

# GILG participation strengthens FBA Board

The sustainable management of the world's land and water resources has become increasingly

important as the demands on our environment have increased. Getting the balance right between development and environmental sustainability is one of the biggest challenges facing us today.

As the intensity and scale of industry increases in Gladstone, the level of interest in our industries has also increased. This includes regional organisations such as the Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA).

Established in 1995, the FBA is a community-based organisation that promotes sustainable development and natural resource management in Central Queensland. In my simple terms, in essence the FBA's focus is to improve their catchment's water quality through improved land use practices.

As you can tell from its name, the FBA's area of interest is the catchment of the Fitzroy River. This catchment is about twice the size of Tasmania and stretches from the Capricorn coast to Clermont and Emerald in the West, Nebo in the North and Wandoan in the South. The FBA's region has also been defined to include the adjacent local catchments of the Boyne and Calliope Rivers. The Boyne / Calliope sub-region has a very active sub-branch which focuses on our Gladstone area.

While the FBA's patch is much larger than that of the Gladstone Industry Leadership Group (GILG), there are strong similarities in each organisation's focus. This is particularly around the FBA's focus on sustainability and GILG's focus on industry having a positive impact on our society, economy and environment.

One of the challenges for the FBA is the wide range of sometimes competing land uses in its region. This has traditionally been grazing and cropping uses competing with urban development but has begun to increasingly include extractive industries such as mining.

To help the FBA navigate these challenges and to add Gladstone's voice to the mix, earlier this year I took up a position on the FBA Board. My intention is to use my understanding of our industries to bolster Board discussions and decisions.

Happily for me, this role has also meant that I have been able to reacquaint myself with some of the outstanding members of the agricultural community in Central Queensland.

If you would like to share your thoughts on what you think the FBA should focus on, please join the GILG forum at [www.gilg.com.au](http://www.gilg.com.au). For more information on the FBA, please go to [www.fba.org.au](http://www.fba.org.au).

I look forward to hearing from you, cheers,  
Kurt.

## INDUSTRY UPDATE

By Kurt Heidecker  
CEO  
Gladstone Industry  
Leadership Group



**GLADSTONE  
INDUSTRY**  
LEADERSHIP GROUP

p: 0438 184 476

e: [kurt.heidecker@gilg.com.au](mailto:kurt.heidecker@gilg.com.au)

w: [www.gilg.com.au](http://www.gilg.com.au)