MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

E-Beef Project Showcasing New Technology to support the Grazing Industry

In the last 2 weeks, the E-Beef project, aiming to work with graziers in the northern rangelands on how technology can help productivity has conducted two popular webinars. These are part of a four-part series showcasing available technology to the grazing industry. They have been planned as lunch time sessions to ensure landholders can easily attend.

John McLaughlin – an E-Beef project officer said "The two webinars conducted to date have been a great success, with over 150 people attending in total. We have had some great speakers from linking liveweight and pasture data, to new financial tools. The webinars are really easy to join, and a great way for landholders to quickly jump online and hear from people leading the industry. The design allows landholders to ask questions, and we ensure presenters get back to them with a response."

The E-Beef project started in late 2018 working across the Northern Rangelands, including Southern Gulf, Northern Gulf and Desert Channels regions. The Queensland Department of Agriculture also is a partner. The project is based on 6 smart farms spread across the 3 regions that focus on using walk over weighing technology and how that can help make timely decisions. Around these smart farms are producer learning groups that share ideas, and use financial software tools, such as the Agrihive software.

John McLaughlin continues "Following installation of all the walk over weighers, we are now getting data coming in that lets us look at trends in liveweight growth rate and connect that with trends in pasture data. We talked about this in the first webinar demonstrating how landholders could forecast when cattle may go into a negative growth rate. This is critical to help plan for a sale, spell or maybe supplementation. When this data comes together letting you see ahead, it is an exciting prospect"

A second part of the E-Beef project is scoping other new technology to support landholders in timely decision making. This includes technology from GPS ear tags, to new water tank sensors that can be installed in 5 minutes.

"Our last two webinars will be focused on this new technology we are using in the project. We will have a range of commercial presenters showing the new technology that is coming

online and how it will help graziers, I urge anyone interested in learning about new technology in the grazing industry to jump online. You can register for these webinars by going to the following link -

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7067410461426918669".

The webinars will all be recorded and made available via the E-Beef you tube channel.

"These last two webinars will be held on Wednesday the 17th and Wednesday the 24th of June at 12.30pm. They each go for an hour. It is a great opportunity to quickly engage with new technology available and save a lot of time in travel", John McLaughlin said.

More information on the project and how to access the E-Beef you tube channel which contains a number of videos on the project is available on the Southern Gulf Webpage www.southerngulf.com.au/project/e-beef-smart-farming-in-northern-queensland/.

The E-Beef project is a partnership between Southern Gulf, Northern Gulf and Desert Channels Natural Resource Management groups, along with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. The project is funded by the Commonwealth's Government's Smart Farming Partnership Program, a component of the National Landcare Program and Queensland Government's Drought and Climate Adaptation Program.

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