

3 Cs Information Days

*As a grazier, how does
Climate Change and
Carbon affect me?*

9:30am - 2:30pm

Wednesday 13 May, Prairie

Prairie Hall, Savage St

Thursday 14 May, Winton

Matilda Centre, Elderslie St

Friday 15 May, Barcaldine

Main Roads Training Room 69 Ash St

Climate change impacts on livestock carrying capacity

Senior Scientist Grant Stone, Qld Climate Change Centre of Excellence, DEEDI

Carbon cycles

Dr Chris Stokes, CSIRO

Greenhouse budgets for grazing enterprises

Dr Steven Bray, DEEDI Rockhampton

Register now by calling Desert Channels Qld on 07 4658 0600

Includes smoko and lunch.

For more info contact:

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Working with the Dalrymple Landcare Committee, this is an initiative of Desert Channels Qld and is funded by the Queensland Government's Blueprint for the Bush Program.

Climate Change & Carbon Information Days

Climate change impacts on rangeland livestock carrying capacity - Senior Scientist Grant Stone

Graziers, their advisers and public policy face a difficult task in adjusting to climate change. Climate change projections – including changes in rainfall, temperature, carbon dioxide and other climatic variables are complex. If realised, they are likely to affect forage and animal production, and ecosystem functioning.

This talk will cover a wide range of issues that are likely to influence decisions on grazing in northern Australia and will add to information provided by the other speakers. In particular, we discuss the importance of current developments in climate systems, science and the use of climate risk assessment (and seasonal climate forecasting) in the adaptation process to achieve sustainable rangeland use.

Carbon cycles – Dr Chris Stokes

With the growing concern about the risks of climate change, there is also a growing awareness of the contributions that agricultural activities play in altering the exchange of carbon dioxide between the atmosphere and the land. Historically, about half of the carbon dioxide that human activities have released into the atmosphere has been the result of land use practices (releasing carbon that had been stored in vegetation and soils). But some land systems have also stored substantial amounts of carbon, largely because of the fertilising effect rising carbon dioxide has in increasing plant growth (and inputs of organic matter into soils). Many land managers have become interested in how they might be able to promote the storage of carbon in soils as a way of improving soil health while having the added benefit of removing carbon from the atmosphere.

Chris Stokes will provide an overview of the carbon cycle in the rangelands to show some of the ways in which carbon storage may change the future. This will cover some of the ways that land management actions can alter carbon storage but will also show the important role that climate change will play (such as the influence of rising carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere, global warming and changing rainfall). The talk will highlight how improving land condition and soil health can provide multiple benefits, and some of the risks, uncertainties and limitations involved in promoting carbon storage in rangelands.

Greenhouse budgets for grazing enterprises – Dr Steven Bray

In the age of the 'carbon economy', grazing businesses need to have a good understanding of their greenhouse gas budget in order to be able to contribute to the debate and policy development regarding the reduction of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

Dr Steven Bray will discuss some of the challenges to developing a whole-property greenhouse gas budget using a hypothetical case study property. The impact of some of the management options on the whole-property greenhouse gas budget will be explored.