

# Taskforce Weekly Bugle



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### **Natural Heritage Trust – Extension Interim Financial Agreement**

The Interim Financial Agreement (IFA) between the Queensland and Australian Governments for the Natural Heritage Trust - Extension provided funding of up to \$16 million for 2003/2004. An additional \$11.39 million is now to be made available for the regional component for 2003/2004 through a modified IFA. The focus for distribution of this new funding will be on pre-accreditation investments that have a high importance to achieve sustainable natural resource management in a region.

Regional bodies have already developed draft proposals which were considered by the JSC on 11 December. JSC will soon advise regional bodies of those proposals that need to be developed for full consideration by 11 February 2004 pending signing of the revised IFA. These projects will be emerging priorities in the NRM Regional Plans and Investment Strategies or linked to existing plans or strategies.

For further information contact David Wildermuth on Ph. 07 3224 2475.

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### **Insurance renewal for current NR&M endorsed community groups**

Insurance has been in the headlines a lot over the past year, and NR&M has some positive news for community groups. The insurance for current community groups endorsed by NR&M has been renewed. There are three insurance policies that cover Public and Products Liability Insurance, Personal Accident Insurance and Association Liability Insurance. The types of community groups include some Landcare groups, Catchment Management groups and regional bodies. For more information, please contact Brenda Walhain on 07 3224 7505.

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### **Condamine Conduit**

The Condamine Alliance has distributed the second edition of its monthly newsletter 'Condamine Conduit'. This month's edition welcomes aboard the new Chair of the Alliance, Dick Browne; outlines how their Integrated NRM Plan is progressing; details

the Community Resource Information System (CRIS); and introduces three new members of staff at the Alliance.

If you would like to receive future editions of the Condamine Conduit please contact Susan Cullinan, Alliance PR Consultant, via email [susan.cullinan@condaminealliance.com.au](mailto:susan.cullinan@condaminealliance.com.au)

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## **Fitzroy plan release**

The Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA) is pleased to announce the release of the Draft Central Queensland Strategy for Sustainability 2 (CQSS2), for broad community comment. The CQSS2 has been developed through the FBA over the past year, by the people of Central Queensland. It will guide the future management of natural resources in the region, and investment from Australian and Queensland Government funding programs such as the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality, and the Natural Heritage Trust - Extension.

The community has been extensively involved in developing the plan, and targets that FBA aim to achieve over the coming years. Different sectors of the community, such as agriculture, conservation, indigenous and local government, have worked together to develop a common vision for the region. FBA extend their appreciation to those who have given of their valuable time at target setting workshops, and by providing input throughout the process. The plan contains targets and actions for improved condition of land, water, biodiversity, and our rivers, seas and coastlines.

FBA encourages members of the community to comment on the plan. It can be downloaded from the FBA website at [www.fba.org.au](http://www.fba.org.au) The draft is currently being printed in hard copy, and will be distributed in the very near future. If you do not receive your copy by Wednesday 17 December, please contact the FBA office on 07 4921 2843.

Comments on the draft plan are appreciated as soon as possible, and not later than Friday 30 January, 2004. They should be directed to:

Suzie Christensen via email [s.m.christensen@cqu.edu.au](mailto:s.m.christensen@cqu.edu.au)

or

Mike Merrin  
CEO  
Fitzroy Basin Association  
Bldg 354 Smart City  
Central Qld University  
Rockhampton Q 4700  
Ph: 07 4921 2843  
Fax: 07 4921 2860

FBA acknowledges the financial and in-kind support of the Queensland and Australian Governments to develop the plan, under the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality.

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