

Economic support to Project Catalyst: Understanding the viability of innovation



Innovation and technologies

- Targets for current Reef Plan
 - target of 20 per cent reduction in sediment and a 50 per cent reduction in nutrients by 2018
- Scientific consensus statement indicating that even if all growers adopted BMP the targets will not be reached
- Limited resources and time being essential
- Where are the “Game Changers”?

Targeted areas

Controlled Traffic -6 growers

Skip Row- 7 growers

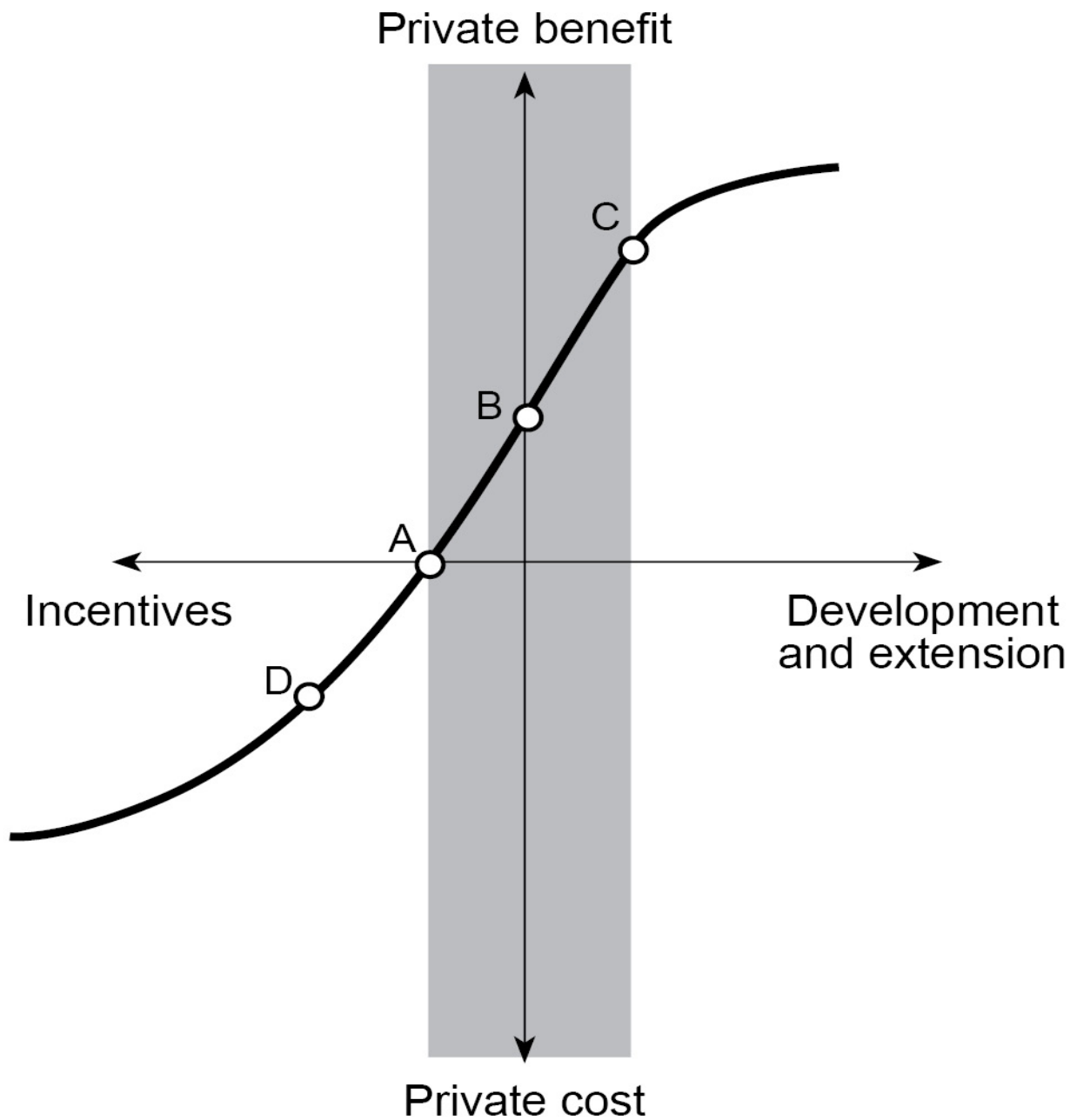
Variable Rate- 10 growers

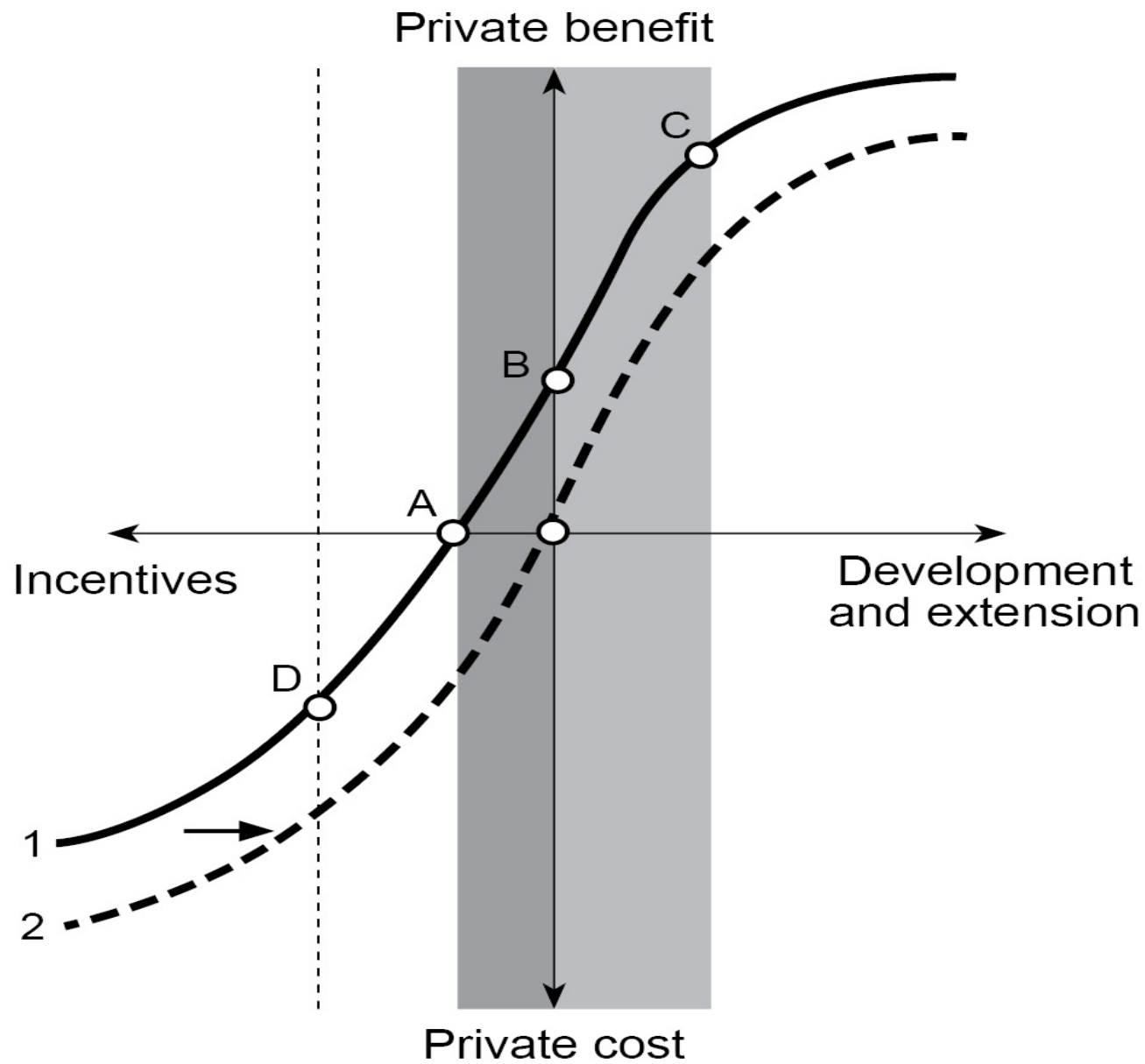
Irrigation- 11 growers

Chemical - 11 growers

Fertiliser- 9 growers

Grower groups- 5 growers





Key Messages

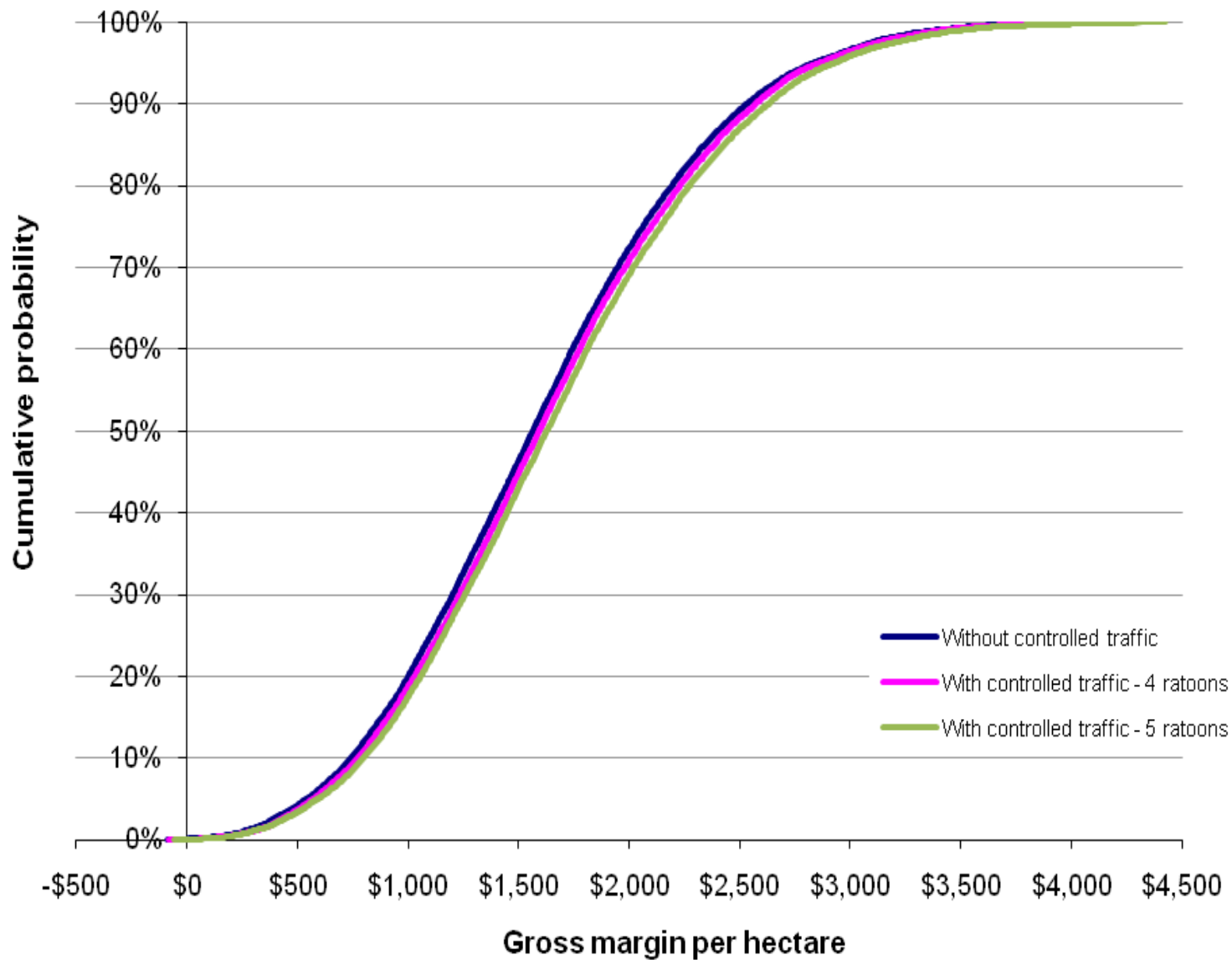
- Capital is critical
 - Scale
 - Machinery disease
 - Consideration of options for contracting
 - Use of tool in consideration of funding applications
- Business viability
 - Implementation of technologies and innovation
 - Adoption
 - Risk
 - Time lags

Key Messages

- Current state of play
 - Costs of particular inputs
 - Labour inputs
 - Options for other fallow crops
 - Price of sugar
- Efficiency is key – Precision Agriculture

GPS

- Increasingly adopted
 - Less stool damage
 - Higher yields
 - Improved efficiencies in FORM
 - Taken on gradually, once in all in

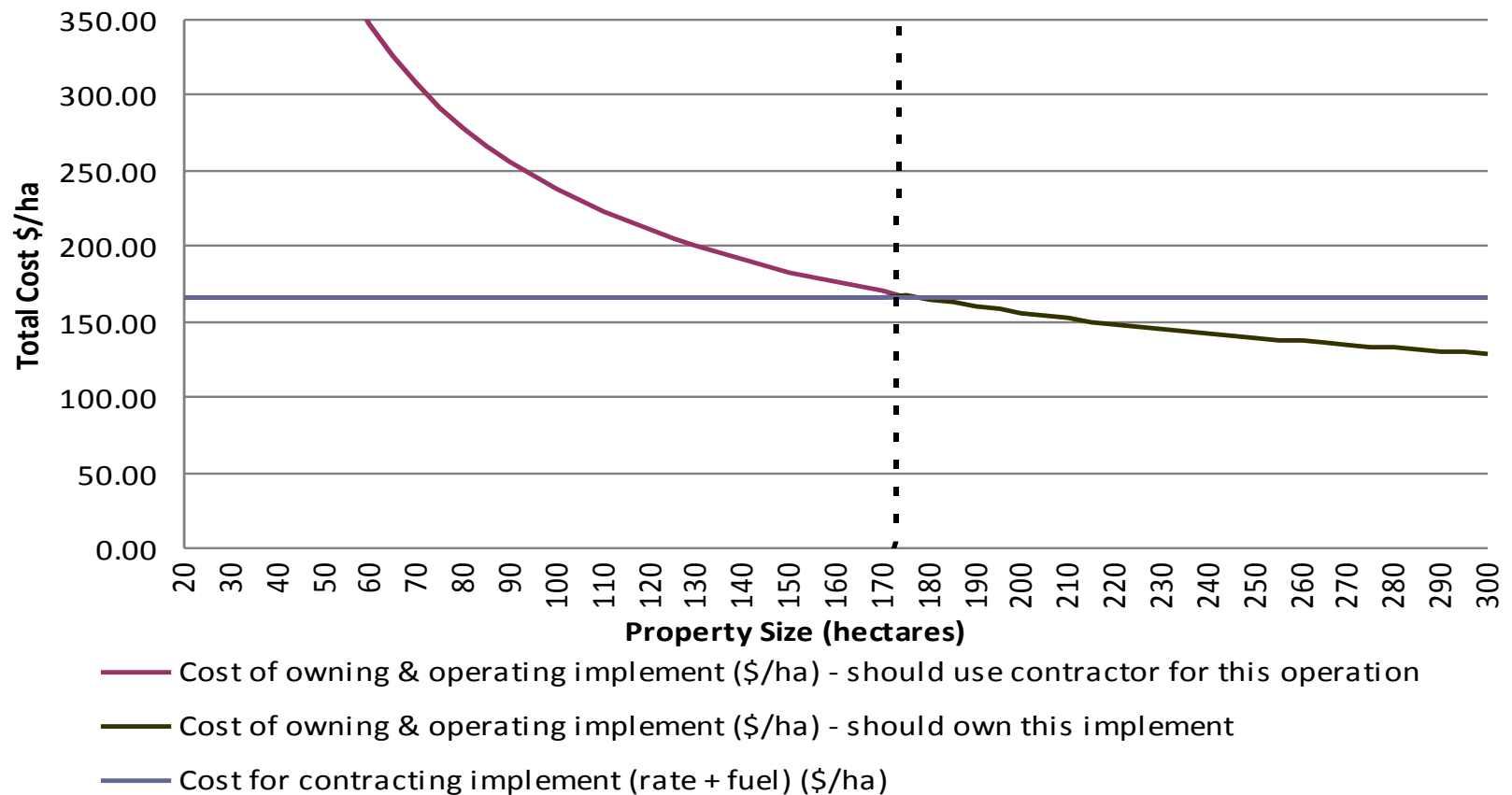


Why?

- Intrinsic values
- Data management
- Perceived long term benefits at low risk
- Integration across machinery
- Ease of operation and ability to use unskilled labour
- Nothing in isolation

Contract Vs Ownership

Contracting versus owning machinery





- 1. What is your total cane cultivation area? (hectares)
- 2. How many ratoons do you usually harvest?
- 3. What is your fuel price (after removing GST and the fuel rebate)?
- 4. What is your labour cost (\$/hr)?
- 5. Is a new tractor required to use these proposed implements?
- 6. What is the interest rate for your borrowings? (%)
- 7. Please enter your machinery details in the yellow cells below.
- 8. If you are purchasing a new implement, enter the age and value at trade-in into the purple cells.
- 9. Please enter your contract quote details in the green cells below.
- 10. Press the Run Scenario button.
- 11. Look at the relevant Implement tabs below to see graphs of owning vs. contracting

175
5
\$1.00
\$25.00
No
10%



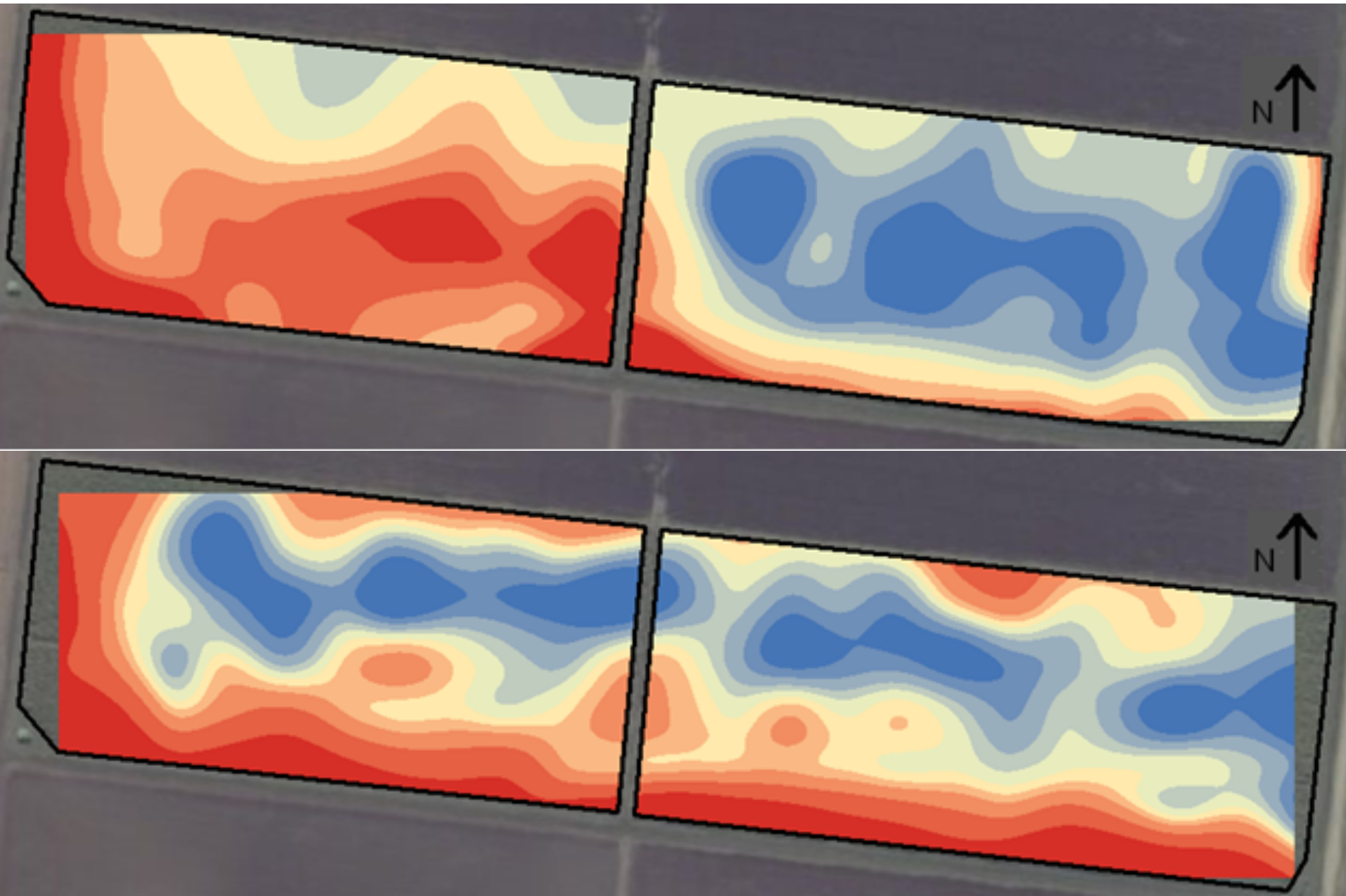
Ownership - Machinery Details

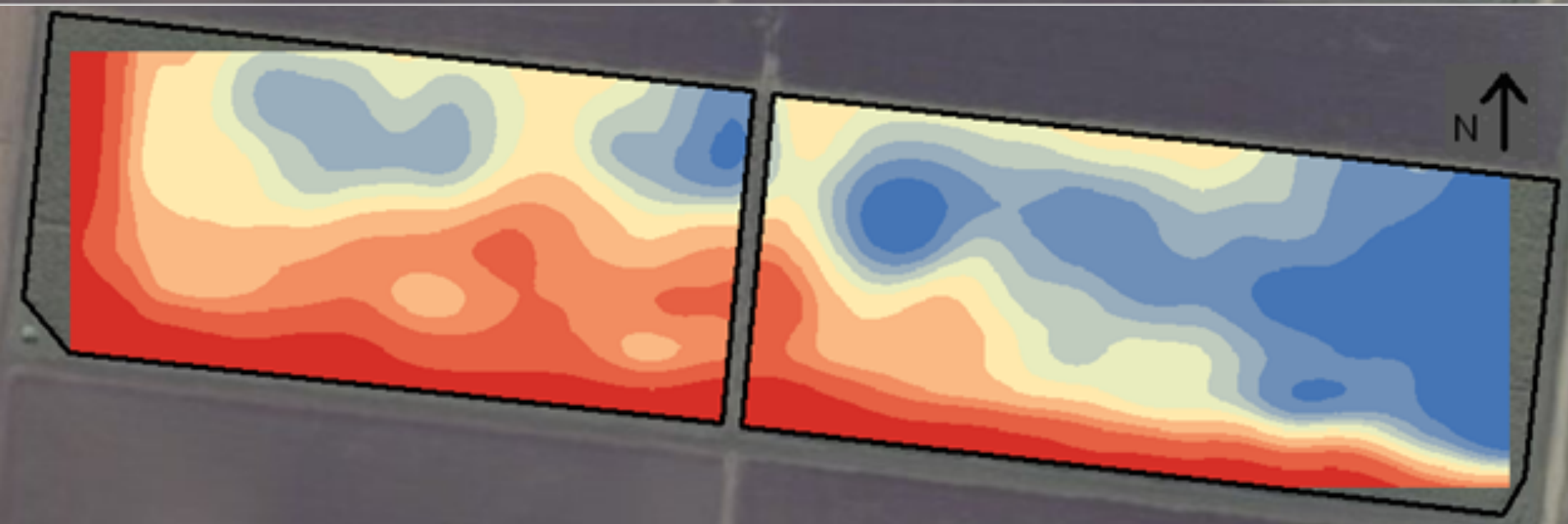
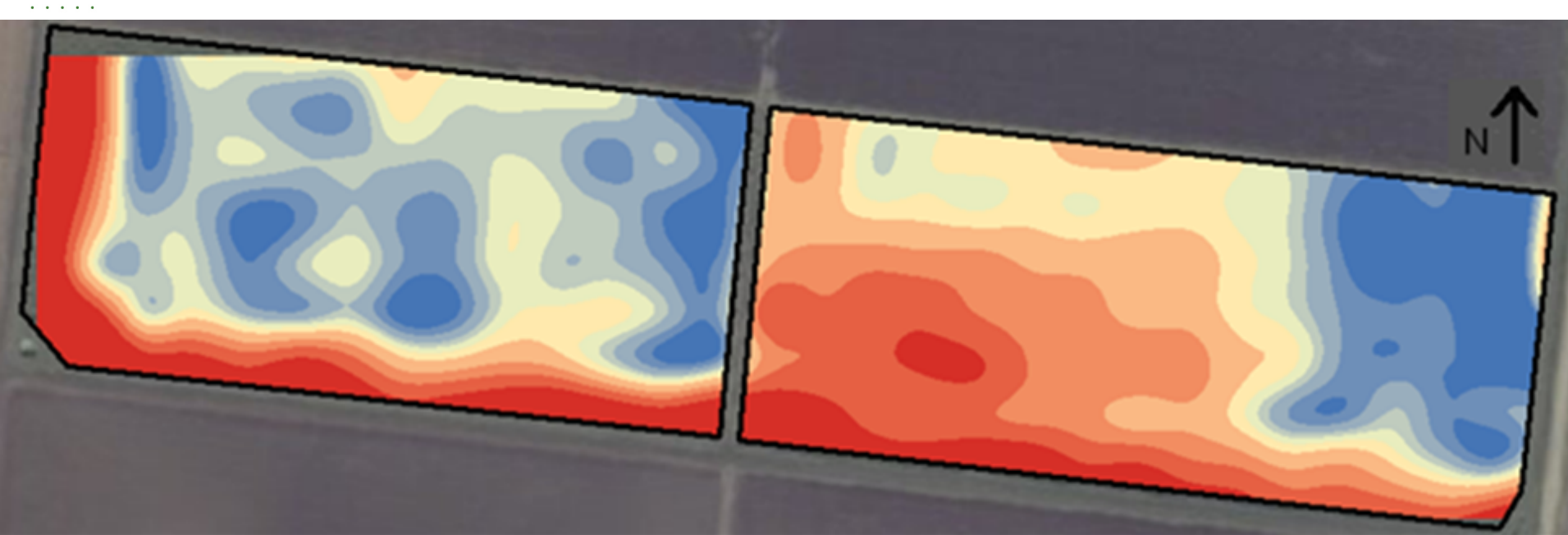
- Cost of replacement
- Passes
- Speed
- Width of Pass
- % of load
- Calculates the RM, Labour, Depreciation, interest,
- Overhead costs are often the forgotten costs of machinery

Contractor Quotes

- Rate \$/hr
- Fuel
- Width of pass
- Speed

Business viability- At a block level











Integrating all these dollars!!

- Metrics
- Competitive tenders/asymmetric information
- Creating a cap where we understand the community benefit is \$\$\$

Choice modelling

Question Three: Water quality improvements. If you were paying for extra improvements in water quality from a land based activity to protect the Great Barrier Reef, which one of the following three options would you choose

Land based activities 	Percent of Sediment reduced by 2020 	Percent of nutrient reduced by 2020 	Area of inshore coral reef in good health by 2030  Current condition : About 68% of inshore in good condition (2,870 sq km)	How much each alternative will cost (\$ every year until 2020) 	I would choose 	
Current Trends	0%	+	0% →	About 30% inshore coral reefs in good health (2110 sq km)	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grazing	12%	+	15% →	About 59 % inshore coral reefs in good health (2,490sq km)	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sugar cane	2%	+	15% →	About 54% inshore coral reefs in good health (2,279 sq km)	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
This is the 3 rd of 6 choice questions						

Multinomial logit modelling

	Labeled Coefficient	Labeled S.E	Unlabeled Coefficient	Unlabelled S.E
<i>Random parameters in utility functions</i>				
Reef health	0.09876***	0.02164	0.68321***	0.12538
<i>Nonrandom parameters in utility functions</i>				
ASC			-0.21823	0.56512
ASC1	1.34863**	0.52549		
ASC2	1.19652**	0.51521		
Cost	-0.00779***	0.00042	-0.00751***	0.00048
Sednut	-0.01842**	0.00644	-0.24484***	0.08068
Education	-0.18915**	0.07435	-0.24484***	0.08068
Income	0.14116**	0.06964	-0.15011D-04	0.00020
Age	-0.20747***	0.06737	0.00679	0.07074
Gender	0.39725**	0.17432	-0.13130	0.18960
Children	0.17424	0.18278	-0.37245*	0.21157
<i>Model Statistics</i>				
Observations	2346		2316	
Log L	-1935		-1915	
AIC	1.659		1.663	
McFadden R ⁻²	0.2474		0.2472	
Chi Squared	1284		1257	



Thanks

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