

In Attendance**Board directors**

Ms Leslie Shirreffs	Chair
Professor Iain Gordon	Director
Ms Chrissy Grant	Director
Ms Sally Driml *	Director
Mr Phillip Rist	Director
Mr Scott Buchanan	Executive Director

WTMA Officers

Mrs Rebecca Lagerroth	Principal Advisor
Mr Tim Wong	Manager, Planning and Conservation
Ms Saskia Salmeron-Rodriguez	Manager, World Heritage Connections
Ms Jeanette Wormald	Strategic Communications Advisor, World Heritage Connections
Ms Ellen Weber	Senior Scientific Officer, Planning and Conservation
Ms Lucy Karger *	Project Manager, Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program

Observers

Mr Shane Dagwell	Heritage Officer, Natural Heritage Section, Heritage Branch, DAWE
Mr Martin Dallen	Assistant Director, Natural Heritage Section, Heritage Branch, DAWE
Mr Andrew Millerd	Acting Regional Director, Northern Region, QPWS&P
Mr Jeffrey McAllister *	Deputy Director General, Tourism, DTIS

Guests

Ms Tracy Steinhardt	Minute Taker
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**attendance via videoconference*

1.0 INTRODUCTION**1.1. Chair's introduction and welcome**

The Chair acknowledged the Eastern Kuku Yalanji Traditional Custodians of the land this meeting was held and paid respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. The Chair also acknowledged all Traditional Custodians from the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

1.2. Apologies

Ms Angela Siggery	Director, Cultural Capability and Connections, DES
Ms Cheryl Leavy	Executive Director, Partnership, DES
Mr James Newman	Executive Director, Northern Parks and Forests, QPWS&P
Mr Andrew Buckley	Assistant Director General Management and Operations QPWS&P

1.3. Conflict of Interest

Professor Iain Gordon declared he is the lead for the Protected Places Mission of NESP2

Sally Driml advised that she may soon be joining a short-term project with the Chief Scientist, but that details are not yet released.

2.0 Minutes and Actions Arising

2.1 Endorsement of Board Minutes No 114

Resolution

The Board **endorsed** the minutes for Board Meeting No 114 and OOS 439 and 440.

2.2 Actions Arising

The Chair acknowledged the significant effort to complete a number of outstanding actions arising since the last board meeting. The board discussed the following items:

No	Agenda item	Comments
6	2020-2021 Annual Business Plan	Ask SAC to prioritise getting climate impacted species onto the Threatened Species Commissioner's focus list; and raising the aspirations for listing cultural iconic species with the Commissioner.
8	Reflections from outgoing directors	Scott Buchanan met with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation regarding Traditional Owner engagement.
28	Strategic issues	The final board priorities have been uploaded to the Authority's website and are to be distributed with the communique for this meeting.
29	Strategic issues	The strategic risk register has been endorsed by Directors.
31	18 th Cassowary Awards	State and Commonwealth Minister's attendance to be confirmed.

Resolution

The Board **updated** the actions arising.

3.0 Reports

3.1 Chair's Report

The Chair addressed the board and commented on the following meetings she had recently attended with:

- Douglas Shire Mayor Michael Kerr, Mareeba Shire Mayor Angela Toppin and Cassowary Coast Mayor Cr Mark Nolan about the Sustainable Tourism Plan, Green and Blue Stimulus initiatives and other matters of mutual interest.
- The Hon Craig Crawford, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships about the Green and Blue Stimulus, the refresh of the Regional Agreement, Path to Treaty and the upcoming Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples Regional Forum.
- Robbie Katter MP about the yellow crazy ant eradication program.
- Minister Scanlon's Chief of Staff Nick Heath about a range of matters.
- Jeffrey McAllister, Deputy Director General Tourism, Queensland Department of Tourism and Sport about the Wet Tropics Sustainable Tourism Plan.

- Pepe Clarke from the Pew Foundation about their work on a green led recovery and alignment with the Wet Tropics Green and Blue Stimulus package.
- Shadow Minister for Environment Terri Butler about the yellow crazy ant eradication program funding, the Green and Blue Economic Stimulus Package and climate change impacts.
- New North Queensland Land Council Board member Rona Hart in Innisfail.
- Peter Rowles from C4 in Mission Beach.
- The Hon Warren Entsch MP who agreed to host the Authority's trip to Canberra in August to meet with Members of Parliament and Senators about continuing yellow crazy ant eradication program funding. The Authority proposes to also meet with the Threatened Species Commissioner and senior officials and Government staff in the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to discuss other World Heritage matters.

The Chair also:

- Attended Giringun Aboriginal Corporation's red carpet gala launch of their new art gallery.
- Participated in the 4th highly successful Science and Smashed Avocados event with Dr Sally Driml as keynote speaker.
- Completed Wet Tropics Ambassador program training.
- Visited Dulabed Malanbarra Yidinji in Gordonvale to see their P3DM mapping project in action. This project was supported by a Rainforest Aboriginal Grant and the Authority's Senior Project Officer, M'Lis Flynn.
- Participated, with Chrissy Grant, in an AWHAC cultural heritage workshop to provide input to the heritage chapter of the Australian Government State of Environment report; and contributed to the AWHAC submission on the review of the Australian Heritage Strategy. Chrissy Grant has also been actively discussing options for re-forming an Indigenous World Heritage network and discussed more streamlined processes for the listing of Indigenous cultural heritage values under the World Heritage convention.

The Chair and Executive Director, Scott Buchanan, have also been liaising with both the Commonwealth and State agencies about the upcoming vacancies for this board.

The Chair congratulated the Authority for winning two prestigious awards in the past month.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the Chair's report.

3.2 Executive Director's Report

Scott Buchanan provided the following update to the Board:

- \$19.9 million of funding has been made available for the Daintree Micro Grid through the recent Commonwealth budget. There is still a lot of uncertainty on the delivery model and we await a development application from the proponents.
- The new Threatened Species Strategy has broadened priority species to include reptiles, frogs, insects, marine and freshwater fish species. 'Priority places' have been expanded to include land and seascapes where threat mitigation and habitat protection efforts will benefit multiple threatened species and ecological communities.

‘Key action areas’ have been expanded to focus efforts on landscape-scale actions that are fundamental to the recovery of threatened species e.g., climate change adaptation and resilience, weeds and diseases, and the development and use of new tools and technologies, improving habitat to support species recovery, planning and coordinating action at the right scale, and forging stronger partnerships to use our collective expertise and resources to their best effect. The new Strategy will be underpinned by consecutive 5-year Action Plans.

- The Authority won two Awards recently:
 - The Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) awards for Excellence in Ecological Restoration Practice for projects from around Australasia
 - The Weeds Society of Queensland award to the Authority’s yellow crazy ant eradication team for invasive pest management.,
- The recent yellow crazy ant Natural Assets Management Advisory Committee (NAMAC) taskforce was the biggest yet for the Authority with 102 participants on the ground covering more than 240km and collecting more than 68,500 survey data points. The taskforce received significant media coverage through the ABC, which was picked up by the BBC.
- The Planning and Conservation team has launched a new online permit and assessments approvals process to improve efficiencies and streamline the process from the application through to the approval phase.

Scott acknowledged the outstanding leadership of Tim Wong and thanked him for the work undertaken while acting in the Executive Director position for the Authority from 6 April to 23 April. Scott was Acting Executive Director, Northern Parks and Forests, QPWS (James Newman’s position) during this period.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the Executive Director’s report.

3.3 Director’s Issues

Professor Iain Gordon advised the board that contracts have been signed for all the hubs of the National Environment Science Program 2. The landscapes hub is developing a set of scoping studies and he recommended that the Authority be involved. The scoping studies will be utilised to develop the new program. There will be a roadshow in Darwin, Perth and Canberra plus one-on-one conversations.

Action: E.Weber to draft an email for S.Buchanan to send to Michael Douglas requesting that the Authority be engaged in the scoping studies that the NESP landscape hub is developing.

No further updates were provided by Director’s Chrissy Grant, Phillip Rist or Sally Driml.

3.4 Queensland and Commonwealth Department reports

Martin Dallen, Natural Heritage Section, Heritage Branch, DAWE

M.Dallen provided the following updates:

- Following Stephen Oxley’s retirement, Dr Simon Banks has been appointed into the role of Acting First Assistant Secretary (Heritage, Reef and Wildlife Trade Division) for six months.

- The Heritage Branch has been restructured. Indigenous Heritage Assessment and Property Management has been split across Historic and Natural Heritage sections.
- Day to day Indigenous work is now being tended to by the Indigenous Heritage Protection section and they have more staff to address a backlog of work.
- Jason Oakley has been appointed as a new team member to build a national Indigenous engagement framework to lift the standard regarding the Department's approach to protect Indigenous cultural heritage.
- The 44th session of the World Heritage Convention will be held in July via Zoom

Other matters mentioned in the Commonwealth report included periodic reporting, the yellow crazy ant program, the Sustainable Tourism Plan launch, the HQ Plantations matter and additional funding to support the implementation of the Threatened Species Strategy.

Action: DAWE to provide C.Grant's contact details to the new Indigenous Heritage Protection section so that they can liaise with her and provide more context around their work.

Action: DAWE to provide advice on whether the board can access the 44th session of the World Heritage Convention, in particular the climate change session.

Andrew Millerd, Northern Parks and Forests, QPWS&P, DES

A.Millerd informed Directors that he will be acting regional director until June 2021. Also, that Andrew Martin left the Manager Joint Management position and Dave Fuller has been appointed to that role.

Other updates included:

- QPWS&P capital works program has been delayed due to extremely high levels of wet weather, but overall damage has been minimal. It will be very busy leading up to June.
- Minister Scanlon launched the \$400K Barron Falls upgrade. Indigenous contractors were appointed to do the work. Overall, very good outcome.
- The WTMA and QPWS Partnership is progressing well with Operational and Steering Committees in place and regular scheduled meetings to support project delivery.
- MOU's progressed with Indigenous groups.
- Continuing to work with the Wangetti Trail project team in support of ecotourism
- Appointed Project Officer to the Daintree Hub. Very tight timeframe for delivery.
- Number of safety incidents. Fatality at Windin Falls. Other safety incidents at Davies Creek and Lamb Range. QPWS&P investigating ways to mitigate those issues through signage and education about risks and time frames to travel trails.
- The Minister recently met virtually with the land trusts and corporations for jointly managed Cape York National Parks, including for the Daintree area. The next meeting is scheduled for October.
- Meetings regarding works required at Crater Lakes National Park and Wallaman Falls.
- Delays to fire program due to extended wet weather this year.
- Funded for feral pig management program until 30 June 2021. Turtle nesting numbers reported as significantly lower this year and pig numbers lower as well.

Jeff McAllister, Deputy Director General, Tourism, DTIS

J.McAllister provided the following updates:

- The Minister has appointed an independent tourism industry reference panel to focus on eco-tourism in the Action Plan for Tourism Recovery. The panel's role is to provide a final report to government in 2022. A discussion Paper is out and online as a conversation starter on eco-tourism, aviation, and some other areas of interest. The Taskforce is generating ideas about activities in parks and adjacent to parks, including about low fee and premium fee ideas.
- More information is needed on how to progress the Wangetti Trail. There have been some delays. There has not been enough stakeholder support for Hinchinbrook Islands.
- 2019 Flood Recovery Support package includes an audit and gap analysis of tourism infrastructure to develop more resilience so that if a flood takes out a coastal experience there is an alternative experience in the area that can be offered.

Action: DTIS to provide the Authority with the link to the Action Plan for Tourism Recovery and discussion paper.

Action: DTIS to involve the Authority in consultations about walking trails around Wallaman Falls.

3.5 Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) report to the Board

I.Gordon provided the Board with the following update from the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting on the 19 April 2021:

- It was a short session followed by a workshop on climate vulnerability assessment as facilitated by CSIRO.
- CSIRO vulnerability assessment process is looking at key climate drivers for wet tropics values and attributes
- Wet Tropics is one of the most information rich areas in the world heritage areas
- Professor Iain Gordon, Ellen Weber, Carla Catterall, John Locke, Liz Ota, Bruce Prideaux, Leslie Shirreffs and Leah Talbot co-authored an Earth journal article titled 'Managing a World Heritage site in the Face of Climate Change: A Case Study of the Wet Tropics in Northern Queensland'. It has been accepted for special issue and demonstrated the importance of evidence in support of advocacy, management action and community involvement to address climate change in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. A draft of the journal article was shared with Directors.
- Cairns Regional Council have approval from the Commonwealth and State governments to relocate the Spectacled Flying Fox (*Pteropus conspicillatus*) in the Cairns City Library roost (a nationally significant camp) to a more suitable roost site in the Cairns Central Swamp. Relocation efforts commenced 4th July 2020. Members of the Community Consultative Committee have raised this as a matter and the Board sought advice from SAC on the impact on World Heritage values
- The SAC have provided their advice in the form of a 2-page statement which included the following information:

- There are currently 64 known flying fox camps/roosts in the Wet Tropics bioregion (mostly outside the World Heritage Area)¹. In any given month, an average of 10 ± 2.4 (\pm S.D.) camps are occupied, and numbers within each camp fluctuate widely².
- The Cairns Regional Council received approval under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act) to permanently relocate the colony of flying foxes from the nationally important population site at the City Library to the nearby Cairns Central Swamp.
- The controlled action was approved on the basis that it is carried out humanely (non-lethal methods); guided by expert science; and undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced officers, regarding methodology and timing, to ensure that there is no long-term impact on population size or density.

I.Gordon advised that this information is available to assist the Board and Authority staff to respond to queries about the issue. The board thanked the SAC for providing this advice and information.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the Scientific Advisory Committee report.

Action: I.Gordon to share published version of the Earth journal article 'Managing a World Heritage site in the Face of Climate Change' with Directors when available.

3.6 Community Consultative Committee (CCC) report to the Board

S.Driml provided the following Community Consultative Committee (CCC) update from their last meeting on the 18 March 2021:

- CCC members decided to focus subsequent meetings on one major topic arising from the CCC's document of issues per meeting:
 - The 6 May meeting focused on sustainable tourism.
 - The end July meeting will focus on community engagement.
 - The October meeting will focus on partnerships.
- The CCC will seek feedback from the Board on matters raised.

S.Driml presented feedback from the CCC's recent meetings – the CCC:

- would like advice from the Board on whether the Strategic Plan is a living document and if the board will give due consideration to new issues that arise outside the Strategic Plan.
- discussed the draft proposal from the Authority for Citizen Science grants and have developed advice on criteria for effective projects.
- discussed potential avenues of funding and support the Authority, including funding from government and sourcing additional external funding from community. The CCC supported exploring external funding sources if a risk-based approach was taken to identify conflicts of interest, and private funding received is not at the detriment to government funding supplied.

¹ Timmiss, L.A., Martin, J.M., Murray, N.J., Welbergen, J.A., Westcott, D., McKeown, A., Kingsford, R.T. (2021) Threatened but not conserved: flying-fox roosting and foraging habitat in Australia. *Australian Journal of Zoology*

² Westcott, D.A., Caley, P., Heersink, D.K. & McKeown, A. (2018) A state-space modelling approach to wildlife monitoring with application to flying-fox abundance. *Scientific Reports*, **8**, 4038

- discussed the principle that biosecurity responses should be pro-active to address threats before they become an issue. Priority Biosecurity pests identified include electric ants, pigs, Singapore daisy, Amazonian frogbit plant, siam weed and nauva sedge.
- will hold a joint meeting with the SAC to discuss ways forward on climate change responses
- had a workshop focused on draft actions in the draft Sustainable Tourism Plan. Recommendations for the plan include developing a vision before the 3-year review, update the walking tracks strategy, review the level and type of usage as an action in the plan. Saskia advised that an update of the walking track strategy will not be included in the plan.
- Raised that dingoes should be at topic for discussion at the upcoming Indigenous Land & Sea Rangers Conference. For example, dingoes are a native species with cultural significance and there are many sensitivities that are important to factor into the management of dingoes in different terrains.
- Suggested that the Authority re-establish the Indigenous Advisory Committee (i.e., Indigenous Board members plus indigenous SAC and CCC members), so that documents like the Annual Business Plan and engagement with Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples receive a level of input specific to Rainforest Aboriginal people.
- Provided feedback and suggestions regarding a submission to the EPBC Act review

The Board discussed the range of advice provided and advised that the CCC's continuing advice on the Strategic Plan is welcomed. The Plan will operate as a living document and there will be a 5-year review process where new issues can be incorporated as they arise.

The Board appreciated the feedback the CCC provided on the EPBC Act review. The Authority worked closely with the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC) to prepare a coordinated response. The Samuels Report resulted in 38 recommendations to substantial and necessary reforms.

S.Buchanan advised that the Authority would provide a letter of support and act in an information /advisory role to support organisations involved in addressing the priority biosecurity pests mentioned above.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the Community Consultative Committee report.

Actions :

- The Authority to write a letter to Biosecurity Queensland regarding banning the sale of Amazonian frogbit in Queensland, noting it is already banned for sale in NSW.
- E.Weber to email S.Driml requesting CCC to provide nominations for Ecological Restoration workshop

3.7 Significant correspondence

The Board reviewed the Significant Correspondence tabled in the Collated documents supplied for the meeting.

Date	From/To	Description	Action for directors
13 January 2021	Incoming from Kate Adams Chief of Staff, Minister for Tourism Industry Development and Innovation and Minister for Sport	Wet Tropics Management Authority – Wet Tropics Authority's Sustainable Tourism Plan	None Required
1 March 2021	Outgoing from Scott Buchanan to the Manager Threatened Species Initiative Bioplatforms Australia	Australia Tropical Herbarium's application for funding under the Threatened Species Initiative, BioPlatforms Australia	None Required
06 April 2021	Incoming from Jim Adams CEO National Landcare Network, Kate Andrews Executive Officer NRM Regions Australia, Jody Gunn CEO Australian Land Conservation Alliance, Pepe Clarke Deputy Director, Outback to Oceans the Pew Charitable Trusts	Working with Nature: Restoring Landscapes and supporting regional economic recovery	None required.
20 April 2021	Outgoing from Tim Wong Acting Executive Director to Sandra Lawson Deputy Parliamentary Counsel Office of the QLD Parliamentary Counsel (Attn: Rod Alsop & Alannah Aitken)	Request for informal consultation on amendments to Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993.	None Required
5 May 2021	Outgoing from Leslie Shirreffs PSM Chair to Jeffrey McAlister Deputy Director General Tourism	Attending Wet Tropics Management Authority Board Meetings	None required.

10 May 2021	Outgoing from Leslie Shirreffs PSM Chair to Minister Meaghan Scanlon – Minister of Environment & Great Barrier Reef & Minister for Science and Youth Affairs	Land Tenure Resolution Program – Wet Tropics Queensland	None required.
11 May 2021	Outgoing from Leslie Shirreffs PSM Chair to Hon. Sussan Ley MP – Minister for the Environment	Invitation to attend the Wet Tropics Management Authority's 18th Cassowary Awards on 19 June 2021 and launch the Wet Tropics Sustainable Tourism Plan	None Required
19 May 2021	Outgoing from Scott Buchanan Executive Director to The Director Ecological Communities Section, Biodiversity Conservation Division, DAWE	Lowland Tropical Rainforest of the Wet Tropics Bioregion: Comment on Assessment and Draft Conservation Advice	None Required
24 May 2021	Outgoing from Leslie Shirreffs PSM Chair to the Hon Senator Susan McDonald MP	Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication program	None required

Resolution

The Board **noted** the Significant Correspondence report.

4.0 Strategic Issues

4.1 UNESCO Periodic Report

E.Weber provided an update to the Board on the draft responses to the UNESCO Periodic reporting questionnaire:

- Periodic reporting is one of the core conservation monitoring mechanisms of the World Heritage Convention. As site manager for the Wet Tropics of Queensland, the Authority is required to complete a periodic every six years.
- Ellen identified that there are some issues of importance that cannot be dealt with through the periodic reporting system. For example, our Statement of Outstanding Universal Value could be updated and that funding has declined in relation to increasing responsibilities.
- S.Dagwell advised that, while details can be changed minimally, the Statement of OUV can only be changed in a process separate to the Periodic Report. Item 14 L.Shirreffs suggested that more detail about ranger programs and good practice be added.
- Item 15.6.1 indicate there is an appetite for a National Cultural Values Heritage listing and interrelationship of cultural values.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the draft responses to the UNESCO Periodic reporting questionnaire and that these will be submitted to the Department of Water and Environment on the 4 June 2021.

Action: Any additional Director comments on the draft UNESCO periodic report to be emailed to S.Buchanan and E. Weber by 1 June.

4.2 Ecological Restoration (climate action) initiatives update

T.Wong provided the following update:

- A program of works has been scoped out focusing on ecological restoration. It includes a State of Wet Tropics Report, a Wet Tropics Restoration symposium and a Southern Atherton Tablelands Initiative. These initiatives build on previous research undertaken by the Authority in 2020 and align to several objectives in the Climate Adaptation Plan.
- The Symposium, planned for September, will be aimed at restoration land managers, practitioners and operators, investors and scientists focused on celebrating local achievements, sharing innovation and supporting uptake of contemporary best practice
- Southern Atherton Tablelands Initiative is a concept at the moment and is a working title to refer to a program that targets an area in which there is strong scientific evidence which provide a 'no regrets' strategy for high priority management and builds on existing efforts. It adds value as it aligns partners effort in key corridors, brings in new players and builds consortium for a Land Restoration Fund bid to support existing partners.
- The Board noted the importance of including voluntourism in the initiative, in support of the Authority's primary role to increase involvement and cultural cohesion into the initiative.
- Board recommends an assertive approach delivered through strategic and coordinated effort. I.Gordon noted that the concept was sound but would not be described as an aggressive approach to deliver on Climate Change challenges.

Resolution

The Board **noted** progress with organising a Wet Tropics Ecological Restoration symposium in September 2021 and restoration themed SoWT Report.

The Board **endorsed** the Authority to progress a Southern Atherton Tablelands restoration initiative with partners and Traditional Owners

4.3 Funding Plan for the Yellow Crazy Ants eradication program

L.Karger provided an overview of the funding plan for the Yellow crazy ant eradication program:

- The current yellow crazy ant eradication program funding expires in June 2022.
- The funding plan will ask for \$6M for 6 years instead of 3 years due to the amount of work required to implement program.
- Support has been sought from the Member for Leichhardt Warren Entsch for meetings with relevant Ministers/Senators in Canberra in August. Briefings have also been provided to State Members and meetings with Ministers are planned in Brisbane in October. Stakeholders have agreed to provide letters of support for the program.
- I.Gordon noted that the original funding was for a 10-year eradication program and it's important that we are providing an end date for the expected eradication, clarity about why we need ongoing funding and we are on track for eradication. L.Karger informed directors the program is on track for eradication and that the funding would be used to continue the program, finalise spot treatments as a clean up and implement the necessary monitoring effort.
- L.Shirreffs indicated the importance timing before an election is called, that the 50:50 split (regarding funding source i.e., State, Commonwealth) is important, and the creation of jobs and training is a benefit of the program.
- S.Driml noted it is important to note that the progress is reflective of the predicted results of the cost benefit analysis.

Resolution

The Board **endorsed** the proposed funding plan to seek ongoing funding to continue the Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program.

4.4 Regional Forum Update

S.Salmeron-Rodriguez briefed the Board on planning for the Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples Regional Forum:

- The Regional Forum is scheduled for 23-25 July.
- Directors reviewed the draft agenda.
- The Rainforest Aboriginal People's Think Tank (RAPTT) will be seeking Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' and Regional Agreement signatories endorsement of the draft Supplementary Agreement to refresh the Regional Agreement. There will also be discussions about how the Path to Treaty fits in with delivering the refresh of the Regional Agreement.

Resolution

The Board **endorsed** the key developments with the planning of the 2021 Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' Regional Forum.

4.5 18th Cassowary Awards update

J.Wormald briefed the Board on the current status of planning for the Cassowary Awards:

- The total value of sponsorship is now \$17,000.
- Up to 200 guests will be in attendance.
- No confirmation of either Minister Ley or Minister Scanlon's attendance yet.
- ABC Far North Radio is on board as a supporting media partner.
- The event will be COVID-19 compliant with online registration through Eventbrite and a QR Code at the entrance.
- A nominal ticket price will not be charged and a complimentary drink will not be provided as previously planned as the cost of administering it will outweigh financial gain.

Resolution

The Board **noted** the update on the 18th Cassowary Awards.

5.0 General Business

5.1 Board Communique #115

Resolution

The Board **approved** the Communique for Meeting 115 and endorsed the communique distribution list.

5.2 Other business

- L.Shirreffs advised the Board that with the support of the Hon Warren Entsch, Federal Member for Leichhardt, the Authority is preparing a business case that looks at the history of funding and resources, provides a clear indicator of the changing expectations and obligations, and adequately covers expanding roles and responsibilities.
- L.Shirreffs position on the Board will end in September 2021 and two Director positions (I Gordon and P Rist) in November 2021. All three will need to be filled this year. The recruitment process for the Indigenous female director is still in progress.
- L. Shirreffs expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the Board and visitors, to the Eastern Kuku Yalanji Traditional Custodians for their warm welcome and for sharing their experiences and learnings. The Board was warmly welcomed onto Country with a smoking ceremony and had the opportunity to meet with Traditional Owners, the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation, DES and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships to learn more about the Bama's aspirations of Country and proposed joint management activities for the Daintree National Park, Ngalba Bulal National Park, Black Mountain National Park and the sea Country, Hope Islands National Park.

The next Board Meeting on the 4-5 August 2021 will be a virtual meeting

Board Meeting 115 closed at 2:53 pm



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Ms Leslie Shirreff PSM
Chair

Date 8/07/2021