



**NORTHERN PENINSULA AREA REGIONAL COUNCIL
2010-2020**

ENVIRONMENTAL
Management Plan

DOCUMENT AMENDMENT RECORD

NPARC MANAGEMENT PLAN				DOCUMENT NUMBER		
Page	Issue Date	Rev.	Description of Amendment	Prepared By	Checked by	Approved by
	3/12/2010	A	Issue for Council review	SW	PL	KJ

© Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd All Rights Reserved

Copyright in the whole and every part of this document belongs to Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd and may not be used, sold, transferred, copied or reproduced in whole or in part in any manner or form or on any media to any person other than by agreement with Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd

This document has been based on Cardno Total Management Planning Templates. This document has been prepared specifically for Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council. Use of this layout and proformas within this document are covered by Cardno copyright and is only offered for the specific Local Government for which it was prepared. This document is produced by Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd solely for the benefit of and use by the client in accordance with the terms of the retainer. Cardno does not and shall not assume any responsibility or liability whatsoever to any third party arising out of any use or reliance by any third party on the content of this document.

Table of Contents

1	PURPOSE OF THE PLAN	1
2	POLICY	1
3	CONSTRAINTS AND INFLUENCES	1
4	CURRENT STATUS	3
4.1	Overview.....	3
4.2	Care for County Rangers.....	3
4.3	Local Laws.....	3
4.4	Environmentally Relevant Activities	4
4.5	Working with other Agencies	4
5	FUTURE DIRECTION	5
5.1	Management Issues	5
5.2	Risk Issues	5
5.3	Business Improvement Opportunities	5

APPENDIX A – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to provide an overview of Council's policies and activities related to environmental management obligations and aspirations.

2 POLICY

Council is committed to meeting environmental protection and preservation obligations and is taking a leading role in regional activities related to meeting long-term and sustainable environmental management objectives.

3 CONSTRAINTS AND INFLUENCES

A summary of the constraints and influences impinging upon NPARC is given in Table 1.

Table 1 Constraints and influences impinging upon NPARC in respect to environmental management

Influence Factor	Description
Key Legislation and statutory requirement	<p><i>Environmental Protection</i></p> <p>Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act) has a number of subordinate legislation items under including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 (EPR) ▪ Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2008 ▪ Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008 ▪ Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Policy 2000 ▪ Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2000 ▪ Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009. <p>The EP Act imposes a general environmental duty (section 319) on any person engaged in an activity that has the potential to cause environmental harm.</p> <p>The EP Act also imposes a duty to notify (section 320) upon any person who becomes aware that their activities, or the activities of somebody working with them (including sub-contractors) has caused or threatens to cause environmental harm that is not trivial.</p> <p>The EPR covers regulations for Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) environmentally relevant activities (ERAs), regulatory requirements for environmental management decisions, matters relating to environmental offences (regulated waste, contaminated land, noise, water contamination, air contamination, fuel suppliers).</p> <p><i>Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Policy 2000 and Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2000</i></p>

Influence Factor	Description
	<p>Waste Management objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polluter pays principle ▪ User pays principle ▪ Product stewardship principle <p>The Waste Management Regulation 2000 creates offences for littering and waste dumping, as well as providing a waste-tracking system through which specified wastes can be tracked, with data recorded on the generation, transportation and treatment of these waste throughout Queensland and Interstate.</p> <p>Local Laws</p> <p>Local Government Laws and Codes are available from the Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) website http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/local-government/index.php</p> <p>Model Local Laws exist for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community & Environmental Management (covering animal management, Council controlled areas, facilities and roads) ▪ Indigenous Community Land Management
Government Policy	The Environmental Protection Act 1994 (Qld) is the most important statement of government policy regarding environmental management. This Act imposes a general duty of care for all persons.
Proposed legislation or changes	The Indigenous <i>Cultural Heritage Act</i> proposed for 2011 will replace the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act (2003)</i> (Qld).
Community perceptions and aspirations	The community would like Council to manage environmentally resources sustainable while facilitating economic development.

4 CURRENT STATUS

4.1 Overview

In terms of day to day commitment to maintenance of a sustainable and healthy environment within the communities of the region, Council continues to:

- Maintain parks and reserves
- Provide a wheelie-bin garbage collection service
- Operate efficient and sustainable solid waste disposal areas
- Run a pet licensing program and provide incentives and programs for de-sexing dogs and cats
- Facilitate “clean up” days
- Facilitate community awareness of local environmental and sustainability issues
- Implement local laws and regulations aimed at improving environmental management

4.2 Care for County Rangers

Council, in association with the Apudthama Land Trust, manages a ranger program, which covers 600 kilometres of coastline and the traditional lands of the people native to the area. While funding still exists, the program is expanding, and has been very successful. Currently 11 rangers are employed and funding to move to 17 between 2012 and 2013 is planned.

Council recognises that up to 30 rangers are needed to properly act as guardians of the land and sea within the DOGIT and Land Trust areas, however the continuation and expansion of the program is dependent on grant funding. Rangers have 12 month work plans and each year decide on what needs to be done in the following year.

4.3 Local Laws

Council is currently drafting a number of local laws aimed at enhancing environmental outcomes including:

- Pest management
- Controlling litter

4.4 Environmentally Relevant Activities

Council undertakes a number of Environmentally Relevant Activities for which the Council has a licence under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 including:

- Solid Waste Disposal outside of Injinoo
- Wastewater disposal at Injinoo, New Mapoon, Bamaga
- Readymix batching facility, Injinoo (if >200t of concrete per year)

4.5 Working with other Agencies

Council works with a number of agencies to achieve environmental objectives including:

- Department of Environment and Resource Management
- Apudthama Land Trust
- Torres Strait Regional Authority
- Department of Infrastructure and Planning

5 FUTURE DIRECTION

5.1 Management Issues

Current issues and challenges facing management include:

- Having inadequate funding to resource environmental management activities
- Time resources and budget needed for coordination and working with environmental protection activities by other adjoining authorities
- Environmental damage caused by contaminated runoff
- Ongoing maintenance of the amenity, safety and appearance of community and public space
- Tourists can sometimes leave a lot of rubbish laying around or damage native flora
- Mosby Creek is in a poor state with a lot of rubbish in it and polluted by clay and oil
- The coral quays are a particularly sensitive part of the NPA environment
- There are no by-laws protecting our local environment.

5.2 Risk Issues

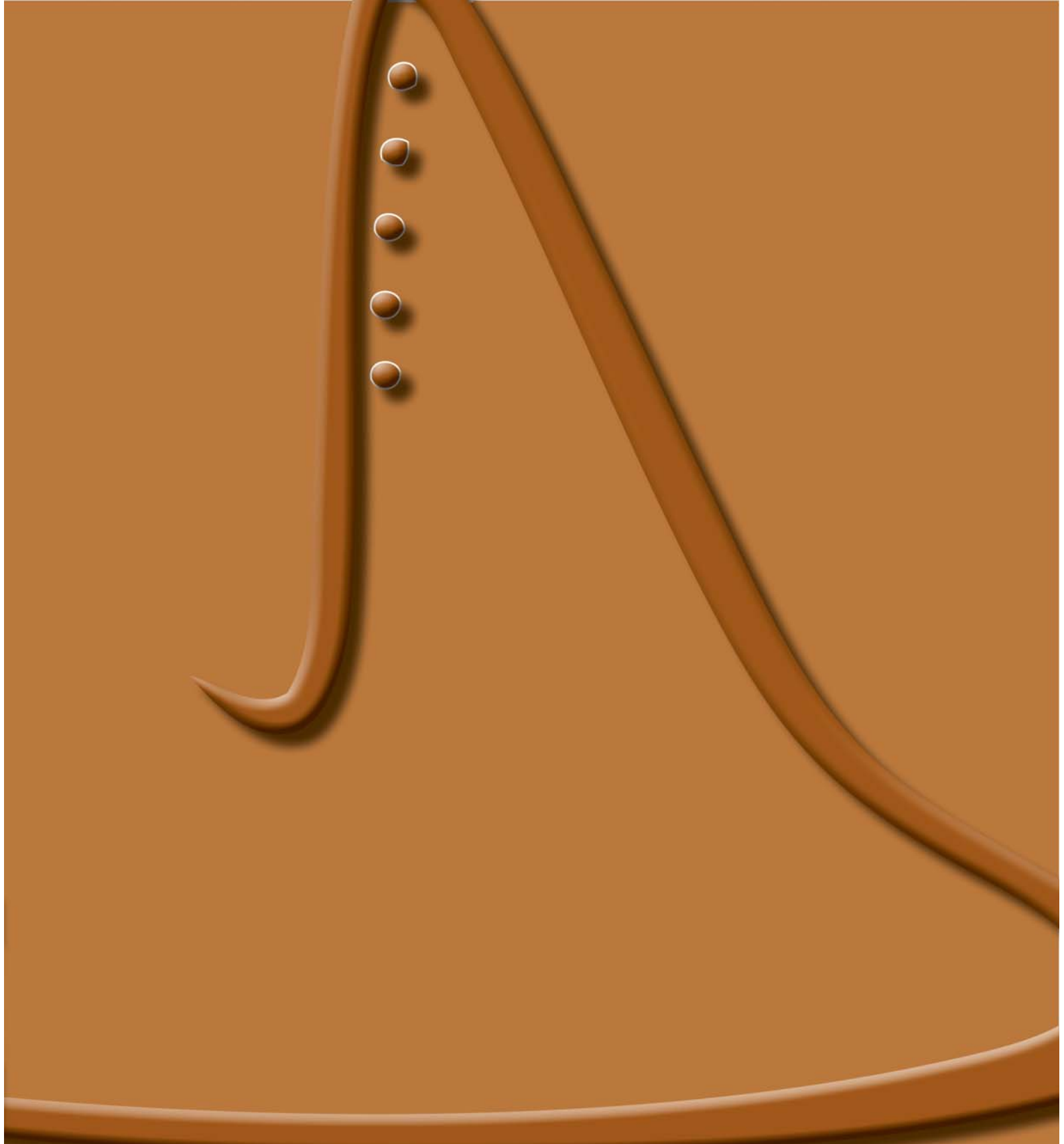
Current Extreme or high risks issues include:

- Uncontrolled spread of pests and weeds
- Pollution of waterways.

5.3 Business Improvement Opportunities

Identified business improvement opportunities include:

- Increase community awareness and opportunities for “environmental volunteers”
- Adoption of local laws to cover pests, rubbish, safety in parks and reserves



APPENDIX *A*
**SUPPORTING
INFORMATION**

Supporting and Reference Documents

1. Cape York Peninsula Marine and Coastal Natural Resource Management Action Plan, June 2006, Queensland Department of Communities, Cape York Community Engagement Group
2. Draft Cape York Peninsula Pest Management Plan 2006 – 2011 Cape York Peninsula Pest Management Advisory Group (CYPPMAG)
3. Land & Sea Management Strategy for Torres Strait, Torres Strait NRM Reference Group, November 2005.
4. Cape York Peninsula Natural Resource Management Plan Final Draft, 11 February 2005.
5. Cape York Peninsula Land Use Strategy (CYPLUS)
6. NPA Waste Management Strategic Plans for Queensland Communities 28 July 2010.
7. Wild Rivers Rangers Program
8. Land and Sea Management Plan for Torres Strait