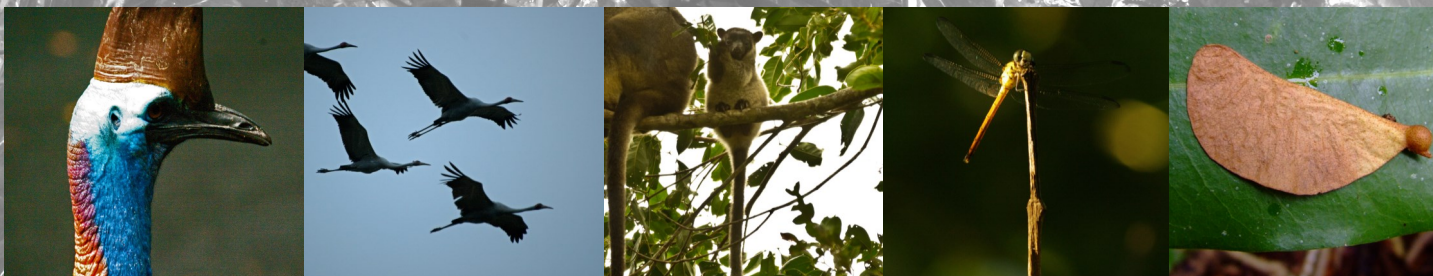


# Natural Assets Stewardship Accord



**2019-2024**

**Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils**

# FNQROC NATURAL ASSETS STEWARDSHIP ACCORD

## The Parties to this Agreement

Being parties to the Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils

*Pursuant to the regional priorities identified within [FNQROC strategic economic priority #3; FNQROC Animal Management & Wildlife Stewardship Policy Framework](#) and the [FNQROC Our Natural Assets, Regional Strategic Framework](#) and within individual councils corporate plans and supporting strategies.*

## Preamble

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The natural assets of Far North Queensland are central to our culture, well-being and prosperity. They form the mainstay of our region's economy and productivity and provide for us a tropical lifestyle which is as unique as it is diverse.

The combined role of governance, operations, policy and strategy mean local governments are well placed to bring to bear positive influence and support for our communities in respecting and managing our natural assets and environment.

The FNQROC's foundation of regional advocacy, resource sharing and collaboration across councils provide an established platform, which enables unique opportunities for joint learnings, innovation, leadership, technical excellence and partnerships with our collective community. (Our natural assets, regional strategic framework, FNQROC).

Respecting our natural assets and upholding the integrity of the areas unique bioregions is important for the sustainable economic growth and development of FNQ. A changing climate and land use impacts on water quality are recognised as major threats to the region's natural assets. (2017-2021 Strategic economic priority #3, FNQROC)

Councils recognise that healthy, resilient ecosystems are essential for sustainable economic growth and healthy communities. A collaborative approach between local government, the State and Federal governments and industry is essential in ensuring the value of our natural assets and environment is retained now and into the future to support ongoing economic growth. (2017-2021 Strategic economic priority #3, FNQROC)

*Have agreed as follows:*

## **Article 1**

### **Principles**

This Accord is underpinned by the following key principles:

1.1 The diverse natural, cultural and social values of our natural assets are maintained and are resilient to the future risks they might face. (Our natural assets, regional strategic framework, FNQROC).

1.2 Councils have the operational and institutional capacity to work with our communities to manage our natural assets sustainably. (Our natural assets, regional strategic framework, FNQROC).

1.3 The FNQROC strives for excellence and leadership in the development and delivery of partnerships, strategies and actions to ensure our natural assets are sustained and managed into the future.

## **Article 2**

### **Shared Goals**

2.1 Deliver a net gain in habitat extent and condition in lands and reserves managed by local government.

2.2 Establish regional natural asset stewardship benchmarking within the FNQROC and across member councils.

2.3 Councils have a developed understanding and commitment to improving animal management and wildlife stewardship outcomes across relevant areas of operation.

## **Article 3**

### **Key Actions**

3.1 Establish a regional environmental accounting report card to report on the delivery of key projects, highlight local government investment and measure progress against goals for improved natural asset stewardship across member councils and the region.

3.2 Actively support councils Biosecurity, (Domestic) Animal Management, Land Use Planning, and Operational delivery to sustain and protect our natural assets and significant wildlife.

3.3 Advocate for the resources, planning and legislative tools required for councils and their communities to provide stewardship and appropriate management of our natural assets.

## **Article 4**

### **Duration, Amendment and Review of the Accord**

4.1 This Accord commences once it is adopted by the FNQROC Board by vote at an ordinary meeting.

4.2 The Accord will continue in effect for five years from the date it is adopted, or until all of the parties agree to terminate the Accord or prepare another document which replaces this Accord.

4.3 This Accord can be amended by agreement of all parties. Any amendments to the accord must be approved by the FNQROC Board by vote at an ordinary meeting.

## **Article 5**

### **Dispute Resolution Process**

5.1 Any disputes in relation to this Accord will be submitted as a notice in writing to the FNQROC Executive Officer and resolved within the agenda of the next scheduled FNQROC meeting.

5.2 If the parties fail to resolve the dispute within 1 month of the agenda item, a mediator agreed between the parties will be appointed to resolve the dispute.

5.3 For the purposes of this article 5, a dispute will have arisen between the parties when a party gives notice to that effect to the other party as outlined in 5.1

## **Article 6**

### **Notices**

6.1 Notices must be in writing and may be delivered by email, by prepaid postage or by hand to the parties at the address specified in Article 7 or other address subsequently notified by a party to the other. Notices will be deemed to be given –

- (a) two (2) days after deposit in the mail with postage prepaid;
- (b) Immediately upon delivery by hand;
- (c) Immediately upon delivery by email.


**Article 7**

**Addresses for Notices**

Attention: FNQROC Executive Officer  
Post: PO Box 359, CAIRNS, QLD 4870  
Email: [d.irvine@fnqroc.qld.gov.au](mailto:d.irvine@fnqroc.qld.gov.au)

**Signatories to this Accord**

**Organisation:** Cairns Regional Council

**Name:** BOB MANNING..... **Signature:** 

**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

**Organisation:** Carpentaria Shire Council

**Name:** TAEK BARDEN..... **Signature:** 


**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

**Organisation:** Cassowary Coast Regional Council

**Name:** JOHN KEREMASTOS..... **Signature:** 

**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

**Organisation:** Cook Shire Council

**Name:** PETER SCOTT..... **Signature:** 

**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

**Organisation:** Croydon Shire Council

**Name:** Trevor Pickering..... **Signature:** 

**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

**Organisation:** Douglas Shire Council

**Name:** JULIA LEU..... **Signature:** 

**Position:** Mayor..... **Date:** 16/10/2019

Organisation: Etheridge Shire Council

Name: W. ANNAN Signature 

Position: MAYOR Date 16/10/2019

Organisation: Hinchinbrook Shire Council

Name: RAMON JAYO Signature 

Position: MAYOR Date 25/10/2019

Organisation: Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council

Name: JUNE PEARSON Signature 

Position: ACTING MAYOR Date 16/10/2019

Organisation: Mareeba Shire Council

Name: TOM CILMORE Signature 

Position: MAYOR Date 16/10/2019

Organisation: Tablelands Regional Council

Name: JOSE PARONELLA Signature 

Position: MAYOR Date 16/10/2019

Organisation: Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council

Name: ROSS HUGHES Signature 

Position: MAYOR Date 16/10/2019

Organisation: Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

Name: DESMOND TAYLEY Signature Desmond Tayley

Position: Mayor Date 16/10/2019



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