

Rainforest Aboriginal News

No.9 December 2003



Interim
Negotiating
Forum Special



Number 9

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Welcome to our Interim Negotiating Forum special!

Rainforest Aboriginal News is a way to share information so we can keep in touch and learn from each other.

Our aim is to keep Rainforest Aboriginal people (and the broader Wet Tropics community) informed about the events, issues and people making the news in the Wet Tropics.

To keep this newsletter useful **we rely on your feedback**. Tell us what you do and don't like about the newsletter so we can meet your needs.

We welcome comments, ideas, articles, photos and artwork for future issues. We produce at least one newsletter per year. Please give us a call to discuss your story ideas on 07 4052 0526 or you can send your contributions to:

Aboriginal Resource Management Program
Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050, CAIRNS QLD 4870

Or by email to:
nigel.hedgcock@epa.qld.gov.au

Or by fax:
"Attention Nigel" to 07 4031 1364

A BIG thank you to all the contributors for this issue and to all those who helped!

Lisa Stagoll, Editor

Please note: We are very careful to ensure all newsletter content is checked and approved with contributors prior to print as per the Wet Tropics Management Authority's protocols. Opinions expressed in *Rainforest Aboriginal News* are not necessarily those of the Wet Tropics Management Authority, and while every effort has been made to check the accuracy of contributions the Authority cannot accept responsibility for any error or omissions.

Front cover: Our children are our future. Chenoa Collins with baby Venus, at the March 2003 Interim Negotiating Forum Rainforest Aboriginal Regional Workshop at Clump Mountain, Mission Beach, Tropical North Queensland. Photo: Lisa Stagoll, 2003.

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Nearing INF Finish Line

We are now entering the home straight! Both negotiating teams are committed to complete the Interim Negotiating Forum (INF) by June 2004. To get there successfully will take an enormous effort by all people involved.

This edition of *Rainforest Aboriginal News* gives you an update on the various issues being negotiated and the progress being made to establish a future for Rainforest Aboriginal people, which brings greater respect for Aboriginal culture, greater representation, and greater involvement and responsibility in the management of this World Heritage Area.

The wonderful support displayed by Rainforest people for the Aboriginal Negotiating Team (ANT) has given each member a tremendous sense of confidence to drive the process forward on behalf of all of you. Importantly, the Government Negotiating Team (GNT) knows it is negotiating with people that enjoy a mandate of Rainforest people.

As we move through these final phases of the negotiations, the ANT [and indeed the GNT] will value your input. Opportunities for review, input, and endorsement will happen before a final Regional Agreement is prepared for sign-off. Keep yourself informed about the progress of this trailblazing Agreement. Read this newsletter. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Talk to an ANT member. They welcome any inquiries. Importantly - attend every meeting you can get to.

We are running hard to the INF finish line. **All your involvement and effort will strengthen the result of a Regional Agreement.**



Remember, this is for your children and their children and a future that will deliver greater respect, representation and responsibility for Rainforest Aboriginal people. The INF might not deliver everything that each of you wants this time and it has been a long time coming, but a Regional Agreement is real progress that will deliver real outcomes.

Jim Petrich, INF Facilitator

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WET TROPICS BOARD SUPPORTS INF

"It is the intention of the Parliament to acknowledge the significant contribution that Aboriginal people can make to the future management of cultural and natural heritage within the Area particularly through joint management agreements."

- Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1994

Rainforest Aboriginal people are recognised and respected by the Wet Tropics Board as the Traditional Owners of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA) with rights and responsibilities in caring for country, including traditional laws, customs and practices.

The Board is committed to the Interim Negotiating Forum (INF) process in reaching a whole-of-government agreement that effectively meets these land management rights and responsibilities. Culturally appropriate management structures, protocols and on-ground operational processes are critical to effectively realising the spiritual, cultural and social-economic importance of the WTWHA to Rainforest Aboriginal people.

The Board supports outcomes that will deliver practical and significant advancement to Rainforest Aboriginal people's quality of life.

This will only be achieved through a partnership that provides a unique role for Rainforest Aboriginal people in shaping policies and delivering programs in the future. Such an arrangement will benefit both the Traditional Owners and the broader local, national and international community.

Lieutenant General John Grey AC (Rtd)
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority



Percy Neal and John Grey at Mona Mona,
November 2003

The physical and spiritual well being of Rainforest Aboriginal People is critically connected to country.

Country has its sacred origins, its sacred places, its cycle of life, and its own people and laws. Our cultural heritage is in country and all that is in our knowledge about country, and the life of our people and environment. We are one of the oldest cultures in the world. We live on, use, manage, enjoy and gain spiritual fulfilment from our country.

Colonisation and its associated policies and practices of removal, dispossession and assimilation have contributed significantly to the current tragic socio-economic position of many Rainforest Aboriginal people. This includes unacceptable and increasing levels of poverty and dependence on welfare, unemployment, incarceration in prisons, poor health, and a 20-year shorter life expectancy than other Australians.

As a Wet Tropics Board Director I am keen to contribute to the righting of past and current injustices, and I seek support and understanding from my colleagues on the Wet Tropics Board for the Interim Negotiating Forum (INF).

Our people wanted to go down the road of the INF, and I commend our people for their initiative to set up this process to sort out management issues through negotiation rather than litigation in the courts.

Now is the time for real outcomes. A strong commitment is needed from the Australian and Queensland governments to continue to support and fund the outcomes of the INF for the benefit of our people and our country.

I encourage both governments to use the INF to develop an icon World Heritage Area that provides an equitable place for Rainforest Aboriginal people at the decision-making table, as well as meaningful and beneficial opportunities in on-ground management.

A World Heritage Area that is jointly managed with Traditional Owners. A World Heritage Area where the Traditional Owners work together in harmony with government to care for country for further generations. That is practical reconciliation.

Percy Neal
Director, Wet Tropics Management Authority
INF Chair



WET TROPICS REGIONAL AGREEMENT

Years in the making, the Wet Tropics Regional Agreement is finally taking shape and looks set to deliver concrete outcomes for Rainforest Aboriginal people.

The process started in 1996 with a Ministerial Council directed review of Aboriginal involvement in management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA). This review produced the report *Which Way Our Cultural Survival* (the Review) in 1998.

A key recommendation of the Review was to establish the Interim Negotiating Forum (INF) to negotiate a Regional Agreement to resolve difficult management issues identified in the Review and to achieve proper participation of Rainforest Aboriginal people in management of the WTWHA.

The Review recommendations cover:

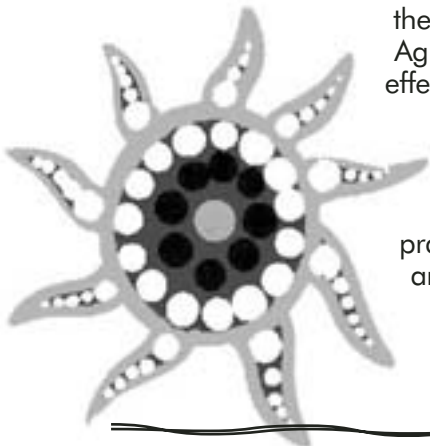
- **Native Title matters;**
- **recognition of cultural values;**
- **involvement in permitting;**
- **use of cooperative management agreements and management agreements;**
- **direct involvement in environmental impact assessment;**
- **direct involvement in planning and policy and operational procedures;**
- **direct involvement in research;**
- **Aboriginal employment, education and training;**
- **employment and role of Community Liaison Officers; and**
- **Intellectual and Cultural Property Rights.**

To date the INF process has addressed all these issues and resolved a framework for

the Wet Tropics Regional Agreement that will give effect to many of the

specific recommendations made in the Review.

Good will and pragmatic resolution of areas of disagreement have characterised negotiations.



It should be noted that the Regional Agreement will have no impact on the Native Title process or Native Title rights claimed by Aboriginal people. Native Title matters will continue to be resolved through negotiation of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) and Court determinations.

Outcome Driven

The four key proposed outcomes of the Regional Agreement are:

1. Recognition of Cultural Values

The Review strongly advocated that the Australian Government should progress a nomination for listing the WTWHA for Aboriginal cultural values in addition to the natural and scenic values for which it is already listed. There is now agreement that a first step will be to investigate listing of the natural and cultural values of the Area on the new National Heritage List.

This listing would provide greater recognition and protection of Rainforest Aboriginal cultural values and could potentially lead to a nomination of cultural values for World Heritage Listing. There is a commitment by Australian and State government negotiators to investigate the case and resourcing of a nomination of Aboriginal cultural values for World Heritage listing if National Heritage Listing is achieved.

2. Improved Participation in Decision Making

A second Aboriginal Director on the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) Board is proposed. This would greatly improve Aboriginal peoples' involvement in decision-making. If accepted, this would require amendment to the Wet Tropics legislation and improved resourcing for culturally appropriate consultation by the Aboriginal Directors.

This could be achieved either by the State Government agreeing that one of its Board Directors be an Aboriginal person (as is the case with the Australian Government) or by agreement to an additional Aboriginal Director on the Board. It is noted that there are no limitations on the number of Aboriginal persons on the Board, including the Chair, but there is currently only a requirement that one of the five voting Board Directors be an Aboriginal person.





REGIONAL AGREEMENT

3. Regional Representation

The establishment and resourcing of an Aboriginal Rainforest Council (ARC) to broadly represent the views of the 26-28 Wet Tropics tribal groups in dealings with WTWHA government agencies will greatly enhance the participation and involvement of Rainforest Aboriginal people in management of the WTWHA [see page 6].

The ARC is proposed to be given statutory recognition under Section 40 of the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993*. The Regional Agreement will define how the ARC is formally recognised by WTMA and the WTWHA government land management agencies. A Memorandum of Understanding will outline how these agencies interact with the ARC.

Together with the inclusion of an additional Aboriginal Director/s on the WTMA Board, this would contribute to cooperative management. Aboriginal people aspire that the ARC grow to be a substantial organisation in its own right, beyond its role in advising WTMA and land management agencies on a range of policy, planning, permitting, and management issues. The ARC may ultimately be delegated certain decision making powers and authority by WTMA and the WTWHA land management agencies.

4. Binding Protocols and Guidelines

There is agreement by WTMA and WTWHA land management agencies to develop a number of binding protocols and guidelines that outline how Aboriginal people are to be involved in the range of management activities [policy, strategic and site planning, permitting, management agreements, environmental impact



The INF in action

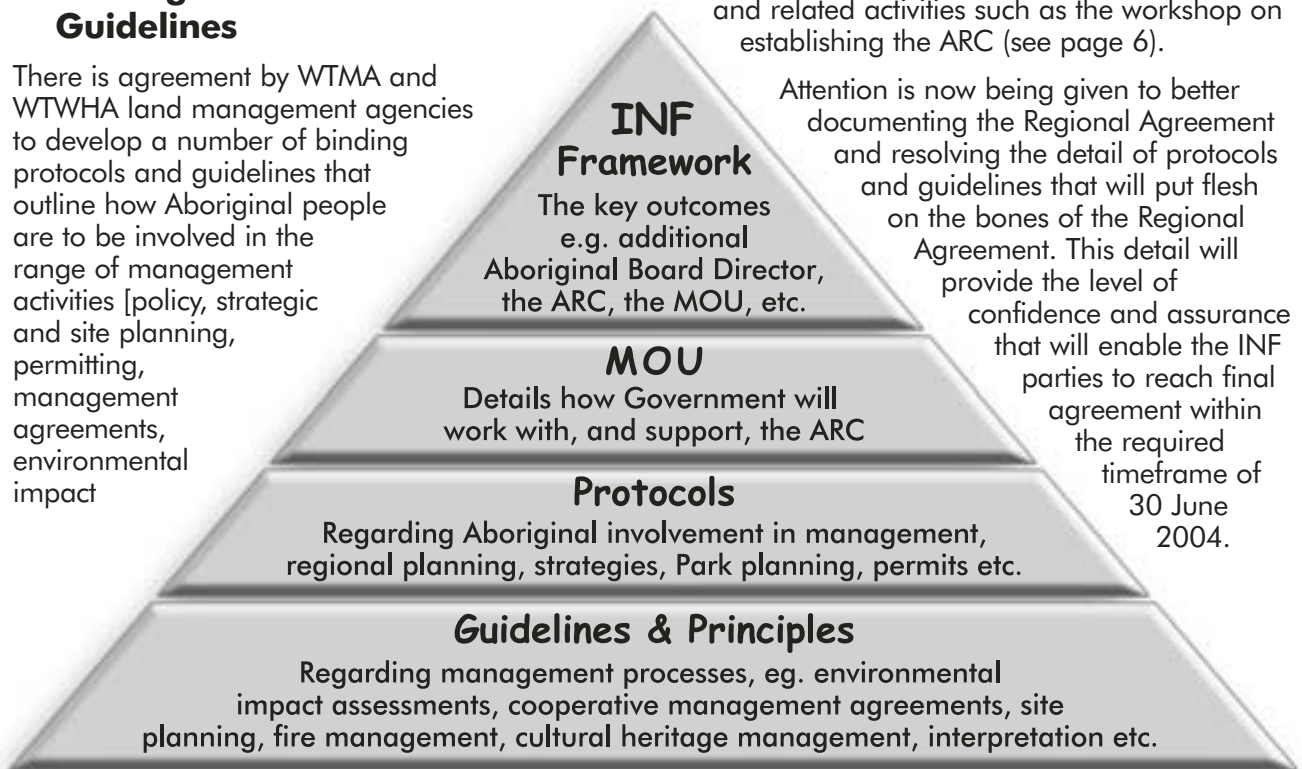
assessment processes, and on ground management eg. cultural heritage, fire, visitors infrastructure and interpretation] that comprises overall management of the WTWHA.

These protocols and guidelines will reflect the principles of cooperative management including active, informed and appropriate participation (as agreed by Rainforest Aboriginal people).

Framework

The framework for the Regional Agreement has now been established through INF negotiations and related activities such as the workshop on establishing the ARC (see page 6).

Attention is now being given to better documenting the Regional Agreement and resolving the detail of protocols and guidelines that will put flesh on the bones of the Regional Agreement. This detail will provide the level of confidence and assurance that will enable the INF parties to reach final agreement within the required timeframe of 30 June 2004.



Building the ARC

At the March 2003 Interim Negotiating Forum (INF) Regional Workshop, Rainforest Aboriginal people decided to establish an independent, decision-making organisation to represent the strategic interests of Rainforest Aboriginal people in the management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA).

They agreed that the first step was to set up a Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) Board advisory committee [under Section 40 of the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993*] that over time would grow into an independent, incorporated organisation.

An Interim Reference Group (IRG) was appointed at the regional workshop to develop a "section 40 committee" proposal. The IRG, the Aboriginal Negotiating Team (ANT) and invited guests met in Innisfail in August to workshop the proposal and look at the roles, principles and structure of the proposed committee.

Out of this workshop the idea for the Aboriginal Rainforest Council (ARC) was born. The ARC would be set up to provide a flow of information between Rainforest Aboriginal people regionally and the WTMA Board, as well as WTWHA government land management agencies [which includes the Queensland Government agencies: Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), as well as the Australian Government Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH)].

The other important role for the ARC is to act as a Rainforest Aboriginal communication network. It would address local issues on direction from Traditional Owners and present these issues and viewpoints to the Wet Tropics Board to ensure Rainforest Aboriginal peoples' concerns were considered by the Board in its decision-making.

Other key roles suggested for the ARC included: to coordinate Rainforest Aboriginal input into WTMA's strategic planning, budgeting, policy, protocols

and day to day operations. It would also monitor WTMA's performance. The IRG wanted the ARC to also influence Wet Tropics government land management agencies' policy, planning and operations.

Solid foundations

To ensure the ARC has culturally appropriate foundations, operating protocols were recommended to respect Traditional Owners' rights to speak for country, and to control access and use of their cultural information.

Inclusiveness and unity were key issues, and it was suggested that the ARC should represent the interests of all Rainforest Aboriginal people for the Wet Tropics region, including Traditional Owners, historical Aboriginal people, Elders, people with cultural knowledge, men, women and young people.

It was considered very important that the ARC have a complimentary role to the three ATSIC Regional Councils and three Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRB's). It was clearly understood that the ARC's role would not include Native Title matters that are the responsibility of NTRBs.

Effective representation

The IRG weighed up different options for effective representation and operation. It was recommended that Elders have guaranteed representation and that all Rainforest Aboriginal interests needed to be represented on the ARC. However, it was not considered practical to have every Wet Tropics tribal group represented because the ARC would become too big.

To ensure practical operations, it was considered that the ARC be comprised of between 12 to 15 people. Two Co-Chairs [one female and one male] would be elected annually by the ARC to manage the conduct of the meetings, attend WTMA Board meetings, and be the ARC's spokespersons.

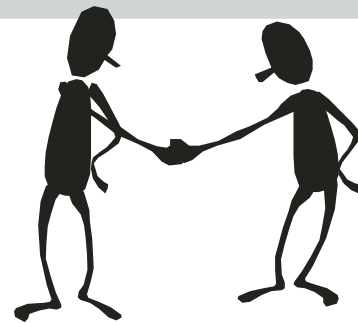


Making the ARC happen

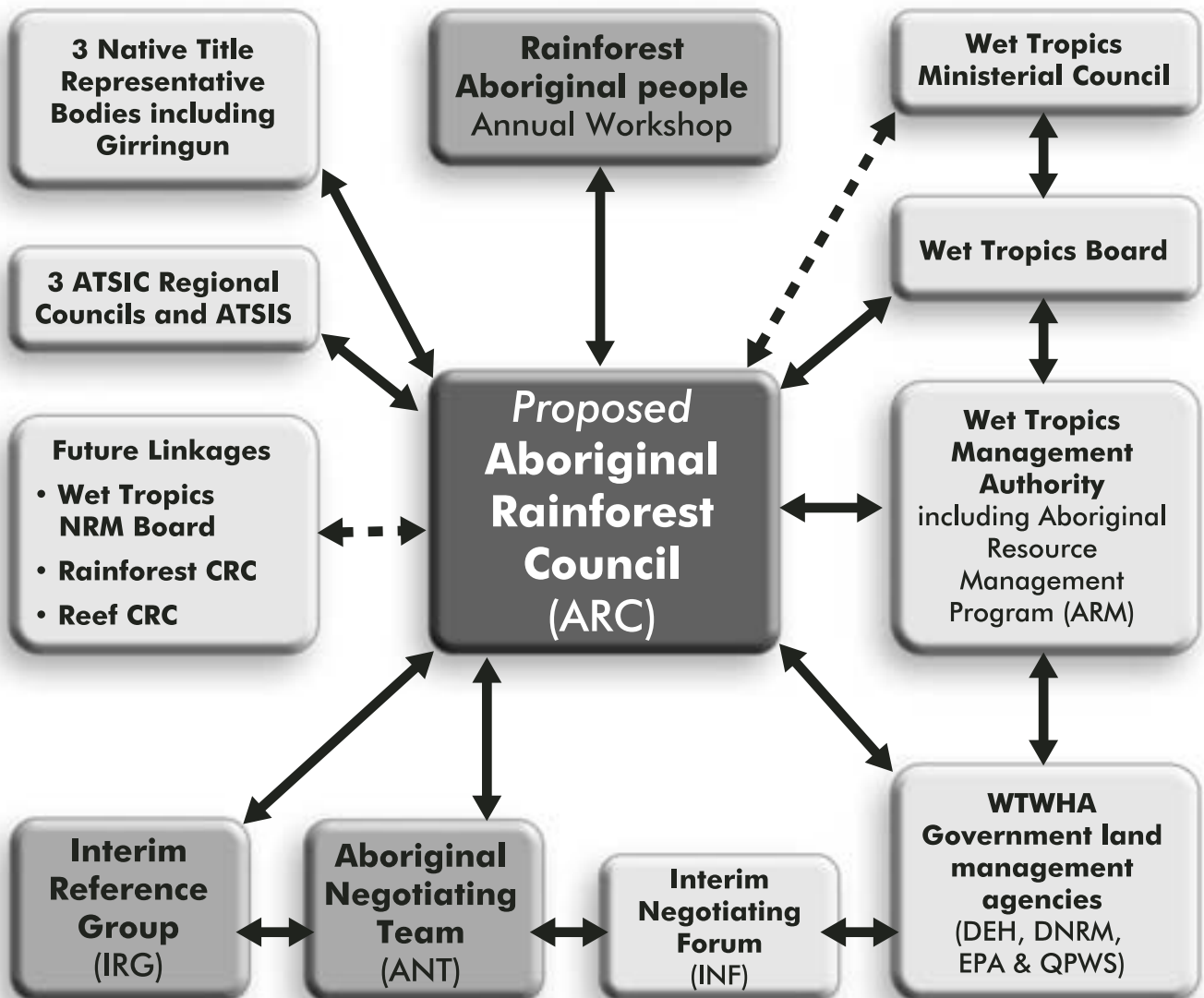
The IRG, ANT and two Rainforest Aboriginal representatives from Wet Tropics tribal groups met in November to refine the ARC proposal. The IRG and ANT Co-chairs will meet again in early December to develop a three-year budget bid and discuss the ARC membership process. The proposal and budget bid to set up the ARC will then be presented to the WTMA Board at its next meeting in February 2004. The ARC proposal will also be discussed at the next INF Rainforest Aboriginal Regional Workshop planned for April 2004. Once the ARC is set up, the ARC members will continue to work on growing the ARC into an incorporated organisation with links to the new Wet Tropics NRM Board and the Rainforest CRC over time.

Your Feedback is needed!

The ANT values your feedback on the ARC proposal. For a copy of the ARC discussion paper and more information please contact Michelle Cochrane, Aboriginal Community Coordinator, Aboriginal Negotiating Team (ANT) Secretariat, c/o the North Queensland Land Council, PO Box 679N, Cairns QLD 4870, Phone Toll Free 1800 814 779, Ph: 07 4031 4779 or fax 07 4051 1041, email: acc@nqlc.com.au



Proposed ARC Relationships





INFocus

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**Highlights from the
2003 INF Rainforest Aboriginal
Regional Workshop**



Brenda Murray, Shannon Stevens, Arnold Murray, Dale Murray and Warren Canendo



Daniel Beeron, Beryl and Allan Buller



Dawn Hart, Joseph Ambrum and Dulcie McCarthy



Colin Hart and Wes Epong

Left: Thomas and Malachi Creed





Jacque-nai Halliday



Ena Gertz and Donette Walsh

Below: Helenore Rasip, Lillian Freeman, Betty Cashmere



Warren Singleton, Abe Muriata, Victor Maund, Charlie Morganson, Dan O'Shane, Rowan Foley and Bill Morganson



Left: Margaret Freeman, Helenore Rasip, Julie Gosam with baby Ryan





Shauna Tanner, Bob Tanner, Gary Kyle, Wes Epong, Catherine Tanner, Vera Mow, Carl Yule



Bill and Nola Joseph



Below: Carol Riley, Del Riley, Rhonda Riley, Kelsey Richards, Joyce Riley, Georgina Brim, Tommy Brim



The next generation having fun at the INF Regional Workshop



Dean Purcell and Betty Cashmere

Tackling the Tough Stuff

The Interim Negotiating Forum (INF) is working through many issues identified in *Which Way Our Cultural Survival* (the Review report) to improve the involvement of Rainforest Aboriginal people in the management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA).

These issues have been around for many years and Rainforest Aboriginal people are keenly awaiting the results of the INF for solid outcomes that will make real differences to their communities.

One way the INF process is tackling some of these difficult issues is by setting up working groups to resolve the major INF issues. This approach also helps to ensure Wet Tropics government agencies work together to produce a whole of government approach to the Rainforest Aboriginal issues.



Each INF working group has representatives from both the ANT and GNT who are getting together to carefully look at key issues and talk through the solutions. To focus the working groups, the ANT and GNT have agreed to terms of reference to direct the issues to look at, the outcomes required, and tasks associated with each issue.

Currently there are two INF working groups set up, with a third working group planned to start in the New Year.

Policy, Planning and Permit Working Group (PPP WG)

The PPP WG has been set up to achieve effective involvement of Rainforest Aboriginal people in Wet Tropics policy, strategic planning and permitting. To guide this outcome, the working group will develop detailed protocols and guidelines for the Wet Tropics management agencies to follow.

Some of the issues being looked at by the working group include: Aboriginal permit referral processes; protection of cultural heritage sites; use of GIS; resourcing Aboriginal people to monitor permit compliance; and best practice models for Indigenous involvement in policy and planning.

Aboriginal Cooperative Management Working Group (ACM WG)

The ACM WG will look at the proposed Aboriginal Rainforest Council (ARC) (see page 6), its involvement in WTWHA management decisions, and the ARC's relationships with Wet Tropics management government agencies. The working group will develop a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) about how government will work with and support the ARC.

Other issues being reviewed include the roles, operations and resourcing of the Wet Tropics Management Authority's (WTMA) Aboriginal Resource Management Program (ARM) and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife's Indigenous Engagement Unit (IEU) to ensure efficient client service. Effective employment security for the Wet Tropics Community Liaison Officers will also be addressed.

Employment, Education and Training Working Group (EE&T WG)

The INF is looking at forming this working group in the New Year to specifically deal with issues related to the employment, education and training of Rainforest Aboriginal people in managing the WTWHA in both the government (e.g. QPWS rangers) and community (e.g. community rangers).

The group will monitor the progress of the current employment and training strategies of various government departments and assess the implications for future employment, education and training for Rainforest Aboriginal people.

Want more info?

For more information about INF working groups please contact:

Michelle Cochrane, Aboriginal Community Coordinator, Aboriginal Negotiating Team (ANT) Secretariat, c/o the North Queensland Land Council, Phone Toll Free 1988 814 779, Ph: 07 4031 4779 or fax 07 4051 1041, email: acc@nqlc.com.au or

M'Lis Flynn, Acting Project Officer, Aboriginal Resource Management Program at WTMA, Ph: 07 4052 0536 or email: mlis.flynn@epa.qld.gov.au

A Long Road to Justice

By Terry O'Shane, Chair ATSIC Cairns & District Regional Council

In February this year I attended the launch in Malanda of an agreement between the Ngadjon-Jii people, the Wet Tropics Management Authority and the Environmental Protection Agency.

At the launch I reminded those attending that we have a long way yet to travel to achieve justice.

The Ngadjon-Jii agreement gave back some extremely basic rights to Traditional Owners whose ancestors have managed the Wet Tropics for thousands of years.

The saddest feature of the Ngadjon-Jii agreement was that Aboriginal people were expected to be grateful that white management agencies which now control our ancestral lands had granted us the most minor of rights over our country.

The rights granted under the Ngadjon-Jii agreement; rights that we are expected to be thankful for include the right for our old people to be buried back on their country and the right of our people to camp, even temporarily, back on the land of their ancestors. Hardly generous concessions and hardly major breakthroughs in our struggle for land justice!

It is a travesty that we are expected to be satisfied with crumbs off our own table when across the world and indeed even in other parts of Australia Indigenous people are being welcomed as partners in the management of ecologically threatened areas.

In other parts of the world Governments and environmental management agencies respect the extensive ecological knowledge and management record of First Peoples.

Not here in Queensland, however, where Aboriginal people are consistently denied their proper role in looking after their country where it falls in National Parks. In Queensland, Aboriginal Traditional Owners have about as much say in the management of National Parks as adjacent landholders.

Despite our ecological knowledge, despite our unparalleled record of environmental management and despite our moral right to our lands we are frozen out of any meaningful role in looking after our country.



Ngadjon-Jii Dancers at the Ngadjon-Jii agreement sign off February 2003

Contrast this with the situation in Western Australia where the State Government recently announced a policy that will lead to the return of all National Parks to Aboriginal ownership and joint management.

In North Queensland Rainforest Aboriginal peoples are currently engaged in negotiations with Government land management agencies to progress our rights beyond the humiliating arrangements that have characterised our role in land management to this point in time.

A comprehensive joint-management agreement is not only a prerequisite for our cultural survival but would also significantly enhance the protection of the ecological values of the World Heritage listed Area and add value to tourism experiences and therefore the regional economy. Whitefellas need us as partners in management.

Whether the Queensland and Australian Governments can move beyond their narrow prejudices and embrace Aboriginal rights and aspirations in the Wet Tropics will only be revealed in time.

The future of the Rainforest Aboriginal peoples, the protection of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, and the direction of regional tourism now depends to a large extent on the Government Negotiating Team within the Interim Negotiating Forum.

I hope they have vision enough to see the opportunities for a new and more effective management regime that allows Aboriginal people our rightful place as custodians of our traditional lands and enhances the protection of the magnificent Wet Tropics country that we call home.



The Faces of the INF

The Aboriginal Negotiating Team's (ANT) current representatives are:



Allison Halliday

Co-Chair and Rainforest Aboriginal representative



Margaret Freeman

Co-Chair and Rainforest Aboriginal representative



Rhonda Brim

Rainforest Aboriginal representative



Dean Purcell

Rainforest Aboriginal representative



Abe Muriata

Central Queensland Land Council representative



Vince Mundraby

North Queensland Land Council representative



Nola Joseph

Queensland Indigenous Working Group representative



Representative to be confirmed

Cape York Land Council



Michelle Cochrane

the new Aboriginal Community Coordinator (ACC) working with the ANT



Jim Petrich

INF Facilitator



Percy Neal

INF Chair



Sherry Marchand

Australian National University PhD student studying the INF process.

The Government Negotiating Team's (GNT) current representatives are:



Russell Watkinson

Chair and Wet Tropics Management Authority representative



Rod Atkins

Australian Department of Environment and Heritage (was known as Environment Australia) representative



Clive Cook

Environmental Protection Authority / Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service representative

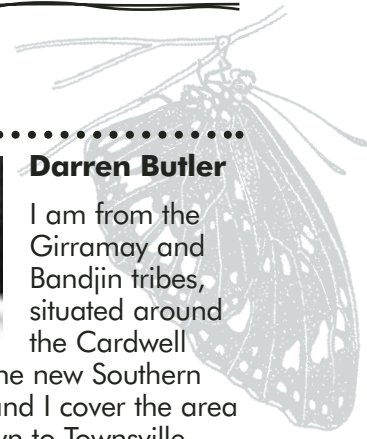


Mark Cranitch

Department of Natural Resources and Mines representative



The ARM Team



Cavel Cora

I am of Aboriginal and South-Sea Islander descent. I am the new

Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for the Central Region. My area is from the Barron River to the Tully River and inland to the Tablelands.

My job is to ensure that Aboriginal communities are well informed about the WTMA and its operations. My goal is to see recognition and respect given to all Rainforest Aboriginal people and to ensure their involvement in the management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

The Aboriginal Resource Management (ARM) Program with the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) welcomes new staff:



Hilton Noble

Hilton is back as the Northern Region CLO, covering the area from

Barron River to Cooktown. It is great to have Hilton's skills and experience in our team, especially his knowledge about land management, and his government and community networks.



Darren Butler

I am from the Girramay and Bandjin tribes, situated around the Cardwell

district. I am the new Southern Region CLO and I cover the area from Tully down to Townsville. I work out of the Giringun Aboriginal Corporation office in Cardwell.

I am very proud to be part of a process so Rainforest Aboriginal people have active involvement in the planning and management of their country. I hope together we can achieve our aspirations and goals, so our children and their children can enjoy this magical place in generations to come.



Dianne Ross-Kelly

I am a descendant of the Buruwarra and Kuku

Nyunugkul people and join the ARM team as the Temporary Administration Officer.



M'Lis Flynn

M'Lis joins our team as the Acting Project Officer to 1st March 2004

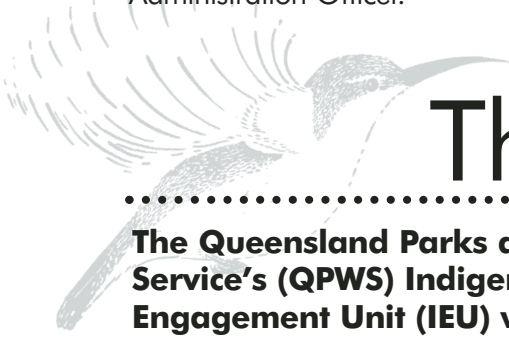
(while Lisa Stagoll is on leave). M'Lis has a background in GIS and community development.



Nigel Hedgcock

Nigel continues to lead the Aboriginal Resource

Management Team. See page 16 for ARM contact details.



The IEU Team

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service's (QPWS) Indigenous Engagement Unit (IEU) welcome two new Indigenous staff members:



Syb Bresolin

I belong to the Dulguburra Yidinji Clan from Lake Barrine, Tinaroo area on the Atherton Tablelands. I now have a permanent position as a Project Officer with the IEU

for the Wet Tropics region.

Some of you may know me from my previous work with the QPWS Centre for Tropical Restoration (Lake Eacham rainforest nursery). I am still working from the nursery (so I am still around

these precious little baby trees!) and I am looking forward to catching up with and working with you all.

Contact me by phone: 07 4095 3406 and by email: cheryl.bresolin@epa.qld.gov.au



Debbie Alvoen

Throughout the years I've been involved in various Indigenous and non-indigenous organisations. I was recently appointed Project Officer with

IEU, and based in Townsville, for the Savanna district (which includes some south western Wet Tropics areas). I look forward to meeting you soon. **Contact me** by phone: 07 4796 7784 and by email: debbie.alvoen@epa.qld.gov.au



2004 INF Calendar

FEBRUARY

ANT & IRG meeting
INF 6

MARCH

ANT & IRG meeting
INF 7

APRIL

INF Regional Workshop
on the Tablelands

MAY

ANT & IRG meeting
INF 8

JUNE

ANT & IRG meeting
INF 9

Note: times and locations to be confirmed.
ANT & IRG meetings will held in a variety of regional locations.
INF Working Groups meeting times to be confirmed.



Feedback? Questions? Want more info?

Contact the ANT:

Michelle Cochrane

Aboriginal Community Coordinator
Aboriginal Negotiating Team (ANT) Secretariat
C/o North Queensland Land Council (NQLC)
PO Box 679N, North Cairns, QLD 4870
Phone Toll Free 1800 814 779
Ph: (07) 4031 4779, fax: (07) 4051 1041
Email: acc@nqlc.com.au

Contact the GNT:


M'Lis Flynn


Acting Project Officer
Aboriginal Resource Management Program
Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050, Cairns, QLD 4870
Ph: (07) 4052 0536, fax: (07) 4031 1064
Email: mlis.flynn@epa.qld.gov.au

Jargon: useful words to get to know

 **advocated:** supported, urged, pleaded for


 **delegated:** to give powers, functions etc. to another organisation

 **ecological knowledge:** knowledge about nature i.e. plants, animals, insects, soils, water, micro organisms etc.


 **environmental impact assessment:** a process that looks at the possible effects of a development proposal on the environment

 **forum:** a place of discussion and debate


 **inclusion, inclusiveness:** from inclusive – to include, contain, embrace


 **intellectual and cultural property rights (ICPR):** cultural knowledge, control and ownership and the use of that knowledge


 **interim:** temporary, the first step


 **interpretation:** from interpret – to explain the meaning of something e.g. display, newsletter, tour guiding etc.


 **management agreement:** a voluntary, legal agreement under the *Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998* that allows a party to carry out an activity that would otherwise be illegal in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area

 **Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRB's):** Land Councils have been created under the *Native Title Act 1993* to assist Indigenous people with the Native Title applications

 **permit:** legal permission to carry out certain activities e.g. camping permit

 **policy:** a written document that says how an issue will be handled

 **protocol:** the way in which you do something; and official document that two or more parties have agreed to follow

 **statutory:** from statute – a written Act of Parliament; a requirement that is set down in law



Help Us Help You

If you want help with the management of your traditional country in the Wet Tropics – **give us a call, we can help you by...**



keeping you informed about WTMA's activities and planning processes



keeping you up to date on relevant World Heritage Area legislation and regulations



providing you with resource support such as useful government contacts, maps, and scientific and technical advice



providing you with advice about your concerns and inquiries regarding your community's visions, goals, and aspirations in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area



assisting you with your negotiations with community settlement and environmental management planning in the World Heritage Area

We have culturally appropriate staff to consult and work with you.

We provide an impartial and inclusive service – we work with everyone.

Who we are: Aboriginal Resource Management Program

Manager

Nigel Hedgcock

☎ 07 4052 0526

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Northern Region Community Liaison Officer

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Wet Tropics Management Authority

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Dianne Ross-Kelly
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Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050
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OR Fax: 07 4031 1364

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