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Reef Catchments welcomes new NRM leader to Mackay Whitsunday region

Reef Catchments has welcomed a new NRM (natural resource management) leader to the Mackay Whitsunday region.

Reef Catchments newly appointed manager, Katrina Dent, brings more than 20 years of planning experience to the team and will focus on growing natural resource management outcomes and programs to enhance and protect the region and lifestyle we love.

“The Mackay Whitsunday region and community leads a lifestyle of getting out and about and enjoying our natural resources – whether it be visiting the Whitsunday islands, fishing in dams or offshore, or watching our agricultural industries grow and diversify,” Mrs Dent said.

“We are fortunate to have a rich diversity of natural resources that we rely on, enjoy and are rightfully proud of – a feature that we can show and share with family and friends.”

Mrs Dent has worked previously for both local and state government in the Mackay and Rockhampton regions. She has a strong history in strategic planning for regional growth, having formerly provided direction for Mackay Whitsunday coastal development. She has also been involved in the drafting and release of the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac (MWI) Regional Plan, which outlines a 20-year strategic vision for the wider region.

“I see natural resource management and planning as a key contributor to a sustainable community, and believe my experience and understanding of regional growth pressures will assist me in working with diverse stakeholders across the board to achieve NRM outcomes,” Mrs Dent said.

“I will be working within Reef Catchments to identify new and additional projects that can be undertaken to progress and enhance the natural resources of Mackay, Isaac and the Whitsundays.”

Reef Catchments CEO, Robert Cocco, said Katrina’s appointment to the Reef Catchments Group would help highlight regional NRM priorities moving forward.

“We are pleased to welcome Katrina to her new role. Katrina brings a wealth of expertise and insight into regional planning and is ideally placed to help facilitate best-practice resource management across our region, community and industries,” Mr Cocco said.

“Natural resource management is not just a phrase. At its core it asks, what condition do we want to leave our region and its landscape – our beaches, rainforest, waterways, ocean, bush, town and air - for the next generation?

“Management of our natural assets today will set our path for tomorrow and it is crucial to find the right balance for sustainable development. We look forward to having Katrina work alongside our team of NRM specialists and within the wider community to continue to deliver strong natural resource outcomes.”

ENDS



IMAGE1: Reef Catchments welcomes its new manager, Katrina Dent.



IMAGE2: Reef Catchments CEO Rob Cocco with new manager, Katrina Dent at the Racecourse Mill wetland restoration site.