

Partnerships for practice change in the dryland cropping industry

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Queensland
Government

Grains BMP History

- Concept for process initiated within DPI&F
- Individual relationships between DPI&F, FBA and AgForce staff resulted in initial discussions
- Common objectives identified early
- Commitment to partnership amongst individuals to progress concept

Grains BMP Concept

- Meets common objectives for each organisation relating to:
 - Productivity enhancement
 - Promoting sustainable agriculture
 - Accountability for industry impacts

AgForce Grains

- Productivity through supporting economic contribution of grains industry
- Sustainability through encouraging sustainable grain production
- Accountability through proactively promoting a responsible industry

DEEDI

- Productivity through supporting strong regional economies and sustaining growth
- Sustainability through promoting environmentally and socially responsible development
- Accountability through demonstrating sustainable industry development

FBA

- Productivity through supporting development of a robust regional economy
- Sustainability through promoting sustainable development of the Fitzroy region
- Accountability through ensuring costs and benefits are shared across sectors

Grains BMP development

- Utilising collective resources of all partners has been the key
- 8 projects from several funding sources totalling approx \$2.1M have been successfully applied for in development and delivery
- Each partner provides different but overlapping spheres of influence

Grains BMP development

- Industry (grower) involvement has been critical
- Two grower based reference groups have guided project development and pilot implementation
- Industry technical experts engaged to assist delivery, provides industry focus
- Ownership is critical to achieve industry uptake

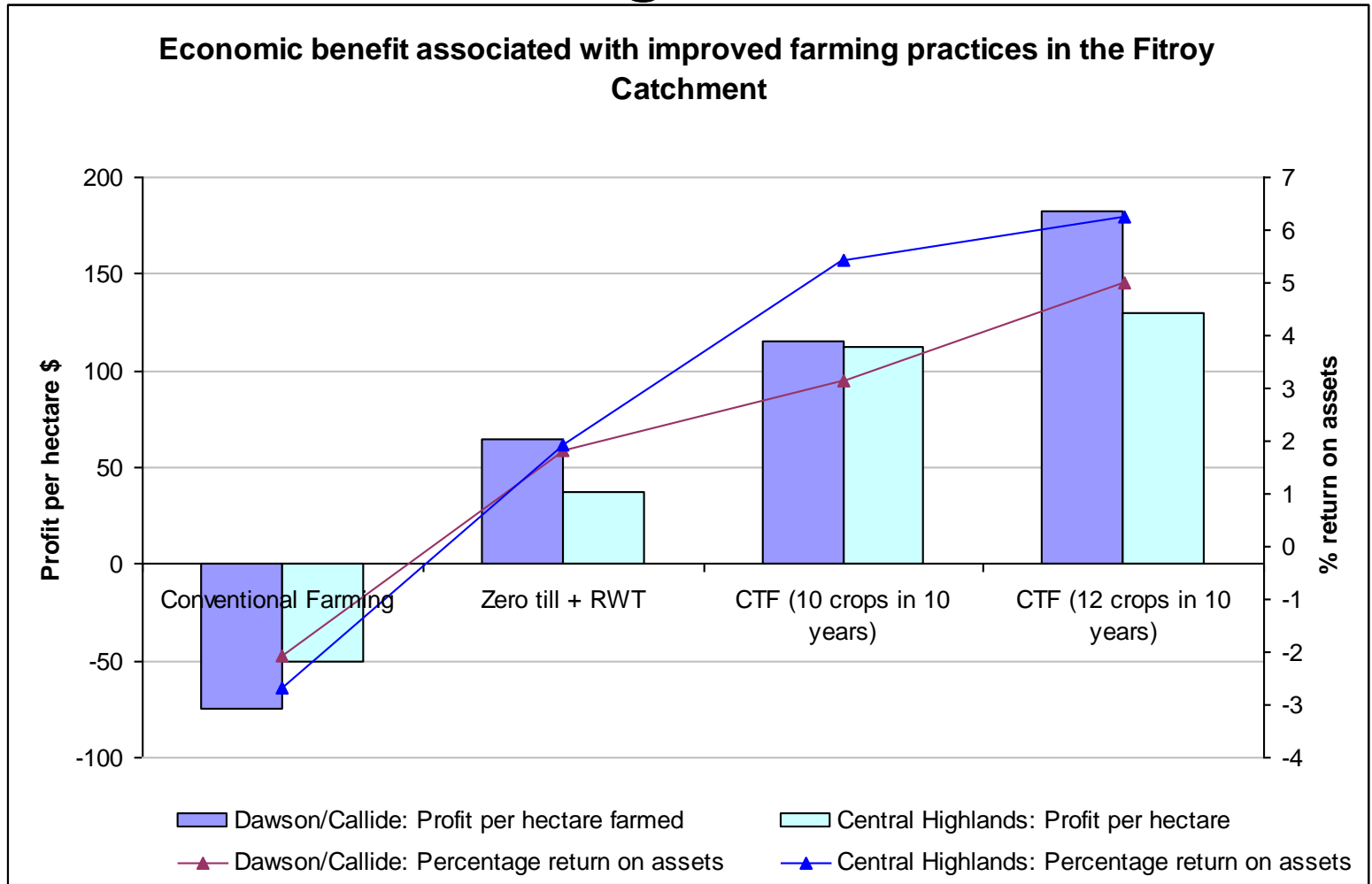
Practice to Policy

- Grains BMP is a process for delivering information on
 - adoption of best practice to growers
 - current status of BMP adoption to policy developers
 - targeting expenditure to NRM incentive programs
 - targeting areas for improvement to potential funders

Grains BMP delivery

Activity	FBA	QPI&F	AgForce	Consultants
Grower Groups	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grower Self Assessments	✓	✓		
Action Plans	✓	✓		
Targeted Training	✓	✓		✓
Targeted Incentives	✓			

Best practice means better profits for growers

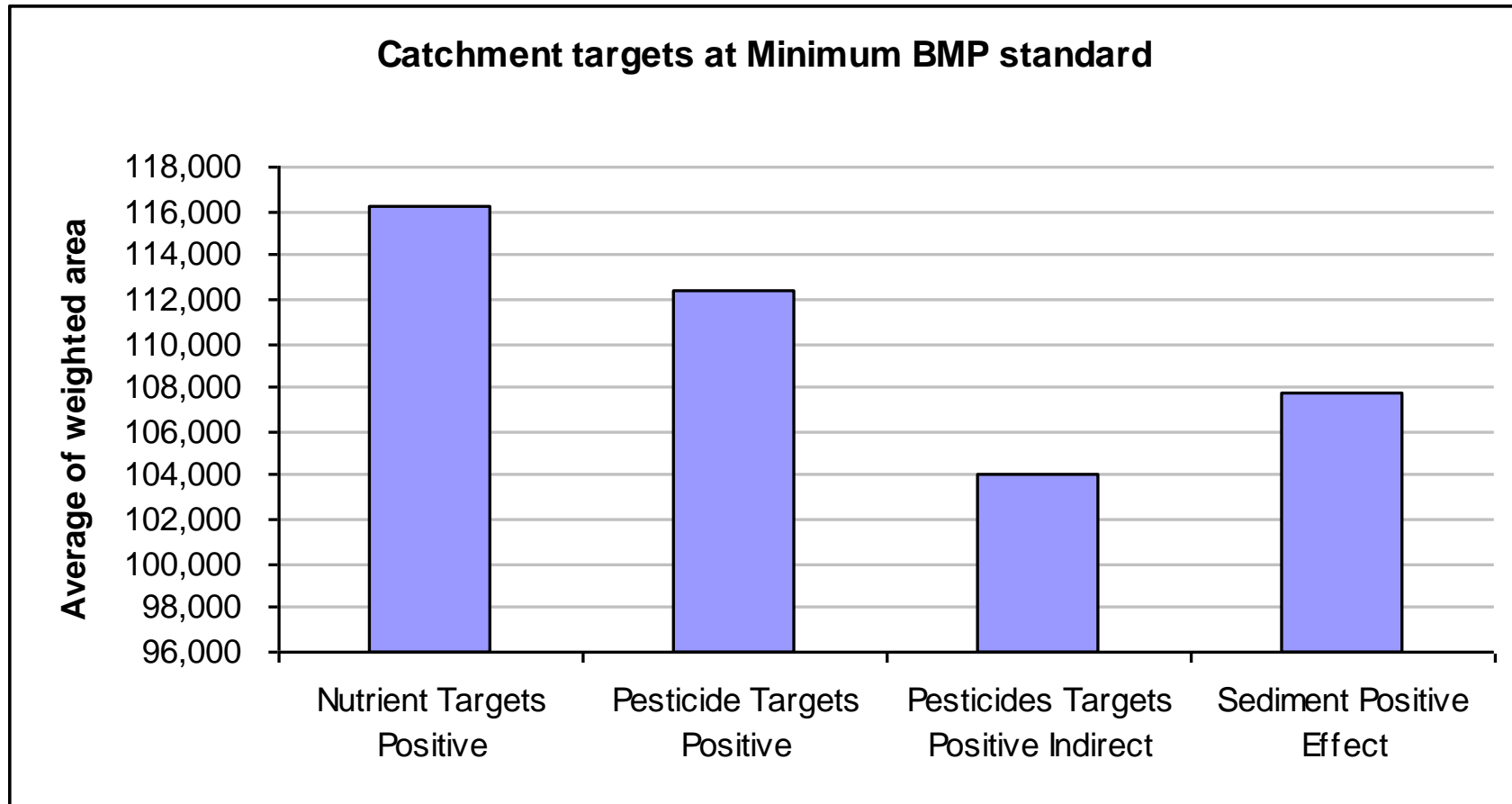


Best practice means better NRM outcomes for the region

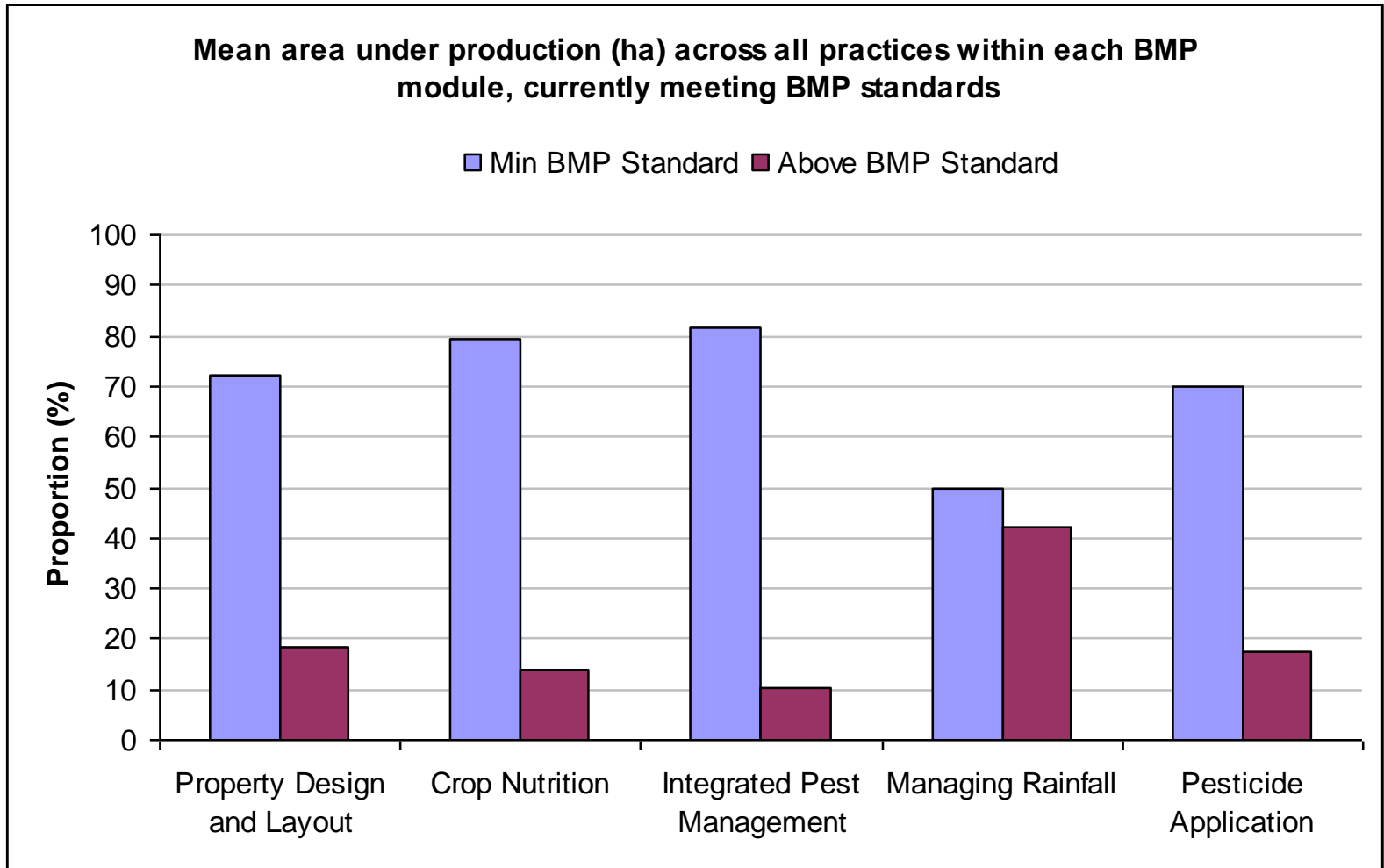
NRM annual benefits	Current benefits (\$M)	Potential savings (\$M)
Limiting soil loss	13.4	5.6
Limiting water runoff – production	28.1	11.7
Value of N&P losses	0.1	0.043
Limiting herbicide use	–	5.0
TOTAL NRM benefit	41.6	22.3

Strahan and Hoffman (2009)

Grains industry practices are helping improve water quality



Grains industry is adopting best practice



What does it mean?

- True partnership is delivering real outcomes for all partners
- Same level of success not possible if attempted individually
- Same organisations now committed to developing a similar system for the rangelands beef industry
- Further development and delivery will require more partners
- Open to involvement of other partners in future delivery