

## Partners

The Wet Tropics Management Authority is a small organisation that relies on the commitment and cooperation of its partners in government, the community and in industry to ensure that the goals of the World Heritage Convention are achieved in the wet tropics.

Some of the most important partners for the Authority in its work are:

- **Land owners and managers**
- **Local government**
- **State and Commonwealth environmental agencies**
- **Universities, research institutions and schools**
- **Rainforest Aboriginal people**
- **The tourism industry**
- **Regional community organisations.**

## Governance

The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors comprising a chairperson, five non executive directors and the Executive Director. Two Board positions are reserved for Rainforest Aboriginal people.

Non-executive directors are appointed by the Queensland Governor in Council upon the nomination of the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments. The Executive Director manages the staff and resources of the Authority and is accountable to the Board.

In turn, the Board is accountable to Queensland and Australian Government Ministers through the Wet Tropics Ministerial Council.

Copies of the strategic plan are available at:

<http://www.wettropics.gov.au/wtma-strategic-plan>

Front Images: Wet Tropics Images/ Mahogany Glider/Skyrail/Dilly bag - S.Nowakowski/WTMA staff  
Inside: S.Nowakowski

To discover more about your Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and how you can help care for this irreplaceable ancient wonder, simply contact:



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# STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2018



The Wet Tropics Management Authority's Strategic Plan sets out the business directions of the Authority for the five years from 2013-2018.

## Our Mission

Lead, inspire, advise and support the Australian and global community to protect and share the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area in perpetuity.

summary

Artwork: Yunbah - Water Python, 2010 by Jirrbal artist  
Tonya Grant courtesy of Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre, Cardwell.

Strategic Goal	Objective
The <b>Outstanding Universal Value</b> of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is protected and maintained consistent with Australia's obligation under the World Heritage Convention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The condition of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, benchmarked against its Outstanding Universal Value, is maintained or improved.</li> <li>The regulatory and planning regime effectively and efficiently manages risks to the values of the World Heritage Area</li> <li>The contributions of the Authority and management agencies and community organisations are coordinated in support of the values of the World Heritage Area</li> </ul>
<b>Communities derive benefit and value from the World Heritage Area</b> , are effectively involved in planning and management and their stewardship of the World Heritage Area is recognised and supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities have opportunities to make influential contributions to planning and policy decisions for the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area</li> <li>Communities have opportunities to make well-supported voluntary contributions to conservation or presentation of the Area</li> <li>Communities have easy access to accurate and useful information about the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and its management</li> <li>The contribution of communities to the management of the World Heritage Area is recognised and celebrated</li> </ul>
<b>Rainforest Aboriginal People</b> are supported in expressing their knowledge, culture and management practices on country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rights, aspirations, knowledge, culture and management practices of Traditional Owners are incorporated into all aspects of management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area</li> <li>Traditional Owners are supported to fulfil their responsibilities to their country and be engaged in its management</li> <li>Rainforest Aboriginal people are supported in their pursuit of World Heritage Listing for the Wet Tropics for its cultural values</li> <li>Rainforest Aboriginal people have opportunities for cultural, social and economic development based on their traditional country</li> </ul>
The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is used, enjoyed and celebrated as the <b>World's finest learning landscape</b> for tropical rainforest and its sustainable management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area is recognised as a globally significant site for research into rainforest ecology, management and societies</li> <li>Research investment is directed to research questions that are relevant to the management and policy needs of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area</li> <li>Research findings are presented and communicated in ways that maximise uptake and impact for management and policy</li> <li>Knowledge from a wide variety of formal and informal sources is respected and shared for the benefit of the World Heritage Area and its communities</li> <li>Land managers and communities are active participants in research and learning processes</li> </ul>
World Heritage Area values are supported and presented through <b>sustainable tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed the Wet Tropics into the National Landscapes Program and take full advantage of the opportunities it provides</li> <li>Achieve world class presentation of the environment and cultural values of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area</li> <li>Secure new investment for the Wet Tropics to renew and refresh tourism and presentation infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>Enduring partnerships</b> enhance the integrity of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, its presentation and its function in the life of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnerships align and amplify efforts that support conservation of the World Heritage Area and the interests of its communities</li> <li>Regional partners collaborate and provide coordinated, consistent advice to and engagement with governments and other decision-makers in support of Wet Tropics communities</li> <li>Resource allocation efficiencies and synergies are gained through cooperation and collaboration that places the wet tropics region at the forefront of multi-level adaptive governance globally</li> </ul>
The Wet Tropics Management Authority is an <b>accountable and capable</b> organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A trusted and respected organisation within the regional community and among policy makers</li> <li>An informed, responsive, professional organisation that provides relevant, accurate, timely and useful advice to Ministers and to its partners and stakeholders about the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area</li> <li>High standards of governance and decision making by a well-functioning Board</li> <li>A capable, learning workforce, that is well supported and widely valued for its contributions</li> <li>High standards of budget and financial management, ensuring resources are allocated for best effect</li> <li>Full compliance with all relevant laws and administrative policies of the Queensland and Australian governments</li> </ul>



*In developing this strategy and in the conduct of its work, the Wet Tropics Management Authority recognises and pays its respects to the Traditional Owners of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The Authority recognises that the landscape that we value so much today is the result of the stewardship of the Rainforest Aboriginal peoples who have been present in these lands for over 40,000 years.*

