



Property maps safeguard farm businesses

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Your humble home computer could prove to be the most effective tool to prepare for CSG negotiations.

That's the message from AgForce Projects ahead of a series of free property computer mapping workshops planned for Dulacca, Condamine and Chinchilla from 14-16 February.

AgForce Projects technical leader Graeme Bell said in addition to helping improve property management and productivity, local farmers will learn how to use property computer mapping technology to help manage the potential impacts of mining activity on their farming operations.

"Using a computer map is a great tool for financial and production improvements but we also want producers to understand that having a comprehensive computer map of their property will put them in a better position if faced with the prospect of mining and resource development affecting their business," Mr Bell said.

"A property map is vital for landholders concerned about CSG activity. Property maps that identify your farm infrastructure, productive areas or even future developments can help landholders negotiate where CSG companies can and can't conduct mining activity.

"Property maps can also be used to meet environmental obligations, legislative requirements, grant applications or for industry best practice."

All attendees will receive their property's latest digital data including Spot5 and 11 years of Landsat satellite images ranging from 1988 to 2010.

These workshops are delivered free by AgForce Projects, through funding from the Queensland Government, or they can be completed through farm software company AGDATA's Australian Government FarmReady program, whereby landholders receive Phoenix mapping software as part of the course materials.

Producers can apply for AGDATA's Farm Planning & Management – Module 3 for an up-front payment of \$900 and approved applicants may be reimbursed 65 per cent of the course cost. To find out if you are eligible to attend through FarmReady visit www.farmready.gov.au

Workshop dates and times: Dulacca – 14 February, 8.45am-4pm, Condamine – 15 February, 8.45am-4pm, Chinchilla – 16 February, 8.45am-4pm. To register for a workshop please visit www.agforceprojects.org.au 10 days prior to the event or call 3238 6048.

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Photos available by request.