

# Cape York NRM fire management

*Current activities  
and future direction*



Image credit: Daryl Killin

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# CYNRM Fire activities

1. Supporting participation in the carbon market
2. Supporting fire management for biodiversity outcomes
3. Supporting sub-regional fire planning and coordination
4. Engagement and awareness activities

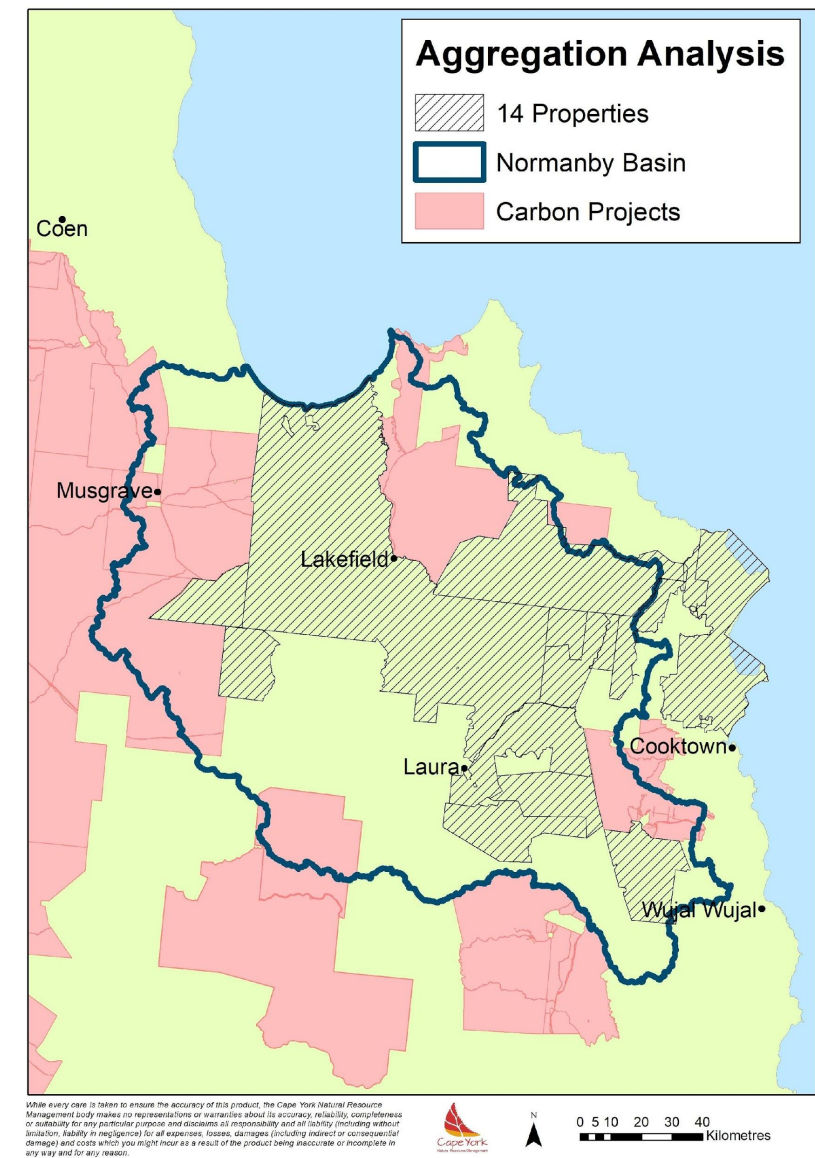
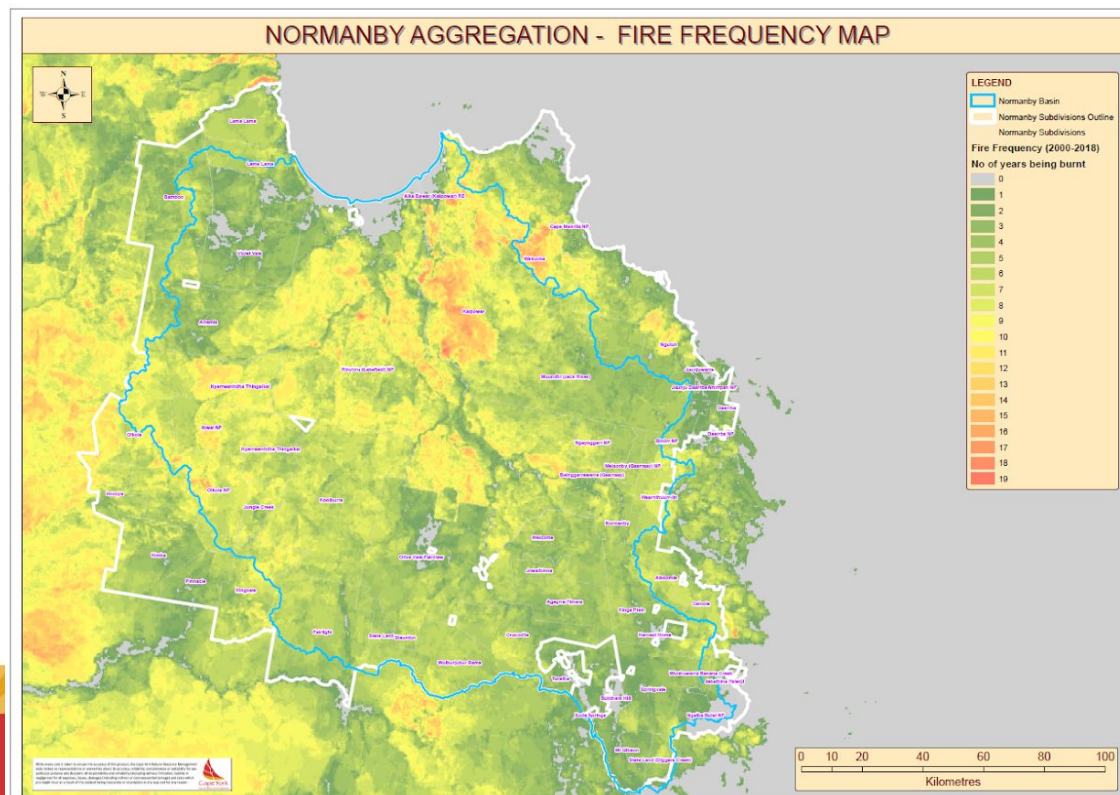




# 1. Supporting participation in the carbon market

## Land Restoration Fund Pilot Project Normanby Basin Aggregation and Co-benefits Feasibility Study

- Engage with land managers to explain the LRF and assess feasibility of an aggregated carbon project





- Engage with land managers to assist them with documentation of cultural value of fire management and select a monitoring framework to enable co-benefits valuation.

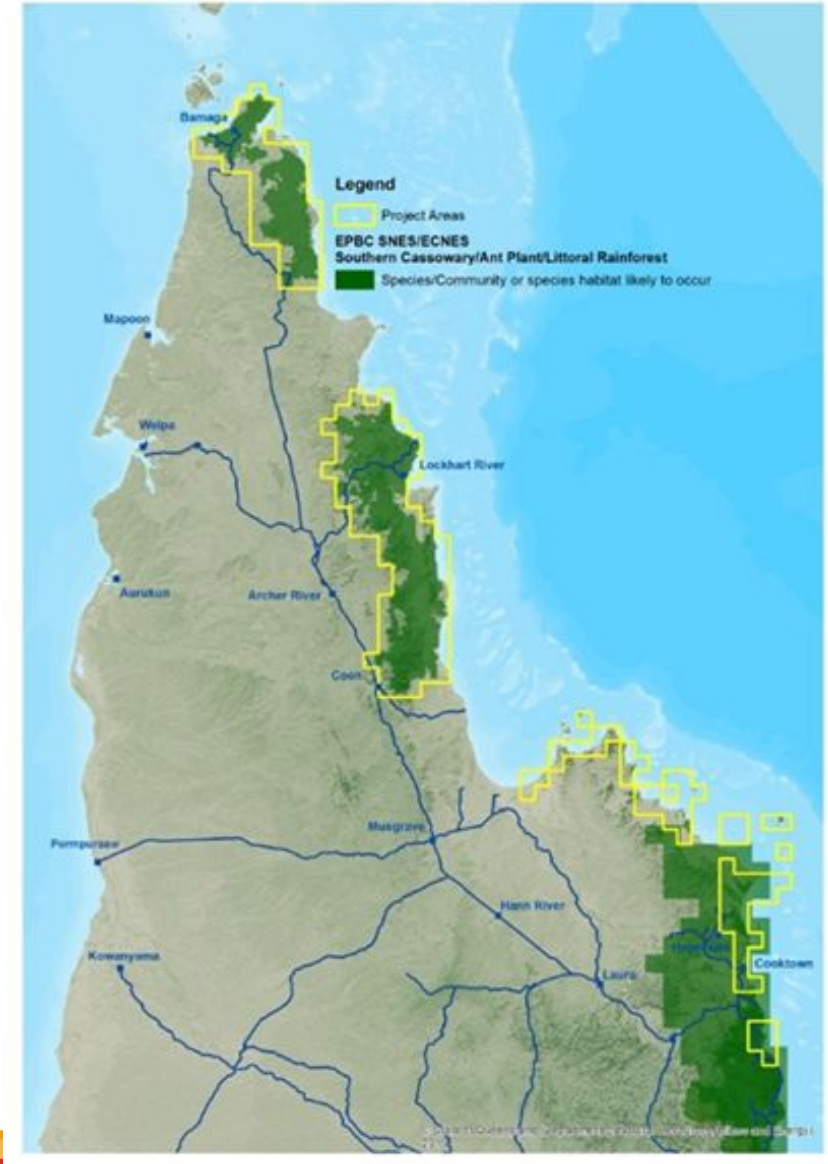




## 2. Supporting fire management for biodiversity outcomes

### Regional Landcare Program “Biodiversity Bright Spots Rainforest and Woodlands”

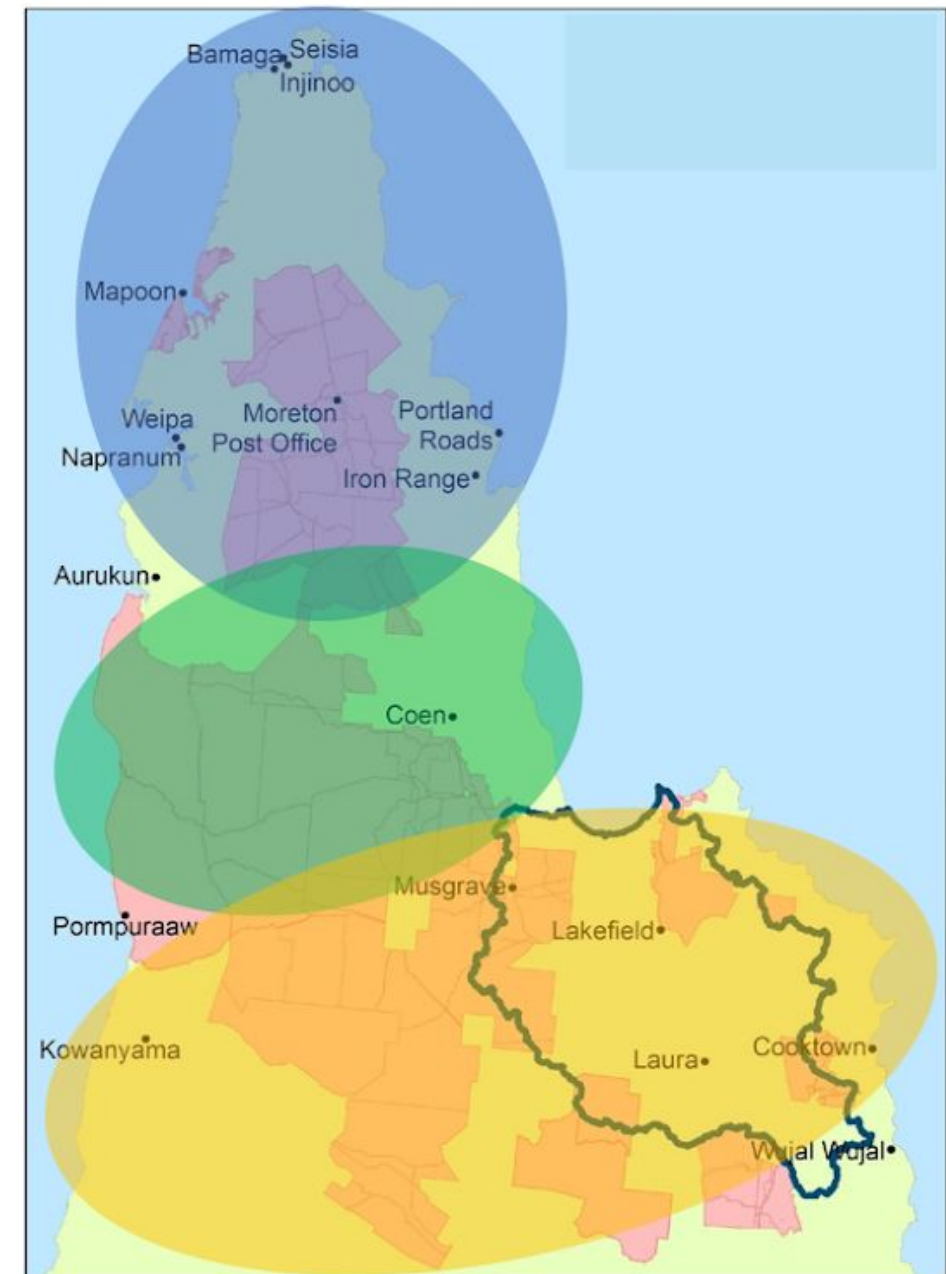
- Southern Cassowary habitat
- Littoral Rainforest and coastal vine thickets (ecological community)
- Golden-shouldered Parrot habitat



### 3. Supporting sub-regional fire planning and coordination

Three proposed sub-regions

- Northern-Weipa
- Central-Coen
- Southern-Laura/Cooktown



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0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Kilometres



# Southern Cape York EDS burning

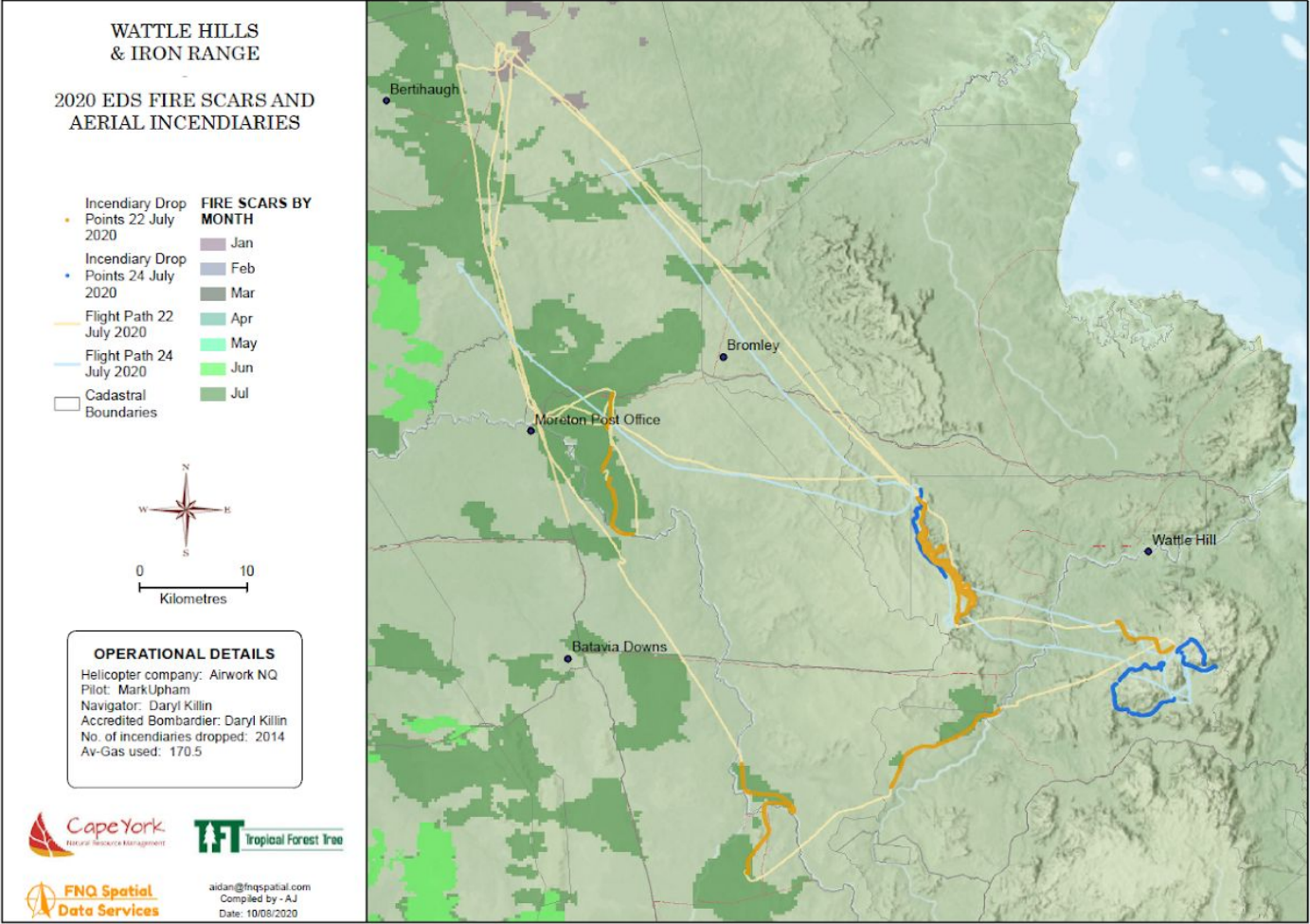
- funded to date by Healthy Farming Futures (NLP), Reef Trust 3 (QLD government) and an Indigenous Land and Sea Program grant





# Northern Cape York EDS burning

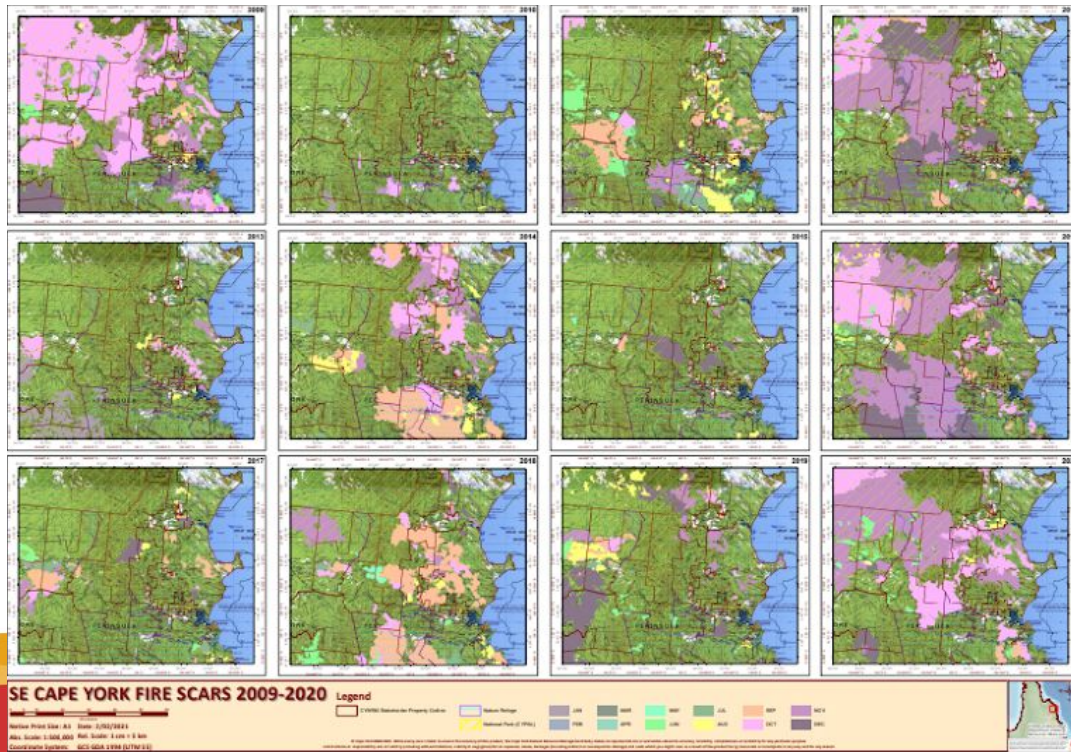
- funded in response to damage to Iron Ranges rainforest by Cyclone Trevor 2019 and the resulting threat from wildfire





# Further fire planning and coordination

- Identify regional “hotspots” to ensure targeted approach to fire management
- Identify and address land managers capacity gaps in fire management
  - training
  - mapping tools
  - coordination





## 4. Engagement and Awareness activities

Cape York Regional Fire Forum (2017, 2019, late 2021 )





# Cape York Indigenous Fire Management Network

- To build on networks developed during previous Indigenous Fire Forums held on Cape York



Cape York  
Natural Resource Management

TALAROO FIRE WORKSHOP | PHOTO PROVIDED BY NORTHERN GULFGRMG

## Fact Sheet

### Biodiversity Bright Spots Rainforest Resilience: North Queensland Indigenous Fire Management Network

#### About

This project involves the establishment of a North Queensland Indigenous Fire Management Network, and the implementation of an Indigenous Fire Mentorship Program for its members. As part of the Network, Indigenous fire practitioners will participate in sharing knowledge on cultural burning practices and fire management for the conservation of species and ecological communities.

Timeframe 2018 -2023



IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT THE CAPE YORK FIRE WORKSHOP 2019 AT MARY VALLEY

#### Project objectives

This project will increase knowledge and awareness of:

- Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (IEK)
- How cultural fire management can conserve littoral rainforest, ant plant and cassowary habitat
- The value of combining IEK with scientific and conservation approaches, and Indigenous capacity building.

#### Project activities

- Establishing and coordinating the North Queensland Indigenous Fire Management Network
- Implementing an Indigenous Fire Mentorship Program for Network members
- Working with the Network to establish cultural burning regimes for littoral rainforest, ant plant and cassowary country, and
- Sharing and implementing IEK to improve the management of littoral rainforest, ant plant and cassowary country.

#### Project outcomes

By 2023, the North Queensland Indigenous Fire Management Network will be established and delivering an Indigenous Fire Mentorship Program. Participation in this Program will increase the knowledge and capacity of Traditional Owners to implement cultural practices across Cape York's littoral rainforest, ant plant and cassowary country.

#### Context

- This project forms part of Cape York NRM's Biodiversity Bright Spots Rainforest Resilience: Caring for Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thicket, Ant Plant and Cassowary Country in Cape York project.
- Threats to littoral rainforest, ant plant and cassowary habitat include clearing of native vegetation, coastal development, visitor disturbance, weed invasion, animal grazing/browsing, fire, storms and cyclones, climate change and fragmentation.

To find out more or get involved,

contact

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MARY VALLEY FIRE WORKSHOP



MELALEUCA WOODLAND—ANT PLANT HABITAT



This project is supported by Cape York NRM through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program



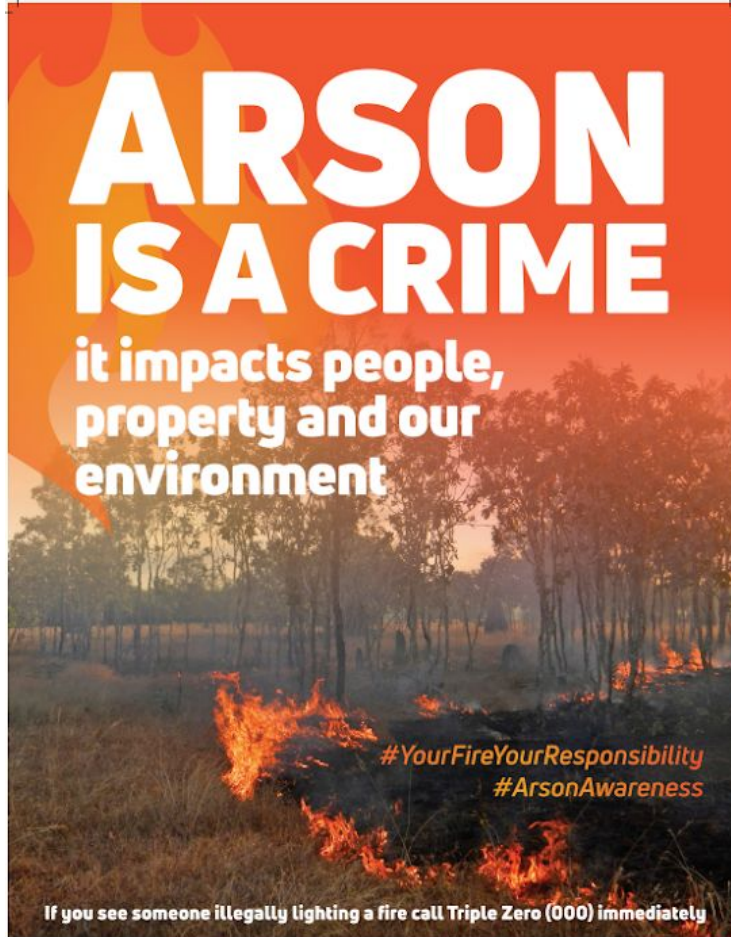
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# Arson awareness

- stakeholder driven
- collaboration with QLD Police, Fire and Emergency Services





# Future direction

- Support informed participation in the carbon market in both the land management and pastoral sectors and support discussions about collectively operating projects.
- Strengthen regional fire coordination and collaboration to ensure the effective management and protection of carbon, biodiversity and cultural assets.
- Support for broader advocacy on issues that impact all fire managers i.e.continuation of NAFI, insurance.
- Support science to establish link between fire management and water quality issues on the GBR.
- Facilitate a strategic approach to manage impact of fire on rainforest.



Image courtesy of Tourism Port Douglas & Daintree, Daintree Coastline

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