



## **Queensland Trust for Nature appoints new CEO**

4 July 2019

Queensland Trust for Nature (QTFN) is delighted to announce the appointment of Steve Lacey as our new Chief Executive Officer. Steve has over 10 years' experience managing and consulting in Australia for state and national agricultural groups in the areas of risk, productivity and profitability, natural resource management, and natural capital.

Prior to joining QTFN, Steve was the Manager – Natural Capital for AgForce Queensland Farmers Ltd. Whilst at AgForce, he created the organisation's Natural Capital portfolio providing greater information and opportunities to incorporate policy development and on-ground action to help maintain, restore and value natural capital for current and future generations.

QTFN Chair, Dr Adrian Volders said "QTFN is thrilled to have appointed Steve Lacey who brings a unique perspective having managed large scale research and corporate farming businesses in Queensland and the UK".

"Steve was selected from an impressive shortlist of talented candidates with high credentials and was the standout in terms of his abilities to lead QTFN strategically through a growth phase. He has a strong network of stakeholders and brings a passion for conservation" said Dr Volders.

"As CEO of QTFN, Steve will be working closely with the Board to ensure our ongoing sustainability and ability to drive continuous improvement and measurable outcomes for Queensland's natural environment" he says.

"I'd like to thank our Chief Financial Officer, Craig Carter, for his considerable efforts as Acting CEO throughout the recruitment process."

Steve picks up from Nerida Bradley who has taken up the position as CEO of the Australian Land Conservation Alliance after a successful three years of growth for QTFN. "Nerida Bradley has grown the organisation in to a thriving and sustainable business with a 33.5% growth rate of revenue averaged over a three-year period", said Dr Volders. "Nerida will be staying on at QTFN in an advisory capacity managing commercial projects for the foreseeable future."

"It's fantastic to join Queensland Trust for Nature at a time of growth" Steve Lacey said. "I'm very much looking forward to working with the board, the dedicated staff at QTFN and the wider community to achieve long term outcomes from our work, which future generations of Queenslanders will benefit from. It is a privilege to be given this opportunity with QTFN and I will enjoy the work immensely."

Steve is also heavily involved in Rugby League having coached in the Queensland Cup, and has held the position of Chair & Prosecution Counsel of the Queensland Rugby League match review



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committee. He is currently an independent board director of Rugby League Brisbane, which oversees the game for the 16,000 participants from juniors to masters.

An active character, Steve enjoys the challenge of running the odd marathon and cycling his bike long distances to raise money for charity. He has already proposed a team QTFN marathon in 2020!

Steve's appointment will commence from 22 July 2019.

## **About Queensland Trust for Nature**

Queensland Trust for Nature (QTFN) is an independent not-for-profit organisation employing a business approach to level-up its environmental impact which means building and delivering projects that demonstrate both conservation outcomes and financial sense.

With more than 85 percent of land in Queensland privately owned or managed, use and management of private land is central to achieving sustainable environmental goals. As well as working with landowners to permanently protect and restore land with high conservation values, QTFN owns and actively manages several properties, including a cattle station, a koala sanctuary and an island in the Southern Great Barrier Reef.

QTFN is working tirelessly to secure and improve habitat for koalas, flatback turtles, brush-tailed rock-wallabies, cassowaries and many other threatened species.

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