

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 882

asked on Thursday, 21 November 2013

---

MR HOLSWICH ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION (MR POWELL)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the results of the 2012 Ecosystem Health Report Card for the Pine Catchment as well as the South Pine and North Pine Rivers—  
What steps is the government taking to improve the health and quality of the Pine River system?

ANSWER:

The Newman Government continues to demonstrate its commitment to improving the health of waterways across south east Queensland by investing in our environment for the future through the Healthy Waterways Program.

The 2012 and 2013 Ecosystem Health Report Cards show that the Pine River system is, overall, in fair to good condition. While the estuarine grade declined slightly from a B- to a C, the freshwater grade improved from a C to a B-.

Our *Everyone's Environment grants program* is providing \$12 million over three years. Successful grant recipients under the first two phases of the program have been announced and include the following projects which are improving the Pine River system:

- \$25,000 to the Pine Rivers Catchment Association for the Cleaning Up Our Backyard Program;
- \$16,150 to the South Pine River Restoration Project for expanding the biodiversity corridor; and
- \$4,950 to the Osprey House Environmental Centre, Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve Revegetation Project.

The Newman Government is also providing \$950,000 to Healthy Waterways Ltd over three years, for phase two of the erosion and sediment control project. This is in addition the government's core contribution of approximately \$560,000 annually.

The erosion and sediment control project is responding to the request from local governments across south east Queensland for support to improve capacity to manage erosion and sediment control compliance on urban developments in their jurisdictions.

The Moreton Bay Regional Council is also an important partner in the Government's wetlands and catchment management project to map ground water dependent ecosystems and develop aquatic conservation assessments for the region. This improves our investment decision making into the future so that we can continue to work to improve the health of our important waterway assets.