



Cape York NRM - getting it right for the future

DURING the 2011-12 financial year Cape York will be in transition from the Australian Government managing its Caring for our Country and Q2 Coasts and Country investment by government, to management by its own community owned and directed regional body, Cape York NRM.

To help the people of Cape York work together and achieve healthy country, one of Cape York NRM's first jobs is to make sure the time and money spent working towards that goal, will get the best results during this transitional period.

To achieve this, Cape York NRM is currently collating and reviewing previous research, planning and work already achieved by various people, groups and organisations over the years.

We are also working on a Regional Investment Strategy for the coming 'transition' year.

This is a document that will capture the important issues and help us move forward and give us direction on the best way to invest in achieving 'healthy country'.

Allan Dale (right) has been contracted to help us do this. Some of you may know him through his past work in Cape York or in his previous role as CEO of Terrain NRM.

Allan has a wealth of experience and we welcome him to this important support role.

Please feel free to contact Allan by email at planning@capeyorknrm.com.au or phone 0418 736 422 if you wish to discuss the planning and regional investment strategy project that he is leading.



CY NRM Membership

CAPE York NRM are calling for individuals and organisations to become members.

Members will help make the management decisions that support your way of life and the health of your country that makes it possible.

Membership is free.

It will enable you to provide input into our activities and the directions we will be taking in the future.

Contact Debbie Nendick on 0448724835 or admin@capeyorknrm.com.au to receive a membership form.

QLD Landcare awards



THE Queensland landcare awards are now taking nominations until July 22.

Details can be found at www.landcareonline.com.au/?page_id=4112

Our Mission: Helping people to work together to care for the natural environment and to promote the sustainable use of Cape York's natural resources.

Around the Cape

Keep up to date with upcoming events, news and opportunities.

QUEENSLANDS Regional Groups Collective current Newsletter 'The Rumble' is available. Stories include: Gulf Plains after the floods, how cassowaries are coping post-cyclone, resilience in the mulga lands, the impact of floods on the Great Barrier Reef, communities fighting back in the Queensland Murray-Darling and how fish passages are helping fish after flood events in the Fitzroy.

The stories provided by the Queensland Regional Bodies will give you an insight into some of the issues and work being carried out in the area of Landscape Resilience in Queensland. For further information and a copy of the newsletter, visit the Regional Groups Collective website www.rgc.org.au/news/chairs-reports-showcase-achievements-across-qld or contact Lane Pilon at Regional Groups Collective on 4699 5000.

BUILDING Nature's Resilience: A Draft Biodiversity Strategy for Queensland sets out for the first time Queensland's plan for conserving biodiversity over the next 10 years.

The strategy takes a whole-of-landscape approach to conserving biodiversity and focuses on the three areas of building resilient ecosystems, combining our efforts and managing adaptively.

We agree that by combining these efforts with industry, government and the community we can do a better job of securing the future of biodiversity in Queensland.

The draft strategy can be found at www.derm.qld.gov.au/wildlife-ecosystems/biodiversity/building-resilience.html



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

FUNDING is currently available for sustainable land management and environment projects through the Australian Governments Caring for our Country Program.

Projects that build natural resilience in ecosystems and farmlands will be a focus in 2011-12. The Government is seeking one and two year proposals in which projects will be completed by June 2013. More information on the Caring for our Country 2011-12 business plan and about how to apply for funding is available from www.nrm.gov.au or by phoning 1800 552 008.

THE Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund is now open. One-off grants of up to \$35,000 are available for not-for-profit organisations to provide community services or activities that benefit the community. Applications close 31 May 2011. Visit www.olgr.qld.gov.au/grants/gcbf/index.shtml



PHOTO: Amanda Hogbin

THE Beach Rubbish Committee is at it again.

The Annual Beach Clean Up will be held on Sunday May 29 in the Cooktown region.

Last year, 18 organisations and dozens of community members had a great day out on local beaches, removed tonnes of rubbish and finished the day with a BBQ to celebrate everyone's efforts.

Beaches from Weary Bay near Wujal Wujal to Cooktowns North Shore will be targeted.

Come along and join the fun.

Contact Ian McCollum on 40695300 or Russell Bowman on 40695396 to find out details.

Landscape Essentials: a gateway to sustainability research for all Australians

THERE's now a new tool at the disposal of landholders to help search out some of the best research and ideas on sustainability - keeping their country healthy and productive.

When funding stopped for the Land and Water Cooperative Research Centre there were fears a rich library of research could be lost to the community, but those fears are unfounded.

An internet site called Landscape Essentials, operated by a not for profit apprenticeship company, is the gateway to this information treasure trove. Visit <http://farmplus.net.au/landwater/advancedsearch.php>

Cape York NRM Governance – United Nations Rights Of Indigenous People

CAPE York NRM's Board of Directors have formally recognised the rights of the indigenous peoples of Australia by adopting a Governance policy based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The policy will now guide the way in which the Company, its Directors and staff will relate to, engage and work in partnership with the Indigenous people of Cape York.

The policy adopts the following principles:

- The company recognises that Indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, and the company recognises the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such;
- The company recognises that the situation of indigenous peoples varies from community to community and region to region and that the significance of this diversity of situations and historical and cultural backgrounds should be taken into consideration;
- The company recognises that all peoples contribute to the diversity and richness of Cape York's cultures;
- The company recognises that Indigenous peoples, in the exercise of their rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind;
- The company recognises that Indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, amongst other things, the dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs and interests;
- The company respects the inherent rights of indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources;
- The company recognises that support for control by indigenous peoples over developments affecting them and their lands, territories and resources and recognition will enable them to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions, and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs;
- The company respects the rights of indigenous peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with Local, State and Commonwealth governments;
- The company respects the fact that indigenous peoples are organising themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement;
- The company recognises that its respect and support for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment;
- The company recognises the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child;
- The company recognises that the rights affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples are, in some situations, matters of national and international concern, interest, responsibility and character;
- The company recognises that treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, and the relationship they represent, are the basis for a strengthened partnership between indigenous peoples and government.

HAVE YOUR SAY

More than half of Cape York NRM's regional base funding used to invest in work on Cape York, as well as Working on Country funding comes from the Australian Government's key policy and funding program, Caring for Our Country. The Government is currently reviewing how well this program is working and will use the review when it makes decisions about NRM investment and delivery in the future. Cape York NRM will make a submission to inform the government how we believe the program can be improved, especially for relatively remote and disadvantaged regions of Australia such as Cape York.

The review forum is a simple and an easy way for you or your organisation to have your say, visit <http://caringforourcountryreview.com.au/caring-for-our-country-review?module=forum>. To submit a formal online or mailed submission, go to <http://www.nrm.gov.au/review/review-submission.html>. If you don't have internet access and want to put in a submission, please contact us and we will mail you the discussion paper, instructions and a submission form. Submissions close 5pm AEST 20 May 2011.

Queensland Landcare Conference

THE 2011 Queensland Landcare Conference will be held in Ayr on September 20 – 23 2011.

It will focus on the generations of guardians responsible for land and culture stewardship across the state.

Enquiries can be directed to event manager Wombat Creative on 0421 709 519 or landcare2011@wombatcreative.com.au.

Early bird registrations close – 30 June 2011

The Lower Burdekin Landcare Association is hosting the 22nd annual event. The Burdekin is the sugar capital of Australia with about 80,000 hectares of land under sugar cane and an annual production of about 1.25 million tonnes of raw sugar. The district also contributes one third of the nation's mango harvest and is a major producer of melons and a host of other fruit and vegetables.

For more information about the conference visit www.landcare.org.au/CONFERENCE.htm



Regional Landcare Facilitator appointed

CAPE York NRM would like to welcome Andrew Hartwig, our new Regional Landcare Facilitator for Cape York.

Andrew is looking forward to working with land managers across the Cape to promote sustainable farm and land management practices, and contribute to and support the uptake of sustainable practices and landscape scale conservation in a changing climate.

Originally from Wagga Wagga NSW Andrew went to agricultural college after school.

After graduating he worked on farms in the snowy mountains NSW and stations in the Kimberley NT.

After a brief stint back home again he got the urge to go north again, eventually working as a park ranger at Ayers Rock NT. He spent the next 13 years working as a ranger primarily in the Katherine and Victoria River districts.

From 2001 he spent 5 years as the Ranger In Charge at Lakefield NP and in 2006 he and his family moved to Cooktown for schooling and then he became Senior Ranger for the Southern Cape.

He recently spent time contracted to the Archer Point Land Trust undertaking ranger training and land management before taking up the position of Regional Landcare Facilitator.

He has a wealth of local knowledge in managing the unique landscapes of the Cape and he is looking forward to getting

back up the Cape and assisting land holders with sustainable land management projects.

He is currently supporting landholders with funding available under the Caring for our Country 2011-12 business plan with applications due by the 30th May 2011.

If you would like to discuss any potential land management projects with him. Andrew can be reached on 40695046, 0418 216 300 and ahartwig@cook.qld.gov.au



Meat and Livestock Australia Feedback Magazine

MEAT and Livestock Australia's Feedback magazine is the red meat and livestock industry journal, signposting producers to practical on-farm information and the latest technological advances that are putting Australian producers in a globally competitive position.

Feedback is produced nine times a year with on-farm updates and market information for the north, south-east and south-west areas of Australia.

Feedback Magazine is free to Meat and Livestock Australia members or \$66 for an annual subscription for non-members.

Subscribe to feedback magazine <http://www.mla.com.au/Publications-tools-and-events/Publications/Magazines>

World Heritage areas for Cape York?

THE Queensland Government is considering a World Heritage nomination for areas of Cape York Peninsula.

A process which is expected to take several years.

A nomination will only be submitted to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's World Heritage Centre for assessment, if it has consent from traditional owners and the wider community. This means staff from the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) working on the World Heritage nomination process will need to ensure the community understands what it could mean to the region and how it could affect the lives of the people on Cape York Peninsula.

Areas that are nominated for World Heritage must demonstrate 'outstanding universal value', which means that they are unique and there is no other like it in the world.

The Queensland Government is not proposing to nominate the whole region for World Heritage listing but to work with the community to identify which areas have outstanding universal values.

The World Heritage boundaries will be determined both through scientific assessment and information from the community.

Interested members of the community will have the opportunity to be involved in identifying the special natural and cultural areas on Cape York Peninsula and be involved in deciding the best ways to manage and protect these areas.

DERM has been working with two advisory committees, one which advises how to work best with the community and the other on environment, cultural heritage and economics. These committees provide advice. They do not have any power to make decisions or implement the process; this is up to the traditional owners and the Cape York Peninsula community as a whole.

To date these committees have provided guidance in the gathering of existing natural and cultural heritage information and ideas for engaging with key stakeholders.

This information will be further developed with the help of the community, traditional owners and scientists with expertise in the region.

The Queensland Government believes World Heritage status can bring social and economic opportunities.

But the details of what these benefits could be, will only be apparent once the areas for World Heritage nomination have been identified, supported by the community and management options agreed upon.

In March 2011, a letter, survey and fact sheets about this program were mailed out to over 500 key stakeholders.

Feedback from these surveys will be uploaded onto the Cape York Peninsula World Heritage web page www.derm.qld.gov.au/cape_york.

Community members can also ask questions on this site and register to be kept up-to-date on the process.

DERM Officers have also been communicating with community members and traditional owner groups about the nomination.

This will continue throughout the process.

If you would like to be contacted, phone the Manager of Cape York Peninsula World Heritage Lyn Wallace on 07 4222 5261 or email consultation. cypwh@derm.qld.gov.au.

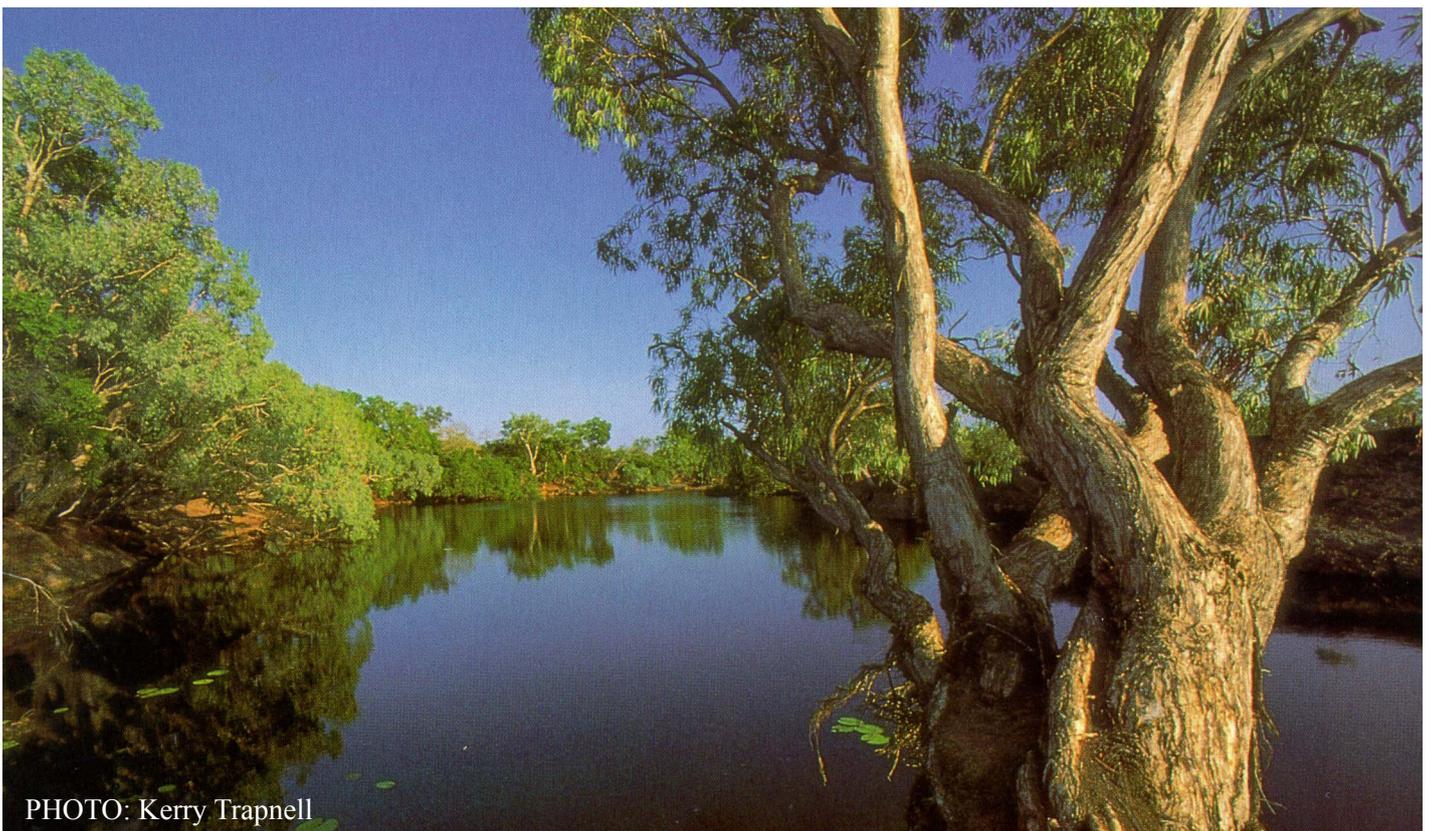


PHOTO: Kerry Trapnell

On the job



SOUTH Cape York Catchments (SCYC)

and the Nyungkal Rangers have now pulled out 3.7 Ha of Lantana along the Wet Tropics to Annan River National Park wildlife corridor site.

Coordinator, Jason Carroll wants to thank to everyone who has worked hard over recent months in the heat and rain.

With more work to come, they are progressing well. Volunteers are welcome, contact SCYC on 40696890.

PHOTO: From left Sam Hobbs from SCYC with Dallas Rootsey, Thomas Nunn, Kieren Henderson, Alwyn Henry and Walter Sycamore from the Nyungkal Rangers.

CAPE York Sustainable Futures (CYSF) Open Forum in Lakeland had an excellent turn out with 35 people attending.

A variety of speakers were invited to present on relevant topics to Cape York residents.

Ray Plasto from the Department of Main Roads gave an update on the Peninsula Development Road and other access roads in Cape York.

Bob Frazer from Cape York Natural Resource Management provided a general update and explained that the purpose of the organisation is to provide a balanced approach to the protection of the regions natural heritage and make link-ages between economic and community development and the environment.

Geoff Milgate from the Department of Employment Economic Development and Innovation provided information on their current projects with Cape York Sustainable Futures.

Lyn Wallace and Bruce Wannan from the Department of Environment and Resource Management spoke about the proposed World Heritage listing for Cape York Peninsula.

Ben Jones from CYSF gave a project update on the Cape York Turtle Conservation project and the recent Milman Island Hawksbill Turtle Conservation study.

John Hardaker from Agforce talked about their role. They look at legislation and policies that may adversely impact on agriculture. The organisation develops policies and submits these to government and has recently been involved in the cyclone recovery.

Peter Inderbitzen spoke about our rural communities, their resilience and the need for economic sustainability not just for the environment.

Cape York Sustainable Futures next open forum will be held in Seisia on Thursday May 26. If you are interested in further information about any of the presentations or information about the upcoming Open Forum in Seisia contact Cape York Sustainable Futures on 40532856.



PHOTO: CYSF

Community input

CAPE York NRM is working closely with the community to find out what the important issues are and how you think they should be approached.

It will take some time to hear from everybody, and we are currently working on how this can be best achieved. Don De Busch has taken on the role of engaging with landholders across Cape York and to listen to concerns and issues.

He is working with land managers to develop small projects that may be suitable for Queensland Government Q2 funding opportunities.

Don is also working with researchers on establishing a model for natural resource project management.

The project's success will be based on a model of collective learning, community and landscape resilience and adaptive governance.

He has also been providing project development support to landholders in the Lockhart River and Pormpuraaw regions.

Don has also recently visited the Northern Peninsula Area, Cooktown, Coen and Wujal Wujal talking with land managers about Cape York NRM and its role in supporting landholders.

If you would like Don to visit your area, contact him on the details below.

Don is also passionate about ensuring Cape Yorks traditional governance structures have a voice and a method to be heard.

He says the Board members don't speak for another mans land, but they are someone who can share your

message about your concerns on country.

He wants traditional owners to be able to contribute through a process under the governance policy which enables them to have a voice for their traditional homelands.

If you would like to speak to Don about any project ideas or have any questions about the process in which you can have a say for your country and how that feeds into your zone or area Board members call 0428283439 or email dondebusch@capeyorknrm.com.au.



Funding available for world heritage engagement

THE Queensland Government is seeking to engage traditional owners in the process to determine whether a World Heritage nomination is supported.

An area will only be nominated for World Heritage listing with the consent of traditional owners and their direct involvement in the process.

Some funding is available to assist traditional owner groups to come together to consider a possible World Heritage nomination for their country.

This process is to include traditional owners undertaking the work to identify potential cultural and natural World Heritage sites in their areas and how these special places and traditions are to be managed.

Proposals for funding to undertake a program of engagement are invited from traditional owner based organisations.

Funding will be provided in two stages:

- Stage 1 - 'seed-funding' provided to Indigenous based organisations to prepare a proposal for traditional owner engagement.
- Stage 2 - Proposal accepted and a contract entered into with DERM to deliver traditional owner engagement services that include 'on-country planning' work and consultation work with the community to reach a decision about World Heritage.

It is recognised that agreement to participate in the engagement process does not in itself indicate consent for World Heritage listing.

Contact Kasia Gabryś, Indigenous Engagement Coordinator, Cape York Peninsula World Heritage on 07 4222 5202 or email kasia.gabryś@derm.qld.gov.au for further information.

Board Members

NAME	LOCATION	DIRECTORSHIP	EMAIL
Donald De Busch	Coen	Indigenous Sector Zone 3	don.debusch@gmail.com
Joseph Elu	Seisia	Local Government Sector and Chairman	Joseph.Elu@nparc.qld.gov.au
Dick Foster	Weipa	Tourism, Other Industries & Small Business Sector	eclipseozdick@bigpond.com
John Giese	Cooktown	Community Sector	giese@top.net.au
Peter Inderbitzin	Lakeland	Primary Industry Sector	peter@swissfarms.com.au
Barry Lyon	Weipa	Conservation Sector	barry@australiazoo.com.au
Blade Omeenyo	Lockhart River	Indigenous Sector Zone 2	land-sea@lockhart.qld.gov.au
Richard Tamwoy	Bamaga	Indigenous Sector Zone 1	rtrwy@hotmail.com
Desmond Tayley	Wujal Wujal	Indigenous Sector Zone 4	mayor@wujalwujalcouncil.qld.gov.au
Reg Williams	Bamaga	Indigenous Sector Zone 1	reg.williams@nparc.qld.gov.au



RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER:

Members will automatically receive a newsletter, otherwise you must register by emailing media@capeyorknrm.com.au or call 40696979 and specify 'hardcopy or electronic'.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER:

Cape York NRM are seeking stories and photos for this Newsletter from organisations and individuals promoting their activities in Cape York. Submit your article to media@capeyorknrm.com.au.

REGISTER YOUR CONTACT DETAILS:

A regional contacts page on our website will provide up-to-date details for all regional staff, organisations, local governments, ranger groups and education bodies working in Cape York. To be included, email your contact details to media@capeyorknrm.com.au.

Cape York Natural Resource Management
CSIRO Complex
47-49 Maunds Road
PO Box 907
Atherton QLD 4883
Fax: 07 4091 1828
Ph: 0400 289 596

Edited by Cape York Media and Events - 40 696 979 Cookown



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



Q2
Coasts
and
Country

This project is supported by Cape York NRM through funding from the Queensland Government's Q2 Coasts and Country and the Australian Government's Caring for our Country Programs.