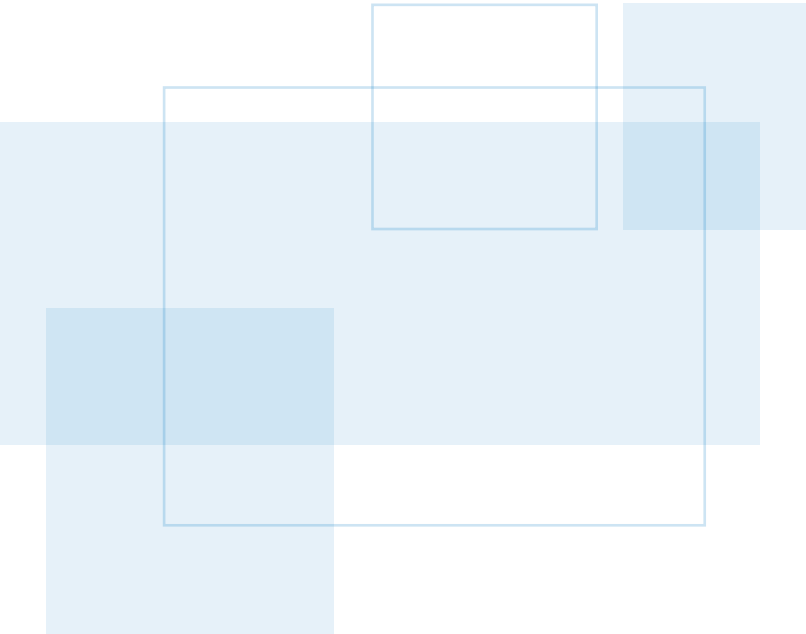


Glossary



| Term | Definition |
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| aquatic ecosystems | Any watery environment, from small to large and temporary to permanent, including surface and groundwater, in which plants and animals interact with the chemical and physical features of the environment. |
| automated titles system | A system to lodge and register title transactions electronically, which is managed by the department. |
| biophysical studies | Biophysics is an interdisciplinary science that uses the methods of physics chemistry to study biological systems. |
| biosequestration | The removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by plants and its storage in vegetation and soils. |
| bioiversity | Life in all its forms—different plants, animals and micro-organisms; the genes they contain and the ecosystems they form. |
| carbon footprint | A measure of the amount of carbon dioxide produced by a person, organisation or location at a given time. |
| carbon offsets | A financial instrument aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon offsets are measured in metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO ₂ -e) and may represent six primary categories of greenhouse gases. One carbon offset represents the reduction of one metric ton of carbon dioxide or its equivalent in other greenhouse gases. |
| Carbon Outlook project | A Queensland Government project that works with industry to assist them to transition to a low carbon economy. |
| Caring for our Country | A program that delivers the Australian Government's previous natural resource management programs (including the Natural Heritage Trust, the National Landcare Program, the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Working on Country Indigenous land and sea ranger program) and a range of other natural resource management funding (including Community Coastcare, World Heritage, regional investments and relevant 2007 election commitments). |
| catchment | An area of land on which runoff from rainfall is collected and transferred to a waterway. |
| climate change impact statements | A succinct summary of the climate change impacts associated with the relevant project, policy or legislation being considered by Cabinet. |
| Delbessie Agreement | A partnership (formerly the State Rural Leasehold Land Strategy) between the Government, AgForce and the Australian Rainforest Conservation Society that came into effect in January 2008. It affects approximately 1 800 rural leases, or about 86.6 million hectares or half of Queensland. It is a major land management initiative that focuses on achieving best practice management of natural resources on these leases, through sustainable and profitable primary enterprises. |
| digital cadastral database | A database managed by the department which contains a graphical representation of the land parcel boundaries and natural features forming the cadastral boundaries of all Queensland properties. |
| Dreaming Track | (Australian Aboriginal mythology) A path across the land (or, sometimes the sky) marking the route followed by an Aboriginal ancestor made during the Dreaming which is often recorded in traditional songs, stories, dance and painting. |
| ecosystems | A community of organisms interacting with one another and their environment. |
| environmental offsets | An action taken to counterbalance unavoidable, negative environmental impacts that result from an activity or a development. An offset may be located within or outside the geographic site of the impact. |

| Term | Definition |
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| Fitzroy Basin | Covering more than one-tenth of Queensland's land area and straddling the Tropic of Capricorn, the Fitzroy region is defined by the Fitzroy River Basin, the adjacent costal catchments, the Calliope and Boyne catchments and the Upper Belyando catchment to the west. The region experiences highly variable rainfall, high evaporation rates and prolonged dry periods followed by floods. |
| Green Building Skills Fund | A fund to boost sustainability expertise within Queensland's building and construction industry. This will be achieved by partnering with peak industry bodies to deliver accredited training courses, with a particular emphasis on training in regional Queensland. |
| greenhouse gas | A gas that contributes to the warming of Earth's atmosphere by reflecting radiation from the Earth's surface (e.g. carbon dioxide) |
| groundwater | Water below the surface found in cracks, voids, pores or other spaces between particles of clay, silt, sand, gravel or rock within the saturated zone of a geological formation. |
| Indigenous Land Use Agreements | An agreement (commonly known as ILUAs) made with native title parties under the <i>Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993</i> . |
| land tenures | Land tenures include term, perpetual and freehold leases, as well as reserves. The department administers these tenures and related road licences and permits to occupy. |
| low carbon diet | A campaign encouraging people to make lifestyle choices to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from energy use. |
| machinery-of-government change | An administrative change that effects the overall structure and functions of government agencies. |
| Macropods (Kangaroos) | Macropods are marsupials belonging to the family Macropodidae, which includes kangaroos, wallabies, tree-kangaroos, pademelons, and several others. Macropods are native to Australia, New Guinea, and some nearby islands. |
| marine park | An area declared under the <i>Marine Parks Act 2004</i> for conservation of the marine environment. |
| memorandum of understanding | A non-binding agreement that captures the intent of parties to cooperate regarding the matters outlined in the agreement document. |
| modelling | computer modelling programs used by the department to monitor changes in vegetation and land condition and use. |
| National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality | A joint Australian and Queensland Government initiative that encourages governments and regional communities to work together to address salinity and water-quality issues in priority catchments throughout Queensland. |
| national water initiative | An intergovernmental agreement, signed by the Commonwealth, states and territories in 2004, commits jurisdictions to specific actions to increase the productivity and efficiency of Australia's water use. This will ultimately provide greater certainty to water users, investors and the environment. |
| Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence | Provides policy advice, information and science on climate change, climate variability and extreme events and the impact of these on the community, economy and the environment. |
| Queensland Youth Environment Council | A ministerial advisory council providing policy advice and youth engagement on issues of environmental sustainability |
| referable dams | Dams that could put people, property, the environment and water supply at risk if they were to fail. Queensland has 99 referable dams. |
| regional water supply strategy | A framework of preferred solutions to achieve a safe, secure and sustainable water supply to meet a region's short, medium and long-term water needs at least cost |

| Term | Definition |
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| resource operations plan (ROP) | The implementation plan for the objectives, strategies and outcomes specified in the related water resource plan. The ROP outlines the day-to-day rules and management arrangements for water users and infrastructure operators. |
| Rural Water Use Efficiency (RWUE) | A government/rural industry partnership which provides services to irrigators to help them improve water use efficiency and adopt sustainable irrigation management practices. |
| salinity | Salinity is the saltiness of dissolved salt content of a body of water. It is a general term used to describe the levels of different salts such as sodium chloride, magnesium and calcium sulfates, and bicarbonates. Salinity may also refer to the salt content of soil. |
| spatial information | Information and data that relate to a position or place on Earth. |
| stakeholders | Individuals, groups or organisations with specific interest in and/or influence on a project. |
| Statewide Landcover and Trees Study | A departmental report released annually on the woody vegetation clearing rates and overall cover of woody vegetation across Queensland. |
| stock routes | Queensland has a 72 000 kilometre network of stock routes that allow pastoralists to move stock around the state on foot as an alternative to trucking. |
| stocking rates | The stocking rate is the number of farm animals that can be effectively grazed on any area of land. The rate will vary greatly depending both on the type of livestock, the fertility of the land, and the climatic conditions. Stocking rates are expressed in terms of number of stock per hectare or acre. |
| streambank stability | Activities such as the over-clearing of land, stock grazing along watercourses, and the straightening of channels, disturb the equilibrium that exists between the flow regime and channel. Disturbing this equilibrium catalyses processes such as erosion and channel widening, which are both key causes of streambank instability. Erosion occurs as a result of interactions between the streambank, weather and flow. There are three broad categories of bank erosion processes. |
| tradeable water allocations | An authority to take water as set out in the resource operations plan. Water allocations are separate from land, are registered on the Water Allocations Register and are tradeable. The <i>Water Act 2000</i> details the attributes to be specified on a water allocation. |
| traditional owners | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a particular connection to land under tradition. |
| unallocated State land | State land that has not been allocated for a particular use, managed by the department. |
| water resource plan | A plan for sharing water between human and environmental needs and striking a balance that provides for present demands and future requirements. Water resource plans are a blue print for future sustainability and are produced in accordance with the <i>Water Act 2000</i> . |
| waterway | A passage for or body of water, including all perennial and ephemeral streams, rivers and other wetlands, and bays. |
| wild river rangers | Indigenous natural resource rangers employed through the Wild River Rangers program to protect and promote the values of Queensland's wild rivers. |
| woody vegetation | There are many definitions of what constitutes a forest or woody vegetation. A common definition used by foresters is 20 per cent crown cover which equates to approximately 12 per cent foliage projective cover. |

