

Regional NRM Bugle



KEY MESSAGES 14/05/04

- **Interim Financial Agreement**
- **Performance Reporting**
- **Transitional Funding Arrangements**
- **Outstanding NHT Commitments**
- **Round One 2004-05 Envirofund**
- **Regional Information Sessions**

Interim Financial Agreement (IFA)

The vast majority of Schedule 2s for the National Heritage Trust (NHT) IFA Extension Projects have been received. Contracts are currently being developed to progress signing. For further information, please contact John Keating on 07 3224 2389 or John.Keating@nrm.qld.gov.au

Performance Reporting

A number of bodies have struggled to meet their deadlines for the biannual performance reporting. This biannual statement is critical for the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) to reduce the red tape of funds flow as it allows us to avoid an end of quarter hiatus between progress reporting and funds flow.

As Queensland's Co-Chair, Allan Dale firmly stresses the importance of completing quality reports on time, and to do these in close cooperation with Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs). Ideally, regional bodies and RCGs should be cooperating to produce best quality agreed reports. This minimises the need for the JSC to seek additional advice from RCGs once the Performance Report is lodged to the JSC Secretariat. If your body is expecting difficulties in completing reporting, please seek early assistance from your Regional Strategic Coordinators. Both regional bodies and RCGs should keep their State/Commonwealth Regional Liaison Officers informed about progress and problems. For further information, please contact Suzanne Hoverman on (07) 3239 3884 or Suzanne.Hoverman@nrm.qld.gov.au

Transitional Funding Arrangements

All regional bodies should be considering the financial risks they face in transitioning from their current funding to investment under their future Regional Investment Strategy. There will be no additional funding rounds but bodies can use the Pre-Accreditation Investment Mechanism to ensure a smooth transition. Progressing pre-

accreditation investment again means tracking through an agreed approach with your RCG, and approaching the JSC initially with a simple statement of what is proposed. For further information, please contact Rosey Crisp on 07 3224 7704 or Rosey.Crisp@nrm.qld.gov.au

Outstanding NHT Commitments

Please be aware that if your regional body has outstanding reporting obligations with respect to NHT1 funds, you could encounter difficulties accessing future funding. Please ensure you have no outstanding NHT commitments or obligations and contact your RCG Chair to progress finalisation. For further information, please contact John Keating on 07 3224 2389 or John.Keating@nrm.qld.gov.au

Round One 2004-05 Envirofund

The Australian Government has extended Envirofund into 2004-5. Community groups can apply for grants from a few hundred dollars up to \$30,000 to carry out on-ground actions to target local problems such as water quality, destruction of native vegetation, salinity and coastal erosion. Applications for funding from the first round of Envirofund for 2004-05 are now open. Closing date for round one applications is Friday 9 July 2004. Applications for the second round are expected to be in September/October. For Guidelines and Application Forms visit <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/index.html>

Regional Information Sessions

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting regional information sessions associated with the release of the 2003 State of the Environment Report and the National Pollutant Inventory. There is no cost to participate but RSVPs are essential as numbers are limited. To register or for more information, please contact Hannah Beaumont on 07 3227 7332 or soe.release@epa.gov.au

The Brisbane session will be from 1pm - 4.30pm on May 19 at the Carlton Crest Hotel Roma Street (cnr Ann Street) Brisbane and will include the official release of the State of the Environment Report

Other sessions will be from 9am - 12.30pm at the following locations:

Cairns - Pacific International 43 Esplanade Cairns - 21 May

Townsville - Southbank Convention Centre 23 Palmer Street Townsville - 24 May

Mackay - Windmill Hotel and Reception Centre 5 Highway Plaza Road Mackay - 25 May

Sunshine Coast - Mooloolaba Surf Club The Esplanade Mooloolaba - 28 May

Rockhampton - Department of Primary Industries Conference Facilities 25 Yeppoon Road Rockhampton - 31 May

Gladstone - Grand Hotel 79 Goondoon St Gladstone (Phoenix Room)- 1 June

Bundaberg - Quality Hotel Burnett Riverside 7 Quay St Bundaberg - 2 June

Toowoomba - Cathedral Centre 123 Neil St Toowoomba - 4 June

Gold Coast - Legends Hotel Level 1 cnr Gold Coast Highway & Laycock St Surfers Paradise - 7 June

Emerald - Maraboon Tavern Esmond St (cnr Hospital Rd) Emerald - 8 June

Longreach - Longreach Civic & Cultural Centre 926A Eagle St Longreach (Fairmont Room) - 9 June

Mount Isa - Mt Isa Civic Centre 23 West St Mount Isa - 11 June

We welcome your input and feedback on this newsletter. If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions please contact

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