

## Media Release

17 April 2008

## BMA delivers \$50,000 flood support for the Mackay Whitsunday region

BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) has today announced the fourteen (14) not-for-profit groups to benefit from a \$50,000 relief program established to support those affected by recent floods.

The financial assistance program, developed by BMA in partnership with the Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation (REDC), was developed in order to support groups in the Mackay Whitsunday region impacted by the February flooding.

BMA Hay Point Coal Terminal General Manager, Russell Grech, explained that in addition to providing assistance to a range of community, recreational and sporting groups, the fund was also to make certain the flooding did not impact on the quality of life for Mackay residents for an extended period of time.

"An area of priority following the flooding was to ensure local groups were not stranded without assistance, and consequently were able to resume operating and servicing the community, of which BMA is a proud member," Mr Grech said.

The not-for-profit groups that will benefit from the funding are: Conservation Volunteers Australia, Mackay North Pony Club, Farleigh Magpies Cricket Club, Mackay Toy Library, Walkerston BMX Club, Mackay UIT Shooting Association, Mackay Wanderers Football Club, Mackay and District Obedience Club, Mackay and District Motocross Club, Mackay Pioneer BMX Club, Mackay District Junior Rugby Union, North Mackay Little Athletics, Eastern Swans Football Club and Brothers Cricket Club.

Narelle Pearse, CEO of the Mackay Whitsunday REDC, said providing financial support to these groups was based on a formal process, and funding will contribute toward building and surface repairs and equipment replacement.

"As part of this support process with BMA, we have recognised the full extent of the flooding, and appreciate the costs and human resources involved in the clean-up."

"We hope to have provided some relief to these groups," Ms Pearse said.

In addition to the partnership with REDC, BMA also committed \$50,000 to the Premier's Appeal Fund and established a similar \$50,000 program in response to the January floods in the Emerald area.

## **ENDS**

Further information: Nicole Ireland Mobile 0409 207 672

## Full list of recipients:

Mackay North Pony Club - total amount - \$1144
Farleigh Magpies Cricket Club - total amount - \$5392
Mackay Toy Library - total amount - \$2708
Walkerston BMX Club - total amount - \$3000
Mackay UIT Shooting Assoc - total amount - \$4015
Mackay Wanderers Football Club - total amount - \$2407
Mackay & District Obedience Club - total amount - \$1600
Mackay & District Motocross Club - total amount - \$5000
Mackay Pioneer BMX Club - total amount - \$5000
Mackay District Junior Rugby Union - total amount - \$1177
North Mackay Little Athletics - \$5000
Eastern Swans Football Club - \$4708
Brothers Cricket Club Mackay - \$5000
Conservation Volunteers Australia - \$3849