

# Regional Mountain Bike Strategy Steering Committee

<b>Meeting No</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Meeting Name</b>	<b>Regional Mountain Bike Strategy Steering Committee (RMBSSC)</b>
<b>Date</b>	17 October 2025
<b>Time</b>	9:00-12:00
<b>Venue</b>	MS Teams (Kingsford Room, Level 3, Cairns Regional Council, cnr. Spence and Draper St)
<b>Meeting Contacts</b>	Travis Sydes: 0448 852 732 <a href="mailto:t.sydes@fnqroc.qld.gov.au">t.sydes@fnqroc.qld.gov.au</a>

## Minutes

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

<b>1.</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Attendance</b> David Prete TCS, Naomi Rooker DSROPG, Rachel White CMBC, Tim Wong WTMA, Toby Porter QPWS, Benita Bittner CRC, Jodie Cross QPWS, Miki Bradley QPWS, Scott Wall QPWS, Travis Sydes FNQROC, Richard Blanchette, CCRC
<b>3.</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Cr Dave Bilney TRC, Rod Johnson R&RCC, Rudi de Faveri MMG,
<b>4.</b>	<b>Guests</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Acceptance of previous minutes</b> Moved: David Prete Seconded: Naomi Rooker
<b>6.</b>	<b>Actions from previous meeting</b>

### Discussion relating to business arising from meeting #3

#### 3.1 – Trail audit system training.

Trail audit training will cost ~\$5,500 for a small group. It was recommended that range of users for different locations would provide better value for participants. Contour Works are beginning a full audit of Atherton Forest shortly so club members will initially learn some of the process in the field. Timing for the delivery of a structured course will align with the appointment of the new Team Leader for the Trail Trainee program; and commencement of refurbishment works in the new year.

8

### 8.1 SRAM Community Grants Program – regional/local submissions? -

<https://www.sram.com/en/life/culture/community/applications>

The committee discussed options for grants which deliver club needs and align to the strategy. Adaptive and inclusive programs for youth, women and girls were discussed. TSC has submitted an application for a project targeting adaptive trail users for Atherton Forest.

Future program ideas (2026) discussed include;

- Multi day event - Bowhead etc available for a come and try day or trail reviews by adaptive riders.
- E-bike beginner sessions – come and try and activating e bikes for accessibility
- Keying MTB accessibility in with accessibility and mobility programs with councils

**Action:** Prepare some ideas for a project which aligns to the strategy aimed at targeting new riders and participation.

There is no additional information released on Shimano's International Trail Born project yet. Triple 3 at Blue Derby in Tasmania is the first trail to be completed in the program.

### 8.2 Updates from around the room

**Dept Sport.** – The Queensland Sport Strategy is due for release in mid-November.

**Atherton Forest MTB Park** – Contour Works have been awarded the contract for the disaster recovery refurbishment, they will focus on the blue trail network and the club and trail trainees will manage the green trails. VPG has been awarded funding for the next round of the Trail Trainee Program.

The ELEV8 XC Marathon was held at the end of August. The Club will undertake a review of the event in the new year. Dates have already been set for the 29 August for 2026.

**QPWS/DETSI-** Smithfield expansion project is in full swing with the project team appointed and tender for the design stage being processed. Contractors to deliver the work for the recovery funding for Atherton Forest has been awarded. Wangetti stage 2 has been confirmed as part of the Queensland 2045 Tourism strategy. Twin Bridges Trail Track is set to reopen in 2026 with track clearing underway, one culvert crossing is complete with the second underway.

**Cairns MTB Club** – A community survey was undertaken to inform the design of elements of the Smithfield Mountain Bike Park expansion. An initial summary of the data is available, and more will be released soon. The final QRIDA recovery works are being rolled out in the park. The State DH Championships will be hosted at Smithfield (unconfirmed date 15/16 August). Still waiting for word on Crankworx.

**Cairns Regional Council** – the Loidan Park Jump Track in Brinsmead is now open and receiving rave reviews. Council has also launched two new pump tracks in Gordonvale (Pyramid Parklands Gijura) and Clifton Beach (Evergreen Park) An RFQ is now out for a new track at Rainy Mountain Park, Smithfield. Council is continuing its investment in cycle ways and walking tracks linking Cairns.

**Cassowary Coast (Mission Beach Multi-Sport Club)-** Cardwell, Girramay Business plan is complete and should be released soon. Application has been made for the resources to undertake detailed design for the trail precinct

	<p>The Ona-Mission Multi-sport has just concluded and was a success despite rescheduling due to a date clash with the Gran Fondo.</p> <p><b>Discussion points:</b>  Events insurance and first aid costs as well volunteer administration of permitting, and reporting are challenging grass roots events. This is in addition to an increasingly crowded calendar each year.  Event dates are being shared across and coordinated across clubs but may not be visible to local and visiting riders.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> 1. establish an annual events calendar for race meets and events to allow for improved cross-promotion. 2. Seek some direction for OQ in support for clubs and organisations hosting regional events.</p> <p><b>8.3 Trail audit training</b> – see item 3.1 in business arising from meeting #3  <b>8.4 TrailForks update</b> – Smithfield MTB trails are now updated in TrailForks so now all three operational networks are mapped.</p> <p><b>8.5 EOI development for Adventure Trails Working Group (release November 2025 for convening early 2026)</b> - the committee discussed key points of the scope and recommended organisations and individuals to participate in the adventure trails working group. It was agreed to draw together a core group of up to 12 members and communicate with a wider interest group and report back to the committee.  <b>Action:</b> draft Terms of Reference and EOI and circulate to the committee</p>
9	<b>2025 workplan</b>
10	<p><b>Advocacy</b>  FLOW MTB Article - <a href="https://flowmountainbike.com/features/fnq-trail-mecca-upto-285-km-of-trail-in-the-works-across-smithfield-atherton-davies-creek-more/">https://flowmountainbike.com/features/fnq-trail-mecca-upto-285-km-of-trail-in-the-works-across-smithfield-atherton-davies-creek-more/</a></p>
11	<p><b>Next meeting</b>  Friday 13 February, Friday 26 June</p>
12	<b>Meeting close</b>

### 13 Actions arising

Actions arising from meeting #1-4		By who
1.1	<p><b>Draft Terms of Reference</b>  <b>Action:</b> 1. Table amended Terms of Reference to the Committee next meeting for adoption</p>	1. FNQROC, SC
1.2	<p><b>2025 workplan</b>  <b>Action:</b> 1. Consider/request on one-on-one 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><b>Advocacy</b>  <b>Action:</b> 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>	1. SC 2. SC
2.1	<p><b>Terms of reference</b>  <b>Action:</b> incorporate the committee recommendations and circulate final TOR for adoption out of session.</p>	1. FNQROC, Committee

<b>2.2</b>	<b>Trail Vision audit system training</b> <b>Action:</b> circulate dates Trail Vision training session when confirmed.	1. ACS, FNQROC
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Advocacy</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Develop a communication plan to improve visibility and engagement with strategy implementation. 2. Update Mountain Bike Trail Infrastructure Plan	1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC, RMBSSC
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<b>3.2</b>	<b>Communication plan</b> <b>Action:</b> finalise draft and recirculate for any final comment.	2. FNQROC
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Trail Vision audit system training (updated from action 2.2)</b> <b>Action:</b> 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.	3. TCS, (FNQROC) FNQROC
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Trail signage and branding</b>  <b>Action:</b> Explore options for regionally consistent but locally distinct trail branding, signage and marketing. (Strategy actions: 1.4, 3.4, 3.8)	1. MTBSC
<b>4.1</b>	<b>SRAM Community Fund</b> <b>Action:</b> Prepare some ideas for a project which aligns to the strategy aimed at targeting new riders and participation.	1. FNQROC
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Events calendar and hosting challenges</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. establish an annual events calendar for race meets and events to allow for improved cross-promotion. 2. Seek some direction for OQ in support for clubs and organisations hosting regional events.	1. MTBSC 2. FNQROC
<b>4.3</b>	<b>EOI development for Adventure Trails Working Group (release November 2025 for convening early 2026)</b> <b>Action:</b> draft Terms of Reference and EOI and circulate to the committee (out of session)	1. FNQROC

#### Key dates, 2026

<b>July</b>	4-10 The Amazons, 18 <sup>th</sup> Paluma Push
<b>August</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Interschool Round 1 Atherton, 15-16 State DH Smithfield, 29 <sup>th</sup> ELEV8 XCM
<b>September</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Ona Mission, 10-13 Reef to Reef, 20 <sup>th</sup> RRR