



WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Wet Tropics World Heritage Area Research Strategy 2010-2014 Consultation Draft

Invitation to stakeholders to comment by 31 May 2010

Dear Stakeholder

The Wet Tropics Management Authority invites those with an interest in the research needed for better protection, conservation, presentation, rehabilitation and transmission of the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area (WTWHA) to read this draft and welcomes your comments and ideas for improvement.

Who should read this consultation draft?

All those with a potential role or interest in the management and understanding of the WTWHA, in particular, sectors such as those engaged in scientific research relevant to the management of the WTWHA (policy, practice, monitoring and reporting), members of the Authority's consultative, advisory and liaison committees, government agencies, regional natural resource management groups, industry (e.g. tourism, community infrastructure providers) and Rainforest Aboriginal people. It would be appreciated if you could forward this consultation draft to others in your networks who you consider might have an interest in contributing.

What is the role of this draft strategy?

The document is a strategic research policy framework for the better management and understanding of the WTWHA, aimed at identifying priority research questions and guiding research collaborations and partnerships between the Authority, the research community and other interested parties. The role of this draft is to provide a framework for communicating and for stakeholder input into the strategy.

What should I comment on?

In particular we would like your thoughts on the following:

1. Are the objectives identified for the next five years appropriate?
2. Are the management issues appropriate? Should there be others instead of or in addition to these?
3. Are the three levels of relative priority clearly expressed? Is there a better way of presenting this concept?
4. Do you think the strategy's framework will adequately engage the research community and research funding bodies? If not, do you have any suggestions for improvement?
5. Are the key performance indicators appropriate and adequate? Should there be others instead of or in addition to those listed?
6. Is there anything else this strategy should cover?

If you wish to comment on the research questions in the draft strategy, we would like you to consider the following:

- How important is the information to the future protection of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

- What are the risks and potential consequences to the future of the WTWHA associated with not obtaining this information?
- Are there likely to be benefits to management policy or on-ground conservation outcomes in obtaining the information?
- Is the information need of particular concern or interest to the broader community and stakeholders of the WTWHA?
- Is there a level of urgency in obtaining answers to particular questions in order to contribute to management and protection of the WTWHA?

How else can I help?

It would be helpful if you could forward the consultation draft to others that you think might be interested.

Can I obtain a copy of the Draft Strategy online?

A copy of the draft strategy is available for download from the Authority's website:
www.wettropics.gov.au

Where can I find out more?

Enquiries may be directed to:

Dr Steve Goosem

Phone: 40520563

Email: steve.goosem@derm.qld.gov.au

Where should I send my comments?

Comments can be sent to us by email (preferred) or by post.

Email (preferred method):

steve.goosem@derm.qld.gov.au

Postal address:

Wet Tropics Management Authority

PO Box 2050

CAIRNS Qld 4870

Please remember to include your name and contact details.

If you do not wish your contribution to be made accessible to the public, please advise us in your submission.

I look forward to your comments and thank you in advance for your contribution.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Maclean

Executive Director

Wet Tropics Management Authority