs are:

- aguatic ecosystem lowland freshwater stream: less than 10 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU)
- drinking water: less than 25 NTU.

In this case, the aquatic ecosystem WQO for turbidity (less than 10 NTU) is the more stringent, and its adoption therefore supports both the aquatic ecosystem and drinking water EVs.

Example 2

In the following situation there are stock watering and irrigation EVs, with differing WQOs for thermotolerant (faecal) coliforms (measured as median number of organisms per 100 millilitre (mL)):

- stock watering: less than 100 organisms per 100 mL
- raw human food crops in direct contact with irrigation water: less than 10 organisms per 100 mL
- pasture and fodder for dairy animals: less than 100 organisms per 100 mL.

The most stringent WQO for faecal coliforms in this example is that for direct irrigation of raw human food crops (less than 10 organisms per 100 mL) and its adoption would in turn provide faecal coliform WQOs that protect all the above-identified human use EVs.

3.1 Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystems

This section provides physico-chemical, biological (section 3.1.1) and riparian (section 3.1.2) WQOs to support the aquatic ecosystem EV. Sources used in deriving locally relevant WQOs are provided after the tables in each of these sections.

Section 5 and Appendix D of the QWQG address procedures for the application of guidelines for aquatic ecosystem protection, and compliance assessment protocols. For the comparison of test site monitoring data against WQOs, the median water quality value (e.g. concentration) of a number (preferably five or more) independent samples at a particular monitoring ('test') site should be compared against the water quality objective of the same indicator, water type and level of aquatic ecosystem protection, as listed in Table 2 below. For WQOs based on GBRMPA data, refer to notes after tables, and protocols contained in *Water quality guidelines for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park 2010.*

3.1.1 Physico-chemical and biological water quality objectives

Table 2 includes the following information:

- water area or water type (column 1) (for boundaries of specified areas, refer to the accompanying plan)
- the corresponding management intent (level of protection) for the identified waters (column 2)
- the corresponding physico-chemical and biological WQOs to achieve the management intent (level of protection) for the identified waters.

The EPP (Water) s. 14 identifies the management intent (level of protection) for different waters. The framework and how it is addressed in this document are summarised below.

- The EPP (Water) identifies some waters for which the management intent (level of protection) is to maintain or achieve an effectively unmodified waterway condition ('high ecological value'—HEV). These may include waters that are currently HEV, 'slightly disturbed' (SD), or potentially, more modified waters which can be progressively improved to achieve HEV condition.
- In this document, waters for which all physico-chemical WQOs (e.g. nutrients, toxicants) have been set corresponding to HEV management intent are identified in columns 1 and 2 of Table 2. Each of these waters is given a specific label in the table (e.g. 'HEV1234' for effectively unmodified waters, 'SD1234' for slightly disturbed waters) which links to labels and cross-hatching on the accompanying plans.
- The management intent (level of protection) for most waters other than HEV or SD is to achieve a 'moderately disturbed' (MD) condition, for which corresponding WQOs have been derived. For some indicators and water types, WQOs correspond with a 'slightly to moderately disturbed' (SMD) level of protection, based on management intent categories specified in source technical guidelines, in particular the ANZECC (2000) Australian water quality guidelines. For ease of interpretation, this document and accompanying mapping include these within the MD level of protection. For some MD waters a higher level of protection may be provided for toxicants (e.g. pesticides).
- The management intent (level of protection) for 'highly disturbed' waters is that they be progressively improved. Some highly disturbed waters may require a long timeframe to return to a moderately disturbed condition level. In some circumstances, interim WQOs that reflect a highly disturbed (HD) condition level (which is an improvement on current condition) may be determined for such waters. Any such locations and their corresponding management intent (level of protection) are also identified in the table and accompanying plan.
- Some objectives apply to specific areas or water types as indicated in Table 2 and shown on plans WQ1221 and WQ1222, while others apply to more than one water type, as indicated in the table. The table includes ambient (baseflow) water quality objectives, and also event (high flow) objectives.

Table 2. Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem environmental value under ambient (baseflow) and event (high flow) conditions.

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SURFACE FRESH W | | ally by subcatchment (refer plan WQ1221), management intent and |
| Andromache River subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2309 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Andromache River subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 µg/La, b, c, d (micrograms/Litre) • particulate N: 21–39–62 µg/La, c, d • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 µg/La, c • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 µg/La, c • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 µg/La, c • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturationa, e, f – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturationa, e, f • suspended solids: 0–1–1mg/La • pH: 8.0–8.2–8.3a, g, h • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–483–600 µS/cma, i • temperature: nd, k • macroinvertebrates: nd, k • fish: nd, k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP), to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protectiona; • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" tebuthiuron:="" th="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |
| Andromache River subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Andromache River subcatchment waters are: dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} (micrograms/Litre) particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a pH: 8.0–8.3 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 320–483–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Andromache River subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" (high="" -="" <300="" <lod="" atrazine:="" dissolved="" diuron:="" event="" flow)="" hexazinone:="" inorganic="" l<sup="" nitrogen:="" other="" refer="" row="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" μg="" •="">a, b, d • particulate N: <340 μg/L^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <27 μg/L^a • particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L^a • suspended solids: <200mg/L^a Event WQOs for pesticides^a: • Ametryn: <lod <0.02="" <lod="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" td="" μg="" •=""></lod></lod> |
| Blackrock Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2311 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Blackrock Creek subcatchment waters are: dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 0–1–1mg/L ^a pH: 8.0–8.2–8.3 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 320–430–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: nd ^k fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Blackrock Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area SD2381 (nb: the majority of SD2381 is estuarine) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish unmodified water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |
| Blackrock Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <10 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <142 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <4 mg/L ^a pH: 7.6—7.9 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <697 μS/cm ^{a, f} temperature: nd ^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <0.02 μg/L Atrazine: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <0.07="" <0.13="" <lod="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" μg=""></lod> |
| Blackrock Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} particulate N: <263 μg/L ^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a suspended solids: <33 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : Ametryn: <0.06 μg/L Atrazine: <0.55 μg/L Diuron: <0.91 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.37 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< th=""></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Constant Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2314 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Constant Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 8–11–17 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–32–81 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 4–5–9 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 3–4–5 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1mg/L ^a • pH: 7.4–7.6–7.8 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 60–60–70 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <iod<="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" •=""></lod> |
| Constant Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area SD2381 (nb: the majority of this SD area is estuarine) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish unmodified water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |
| Constant Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <10 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <142 μg/L^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <4 mg/L^a pH: 7.6–7.9^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <697 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd^k |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Constant Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : • Ametryn: <0.02 μg/L • Atrazine: <lod 'fresh="" (high="" -="" <0.07="" <0.13="" <300="" <lod="" dissolved="" diuron:="" event="" flow)="" hexazinone:="" inorganic="" l="" l<sup="" nitrogen:="" other="" refer="" row="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" μg="" •="">a, b, d • particulate N: <279 μg/L^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L^a • particulate phosphorus: <66 μg/L^a • suspended solids: <64 mg/L^a Event WQOs for pesticides^a: • Ametryn: <0.05 μg/L</lod> |
| | | Diuron: 0<.75 µg/L Hexazinone: <0.29 µg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<> |
| Eden Lassie Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2301 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish current water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" tebuthiuron:="" th="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Eden Lassie Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <18 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <39 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <22 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <9 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <1 mg/L ^a pH: 6.5–7.5 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <483 μS/cm ^{a, f} temperature: nd ^{f, k} macroinvertebrates: nd ^k fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |
| Eden Lassie Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <213 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <327 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <141 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <0.06="" <lod="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" th="" μg="" •=""></lod> |
| Gregory River subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2302 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Gregory River subcatchment waters are: dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L ^a pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm ^{a, i} |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gregory River subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | temperature: nd^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: nd^k fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <30 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <43 μg/L^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <6 μg/L^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <2 mg/L^a pH: 7.2–8.1^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <580 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<></lod<></lod<> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<></lod<> |
| Gregory River subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L^{a, b, d} particulate N: <254 μg/L^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L^a particulate phosphorus: <57 μg/L^a suspended solids: <42 mg/L^a Event WQOs for pesticides^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <0.06 μg/L Diuron: <0.31 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.04 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Island freshwaters - | Southern Cumberland (ref | fer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) |
| Comprising fresh water included in Whitsunda | | n, Keswick, Ladysmith, Goldsmith, Hammer, and other southern islands not |
| Southern Cumberland islands - fresh waters in area HEV2385 (various islands) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. In the absence of more locally applicable information, the 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for these island fresh waters are based on the WQOs for Gillinbin Creek subcatchment (Pioneer Basin - mainland): |
| | | dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 4–9–13 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: 39–58–152 μg/L^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 1–2–3 μg/L^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 6–12–22 μg/L^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 1–2–4 mg/L^a pH: 6.7–6.9–7.1^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 130–190–350 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: nd^k fish: nd^k In the absence of more locally applicable information, WQOs for pesticides are based on those identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP for the Gillinbin Creek subcatchment, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| | | Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |
| Southern | Aquatic accevetom | |
| Southern Cumberland islands - fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) In the absence of more locally applicable information, the WQOs for these island fresh waters at the moderately disturbed level of protection are based on the 20th/80th percentile of WQOs for Gillinbin Creek subcatchment (Pioneer Basin - mainland): • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <13 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: <152 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <3 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: <22 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: - no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} - flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: <4 mg/L ^a • pH: 6.7–7.1 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): <350 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | • fish: nd ^k |
| | | In the absence of more locally applicable information, WQOs for pesticides are based on those in the Gillinbin Creek subcatchment ^a : |
| | | Ametryn: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Atrazine: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Diuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Hexazinone: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row |
| | | Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local WQOs. |

Island fresh waters - Whitsundays (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222)

Comprising fresh waters on islands north from Waterhole Creek sub catchment boundary near Midge Point through to and

| including Repulse and Thomas islands, and including islands of the Whitsunday Group (including Dent, Hamilton, Hayman, Hook, Whitsunday islands), the Lindeman Group (including Lindeman, Shaw, and Thomas islands), the Molle group (including Daydream, North and South Molle islands), and the northern group (including Gloucester Island) | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Whitsunday Aquatic ecosystem—high | Ambient (baseflow) | |
| islands -fresh waters in area | ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. |
| HEV2384 (various islands) | | In the absence of more locally applicable information, the 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Whitsunday islands fresh waters are based on the WQOs for Repulse Creek subcatchment (mainland): |
| | | dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} |
| | | • particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} |
| | | filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L^{a, c} |
| | | particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L^{a, c} |
| | | dissolved oxygen: |
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} |
| | | flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} |
| | | suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L ^a |
| | | • pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6 ^{a, g, h} |
| | | • electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm ^{a, i} |
| | | temperature: nd ^{j, k} |
| | | macroinvertebrates: nd ^k |
| | | • fish: nd ^k |
| | | In the absence of more locally applicable information, WQOs for pesticides are based on those identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP for the Repulse Creek subcatchment, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : |
| | | Ametryn: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Atrazine: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Diuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Hexazinone: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row |
| | | Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Whitsunday islands fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) In the absence of more locally applicable information, WQOs for Whitsunday islands fresh waters at the moderately disturbed level of protection are based on the 20th/80th percentile of WQOs for Repulse Creek subcatchment (mainland): • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: <52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <15 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: <17 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: - no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} - flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: <3 mg/L ^a • pH: 7.2–7.6 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): <780 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{i, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k In the absence of more locally applicable information, WQOs for pesticides are based on those identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP for the Repulse Creek subcatchment ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" a="" atrazine:="" data="" deriving="" details="" diuron:="" establish="" for="" how="" local="" minimum="" on="" other="" quality="" qwqg="" refer="" row="" set="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" to="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" water="" waters="" wqos.<="" •=""></lod> |
| Lethe Brook subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2306 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Lethe Brook subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: - no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} - flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a • pH: 8.0–8.2–8.3 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–430–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{i, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Lethe Brook subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <8 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <101 μg/L^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <8 μg/L^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <18 μg/L^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <3 mg/L^a |
| | | suspended solids: <3 mg/L pH: 7.5–7.8^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <463 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <0.01 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.04 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Lethe Brook subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} particulate N: <120 μg/L ^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a particulate phosphorus: <28 μg/L ^a suspended solids: <38 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : Ametryn: <0.04 μg/L Atrazine: <0.21 μg/L Diuron: <0.66 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.25 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Murray Creek subcatchment fresh waters in areas HEV2313 and SD2381 (nb: the majority of SD2381 is estuarine) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) HEV: Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. SD: Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a • pH: 8.0–8.2–8.3 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–430–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Murray Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Murray Creek subcatchment waters are: dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 0–0–1 mg/L ^a pH: 8.0–8.3 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 320–430–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <cd="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |
| Murray Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <206 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <48 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <67 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <0.05 μg/L • Atrazine: <0.25 μg/L • Diuron: <0.75 μg/L • Hexazinone: <0.3 μg/L • Tebuthiuron: <lod< th=""></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Myrtle Creek subcatchment fresh waters in areas HEV2307, SD2301 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) HEV: Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. SD: Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles for Myrtle Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L ^{a, c} |
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L^a pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: nd^k fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Myrtle Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <30 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <112 μg/L^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <25 μg/L^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <5 mg/L^a pH: 7.2–7.3^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <654 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP^a: Ametryn: <0.04 μg/L Atrazine: <0.11 μg/L Diuron: <0.11 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.08 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Myrtle Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} particulate N: <340 μg/L ^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a suspended solids: <40 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : Ametryn: <0.12 μg/L Atrazine: <0.94 μg/L Diuron: <1.5 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.49 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| O'Connell River subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2310 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for O'Connell River subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1mg/L ^a • pH: 8.0–8.2–8.3 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–430–600 μS/cm ^{a, l} • temperature: nd ^{l, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k • WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| O'Connell River subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <30 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <43 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <6 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <2 mg/L ^a pH: 7.2–8.1 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <580 μS/cm ^{a, f} temperature: nd ^{f, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |
| O'Connell River subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} particulate N: <340 μg/L ^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a suspended solids: <158 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : Ametryn: <lod <0.04="" <0.06="" <0.28="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" l<="" td="" μg=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Proserpine River subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2305 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish current water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. Ambient WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |
| Proserpine River subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <30 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <150 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <25 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <5 mg/L ^a pH: 6.9–7.5 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <270 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <0.04 μg/L Atrazine: <0.11 μg/L Diuron: <0.11 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.08 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod 'fresh="" -="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Proserpine River subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <340 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <200 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <0.19="" <0.26="" <0.42="" <1.0="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" l<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" μg="" •=""></lod> |
| Reliance Creek subcatchment (The Leap) fresh waters in area HEV2314 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Reliance Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 8–11–17 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–32–81 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 4–5–9 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 3–4–5 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: - No-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} - Flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a • pH: 7.4–7.6–7.8 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 60–60–70 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k • WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" other="" refer="" row<="" tebuthiuron:="" th="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |
| Reliance Creek subcatchment (other) freshwaters in areas HEV2315 and SD2381 (nb: the majority of SD2381 is estuarine) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) HEV: Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. SD: Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas Note: there is insufficient information available to establish water quality objectives for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| | | Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Reliance Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <30 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <110 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <15 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <5 mg/L ^a pH: 7.3–7.5 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <527 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <0.02 μg/L Atrazine: <0.09 μg/L Diuron: <0.19 μg/L Hexazinone: <0.20 μg/L Tebuthiuron: <lod 'fresh="" -="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |
| Reliance Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <274 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <70 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <42 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <0.06 μg/L • Atrazine: <0.61 μg/L • Diuron: <1 μg/L • Hexazinone: <0.41 μg/L • Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Repulse Creek subcatchment fresh waters in areas HEV2308 and SD2302 | subcatchment ecological value (HEV) resh waters in areas HEV2308 | Ambient (baseflow) HEV: Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. SD: Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles for Repulse Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L ^{a, c} |
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L^a pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: nd^k fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Repulse Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <15 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <17 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <3 mg/L ^a pH: 7.2–7.6 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <780 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{i, k} macroinvertebrates: nd ^k fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
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| Repulse Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <256 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <261 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <27 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <31 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <8 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <lod="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" •=""></lod> |
| Southern Cumberla | l nd islands fresh waters - r | refer listing under 'Island fresh waters - Southern Cumberland' |
| St Helens Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2312 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for St Helens Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 8–11–17 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–32–81 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 4–5–9 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 3–4–5 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: - no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} - flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a • pH: 7.4–7.6–7.8 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 60–60–70 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k • WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |
| St Helens Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area SD2381 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish unmodified water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| St Helens Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <10 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <142 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <4 mg/L ^a pH: 7.6–7.9 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <697 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <0.02 μg/L Atrazine: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <0.07="" <0.13="" <lod="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" μg=""></lod> |
| St Helens Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L a, b, d particulate N: <121 μg/La, d filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/La particulate phosphorus: <33 μg/La suspended solids: <45 mg/La Event WQOs for pesticidesa: Ametryn: <lod <0.04="" <0.23="" <0.46="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" μg=""></lod> |
| Thompson Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area SD2381 (small areas) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish unmodified water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thompson Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <10 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} particulate N: <142 μg/L ^{a, c, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <6 μg/L ^{a, c} particulate phosphorus: <20 μg/L ^{a, c} dissolved oxygen: No-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 40%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} Flow 20th and 80th percentile: 85%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} suspended solids: <4 mg/L ^a pH: 7.6–7.9 ^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): <697 μS/cm ^{a, i} temperature: nd ^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : Ametryn: <0.02 μg/L Atrazine: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <0.07="" <0.13="" <lod="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" μg=""></lod> |
| Thompson Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <67 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <15 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <22 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <0.15="" <0.17="" <0.46="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" μg="" •=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Upper Proserpine | Aquatic ecosystem—high | Ambient (baseflow) |
| River subcatchment | ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. |
| fresh waters in area HEV2304 | | The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Upper Proserpine River subcatchment waters are: |
| HEV2304 | | dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} |
| | | • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} |
| | | • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} |
| | | particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L^{a, c} |
| | | dissolved oxygen: |
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} |
| | | flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} |
| | | suspended solids: 0–1–1mg/L ^a |
| | | • pH: 6.5–8.5 ^{a, g, h} |
| | | • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–483–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} |
| | | • temperature: nd ^{j, k} |
| | | macroinvertebrates: nd ^k |
| | | • fish: nd ^k |
| | | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : |
| | | Ametryn: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Atrazine: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Diuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Hexazinone: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row |
| Upper Proserpine | Aquatic ecosystem— | Ambient (baseflow) |
| River subcatchment fresh waters | moderately disturbed (MD) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. |
| nesh waters | | The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Upper Proserpine River subcatchment waters are: |
| | | dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L^{a, b, c, d} |
| | | • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} |
| | | • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} |
| | | particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L^{a, c} |
| | | dissolved oxygen: |
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} |
| | | − flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, †} |
| | | • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a |
| | | • pH: 6.5–8.5 ^{a, g, h} |
| | | • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–483–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} |
| | | • temperature: nd ^{j, k} |
| | | macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) |
| | | • fish: nd ^k |
| | | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : |
| | | Ametryn: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Atrazine: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Diuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Hexazinone: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| | | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row |
| Upper Proserpine River subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <300 μg/L ^{a, b, d} particulate N: <20 μg/L ^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <27 μg/L ^a particulate phosphorus: <31 μg/L ^a suspended solids: <10 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : Ametryn: <lod <lod="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" hexazinone:="" td=""></lod> |
| | | Tebuthiuron: <lod< td=""></lod<> |
| Waterhole Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) No HEV waters identified to date. Refer to rows below. |
| Waterhole Creek subcatchment fresh waters in area SD2381 (nb: the majority of this SD area is estuarine) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Waterhole Creek subcatchment waters are provided in the following row. |
| Waterhole Creek subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Waterhole Creek subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 9–18–46 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 21–39–62 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 12–22–28 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–9–13 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 0–1–1 mg/L ^a • pH: 6.5–8.5 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 320–483–600 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) • fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <lod="" <lod<="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" th="" •=""></lod> |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Waterhole Creek subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Event (high flow) • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <289 μg/L ^{a, b, d} • particulate N: <173 μg/L ^{a, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <30 μg/L ^a • particulate phosphorus: <42 μg/L ^a • suspended solids: <74 mg/L ^a Event WQOs for pesticides ^a : • Ametryn: <lod <0.02="" <0.03="" <0.11="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" l="" l<="" td="" μg="" •=""></lod> |
| Whitsunday coastal creeks subcatchment fresh waters in area HEV2303 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Whitsunday Coast subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L ^{a, c} • dissolved oxygen: – no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation ^{a, e, f} – flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation ^{a, e, f} • suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L ^a • pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6 ^{a, g, h} • electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm ^{a, i} • temperature: nd ^{j, k} • macroinvertebrates: nd ^k • fish: nd ^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP, to protect freshwater species at the HEV level of protection ^a : • Ametryn: <lod 'fresh="" -="" <lod="" atrazine:="" diuron:="" hexazinone:="" other="" refer="" row<="" td="" tebuthiuron:="" toxicants'="" toxicants:="" waters="" •=""></lod> |
| Whitsunday coastal creeks subcatchment fresh waters | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Ambient (baseflow) Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of existing water quality for Whitsunday Coast subcatchment waters are: • dissolved inorganic nitrogen: 10–20–31 μg/L ^{a, b, c, d} • particulate N: 10–16–52 μg/L ^{a, c, d} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 9–10–15 μg/L ^{a, c} • particulate phosphorus: 4–10–17 μg/L ^{a, c} |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | no-flow 20th and 80th percentile: 50%–120% saturation^{a, e, f} flow 20th and 80th percentile: 90%–105% saturation^{a, e, f} suspended solids: 1–2–3 mg/L^a pH: 7.2–7.3–7.6^{a, g, h} electrical conductivity (EC): 180–260–780 μS/cm^{a, i} temperature: nd^{j, k} macroinvertebrates: refer to 'Fresh waters - macroinvertebrates' row (listed after 'Whitsunday islands' in this table) fish: nd^k WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay Whitsunday WQIP^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Whitsunday coastal creeks subcatchment (end of system) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | other toxicants: refer 'Fresh waters - other toxicants' row Event (high flow) dissolved inorganic nitrogen: <256 μg/L^{a, b, d} particulate N: <261 μg/L^{a, d} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <27 μg/L^a particulate phosphorus: <31 μg/L^a suspended solids: <8 mg/L^a Event WQOs for pesticides^a: Ametryn: <lod< li=""> Atrazine: <lod< li=""> Diuron: <lod< li=""> Hexazinone: <lod< li=""> Tebuthiuron: <lod< li=""> </lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<></lod<> |
| Whitsunday islands | ifresh waters - refer listing | under 'Island fresh waters - Whitsundays' |
| FRESH WATERS - N | MACROINVERTEBRATES | |
| O'Connell River Basin: fresh water riverine - edge habitat | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) ^w | Insufficient data Taxa richess (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 20.0–29.0^w PET richness (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 3–5^w SIGNAL (v2.iv) (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 3.53–4.07^w |
| | Amadia | % sensitive taxa (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: nd–4.76^w % tolerant taxa (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 35.0–46.67^w |
| O'Connell River Basin: fresh water riverine - riffle habitat | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) ^w | Taxa richess (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 20–26^w PET richness (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 4.6–7.0^w SIGNAL (v2.iv) (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 4.36–4.96^w % sensitive taxa (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 7.37–11.63^w % tolerant taxa (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 22.74–34.78^w |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Proserpine River Basin: fresh water riverine - edge habitat | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) ^w | Taxa richess (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 19–28^w PET richness (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 3–6^w SIGNAL (v2.iv) (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 3.66–4.38^w % sensitive taxa (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: nd–6.22^w % tolerant taxa (edge) 20th and 80th percentiles: 26.18–45.83^w |
| Proserpine River Basin: fresh water riverine - riffle habitat | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) ^w | Taxa richess (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 18–26^w PET richness (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 5–8^w SIGNAL (v2.iv) (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 4.57–5.19^w % sensitive taxa (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 7.69–15.63 ^w % tolerant taxa (riffle) 20th and 80th percentiles: 20.0–30.0^w |
| Whitsunday islands fresh waters | All | Insufficient data |
| FRESH WATERS - C | OTHER TOXICANTS (where | not listed above) |
| Other toxicants for ALL HEV and SD fresh waters in this table | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | WQOs are as per AWQG, to protect fresh water species at the HEV level of protection: Toxicants in water^q: refer to AWQG section 3.4—'water quality guidelines for toxicants' (including Tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and Figure 3.4.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Toxicants in sediments: refer to AWQG section 3.5—'sediment quality guidelines' (including Table 3.5.1, Figure 3.5.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Comply with Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance, ANZECC. |
| Other toxicants for ALL other fresh waters in this table | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | WQOs are as per AWQG, to protect fresh water species at the MD level of protection (identified in AWQG as slightly to moderately disturbed): Toxicants in water^q: refer to AWQG section 3.4—'water quality guidelines for toxicants' (including Tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and Figure 3.4.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Toxicants in sediments: refer to AWQG section 3.5—'sediment quality guidelines' (including Table 3.5.1, Figure 3.5.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Comply with Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance, ANZECC. |
| Freshwater riparian areas | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Protect or restore riparian areas. Refer section 3.1.2—riparian WQOs. |
| Wetlands | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Objectives as per AWQG and section 3.1.2. Note: for high impact earthworks within Great Barrier Reef wetland protection areas, refer to the guideline 'Protecting Wetlands of High Ecological Significance in Great Barrier Reef Catchments', and the Queensland wetland buffer planning guideline, available from the department's website. |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GROUNDWATERS | | |
| Groundwaters | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Where groundwaters interact with surface waters, groundwater quality should not compromise identified EVs and WQOs for those waters. Note: the AWQG (2000) recommends that the highest level of protection should be provided to underground aquatic ecosystems, given their high conservation value. Where groundwaters are in good condition the intent is to maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles). There is insufficient information available to establish WQOs for this water type ^p . Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles. |
| WQ1222) The following WQOs | | estuarine, enclosed coastal, open coastal (refer plans WQ1221 and //hitsunday Island and O'Connell River estuarine and coastal waters within |
| Estuarine and coastal waters | Aquatic ecosystem—all | Release of sewage from vessels to be controlled in accordance with requirements of the <i>Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995</i> and Regulations. (Refer to Maritime Services Queensland website for further information.) |
| Estuarine waters in areas HEV2303, 2307, 2308, 2314, 2315, 2381, 2384, 2385 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish current water quality for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local 20th, 50th and 80th |
| Estuarine waters in areas SD2303, 2381 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | percentiles. Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles of HEV waters), habitat, biota, flow and riparian areas. Note: there is insufficient information available to establish WQOs for these waters. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local WQOs. • toxicants: refer to toxicants row later in this table |
| Mid-estuary waters (also applies to tidal canals, constructed estuaries within this water type) | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Note: For waters shown on the plan as being mid estuary (orange colour) and occurring within inter-tidal zone adjacent to the enclosed coastal/lower estuary water type, these waters might have water quality characteristics more in common with the adjacent enclosed coastal/lower estuary water type. Under such circumstances, reference should be made to the WQOs for enclosed coastal/lower estuary water type. • ammonia N: <15 µg/L ^{c, n} |
| | | oxidised N: <30 μg/L^{c, n, s} dissolved inorganic N: <45 μg/L^{b, c} organic N: <200 μg/L^{c, n} total N: <250 μg/L^{c, n} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <5 μg/L^{c, n} total P: <20 μg/L^{c, n} chlorophyll a: <3.0 μg/Lⁿ dissolved oxygen: 80–105% saturation^{e, n} suspended solids: nd^{k, n} turbidity: <10 NTUⁿ Secchi depth: >1.0 mⁿ pH: 6.5–8.4ⁿ temperature: nd^{j, k, n} toxicants: refer to toxicants row below |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Toxicants for ALL estuarine waters within this table | Aguatic occevetom | Toxicants in water and sediment as per AWQG (2000): Toxicants in water^q: refer to AWQG section 3.4—'water quality guidelines for toxicants' (including tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and Figure 3.4.1) and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Toxicants in sediments: refer to AWQG section 3.5—'sediment quality guidelines' (including Table 3.5.1, Figure 3.5.1) and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) Comply with Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance, ANZECC. Protect or restore riparian areas. Refer section 3.1.2—riparian WQOs. |
| areas | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | Protect of restore riparian areas. Refer section 5.1.2—fiparian wgos. |
| SD2381 enclosed coastal/ lower estuary waters | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat and biota. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be achieved are: • ammonia N: 7–10–15 µg/L ^{c, n, u} • oxidised N: 2–4–10 µg/L ^{c, n, s, u} • total N: 110–120–160 µg/L ^{c, n, u} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 2–3–5 µg/L ^{c, n, u} • total P: 10–15–20 µg/L ^{c, n, u} • chlorophyll a: 0.8–1.3–2 µg/L ^{n, u} • dissolved oxygen: 85–90–105 % saturation ^{n, u} • turbidity: nd ^v • Secchi: nd ^v • suspended solids: nd ^{k, n, v} • pH: 8.1–8.3–8.4 ^{n, u} • temperature: nd ^{j, k, n} • toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |
| Enclosed coastal/lower estuary waters (including enclosed coastal waters outside marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, and not identified as HEV or SD) | Aquatic ecosystem—moderately disturbed (MD) | ammonia N: <15 μg/L^{c, n} oxidised N: <10 μg/L^{c, n}, s dissolved inorganic N: <25 μg/L^{b, c} total N: <160 μg/L^{c, n} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <5 μg/L^{c, n} total P: <20 μg/L^{c, n} chlorophyll a: <2.0 μg/Lⁿ dissolved oxygen: 85–105% saturation^{e, n} turbidity: <10 NTU^{n, v} Secchi depth: >1.0 m^{n, v} suspended solids: nd^{k, n, v} pH: 8.1–8.4ⁿ temperature: nd^{j, k, n} toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Marinas, boat harbours - including Abel Point Marina, Hamilton Island Marina, Laguna Quays, and Shute Harbour | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) | ammonia N: <15 μg/L^{c, n} oxidised N: <10 μg/L^{c, n, s} dissolved inorganic N: <25 μg/L^{b, c} total N: <160 μg/L^{c, n} filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): <5 μg/L^{c, n} total P: <20 μg/L^{c, n} chlorophyll a: <2.0 μg/Lⁿ dissolved oxygen: 85–105% saturation^{e, n} turbidity: <10 NTU^{n, v} Secchi depth: >1.0 m^{n, v} suspended solids: nd^{k, n, v} pH: 8.1–8.4ⁿ temperature: nd^{j, k, n} |
| HEV2381 open coastal waters (Whitsundays - south to Thomas Island) seaward of the plume line ^t shown in WQ1222 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat and biota. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained are: ammonia N: 0–1–9 µg/L* oxidised N: 0–1–2 µg/L* particulate N: 12–13–15 µg/L^r total dissolved N: 52–70–95 µg/L* total N: 75–95–125 µg/L* filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 0–1–3 µg/L* particulate P: 1.8–2.4–2.8 µg/L^r total dissolved P: 3–6–9 µg/L* total P: 8–11–14 µg/L* silicate: 33–49–88 µg/L* chlorophyll a: 0.25–0.36–0.54 µg/L^r dissolved oxygen: 95%–105% saturation^m turbidity: 0.7–1.1 –2.1 NTU^{r, v} Secchi depth (annual mean): ≥ 10 m^{m, o, v} suspended solids: 0.9– 1.4– 2.3 mg/L^{r, v} pH: 8.1–8.3–8.4^m temperature: <1°C increase above long-term average maximum° toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |
| HEV2381 enclosed coastal waters (Whitsunday Island) | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat and biota. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained are: • ammonia N: 7–10–15 μg/L ^{c, n, u} • oxidised N: 2–4–10 μg/L ^{c, n, s, u} • total N: 110–120–160 μg/L ^{c, n, u} • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 2–3–5 μg/L ^{c, n, u} • total P: 10–15–20 μg/L ^{c, n, u} • chlorophyll a: 0.8–1.3–2 μg/L ^{n, u} • dissolved oxygen: 85–90–105 % saturation ^{n, u} • turbidity: nd ^v • Secchi: nd ^v • suspended solids: nd ^{k, n, v} |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | pH: 8.1–8.3–8.4^{n, u} temperature: nd^{j, k, n} toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |
| HEV2382 offshore waters (around Circular Quay Reef), shown in WQ1222 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat and biota. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained are: • ammonia N: $0-2-9 \mu g/L^x$ • oxidised N: $0-1-3 \mu g/L^x$ • particulate N: $11-14-19 \mu g/L^x$ • total dissolved N: $46-63-86 \mu g/L^x$ • total N: $70-85-120 \mu g/L^x$ • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): $0-1-3 \mu g/L^x$ • particulate P: $1.4-1.8-2.4 \mu g/L^x$ • total dissolved P: $3-5-9 \mu g/L^x$ • total P: $6-10-15 \mu g/L^x$ • silicate: $18-33-89 \mu g/L^x$ • chlorophyll a (annual mean): ≤ $0.45 \mu g/L^m$, o • dissolved oxygen: $95\%-105\%$ saturation 0 • turbidity: <1 NTU 0 • Secchi depth (annual mean): ≥ $17m^x$ • suspended solids: $0.4-0.6-1.1 m g/L^x$ • temperature: <1°C increase above long-term average maximum 0 • toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |
| HEV2383 open coastal waters (southern Cumberland region - south of Thomas Island), seaward of the plume line ^t shown in WQ1222 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Maintain existing water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, and flow. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be maintained are: • ammonia N: 1–2–6 μg/L ^x • oxidised N: 0–0–1 μg/L ^x • particulate N: 14–18–24 μg/L ^x • total dissolved N: 44–74–95 μg/L ^x • total N: 45–90–115 μg/L ^x • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 1–2–4 μg/L ^x • particulate P: 1.6–2.1–3.0 μg/L ^x • total dissolved P: 4–9–18 μg/L ^x • total P: 5–12–21 μg/L ^x • silicate: 41–55–96 μg/L ^x • chlorophyll a (annual mean): ≤ 0.45 μg/L ^{m, o} • dissolved oxygen: 95%–105% saturation m • turbidity: <1 NTUm • Secchi depth (annual mean): ≥10 m ^{m, o, v} • suspended solids: 1.1–1.6–2.4 mg/L ^{r, v} • pH: 8.1–8.3–8.4m • temperature: <1°C increase above long-term average maximum ^o • toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SD2381 open coastal waters, landward of the plume line ^t shown in WQ1222 | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | Achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, and flow. The 20th, 50th and 80th percentiles to be achieved are: • ammonia N: 0–1–9 μg/L ^x • oxidised N: 0–1–2 μg/L ^x • particulate N: 12–13–15 μg/L ^r • total dissolved N: 52–70–95 μg/L ^x • total N: 75–95–125 μg/L ^x • filterable reactive phosphorus (FRP): 0–1–3 μg/L ^x • particulate P: 1.8–2.4–2.8 μg/L ^r • total dissolved P: 3–6–9 μg/L ^x • total P: 8–11–14 μg/L ^x • silicate: 33–49–88 μg/L ^x • chlorophyll a: 0.25–0.36–0.54 μg/L ^r • dissolved oxygen: 95%–105% saturation ^m • turbidity: 0.7–1.1–2.1 NTU ^{r, v} Secchi depth (annual mean): ≥ 10 m ^{m, o, v} • suspended solids: 0.9–1.4– 2.3 mg/L ^{r, v} • pH: 8.1–8.4 ^m • temperature: <1°C increase above long-term average maximum ^o • toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table |
| Open coastal waters landward of the plume line ^t , shown in WQ1222 (including open coastal waters outside marinas, boat harbours, and not identified as HEV or SD) | Aquatic ecosystem— slightly to moderately disturbed (SMD), mapped as MD | particulate N (annual mean): ≤ 20μg/L^{m, o} particulate P (annual mean): ≤ 2.8 μg/L^{m, o} chlorophyll a (annual mean): ≤ 0.45 μg/L^{m, o} dissolved oxygen: 95–105 % saturation^m turbidity (median): <1 NTU^{m, v} Secchi depth (annual mean): ≥ 10 m^{m, o, v} suspended solids (annual mean): ≤ 2.0 mg/L^{m, o, v} pH: 8.1–8.4^m temperature: <1°C increase above long-term average maximum^o toxicants: refer to toxicants rows later in this table Note: there is insufficient information available to establish WQOs for the following indicators in these waters: ammonia N, oxidised N, dissolved inorganic N, total N, filterable reactive phosphorus, total P. Refer to QWQG for details on how to establish a minimum water quality data set for deriving local WQOs. |
| COASTAL WATERS | - TOXICANTS | . , |
| Toxicants for ALL enclosed and open coastal waters in this table, excluding waters in marinas, boat harbours, approved spoil grounds, tidal canals, constructed estuaries | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay-Whitsunday WQIP, to protect marine species at the HEV level of protection°: • Ametryn: <0.5 μg/L • Atrazine: <0.6 μg/L • Diuron: <0.9 μg/L • Hexazinone: <1.2 μg/L • Tebuthiuron: <0.02 μg/L • Tributyltin: <0.0004 μg/L WQOs for all other toxicants in these waters as per GBRMPA and AWQG water quality guidelines, to protect marine species at the HEV level of protection. For toxicants not listed in GBRMPA guidelines: |

| Water area/type (refer plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Management intent (level of protection) | Water quality objectives to protect aquatic ecosystem EV |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Toxicants in water^q: refer to AWQG section 3.4—'water quality guidelines for toxicants' (including tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and Figure 3.4.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) |
| | | Toxicants in sediments: refer to AWQG section 3.5—'sediment quality guidelines' (including Table 3.5.1, Figure 3.5.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) |
| | | Comply with Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance, ANZECC. |
| Toxicants for marinas, boat harbours, | Aquatic ecosystem— moderately disturbed (MD) (pesticides: high | WQOs for pesticides identified in the Mackay-Whitsunday WQIP, to protect marine species at the HEV level of protection ^o : • Ametryn: <0.5 µg/L |
| approved spoil grounds, tidal | ecological value (HEV)) | Atrazine: <0.6 μg/L |
| canals, | | • Diuron: <0.9 μg/L |
| constructed estuaries | | • Hexazinone: <1.2 μg/L |
| | | • Tebuthiuron: <0.02 μg/L |
| | | Tributyltin: <0.006 μg/L (SMD / 95% species protection) |
| | | WQOs for all other toxicants in these waters as per GBRMPA and AWQG water quality guidelines, to protect marine species at the MD level of protection (identified in the AWQG as slightly to moderately disturbed). For toxicants not listed in GBRMPA guidelines: |
| | | Toxicants in water^q: refer to AWQG section 3.4—'water quality guidelines for toxicants' (including Tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and Figure 3.4.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) |
| | | Toxicants in sediments: refer to AWQG section 3.5—'sediment quality guidelines' (including Table 3.5.1, Figure 3.5.1), and AWQG volume 2 (section 8) |
| | | Comply with Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance, ANZECC. |
| WATER QUALITY REFERENCE SITES | | |
| Fresh, estuarine, and coastal waters: water quality reference (least disturbed) sites | Aquatic ecosystem—high ecological value (HEV) | For sites identified in the Queensland Water Quality Guidelines, the water quality improvement plan, or by other recognised entities under the EPP Water as reference (least disturbed) sites for water quality monitoring, the management intent is to maintain or achieve effectively unmodified water quality (20th, 50th and 80th percentiles), habitat, biota, and flow. |

Notes:

Units:

μg/L = micrograms/Litre; mg/L = milligrams/Litre; μS/cm = microSiemens/centimetre; mg/kg = milligrams/kilogram

LOD = limit of detection, which, in fresh waters, is currently 0.01 μ g/L for all herbicides in this table.

- a) The values for these indicators are based on the QWQG Mackay Whitsunday sub-regional water quality guidelines, which are derived from values in the Mackay Whitsunday Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP). These include objectives for both ambient/baseflow conditions and high flow ('event') conditions. The event quality objectives are expressed as end of system (e.g. subcatchment) event mean concentrations (EMC). Further details are provided in source documents (refer below).
- b) DIN = ammonia N + oxidised N.
- c) Ambient (baseflow) nutrient objectives do not apply during high flow events. Refer to 'event/high flow' rows for applicable high flow objectives. See QWQG Section 5 and Appendix D for more information on applying guidelines under high flow conditions.
- d) During periods of low flow and particularly in smaller creeks, build up of organic matter derived from natural sources (e.g. leaf litter) can result in increased organic N levels (generally in the range of 400 to 800μg/L). This may lead to total N values exceeding the WQOs. Provided that levels of inorganic N (i.e. NH₃ + oxidised N) remain low, then the elevated levels of organic N should not be seen as a breach of the WQOs, provided this is due to natural causes.
- e) Dissolved oxygen (DO) objectives apply to daytime conditions. Lower values will occur at night in most waters. In estuaries, reductions should only be in the region of 10–15 per cent saturation below daytime values. In freshwaters, night time reductions are more variable. Following significant rainfall events, reduced DO values may occur due to the influx of organic material. In estuaries post-event values as low as 40 per cent saturation may occur naturally for short periods but values well below this would indicate some anthropogenic effect. In freshwaters, post-event DO reductions are again more variable. In general, DO values consistently less than 50 per cent are likely to impact on the ongoing ability of fish to persist in a waterbody while short term DO values less than 30 per cent saturation are toxic to some

fish species. Very high DO (supersaturation) values can be toxic to some fish as they cause gas bubble disease.

- f) DO values for fresh waters should only be applied to flowing waters. Stagnant pools in intermittent streams naturally experience values of DO below 50 per cent saturation.
- g) Wallum/tannin-stained waters contain naturally high levels of humic acids (and have a characteristic brown tea-tree stain). In these types of waters, natural pH values may range from 3.6 to 6.
- h) During flood events or nil flow periods, pH values should not fall below 5.5 (except in wallum/tannin waters) or exceed 9.
- i) Conductivity, under natural conditions, is highly dependent on local geology and soil types. Values in this table are based on QWQG Mackay Whitsunday sub regional water quality guidelines. In the absence of sub-regional conductivity WQOs, the QWQG (Appendix G) provides information on conductivity values in a set of 18 defined salinity zones throughout Queensland. For each zone, the QWQG provide a range of percentile values based on data from all the sites within that zone. This provides a useful first estimate of background conductivity within a zone. However, even within zones there is a degree of variation between streams and therefore the values for the zone would still need to be ground truthed against local values.
- j) Temperature varies both daily and seasonally, it is depth dependent and is also highly site specific. It is therefore not possible to provide simple generic WQOs for this indicator. The recommended approach is that local WQOs be developed. Thus, WQOs for potentially impacted streams should be based on measurements from nearby streams that have similar morphology and which are thought not to be impacted by anthropogenic thermal influences. From an ecological effects perspective, the most important aspects of temperature are the daily maximum temperature and the daily variation in temperature. Therefore measurements of temperature should be designed to collect information on these indicators of temperature and, similarly, local WQOs should be expressed in terms of these indicators. Clearly, there will be an annual cycle in the values of these indicators and therefore a full seasonal cycle of measurements is required to develop guideline values.
- k) nd = insufficient or no data, n/a = not applicable for this indicator and water type, ng = no guideline. Will be updated if guidelines become available
- For Andromache, Murray, Upper Proserpine, Waterhole, and Whitsunday Coast, current water quality was comparable to adjacent HEV
 waters. The WQOs for these waters have been set to maintain current water quality (based on QWQG sub-regional quidelines and WQIP).
- m) The values for these indicators are based on the QWQG Central Coast regional water quality guidelines.
- n) The values for these indicators are based on the QWQG Wet Tropics regional water quality guidelines.
- o) The values for these indicators are based on GBRMPA (2010) Water Quality Guidelines for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park 2010 (refer 'sources' below). Refer to GBRMPA Water Quality Guidelines for further details. WQOs for coastal water pesticides in this table are based on GBRMPA species protection levels. For Hexazinone there is insufficient data to determine species protection levels. Note that coastal water values for Diazinon, Hexazinone, and Tebuthiuron are based on low reliability guidelines that may be updated with additional information. Refer to GBRMPA Water Quality Guidelines for further details. Also refer to note 'q' re toxicants.
- p) Local groundwater WQOs have not been developed for this region.
- q) The values for these indicators are based on the AWQG. Under the AWQG, a single set of values is provided for the 'slightly to moderately disturbed' (SMD) level of protection, which is identified in this document as 'moderately disturbed' (MD). The HEV and SMD levels of protection typically correspond to 99 per cent and 95 per cent species protection, respectively. For a small number of toxicants with potential toxicity and bioaccumulation effects, the AWQG identify SMD protection level values corresponding to 99% species protection. For further details on toxicant guidelines, e.g. toxicant species, and variability in relation to water quality characteristics (such as pH, hardness) refer to AWQG.
- r) The values for these indicators are based on monitoring data and analysis by GBRMPA. For particulate N and P and SS, values are based on water quality monitoring data (dry and wet season) at Double Cone Island (2005 to 2011; Schaffelke et al, 2011). Chl-a values are based on grouped data from Hook Passage, Cid, Henning, Dent Passage and west of Lindeman Island (1996 to 2009). Turbidity is based on logger data at Double Cone Island (2007 to 2011).
- s) Oxidised N = NO_2 + NO_3 . Units for nitrogen indicators are micrograms per litre (μ g/L) N.
- t) The GBR plume discharge area is derived from combining the high and very high frequency influence areas of river discharges that contain high and very high pollutant loads including sediment and nutrient. Refer to Devlin *et al* in 'sources' below for more details.
- u) The values for these indicators are based on monitoring data and analysis by the department.
- v) Suspended solids (and hence turbidity and Secchi depth) levels in coastal waters are naturally highly variable depending on wind speed/wave height and in some cases on tidal cycles. The values in this table provide guidance on what the long term values of turbidity, Secchi depth or TSS should comply with. However, these values will often be naturally exceeded in the short term during windy weather or spring tides. They therefore should not be used for comparison with short term data sets. Where assessable coastal developments are proposed, proponents should carry out site specific intensive monitoring of these indicators (or equivalent light penetration indicators) and use these as a baseline for deriving local guidelines and for comparison with post development conditions.
- w) Macroinvertebrates: WQOs for macroinvertebrates are preliminary. The median value of macroinvertebrate indicators at test sites is to be compared and assessed against the macroinvertebrate values in this table. The values do not apply to waters identified for HEV level of protection/management intent. Values were derived for the 'slightly to moderately disturbed' (SMD) level of protection, which is identified in this document as 'moderately disturbed' (MD). Refer to sources below for monitoring/assessment protocols. Habitats (i.e. edge, riffle): Edge habitat is located along the stream bank. Riffle habitat is characterised as in a reach with relatively steep, shallow (<0.3 m), fast flowing (>0.2 m/s) and broken water over stony beds. Sample processing: Samples are identified in the laboratory to family level, except for Chironomidae that are identified to sub-family, and lower Phyla (Porifera, Nematoda, Nemertea, etc.), Oligochaeta (freshwater worms), Acarina (mites), and microcrustacea (Ostracoda, Copepoda, Cladocera) that are not identified further. The taxonomy of macroinvertebrates can change over time. The taxonomy used to calculate these indices are based on those used in determining the SIGNAL 2.iv taxa scores.

Taxa richness: Taxa richness is the number of aquatic macroinvertebrate taxa collected in a sample. Use of taxa richness is based on the premise that with changes in the condition of a site the taxa richness will increase or decrease from 'reference'. Increases or decreases will depend on the nature of the threats that are influencing the ecosystem.

PET taxa richness: PET taxa richness (or EPT) is the number of aquatic macroinvertebrate families collected from three orders of aquatic insects: Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Plecoptera (stoneflies) and Trichoptera (caddisflies). Macroinvertebrates belonging to these three

orders are considered to be sensitive to changes in their environment and therefore PET can be used to assess condition. SIGNAL Index: The Stream Invertebrate Grade Number - Average Level (SIGNAL) index was developed for the bioassessment of water quality in rivers in Australia. It is calculated by grading each macroinvertebrate family based upon the level of its sensitivity to various pollutants. The grades applied range from 1 (tolerant) to 10 (sensitive) (Chessman, 2003). The SIGNAL score for a sample is calculated by averaging the sensitivity grades of the macroinvertebrate families collected. The version applied here is SIGNAL version 2.iv (Chessman, 2003).

% tolerant taxa, % sensitive taxa: are indices based on the proportion of taxa with a SIGNAL grade that are determined to have 'tolerant' sensitivity grades (SIGNAL grades 1, 2 and 3) and 'sensitive' sensitivity grades (SIGNAL grades 8, 9 and 10) respectively. A change in these may reflect changes in water quality, habitat condition, or other causative factors influencing these indices. The version of SIGNAL grades applied here is SIGNAL version 2.iv.

x) The values for these indicators are based on monitoring conducted from 1985 to 2006, supporting publication by De'ath and Fabricius (2008). Refer to sources below.

Sources:

The following sources contain further background information relevant to WQOs:

ANZECC (1997) Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance.

ANZECC & ARMCANZ (2000) Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (AWQG).

Chessman, B (2003) SIGNAL 2 – A Scoring System for Macro-invertebrate ('Water Bugs') in Australian Rivers, Monitoring River Heath Initiative Technical Report number 31, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

De'ath G, Fabricius KE (2008) Water quality of the Great Barrier Reef: distributions, effects on reef biota and trigger values for the conservation of ecosystem health. Research publication no. 89. Great Barrier Marine Park Authority, Report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and published by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, 104 pp

Devlin, M, Harkness, P, McKinna, L & Waterhouse, J (2011) Mapping the surface exposure of terrestrial pollutants in the Great Barrier Reef. Report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, August 2010. Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research. Report Number 10/12.

Drewry, J, Higham, W & Mitchell, C (2008) Water quality improvement plan (WQIP). Final report for the Mackay Whitsunday region. Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group.

Drewry, J, Higham, W, Mitchell, C Rohde, K, Masters, B & Galea, L (2008) Water quality improvement plan (WQIP). Turning environmental values into water quality objectives and targets. Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group.

Drewry, J, Higham, W, Mitchell, C & Rohde, K (2008) Water quality improvement plan (WQIP). Modelling sediment and nutrient exports and management scenarios. Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group.

Galea, L, Pepplinkhouse, D, Loft, F & Folkers, A (2008) Mackay Whitsunday Healthy Waterways Baseline Monitoring Program Regional Report. Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water for the Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group, Australia.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (2010) Water quality guidelines for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park 2010, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, available on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's website.

Negus P, Steward A and Blessing J (2013). Macroinvertebrate water quality guidelines: Townsville and Mackay-Whitsunday regions. Water Planning Ecology Group, Science Delivery Division. DSITIA, The State of Queensland.

NRM (2001). Australia-wide Assessment of River Health: Queensland AusRivAS Sampling and Processing Manual. Monitoring River Health Initiative Technical Report Number 12. Environment Australia, Canberra.

Queensland Government (2009, as amended) Queensland Water Quality Guidelines. (Refer to section 5 and Appendix D of the QWQG for more detail on compliance assessment protocols.)

Rohde, K, Masters, B, Fries, N, Noble, R & Carroll, C (2008) Fresh and Marine Water Quality in the Mackay Whitsunday Region 2004/05 to 2006/07. Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water for the Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group, Australia

Schaffelke B, Carleton J, Doyle J, Furnas M, Gunn K, Skuza M, Wright M, Zagorskis I (2011) Reef Rescue Marine Monitoring Program. Final Report of AIMS Activities 2010/11– Inshore Water Quality Monitoring. Report for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. Australian Institute of Marine Science, Townsville. (83 p.). Additional years also published accessible for download from GBRMPA.

Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995 and Regulations 2008, available on the Office of Queensland Parliamentary Counsel website.

3.1.2 Riparian water quality objectives

For vegetation management relating to waterways, reference should be made to the relevant regional vegetation management codes under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*. These codes include performance requirements relating to watercourses and wetlands, aimed at maintaining water quality, bank stability, aquatic and terrestrial habitat. Codes include vegetation clearing controls that vary according to stream order.

To review the latest applicable vegetation management code (and other explanatory information) for waters for this area, contact the Department of Natural Resources and Mines website.

Planning schemes under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* may also specify riparian buffers (for example under catchment protection or waterway codes). Contact the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning website and local government websites for further information about planning schemes.

3.1.3 Stormwater management design objectives

Stormwater management design objectives for urban development are detailed in the department's Urban Stormwater Quality Planning Guidelines 2010 (as amended). Stormwater quality and flow management design objectives are specified for both the construction and operational phases of development in accordance with landscape features and the regional location of proposed development. The guidelines are available on the department's website.

3.2 Water quality objectives for human use environmental values

This section outlines WQOs to protect human use EVs, which comprise those EVs other than the aquatic ecosystem EV (e.g. recreation, stock watering, aquaculture and crop irrigation). Table 1 of this document outlines the EVs that have been identified for different waters in the catchment. Where a human use EV has been identified, the following tables can be used to identify the WQOs to support that EV. Where Table 1 indicates more than one EV applies to a given water (for example aquatic ecosystem and recreational use), the adoption of the most stringent WQO for each water quality indicator will then protect all identified EVs.

WQOs in this section are, unless otherwise specified, based on relevant national water quality guidelines including AWQG and the ADWG⁶. Table 3 outlines human use EVs, applicable water types, and a selection of more commonly used WQOs to support those EVs. Tables 4 to 12 provide further WQOs to protect particular human use EVs (based on national guidelines or other more local studies). Where national guidelines or other codes remain the primary source for WQOs, reference to those national guidelines or codes is necessary to obtain comprehensive listings of all indicators and corresponding WQOs.

Table 3. Water quality objectives to protect human use environmental values.

| Environmental value | Water type/area (refer Table 1 and plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Water quality objectives to protect EV (refer to specified codes and guidelines for full details) |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Suitability for | All fresh waters | Local WQOs for drinking water supply are provided in Table 4. |
| drinking water supply | including groundwaters | Note: For water quality after treatment or at point of use refer to legislation and guidelines, including: |
| | | Public Health Act 2005 and Regulations |
| | | Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008, including any approved drinking water quality management plan under the Act |
| | | Water Fluoridation Act 2008 |
| | | ADWG 2011. |
| Protection of the human consumer for oystering | Estuarine and coastal waters | Objectives as per AWQG and Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code ⁷ , Food Standards Australia New Zealand, 2007 and updates. |
| Protection of the human consumer | Fresh waters, estuarine and coastal waters | Objectives as per AWQG and Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, Food Standards Australia New Zealand, 2007 and updates. |
| Protection of cultural and spiritual values | Fresh waters (including groundwaters), estuarine and coastal waters | Protect or restore indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage consistent with relevant policies and plans. |
| Suitability for industrial use | Fresh waters, estuarine and coastal waters | No WQOs are provided in this scheduling document for industrial uses. Water quality requirements for industry vary within and between industries. The AWQG do not provide guidelines to protect industries, and indicate that industrial water quality requirements need to be considered on a case-by-case basis. This EV is usually protected by other values, such as the aquatic ecosystem EV. |

⁶ The AWQG are available on the National Water Quality Management Strategy website.

The ADWG are available on the NHMRC website.

⁷ The Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code is available on the Food Standards Australia and New Zealand website.

| Environmental value | Water type/area (refer Table 1 and plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Water quality objectives to protect EV (refer to specified codes and guidelines for full details) |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Suitability for aquaculture | Fresh waters, estuarine and coastal waters | Objectives as per: tables 5–7 AWQG and Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, Food Standards Australia New Zealand, 2007 and updates. |
| Suitability for irrigation | All fresh waters including groundwaters | ANZECC objectives for pathogens and metals are provided in tables 8 and 9. For other indicators, such as salinity, sodicity and herbicides, see AWQG. |
| Suitability for stock watering | All fresh waters including groundwaters | Objectives as per AWQG, including median faecal coliforms <100 organisms per 100 mL. WQOs for total dissolved solids and metals are provided in tables 10 and 11, based on AWQG. For other objectives, such as cyanobacteria and pathogens, see AWQG. |
| Suitability for farm supply/use | All fresh waters including groundwaters | Objectives as per AWQG. |
| Suitability for primary contact recreation | Fresh waters, estuarine and coastal waters | Objectives as per NHMRC (2008)⁸, including: water free of physical (floating and submerged) hazards temperature range: 16–34°C pH range: 6.5–8.5 DO: >80% faecal contamination: designated recreational waters are protected against direct contamination with fresh faecal material, particularly of human or domesticated animal origin. Two principal components are required for assessing faecal contamination: assessment of evidence for the likely influence of faecal material counts of suitable faecal indicator bacteria (usually <i>enterococci</i>) These two components are combined to produce an overall microbial classification of the recreational water body: intestinal enterococci: 95th percentile ≤ 40 organisms per 100mL (for healthy adults) (NHMRC, 2008; Table 5.7) direct contact with venomous or dangerous aquatic organisms should be avoided. Recreational water bodies should be reasonably free of, or protected from, venomous organisms (e.g. box jellyfish and bluebottles) waters contaminated with chemicals that are either toxic or irritating to the skin or mucous membranes are unsuitable for recreational purposes. |
| Suitability for primary contact recreation | Fresh waters Estuarine, coastal | cyanobacteria/algae: Recreational water bodies should not contain: level 1¹: ≥ 10 μg/L total microcystins; or ≥ 50 000 cells/mL toxic Microcystis aeruginosa; or biovolume equivalent of ≥ 4 mm³/L for the combined total of all cyanobacteria where a known toxin producer is dominant in the total biovolume or level 2¹: ≥ 10 mm³/L for total biovolume of all cyanobacterial material where known toxins are not present cyanobacterial scums consistently present. Further details are contained in NHMRC (2008) and Table 12. cyanobacteria/algae: Recreational water bodies should not contain ≥ 10 |
| | waters | cyanobacteria/aigae: Recreational water bodies should not contain 2 10 cells/mL Karenia brevis and/or have Lyngbya majuscula and/or Pfiesteria present in high numbers². Further details are contained in NHMRC (2008) and Table 12. |

 $^{^{\}rm 8}$ Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water are available on the NHMRC website.

| Environmental value | Water type/area (refer Table 1 and plans WQ1221, WQ1222) | Water quality objectives to protect EV (refer to specified codes and guidelines for full details) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Suitability for secondary contact | Fresh waters, estuarine and | Objectives as per NHMRC (2008), including: |
| recreation | coastal waters | intestinal enterococci: 95th percentile ≤ 40 organisms per 100mL (for healthy adults) (NHMRC, 2008; Table 5.7) |
| | | cyanobacteria/algae—refer objectives for primary recreation, NHMRC (2008) and Table 12. |
| Suitability for visual | Fresh waters, | Objectives as per NHMRC (2008), including: |
| recreation | estuarine and coastal waters | recreational water bodies should be aesthetically acceptable to recreational users. The water should be free from visible materials that may settle to form objectionable deposits; floating debris, oil, scum and other matter; substances producing objectionable colour, odour, taste or turbidity; and substances and conditions that produce undesirable aquatic life. |
| | | cyanobacteria/algae—refer objectives for primary recreation, NHMRC (2008) and Table 12. |

- 1. Level 1 recognises the probability of adverse health effects from ingestion of known toxins, in this case based on the toxicity of microcystins. Level 2 covers circumstances in which there are very high cell densities of cyanobacterial material, irrespective of the presence of toxicity or known toxins. Increased cyanobacterial densities increase the likelihood of non-specific adverse health outcomes, principally respiratory, irritation and allergy symptoms. (NHMRC, 2008; 8).
- 2. The NHMRC states that its guidelines are concerned 'only with risks that may be associated with recreational activities in or near coastal and estuarine waters. This includes exposure through dermal contact, inhalation of sea-spray aerosols and possible ingestion of water or algal scums, but does not include dietary exposure to marine algal toxins.' (NHMRC, 2008; 121).

Sources:

The WQOs were determined from a combination of documents, including:

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (NHMRC, 2011).

Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (Australian Government: Food Standards Australia New Zealand).

Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC & ARMCANZ, 2000).

Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water (NHMRC, 2008).

Table 4. Drinking water EV: Priority water quality objectives for drinking water supply in the vicinity of off-takes, including groundwater, before treatment.

This table outlines WQOs for water **before treatment**, unless otherwise stated. For water quality after treatment or at the point of use, refer to relevant legislation and guidelines, including *Public Health Act 2005* and Regulations, *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, including any approved drinking water quality management plan under the Act, *Water Fluoridation Act 2008*, and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG, 2011). Objectives are derived following advice from Mackay Water, Whitsunday Regional Council, Queensland Health and the Queensland Water Supply Regulator.

| Indicator | Water quality objective ¹ |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Giardia | 0 cysts (Queensland Water Supply Regulator) |
| | If <i>Giardia</i> is detected in drinking water then the health authorities should be notified immediately and an investigation of the likely source of contamination undertaken (ADWG). |
| Cryptosporidium | 0 cysts (Queensland Water Supply Regulator) |
| | If <i>Cryptosporidium</i> is detected in drinking water then the health authorities should be notified immediately and an investigation of the likely source of contamination undertaken (ADWG). |
| E. coli | <100 cfu/100mL |
| Enterococci | <100 cfu/100mL |
| | Often in large catchments Enterococci is a better indicator of faecal contamination since it is shown to live longer in the environment |
| Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) | <10000 cells/mL |
| Algal toxin | <1 μg/L Microcystin |
| Turbidity | <30 NTU |
| Colour | <35 TCU |
| pH | 6.5–8.0 |
| Total hardness | <115 mg/L |
| Conductivity | <300 μS/cm |
| Total dissolved solids | ADWG 2011 aesthetic guideline: <600 mg/L |
| Total organic carbon | <2 mg/L |
| Sodium | Raw water supply: <25 mg/L |
| | General ² : The concentration of sodium in reticulated drinking water supplies should not exceed 180 mg/L (ADWG, based on threshold at which taste becomes appreciable). |
| | At-risk groups (medical) ² : The concentration of sodium in water supplies for at-risk groups should not exceed 20 mg/L (ADWG). |
| | Sudden changes in sodium levels in raw water supplies should be advised to Queensland Health, as these can affect medical equipment. |
| Sulfate | <4 mg/L |
| | The concentration of sulfate in drinking water should not exceed 250 mg/L (ADWG, based on taste/aesthetic considerations). |
| Discoluted annual | ADWG 2011 health guideline: <500mg/L |
| Dissolved oxygen | >80 % saturation |
| Pesticides | <0.1 µg/L for an individual compound |
| | <1.0 μg/L combined total for all compounds |

| Indicator | Water quality objective ¹ |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nitrite | <0.2 mg/L |
| Nitrate | <1.0mg/L |
| Chloride | <40 mg/L |
| Phosphate | <0.3 mg/L |
| Iron | <0.8 mg/L |
| Manganese | <0.06 mg/L |
| Other indicators (including physico-chemical indicators) | Refer to ADWG |

- 1. All values are based on advice/historical data provided by Mackay Water, except where otherwise indicated.
- 2. Sudden changes in sodium levels impact on medical equipment use, operation and calibration. Queensland Health should be advised of any such changes. The ADWG notes that 50 mg/L is a 'typical value' in reticulated supplies. The ADWG value for sodium is 180 mg/L (based on level at which taste become appreciable) however 'sodium salts cannot be easily removed from drinking water' and 'water authorities are strongly encouraged to keep sodium concentrations as low as possible'. It further notes that 'medical practitioners treating people with severe hypertension or congestive heart failure should be aware if the sodium concentration in the patient's drinking water exceeds 20 mg/L' (ADWG; sodium factsheet). The US EPA (2012 Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories) health based value for sodium is 20 mg/L (for individuals on a 500 mg/day restricted sodium diet).

Sources: Mackay Water, Whitsunday Regional Council, Qld Health, Queensland Water Supply Regulator, Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (NHMRC, 2011)

Table 5. Aquaculture EV: Water quality objectives for tropical aquaculture.

| Material | Recommended range | | Water name at an | Recommended range |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Water parameter | Fresh water | Marine | Water parameter | General aquatic |
| Dissolved oxygen | >4 mg/L | >4 mg/L | Arsenic | <0.05 mg/L |
| Temperature °C | 21–32 | 24–33 | Cadmium | <0.003 mg/L |
| рН | 6.8–9.5 | 7–9.0 | Calcium/Magnesium | 10–160 mg/L |
| Ammonia (TAN, total ammonia- nitrogen) | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | Chromium | <0.1 mg/L |
| Ammonia (NH ₃ , un-ionised form) | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | Copper | <0.006 mg/L in soft water |
| Nitrate (NO ₃) | 1–100 mg/L | 1–100 mg/L | Cyanide | <0.005 mg/L |
| Nitrite (NO ₂) | <0.1 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | Iron | <0.5 mg/L |
| Salinity | 0–5 ppt | 15–35 ppt | Lead | <0.03 mg/L |
| Hardness | 20–450 mg/L | | Manganese | <0.01 mg/L |
| Alkalinity | 20–400 mg/L | >100 mg/L | Mercury | <0.00005 mg/L |
| Turbidity | <80 NTU | | Nickel | <0.01 mg/L in soft water <0.04 mg/L in hard water |
| Chlorine | <0.003 mg/L | | Tin | <0.001 mg/L |
| Hydrogen sulphide | <0.002 mg/L | | Zinc | 0.03–0.06 mg/L in soft water 1–2 mg/L in hard water |

Source: Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries: Water Quality in Aquaculture—DPI Notes April 2004.

Table 6. Aquaculture EV: Water quality objectives for optimal growth of particular species in fresh water.

| Water parameter | Barramundi | Eel | Silver perch | Jade perch | Sleepy cod | Redclaw |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Dissolved oxygen | 4–9 mg/L | >3 mg/L | >4 mg/L | >3 mg/L | >4.0 mg/L | >4.0 mg/L |
| Temperature °C | 26–32 | 23–28 | 23–28 | 23–28 | 22–31 | 23–31 |
| рН | 7.5–8.5 | 7.0–8.5 | 6.5–9 | 6.5–9 | 7.0–8.5 | 7.0–8.5 |
| Ammonia (TAN, Total ammonia- nitrogen) | | <1.0 mg/L | | | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L |
| Ammonia (NH ₃ , unionised form)*pH dependent. | <0.46 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L |
| Nitrate (NO ₃) | | | <100 mg/L | | | |
| Nitrite (NO ₂) | <1.5 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L |
| Salinity (extended periods) | 0–35 ppt | | <5 ppt | <5 ppt | | <4 ppt |
| Salinity bath | 0–35 ppt | | 5–10 ppt for 1 hour | | max. 20 ppt for one hour | |
| Hardness (CaCO ₃) | | | >50 mg/L | >50 mg/L | >40 mg/L | >40 mg/L |
| Alkalinity | >20 mg/L | | 100–400 ppm | 100–400 ppm | >40 mg/L | >40 mg/L |
| Chlorine | <0.04 mg/L | | | | <0.04 mg/L | |
| Hydrogen sulphide | 0–0.3 mg/L | | | | 0–0.3 mg/L | |
| Iron | <0.1 mg/L | | <0.5 mg/L | <0.5 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L |
| Spawning temperature °C | Marine | | 23–28 | 23–28 | >24 for more than three days | |

Source: Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries: Water Quality in Aquaculture—DPI Notes April 2004.

Table 7. Aquaculture EV: Water quality objectives for optimal growth of particular marine species.

| Water parameter | Barramundi | | Tiger | Kuruma prawn | |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Hatchery | Grow out | Hatchery | Grow out | Grow out |
| Dissolved oxygen | Saturation | >4 mg/L | >4 mg/L | >3.5 mg/L | >4 mg/L |
| Temperature °C | 28–30 optimum 25–31 range | 28–30 optimum | | 26–32 | 24 |
| рН | ~8 | ~8 | ~8 | 7.5–8.5 | 7.5–8.5 |
| Ammonia (TAN, total ammonia-nitrogen) | | 0.1–0.5 mg/L | | | |
| Ammonia (NH ₃ , unionised form) | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L | <0.1 mg/L |
| Nitrate (NO ₃) | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L |
| Nitrite (NO ₂) | <0.2 mg/L | <1.0 mg/L | <0.2 mg/L | <0.2 mg/L | <0.2 mg/L |
| Salinity | 28–31 ppt | 0–35 ppt | | 10–25 ppt optimum | 30–35 ppt optimum |
| Alkalinity | | 105–125 mg/L CaCO₃ | | | |
| Clarity | | | | 30–40 cm Secchi disk | 30–40 cm Secchi disk |
| Hydrogen sulphide | | <0.3 mg/L | | | |
| Iron | | <0.02 mg/L | | <1.0 mg/L | |
| Spawning temperature °C | | 28–32 | | 27–32 | |

Source: Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries—Water Quality in Aquaculture—DPI Notes April 2004 (as amended).

Table 8. Irrigation EV: Water quality objectives for thermotolerant (faecal) coliforms in irrigation waters used for food and non-food crops¹.

| Intended use | Median values of thermotolerant coliforms (colony forming units—cfu) ² |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Raw human food crops in direct contact with irrigation water (e.g. via sprays, irrigation of salad vegetables) | <10 cfu/100 mL |
| Raw human food crops not in direct contact with irrigation water (edible product separated from contact with water, e.g. by peel, use of trickle irrigation); or crops sold to consumers cooked or processed | <1000 cfu/100 mL |
| Pasture and fodder for dairy animals (without withholding period) | <100 cfu/100 mL |
| Pasture and fodder for dairy animals (with withholding period of five days) | <1000 cfu/100 mL |
| Pasture and fodder (for grazing animals except pigs and dairy animals, i.e. cattle, sheep and goats) | <1000 cfu/100 mL |
| Silviculture, turf, cotton, etc. (restricted public access) | <10 000 cfu/100 mL |

- 1. Adapted from ARMCANZ, ANZECC and NHMRC (1999).
- 2. Refer to AWQG, Volume 1, Section 4.2.3.3 for advice on testing protocols.

Source: AWQG, Volume 1, Section 4.2.3.3, Table 4.2.2.

Table 9. Irrigation EV: Water quality objectives for heavy metals and metalloids in agricultural irrigation water¹—long-term trigger value (LTV), short-term trigger value (STV) and soil cumulative contamination loading limit (CCL).

| Element | Soil cumulative contaminant loading limit (CCL) ² (kg/ha) | Long-term trigger value (LTV) in irrigation water (up to 100 years) (mg/L) | Short-term trigger value (STV) in irrigation water (up to 20 years) (mg/L) |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aluminium | ND ² 5 | | 20 |
| Arsenic | 20 | 0.1 | 2.0 |
| Beryllium | ND | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Boron | ND | 0.5 | Refer to AWQG, Vol 3, Table 9.2.18 |
| Cadmium | 2 | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| Chromium | ND | 0.1 | 1 |
| Cobalt | ND | 0.05 | 0.1 |
| Copper | 140 | 0.2 | 5 |
| Fluoride | ND | 1 | 2 |
| Iron | ND | 0.2 | 10 |
| Lead | 260 | 2 | 5 |
| Lithium | ND | 2.5 (0.075 for citrus crops) | 2.5 (0.075 for citrus crops) |
| Manganese | ND | 0.2 | 10 |
| Mercury | 2 | 0.002 | 0.002 |
| Molybdenum | ND | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| Nickel | 85 | 0.2 | 2 |
| Selenium | 10 | 0.02 | 0.05 |
| Uranium | ND | 0.01 | 0.1 |
| Vanadium | ND | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Zinc | 300 | 2 | 5 |

Source: AWQG, Volume 1, Section 4.2.6, Table 4.2.10.

^{1.} Concentrations in irrigation water should be less than the trigger values. Trigger values should only be used in conjunction with information on each individual element and the potential for off-site transport of contaminants (refer AWQG, Volume 3, Section 9.2.5).

^{2.} ND = Not determined; insufficient background data to calculate CCL.

Table 10. Stock watering EV: Water quality objectives for tolerances of livestock to total dissolved solids (salinity) in drinking water¹.

| Livestock | Total dissolved solids (TDS) (mg/L) | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| | No adverse effects on animals expected | Animals may have initial reluctance to drink or there may be some scouring, but stock should adapt without loss of production | Loss of production and decline in animal condition and health would be expected. Stock may tolerate these levels for short periods if introduced gradually | |
| Beef cattle | 0–4000 | 4000–5000 | 5000–10 000 | |
| Dairy cattle | 0–2500 | 2500–4000 | 4000–7000 | |
| Sheep | 0–5000 | 5000–10 000 | 10 000–13 000 ² | |
| Horses | 0–4000 | 4000–6000 | 6000–7000 | |
| Pigs | 0–4000 | 4000–6000 | 6000–8000 | |
| Poultry | 0–2000 | 2000–3000 | 3000–4000 | |

- 1. From ANZECC (1992), adapted to incorporate more recent information.
- 2. Sheep on lush green feed may tolerate up to 13 000 mg/L TDS without loss of condition or production.

Source: AWQG, Volume 1, Section 4.3.3.5, Table 4.3.1.

Table 11. Stock watering EV: Water quality objectives (low risk trigger values) for heavy metals and metalloids in livestock drinking water.

| Metal or metalloid | Trigger value (low risk) ^{1,2} (mg/L) |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Aluminium | 5 |
| Arsenic | 0.5 (up to 5 ³) |
| Beryllium | ND |
| Boron | 5 |
| Cadmium | 0.01 |
| Chromium | 1 |
| Cobalt | 1 |
| Copper | 0.4 (sheep), 1 (cattle), 5 (pigs), 5 (poultry) |
| Fluoride | 2 |
| Iron | not sufficiently toxic |
| Lead | 0.1 |
| Manganese | not sufficiently toxic |
| Mercury | 0.002 |
| Molybdenum | 0.15 |
| Nickel | 1 |
| Selenium | 0.02 |
| Uranium | 0.2 |
| Vanadium | ND |
| Zinc | 20 |

- 1. Higher concentrations may be tolerated in some situations (further details provided in AWQG, Volume 3, Section 9.3.5).
- 2. ND = not determined, insufficient background data to calculate.
- 3. May be tolerated if not provided as a food additive and natural levels in the diet are low.

Source: AWQG, Volume 1, Section 4.3.4, Table 4.3.2.

Table 12. Recreational waters: Alert levels and corresponding actions for management of cyanobacteria.

When cyanobacteria are present in large numbers they can present a significant hazard, particularly to primary contact users of waters. Water quality objectives for cyanobacteria in recreational waters are provided in Table 3. Monitoring/action requirements relative to cyanobacteria 'alert' levels are summarised below, and are explained more fully in the Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water (NHMRC, 2008). Further details on the process to determine suitability of waters for recreation, relative to historical cyanobacterial levels and susceptibility to cyanobacterial contamination, are contained in sections 6 and 7 of the NHMRC guidelines.

| Green level surveillance mode ¹ | Amber level alert mode ¹ | Red level action mode ¹ | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Fresh waters | | | | | |
| ≥ 500 to <5000 cells/mL <i>M. aeruginosa</i> or biovolume equivalent of >0.04 to <0.4 mm ³ /L for the combined total of all cyanobacteria. | ≥ 5000 to <50 000 cells/mL <i>M.</i> aeruginosa or biovolume equivalent of ≥ 0.4 to <4 mm³/L for the combined total of all cyanobacteria where a known toxin producer is dominant in the total biovolume². or³ ≥ 0.4 to <10 mm³/L for the combined total of all cyanobacteria where known toxin producers are not present. | Level 1 guideline ⁴ : ≥ 10 µg/L total microcystins or ≥ 50 000 cells/mL toxic <i>M. aeruginosa</i> or biovolume equivalent of ≥ 4 mm ³ /L for the combined total of all cyanobacteria where a known toxin producer is dominant in the total biovolume. or ³ Level 2 guideline ⁴ : ≥ 10 mm ³ /L for total biovolume of all cyanobacterial material where known toxins are not present. or cyanobacterial scums are consistently present ⁵ . | | | |
| Coastal and estuarine waters | | | | | |
| Karenia brevis | | | | | |
| ≤ 1 cell/mL | > 1- < 10 cells/mL | ≥ 10 cells/mL | | | |
| Lyngbya majuscula, Pfiesteria spp. | | | | | |
| History but no current presence of organism | Present in low numbers | Present in high numbers. (For Lyngbya majuscula this involves the relatively widespread visible presence of dislodged algal filaments in the water and washed up onto the beach) | | | |
| Nodularia spumigena: See NHMRC, Cha | Nodularia spumigena: See NHMRC, Chapter 6 (Cyanobacteria and algae in fresh water) for details. | | | | |

Notes:

- 1. Recommended actions at different alert levels are outlined below (based on NHMRC, 2008, Table 6.6—fresh waters. Similar actions are outlined for coastal/estuarine waters in NHMRC Table 7.6):
 - a. **Green**: Regular monitoring. Weekly sampling and cell counts at representative locations in the water body where known toxigenic species are present (i.e. *Microcystis aeruginosa, Anabaena circinalis, Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii, Aphanizomenon ovalisporum, Nodularia spumigena*); or fortnightly for other types including regular visual inspection of water surface for scums.
 - b. **Amber**: Notify agencies as appropriate. Increase sampling frequency to twice weekly at representative locations in the water body where toxigenic species (above) are dominant within the alert level definition (i.e. total biovolume) to establish population growth and spatial variability in the water body. Monitor weekly or fortnightly where other types are dominant. Make regular visual inspections of water surface for scums. Decide on requirement for toxicity assessment or toxin monitoring.
 - c. Red: Continue monitoring as for (amber) alert mode. Immediately notify health authorities for advice on health risk. ('In action mode the local authority and health authorities warn the public of the existence of potential health risks; for example, through the media and the erection of signs by the local authority.' NHMRC, 2008; 114). Make toxicity assessment or toxin measurement of water if this has not already been done. Health authorities warn of risk to public health (i.e. the authorities make a health risk assessment considering toxin monitoring data, sample type and variability).
- 2. The definition of 'dominant' is where the known toxin producer comprises 75 per cent or more of the total biovolume of cyanobacteria in a representative sample.
- 3. This applies where high cell densities or scums of 'non toxic' cyanobacteria are present i.e. where the cyanobacterial population has been tested and shown not to contain known toxins (mycrocystins, nodularian, cylindrospermopsin or saxitoxin).
- 4. Health risks and levels: Level 1 is developed to protect against short-term health effects of exposure to cyanobacterial toxins ingested during recreational activity, whereas the Level 2 applies to the circumstance where there is a probability of increased likelihood of non-specific adverse health outcomes, principally respiratory, irritation and allergy symptoms, from exposure to very high cell densities of

cyanobacterial material irrespective of the presence of toxicity or known toxins (NHMRC, 2008;114).

5. This refers to the situation where scums occur at the recreation site each day when conditions are calm, particularly in the morning. Note that it is not likely that scums are always present and visible when there is a high population as the cells may mix down with wind and turbulence and then reform later when conditions become stable.

Source: Based on NHMRC (2008) Guideline for Managing Risks in Recreational Water (Tables 6.2, 6.6, 7.3).

4 Ways to improve water quality

The following documents are relevant in considering ways to improve water quality in the Proserpine River, Whitsunday Island and O'Connell River basins. The document list below is additional to the plans, guidelines and other sources referred to in previous sections, **and is provided for information only**.

Local plans, studies

Council planning scheme and supporting codes, policies, available from relevant council websites.

Regional plans, studies

- Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday Regional Plan, February 2012, available from the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning.
- Drewry, J, Higham, W, Mitchell, C 2008, Water quality improvement plan (WQIP): Final report for the Mackay Whitsunday region, Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group (Reef catchments).
- Whitsundays Plan of Management 2008, GBRMPA, available from the GBRMPA website.

State plans, policies, guidelines, agreements etc

- State Planning Policy 4/10: Healthy Waters, available from the department's website.
- Urban Stormwater Quality Planning Guidelines (Queensland Government), available from the department's website.
- Queensland Water Quality Guidelines (QWQG), available from the department's website.
- Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010, available from the Office of Queensland Parliamentary Counsel website, and supporting documents available from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines website.
- Monitoring and Sampling Manual, available from the department's website.
- Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, Australian and Queensland Governments, available from the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan's website.

Other supporting technical information - riparian management

- Managing riparian widths to achieve multiple objectives, fact sheet 13, Land and Water Australia, Australian Government, 2004.
- Improving water quality, fact sheet 3, Land & Water Australia, Australian Government, 2002.
- Riparian Land Management Technical Guidelines—Volume 1 and 2, November 1999, Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (LWRRDC).
- Guidelines for Queensland Streambank Stabilisation with Riparian Vegetation, CRC for Catchment Hydrology, September 1999.
- Restoration of Fish Habitats—Fisheries Guidelines for Marine Areas, FHG002, available from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- Fisheries Guidelines for Fish Habitat Buffer Zones, FHG003, available from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- Guidelines for Riparian Filter Strips for Queensland Irrigators, CSIRO Land and Water, September 1999.

5 Dictionary

AMTD means the adopted middle thread distance which is the distance in kilometres, measured along the middle of a watercourse, that a specific point in the watercourse is from the watercourse's mouth or junction with the main watercourse (definition based on Water Regulation 2002).

ANZECC means the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council.

Aquatic ecosystems (defined in the AWQG) comprise the animals, plants and micro-organisms that live in water, and the physical and chemical environment and climatic regime in which they interact. It is predominantly the physical components (e.g. light, temperature, mixing, flow, habitat) and chemical components (e.g. organic and inorganic carbon, oxygen, nutrients) of an ecosystem that determine what lives and breeds in it, and therefore the structure of the food web. Biological interactions (e.g. grazing and predation) can also play a part in structuring many aquatic ecosystems.

ARMCANZ means the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand.

Basin means the basin name and number provided by Geoscience Australia, Canberra (3rd edition, 2004).

Biological integrity, of water, means the water's ability to support and maintain a balanced, integrative, adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity and functional organisation comparable to that of the natural habitat of the locality in which the water is situated.

Biotoxin (defined in the AWQG): means a toxin (poison) which originates from a living thing (a plant, animal, fungi, bacteria, etc).

Catchment means the total area draining into a river, creek, reservoir or other body of water. The limits of a given catchment are the heights of land (such as hills or mountains) separating it from neighbouring catchments. Catchments can be made up of smaller subcatchments.

Ecological health (defined in the AWQG) means the 'health' or 'condition' of an ecosystem. It is the ability of an ecosystem to support and maintain key ecological processes and organisms so that their species compositions, diversity and functional organisations are as comparable as possible to those occurring in natural habitats within a region (also termed ecological integrity).

Environmental value (EV) means:

- (a) a quality or physical characteristic of the environment that is conducive to ecological health or public amenity or safety; or
- (b) another quality of the environment identified and declared to be an environmental value under an Environmental Protection Policy or Regulation (e.g. water suitable for swimming in or drinking).

The EVs for water that can be identified for protection are outlined in Table 13.

Highest astronomical tide (HAT) (defined in Marine Parks (Declaration) Regulation 2006) means the highest level of the tides that can be predicted to occur under average meteorological conditions and under any combination of astronomical conditions.

High water mark (defined in *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*) means the ordinary high water mark at spring tides.

Mean high water spring refer high water mark.

Queensland waters (as defined in *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*): means all waters that are a) within the limits of the State; or b) coastal waters of the State.

Sub-basin means part of a basin.

Subcatchment means part of a catchment.

Toxicant (defined in the AWQG): means a chemical capable of producing an adverse response (effect) in a biological system at concentrations that might be encountered in the environment, seriously injuring structure or function or producing death. Examples include pesticides, heavy metals and biotoxins.

Table 13. Suite of environmental values that can be chosen for protection.

| • | Environmental values and definitions | ICON (as shown on plans) |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| - () (| Aquatic ecosystem A community of organisms living within or adjacent to water, including riparian or foreshore area.' (EPP (Water), schedule 2 - Dictionary) The intrinsic value of aquatic ecosystems, habitat and wildlife in waterways and riparian areas, for example, biodiversity, ecological interactions, plants, animals, key species (such as turtles, platypus, seagrass and dugongs) and their habitat, food and drinking water. Waterways include perennial and intermittent surface waters, groundwaters, tidal and non-tidal waters, lakes, storages, reservoirs, dams, wetlands, swamps, marshes, lagoons, canals, natural and artificial channels and the bed and banks of waterways. (This EV incorporates the 'wildlife habitat' EV used in the South East Queensland Regional Water Quality Management Strategy). See below for more details on aquatic ecosystems, based on the EPP (Water). | |
| | High ecological/conservation value waters Waters in which the biological integrity of the water is effectively unmodified or highly valued.' (EPP (Water), schedule 2). | None |
| 67 | Slightly disturbed waters Waters that have the biological integrity of high ecological value waters with slightly modified physical or chemical indicators but effectively unmodified biological indicators.' (EPP (Water), schedule 2). | None |
| | Moderately disturbed waters Waters in which the biological integrity of the water is adversely affected by human activity to a relatively small but measurable degree.' (EPP (Water), schedule 2). | None |
| ١. | Highly disturbed waters Waters that are significantly degraded by human activity and have lower ecological value than high ecological value waters or slightly or moderately disturbed waters.' (EPP (Water), schedule 2). | None |
| | Seagrass (goal within the aquatic ecosystem EV). Maintenance or rehabilitation of seagrass habitat. (Applies only to tidal waterways.) | W |

| Environmental values and definitions | ICON (as shown on plans) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Irrigation Suitability of water supply for irrigation, for example, irrigation of crops, pastures, parks, gardens and recreational areas. | |
| Farm water supply/use Suitability of domestic farm water supply, other than drinking water. For example, water used for laundry and produce preparation. | |
| Stock watering Suitability of water supply for production of healthy livestock. | |
| Aquaculture Health of aquaculture species and humans consuming aquatic foods (such as fish, molluscs and crustaceans) from commercial ventures. | |
| Human consumers of aquatic foods Health of humans consuming aquatic foods, such as fish, crustaceans and shellfish from natural waterways. Note that in some areas oystering is a more specific goal identified under the human consumer EV (see below). | |
| Oystering (goal within the EV of human consumers of aquatic foods) Health of humans consuming oysters from natural waterways and commercial ventures. (Applies only to tidal waterways.) | |
| Primary recreation Health of humans during recreation which involves direct contact and a high probability of water being swallowed, for example, swimming, surfing, windsurfing, diving and water-skiing. Primary recreational use, of water, means full body contact with the water, including, for example, diving, swimming, surfing, waterskiing and windsurfing. (EPP (Water), s. 6). | |
| Secondary recreation Health of humans during recreation which involves indirect contact and a low probability of water being swallowed, for example, wading, boating, rowing and fishing. Secondary recreational use, of water, means contact other than full body contact with the water, including, for example, boating and fishing. (EPP (Water), s. 6). | D |
| Visual recreation Amenity of waterways for recreation which does not involve any contact with water—for example, walking and picnicking adjacent to a waterway. Visual recreational use, of a water, means viewing the water without contact with it. (EPP (Water), s. 6). | |
| Drinking water supply Suitability of raw drinking water supply. This assumes minimal treatment of water is required, for example, coarse screening and/or disinfection. | |

| Environmental values and definitions | ICON (as shown on plans) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Industrial use | |
| Suitability of water supply for industrial use, for example, food, beverage, paper, petroleum and power industries, mining and minerals refining/processing. Industries usually treat water supplies to meet their needs. | |
| Cultural and spiritual values | |
| Indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage, for example: | |
| custodial, spiritual, cultural and traditional heritage, hunting, gathering and ritual responsibilities | |
| symbols, landmarks and icons (such as waterways, turtles and frogs) | |
| lifestyles (such as agriculture and fishing). | |
| Cultural and spiritual values, of water, means its aesthetic, historical, scientific, social or other significance, to the present generation or past or future generations. (EPP (Water), s. 6). | |