

# Achievements 2022–2023

## Climate



Progressed actions that contribute to the Queensland Government's **emissions reduction** and **renewable energy** targets



For the second consecutive year, Queensland was awarded the **highest ranking** of all States and Territories by the **Carbon Market Institute's Carbon Farming Scorecard Report** for its delivery of the **Land Restoration Fund**



Launched the **third investment round** offering up to **\$50 million** for **high quality carbon projects** that deliver environmental, socio-economic and First Nations co-benefits and finalised the second investment round



**\$4 million** to support **29 coastal councils** to implement climate hazard adaptation works and actions including infrastructure such as sea walls to help manage sea level rise, storm tide inundation and coastal erosion



**Five startups** sharing nearly **\$300,000**, matched by industry partners, to develop the next generation of low carbon technology and products through the **Low Carbon Accelerator Program**

## Science



**Engaging Queenslanders in Science** (Citizen Science) with 40 projects supported across Queensland



Attracted **Australia's first Research Centre of Excellence in Quantum Biotechnology** to Queensland



Announced the establishment of a **\$280 million Translational Science Hub** for world leading vaccine development in Queensland



Secured up to **\$115 million** in Australian Government funding to further develop Queensland's science sector



**Expanded** statewide **air quality monitoring network** to provide critical live air quality monitoring data during bushfires

## Multicultural Affairs Queensland



Initiatives to support **welcome and inclusion** and improve social and economic outcomes for people from **migrant, refugee, and asylum seek backgrounds** and Australian South Sea Islander peoples.



Supported the establishment of a **Holocaust Museum and Education Centre** in Queensland



**Celebrated** Queensland's **rich cultural diversity** through the Multicultural Queensland Month and Multicultural Queensland Awards

## Reef



Invested a further **\$36.9 million** in water quality programs to reduce harmful run-off and improve productivity as part of **more than \$1 billion** committed since 2015



Announced **ban on gillnets** in Great Barrier Reef from mid-2027 and funding to support the commercial fishing industry transition to **more sustainable approaches** that better protect threatened marine species



Created **150 jobs** through phase 2 of the **Reef Assist program**



Committed **\$10 million** to help kick-start the state's emerging **Reef Credit market**



**Supported Traditional Owners** to develop and launch the **Reef 2050 Traditional Owner Implementation Plan**



Completed the roll out of **strengthened Reef protections regulations** and expanded the targeted compliance program



Ongoing delivery of **Reef Joint Field Management Program** to conserve and monitor the Great Barrier Reef marine park and World Heritage Area



More than **5,000 hectares** of Reef islands acquired as part of the **Great Barrier Reef Island Arks Program**, benefiting threatened species and endangered ecosystems that will now be included in the protected area estate

## World Heritage



Released the **Queensland First Nations World Heritage Strategy**



Marked the renaming of Fraser Island to **K'gari** and **celebrated the 30th anniversary** of the inscription of the island's World Heritage Area on the **World Heritage List**



Allocated **\$200,000** to four grant recipients under the **2023 Cape York Heritage Assessment Grant Program**, to progress cultural values assessments on their Country



## Waste and Recycling



Progressed action to achieve Queensland's waste reduction targets by supporting:

- **4 commercial organics** processing projects in SEQ
- **9 regional waste** management plans
- **9 regional First Nations** waste management plans



'Let's get it Sorted' recycling pilot advertising campaign delivered to help improve recycling behaviours



**Expansion** of the **Container Refund Scheme** to include glass wine and pure spirit bottles from 1 November 2023



**Expansion** of the **single-use plastics items ban** to include new items from 1 September 2023



**No direct cost to households** as a result of waste levy maintained

## Environmental Protection



Completed almost **2,000 enforcement actions**, including approximately 1,700 PINs totalling **over \$2.8 million** in fines



Undertook **Operation Tensile** which targeted 32 unlicensed metal recyclers across SEQ, resulting in 22 Direction Notices and 13 PINs totalling **over \$129,000**



Allocated **\$3.75 million in funding** to **46 councils** to employ dedicated compliance officers to crack down on illegal dumping resulting in removal of 25 million litres of waste and the issue of 434 fines totalling **over \$780,000**



Enhancements to the public register portal, which includes **30,000 records** and averages over **20,000 views per month**

## Conservation and Protected Areas



**Largest ever investment** in expanding the state's protected areas (**\$262.5 million** over 4 years) including 6 new properties purchased in 2022–23



**362,100 hectares** of land on Cape York Peninsula **returned** to Angkamuthi (Seven Rivers), Atambaya and Gudang Yadhaykenu peoples—**319,301 hectares** to be jointly managed national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal Land)



**79,707 hectares** of Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park **handed back** to the Waanyi people and rededicated as Boodjamulla National Park (Aboriginal Land)—the first tenure of its kind in Queensland



**200,000 hectares** added to Queensland's Private Protected Area Estate



**2 Great Barrier Reef islands** acquired to protect endangered marine turtle breeding grounds



Purchased the site for the **state's 3rd northern hairy-nosed wombat population** near St George to protect this critically endangered species



Committed **\$39.3 million** for new initiatives to protect and recover Queensland's **threatened animals and plants**, including koalas



Released *Conserving Nature—a Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Queensland*



**Enhanced whole-of-government framework** for state infrastructure projects in South East Queensland to consider **koala habitat**



**12 Expressions of Interest** received from landholders to become environmental offset providers



Expanded the highly successful **Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger** (ILSR) program and boosted its capacity through vehicle and equipment grants. 154 rangers are in place with over 200 to be employed by the end of 2023-24.



Delivered the new **Zoning Plan for the Great Sandy Marine Park**, providing additional protections of its threatened species, and cultural and amenity values.

## Heritage



**Increased the number and diversity** of places on the Queensland Heritage Register



**1,797 places** on the Queensland Heritage Register



Released the **Queensland Heritage Implementation Strategy** to improve the state's historical heritage protection framework