

Neighbourhood Catchments: Work with your neighbours to manage your catchment's resources.

A **catchment** is an area bounded by natural features (hills, mountains, ranges). The catchment acts as a natural basin to "catch" runoff water and transport it to a common outlet such as a creek or river.

A **Neighbourhood Catchment** is a group of properties located in a common catchment. A group of neighbours working together can address natural resource concerns at the property scale as individuals and at the Neighbourhood Catchment scale as a group.

Get the most out of your time and money

Healthy natural resources lead to better farm productivity, but issues such as water quality, salinity, weeds and pests are often difficult to address as an individual property.

Taking a Neighbourhood Catchment approach means integrating production and resource management issues at both the property scale and the catchment scale.

Sit down with your neighbours for more than just a cuppa. Had some ideas for a while? Now's your chance to get support to give them a try.

Form a Neighbourhood Catchment group to:

- share experience and knowledge with others in the catchment
- identify common interests for workshops, field days and demonstrations
- get access to technical support, funding and other resources.

How it works

Each Neighbourhood Catchment sets its own course, but there are some basic steps in the process.

1. Meet with your neighbours to create a Neighbourhood Catchment plan to identify issues of specific, shared concern.
2. Create a farm-specific plan to contribute to the Neighbourhood Catchment plan, identifying practical on-ground projects or different management practices to try.
3. Identify resources to support projects.
4. Monitor your progress to detect changes. Over time, monitoring activities will help show what activities are sustainable, relevant and producing the greatest benefits for your catchment.

How Fitzroy Basin Association and sub-regional groups can help

Several community groups (known as "sub-regional groups") work in partnership with Fitzroy Basin Association to provide information, resources and technical support to landholders, community groups and others working to improve land, air and water quality in their community.

Let us help you set up a Neighbourhood Catchment plan

We can organise a gathering, explain the process and guide you through the steps.

Get the facts

We can deliver workshops, field days and demonstrations within the catchment.

Learn new skills

We provide access to technical support, including monitoring the health of your natural resources.

Find resources

We can help you find support mechanisms including funding.



Neighbourhood Catchment groups are making a difference

Since 2001, land managers throughout the Fitzroy Basin have been working with their neighbours to achieve results. From large grazing and cropping properties to smaller horticulture properties, Neighbourhood Catchment projects are:

- establishing fences and additional watering points to improve pasture cover and protect water quality
- controlling weeds
- managing salt affected areas
- improving sustainability of farming systems
- addressing catchment-specific problems through many other endeavours.

These projects have improved soil and water quality, and ultimately productivity, for hundreds of landholders.

Are you a priority?

Financial and technical support is currently aimed at projects in *priority* Neighbourhood Catchments. Contact your local sub-regional group to find out if your catchment falls into this category.

Get started

Contact your local sub-regional group to find out more about Neighbourhood Catchments and how you can be involved.

Sub-regional groups in the Fitzroy Basin Association region

Central Highlands Regional Resource Use Planning Corporation (CHRRUP)
PO Box 115, Emerald QLD 4720
Phone (07) 4982 2985
Fax (07) 4982 2985

Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments Inc. (FRCC)
PO Box 288, Rockhampton QLD 4700
Phone (07) 4921 0573
Fax (07) 4921 0528

Dawson Catchment Coordinating Association (DCCA)
PO Box 165, Theodore QLD 4719
Phone (07) 4993 1004
Fax (07) 4993 1089

We've got you covered — for catchments outside these sub-regions, please ring FBA for contact details.

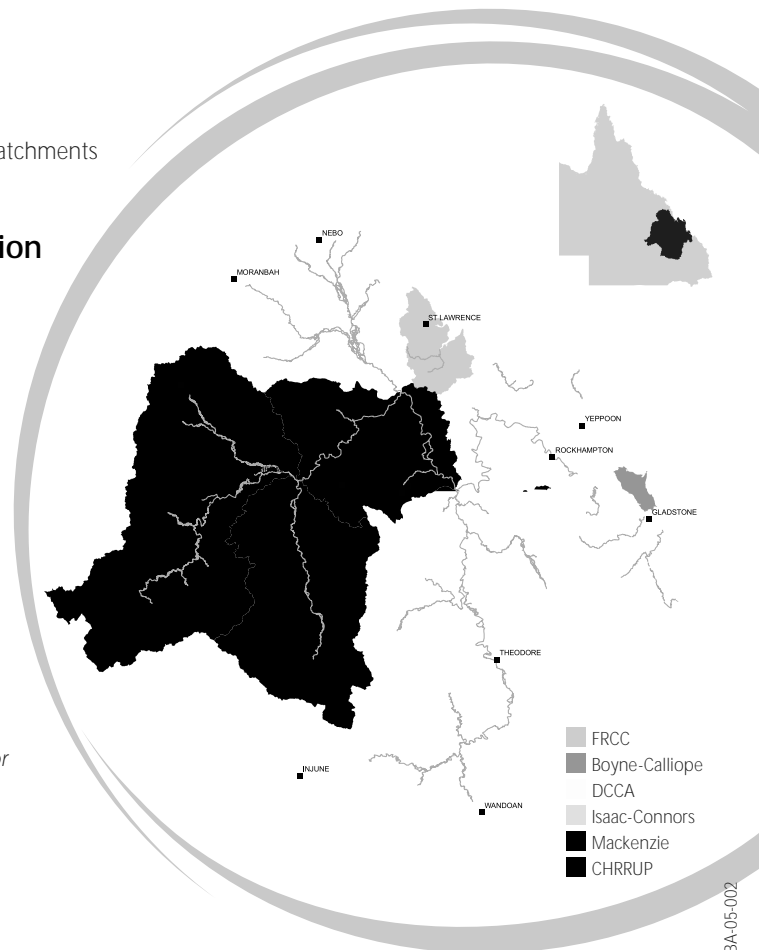
Further information

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