

**MEDIA RELEASE**

4 September 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Miss Aysha McCoy awarded a bursary to Rangelands conference**

Miss Aysha McCoy was awarded the Southern Gulf NRM's bursary to the Australian Rangelands Society conference.

A competitive application process for the \$2,000 bursary was held earlier this year with applicants being assessed on a number of criteria but especially their own networks to local communities which would enable them to share information, after attending the conference. The objective of the bursary is to support the development of knowledge and skills (capacity) in rangelands management in the Southern Gulf community; support someone who will benefit personally from the experience, but who is also willing and able to influence others.

Miss McCoy's application also indicated her enthusiasm for learning and adapting ideas to real life. "Being involved in the family business is wonderful. However being better informed and able to bring something new to the table is very inspiring," said Miss McCoy.

"I was extremely humbled when Anne rang to let me know I was successful with my application for the bursary, for the rangelands conference this year. The opportunity to attend this conference means a lot to me personally as being a part of the family business I find it very inspiring to be able to contribute something new," said Miss McCoy when she was informed of her successful application.

The Rangelands conference theme is "Transition to Transformation". The conference is Port Augusta, South Australia from 25 to 28 September 2017

From the conference program:

"External and internal factors are driving significant change across the Australian Rangelands as technology advances, social dynamics evolve, climate change impacts become more apparent, and products and markets change. The Rangeland community and industries of Australia's rangelands are in a state of transition, which will result in major changes in how rangelands are appreciated, used, managed and governed."

With the quality of the applicants being so high, Southern Gulf NRM was impressed with people's interest and everyone was deserving to attend. Funding for the bursary is provided by the Australian Government under the National Landcare Programme.

**ENDS**



**Available for Interview:**

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*Southern Gulf NRM* is the natural resource management (NRM) organisation for the Southern Gulf region of north west Queensland. We work with our partners and the community to improve and protect our region's natural resources and maintain the prosperity of industries and communities that rely on these. The region comprises all the land whose creeks and rivers run into the south of the Gulf of Carpentaria. This encompasses an area of 215,000km square<sup>2</sup>.