# **MEDIA RELEASE**



## **WORKING DOGS HELP IMPROVE PASTURE**

## **EVENT SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> BALBERRA //**

Neil McDonald together with Reef Catchments support is running his popular Working Dog and Livestock Handling Workshop in Balberra Mackay on 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Juliane Kasiske, Landcare Facilitator of the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region is supporting the workshop to enable Graziers of the Mackay region and neighbouring Fitzroy to gain the necessary knowledge to become proactive regarding soil health and pasture management. Neil's schools will teach working in a safe and efficient manner with the help of working dogs.

Graziers interested in attending the 3-day workshop are encouraged to bring along their dogs and swags. Reef Catchments is offering a \$200 discount to the first 15 participants. To book, please contact Juliane Kasiske on 0488730 021.

Grazier Rhys Daniels from Theresa Downs, Capella said "When I started down this path eight years ago, I wouldn't suggest we had problem with livestock before, the changes we made from what we learnt have made handling livestock far simpler, easier, safer, better for the animals, and more profitable."

"Moving our mobs through our paddock rotations has become easy for one, that has had a flow on effect with an improvement in our pasture management."

Grazier Pat Lonergan from Clermont said" We started a rotational grazing programme about 18 months ago to try and improve our pastures and ground cover. Having cattle that are easy to handle has made this process work very well.

In addition to Neil McDonalds Workshop, Reef Catchments and Fitzroy Basin Association are running a free Networking BBQ Dinner on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> September between 6 and 8pm, where local graziers are sharing their success with the adopted McDonald concept with a discussion about the successes of the Grazing Best Management Practice Program in the Fitzroy Basin.

#### Event contributors:

This project is supported by Reef Catchments, through funding from the Australian Government National Landcare Programme.

### WORKING DOGS AND ADVANCED LIVESTOCK HANDLING WORKSHOP

**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Venue: Jambarlu Station, 405 Munburra Road, Balberra

**Cost:** \$200 discount provided by Reef Catchments for the first 15 participants

**Bookings:** Juliane Kasiske at Reef Catchments on 0488 730 021 or email

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**ENDS** 

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