



*Presented at the FIG Working Week 2025,  
6-10 April 2025 in Brisbane, Australia*

# Driving Sustainability Through GIS: Empowering Science, Education, and Environmental Action

Jannah Williams

National Science & Education  
Manager

# What is Sustainability?

What sustainability means to our clients and GIS user community:

- To me, sustainability is about living in harmony with the natural world, ensuring that our actions do not harm biodiversity or degrade the ecosystems we depend on. It's not a passive concept—it requires active efforts to adapt and care for a rapidly changing planet – Dr Dave Kendal - Future in Nature Director.
- If we are living sustainably as humans, that means that we are not overreaching the essential life support systems on the planet that we need to survive. And all the indicators we can see coming in constantly from scientists around the world is that we're not doing that...and it's getting worse. – Dr Marji Puotinen – Australian Institute of Marine Science.
- To me, sustainability is about minimising your negative impact on the planet while actively seeking ways to create positive change. – Dr Corey Peterson, Chief Sustainability Officer at University of Tasmania.



# The Common Denominator

Despite different perspectives, careers or backgrounds, the core sustainability goals remain:

- ✓ Protecting the environment.
- ✓ Monitoring and tracking human impact.
- ✓ Leaving a thriving planet for future generations.
- ✓ Actively reducing our ecological footprint.

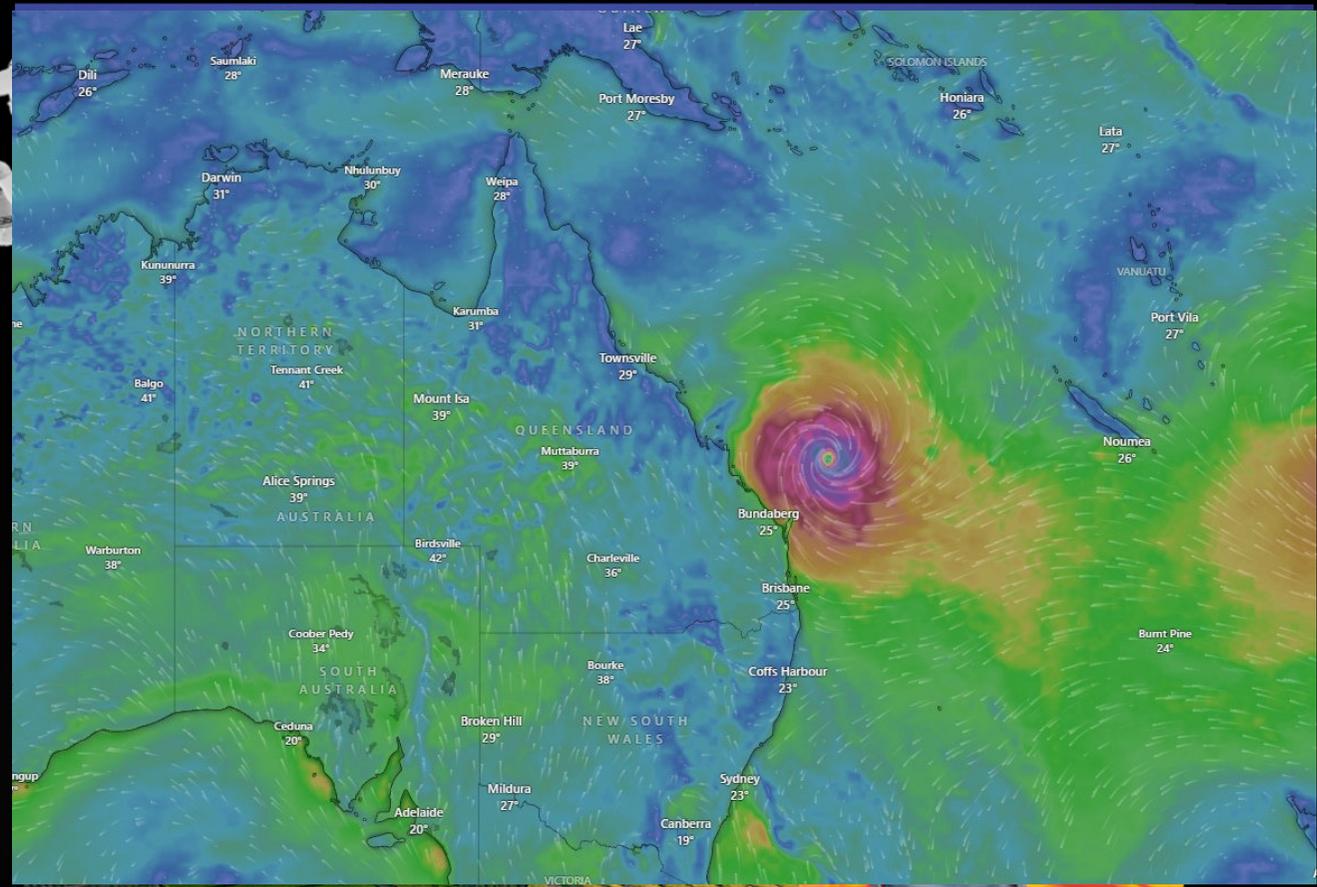




## Creating sustainable balance in business

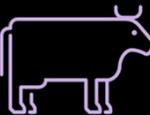


# GIS for Sustainability and Climate Action



# GIS for Sustainability and Climate Action

- *“We use ArcGIS Dashboards to track our energy usage and carbon emissions, giving us real-time insights into our sustainability efforts.” UTAS.*
- *“We use ArcGIS Online to track our cows’ movements to analyse what is the best way to rotate the fields for maximum crop yielding.” GPSCows.*
- *“Using a variety of ArcGIS products, we can track, map and analyse the sharks’ movements, to ensure green zones are in the correct location, and keep swimmers safer.” Marine Ecology Group SA.*
- *“We use ArcGIS to visualise our recycling plant locations, making sure it is quick, easy, affordable and efficient to recycle our bottles.” Coca Cola.*



# Empowering Education



# Sustainability for education

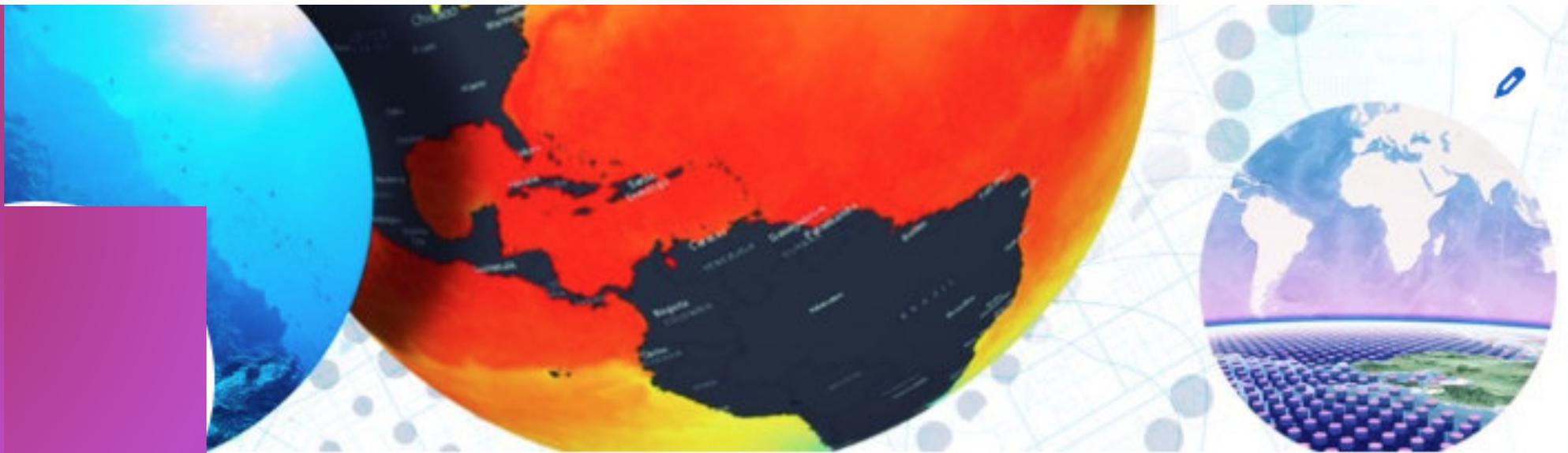
Griffith University

- Ranking 7th in Australia for climate action

University of Tasmania

- Ranked #1 in the world for climate action





ns  

M Educator | Presenter | Geospatial Scientist |  
Climate Activist

d, Australia · [Contact info](#)

[Connections](#)

[profile section](#)

[Enhance profile](#)

[Resources](#)



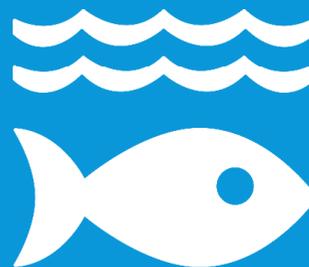
**4** QUALITY  
EDUCATION



**13** CLIMATE  
ACTION



**14** LIFE  
BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE  
ON LAND

