

Regional Mountain Bike Strategy Steering Committee

Meeting No	3
Meeting Name	Regional Mountain Bike Strategy Steering Committee (RMBSSC)
Date	8 August 2025
Time	9:00-12:00
Venue	MS Teams (Kingsford Room, Level 3, Cairns Regional Council, cnr. Spence and Draper St)
Meeting Contacts	Travis Sydes: 0448 852 732 t.sydes@fnqroc.qld.gov.au

Minutes

The purpose of this meeting is to guide the implementation of the [Tropical North Queensland Regional Mountain Bike Strategy 2024-2034](#).

1.	Acknowledgement of Country
2.	Attendance Cr Dave Bilner TRC, David Prete TCS/AFMBP, Toby Porter DETSI, Scot Wall DETSI, Rachel White CMBC, Benita Bittner CRC, Travis Sydes FNQROC
3.	Apologies Richard Blanchette CCRC, Sonya Frost CSC, Jeremy Lebeuf DSC, Naomi Rooker DS, Kristy Ghelfa CRC, Rudi De Faveri MMG,
4.	Guests
5.	Acceptance of previous minutes Moved: David Prete Seconded: Cr Dave Bilney
6.	Actions from previous meeting

Discussion relating to business arising from meeting #2

2.2 Trail auditing – regional Trail Vision training opportunity

Trail Vision audits have been completed for Atherton Forest and Smithfield. QPW also utilises an ESRI data collector app to audit trails and other assets. At this point in time QPW is investigating options for MTB trail management information management and auditing systems. The importance of collecting universal attributes and data interoperability was discussed.

As part of the recovery project for Atherton Forest trail audit training using Trail Vision will be undertaken by the Team Leader and VPG Trail Trainees as well as other club members. This could provide an opportunity for trail managers from across the region to undertake training at the same time. Training is delivered in a 2-day course and could accommodate up to 20 participants.

AFMP and TCS will initiate training when new team leader is in place and the Atherton Elev8 event has taken place.

Action: 1. Arrange a suitable date for Trail Vision auditing system training. 2. Support AFMBP in extending the involvement to other interested clubs, councils and agencies.

7	Draft terms of reference: The draft TOR was tabled for discussion.
8	<p>Updates around the room</p> <p>Cairns Mountain Bike Club Completing works from QRIDA funding. Busy with events season with club race and social events. Increase in visitors to trail system, will be collating FAQs to address common enquiries. In the process of updating the trail data on Trail Forks.</p> <p>Tablelands Cycle Sports/Atherton Forest MBP The club has busy preparing for rollout of \$1m disaster repair contract. Project management has been awarded to Blue Sky Trails, now going to tender for on ground works. A trail audit will be undertaken prior to works beginning on the ground. Preparations are underway for the 20th Anniversary of Atherton ELEV8XCM xc marathon at the end of the month.</p> <p>QPW Smithfield Mountain Bike Park expansion project is commencing. Due diligence Native Title and Cultural Heritage processes will be underway soon. A design process will be undertaken to develop guidelines for trail naming, communication, navigation and signage.</p> <p>TRC Council has undertaken advocacy to promote investment in Atherton Forest Mountain Bike Park and Tablelands wide investment in the region as a cycling destination. Principally TRC and TCS have been advocating for the investment in stage 2 of AFMBP seeking ~\$700,000 for preconstruction and cultural heritage due diligence. TRC is supporting AFMBP and VPG in the Trail Trainee program.</p> <p>CRC Council has been working with community to rollout active travel initiatives including cycle and pedestrian access improvements across the Cairns region. A new pump track facility was recently launched at Clifton Beach with additional facilities opening soon in Gordonvale and Brinsmead.</p> <p>Signage, local and regional consistency Discussion relating to signage and trail communication opportunities were discussed in relation to promoting individual trail networks as well as regional marketing. Approaches such as the subway style maps deployed at Derby were recommended in addition to acknowledging the importance of trail naming and branding in the promotion of trail networks.</p>

	<p>Action: Explore options for regionally consistent but locally distinct trail branding, signage and marketing. (Strategy actions: 1.4, 3.4, 3.8)</p> <p>Funding opportunities: Shimano Trail Borne Program was initiated globally last year with the first Australian project taking place in Derby, Tasmania. Uncertain of opportunities to broker for investment in the region.</p> <p>SRAM – Community Grants Program for 2025 is closed but the 2026 grants round is planned to open in September. Many of the inclusivity and engagement actions in the regional strategy will be eligible.</p>
9	<p>2025 workplan Travis provided a brief outline of current workplan focused on developing regional capacity for whole-of-life trail maintenance and establishing the adventure trails working group early 2026. FNQROC has been assisting with consolidating the current trail mapping for Smithfield prior to the expansion project getting underway. FNQROC made a submission to the Queensland Sport Strategy 2025 drawing on the recommendations from the regional mountain bike strategy.</p>
10	<p>Advocacy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication plan Travis provided an outline of the draft communication plan for the regional strategy. The purpose of the strategy is to increase visibility of the strategy to decision makers and community as well as supporting the individual interests and directions of clubs, councils, agencies and partners. Action: finalise draft and recirculate for any final comment. 2. Investment plan As part of the communication and advocacy for the region MTB infrastructure investment plan provides an overview of the status of MTB projects and supports advocacy asks for resources. 3. Outgoing correspondence – Submission to Queensland Sport Strategy 2025 (attached to minutes)
11	<p>Next meeting #4 Oct 17</p>
12	<p>Meeting close</p>

Actions arising from meeting #1		By who
1.1	<p>Draft Terms of Reference Action: 1. Table amended Terms of Reference to the Committee next meeting for adoption</p>	1. FNQROC, SC
1.2	<p>2025 workplan Action: 1. Consider/request on-one-on consultations/briefing to align works plan. 2. Maintain a watching brief on relevant grants and funding programs for strategy actions within the strategy. 3. Circulate date for 2025 Mountain Bike Forum when confirmed.</p>	1. SC 2. All 3. FNQROC

1.3	<p>Advocacy Action: 1. workshop advocacy strategies for implementation of investment priorities in individual hubs an across the region. 2. Identify and prioritise advocacy strategies and directions at next meeting</p>	<p>1. SC 2. SC</p>
2.1	<p>Terms of reference Action: incorporate the committee recommendations and circulate final TOR for adoption out of session.</p>	<p>1. FNQROC, Committee</p>
2.2	<p>Trail Vision audit system training Action: circulate dates Trail Vision training session when confirmed.</p>	<p>1. ACS, FNQROC</p>
2.3	<p>Advocacy Action: 1. Develop a communication plan to improve visibility and engagement with strategy implementation. 2. Update Mountain Bike Trail Infrastructure Plan</p>	<p>1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC, RMBSSC</p>
3.1	<p>Trail Vision audit system training (updated from action 2.2) Action: 1. Arrange a suitable date for Trail Vision auditing system training. 2. Support AFMBP in extending the involvement to other interested clubs, councils and agencies.</p>	<p>1. TCS, (FNQROC) 2. FNQROC</p>
3.2	<p>Communication plan Action: finalise draft and recirculate for any final comment.</p>	<p>FNQROC</p>
3.3	<p>Trail signage and branding Action: Explore options for regionally consistent but locally distinct trail branding, signage and marketing. (Strategy actions: 1.4, 3.4, 3.8)</p>	<p>1. MTBSC</p>