

8. Action Plans

Table 8-1 lists actions to be implemented to maintain and enhance the condition of natural resources in the Haughton River Catchment. Figure 8-1 (following Table 8-1) is a generalisation of the process required to implement the key actions associated with this Plan.

Table 8-1 Action Plan for Integrated Catchment Management

Pressure	Action / Response	Resources
1 Information availability	1.1 Assist with plans and actions forwarded by the Burdekin Dry Tropics Board (BDTB).	HRCCC
	1.2 Formalise information sharing arrangements between the Haughton River Integrated Catchment Steering Committee (HRICSC)/ Haughton River Catchment Coordinating Committee (HRCCC) and the representative organisations.	HRICSC, HRCCC
	1.3 Appoint a Geographic Information System (GIS) manager/coordinator from one of the local governments represented on the HRICSC to act as custodian/librarian for all information collated by the Haughton ICMP development process and subsequent activities, and to facilitate access and distribution of the information in line with policy.	HRCCC
	1.4 Develop extension activities as integral parts of projects and programs undertaken or initiated by the HRICSC and/or HRCCC	HRCCC
	1.5 Take the opportunity to incorporate extension activities into areas of local government where public contact is already happening.	Loc.Govt
	1.6 Support the compilation of information on the cultural heritage values of the catchment with the view to integrating the information into catchment and other planning, conservation and management processes.	HRCCC, EPA
	1.7 Produce a compendium of incentives that can be used in a practical sense to assist implementation and marketing of natural resource management initiatives	HRCCC
	1.8 Work to fill identified information gaps including; baseline information for target setting, current and proposed project details, financial values of natural resource features, and the status of major industries sectors and potential benefits of changes to sector dynamics	HRCCC
	1.9 Develop locally relevant natural resource outcome and management action targets to compliment monitoring and review processes	HRCCC
2 Coordination levels	2.1 Decide on the structure/format for the HRCCC and develop and implement the necessary processes for the operation of that group	HRICSC
	2.2 Activate a HRCCC.	HRICSC
	2.3 Develop linkages to ensure workable arrangements with other community based natural resource planning and management groups.	HRCCC
	2.4 Develop a communication plan to ensure activities with & between groups are coordinated & resource efficient.	HRCCC
	2.5 Develop culturally appropriate protocols for HRCCC representation of Traditional Owners with interests in the Haughton River catchment based on the initial contact made with the indigenous groups during the development of this draft plan.	HRCCC
	2.6 Promote and support the formation of a Major Creek Landcare Catchment group as the local entity to coordinate natural resource management action in the Major Creek sub catchment.	HRCCC
	2.7 Support the existing Landcare groups within the Haughton catchment as part of a network working to improve natural resource values and management	HRCCC

Pressure		Action / Response	Resources
3	Land use change and development	3.1 Support HESROC ¹ to include local government planners in their forum to facilitate incorporation of regional, sub regional and catchment related natural resource management measures in local government strategic planning processes, and planning schemes	HRCCC
		3.2 Determine specific constraints to development within the Haughton River catchment based on land suitability criteria and principles of ecological sustainability and in conjunction with the HESROC planning group develop appropriate measures that could be included in planning schemes under the Integrated Planning Act. eg. living area standards for subdivision, change of agricultural intensity and development constraints in areas where natural resource hazards are known to exist such as erosion prone zones or salinity risk areas.	HRCCC
4	Unsustainable land management practices	4.1 Determine the sediment budget for the Haughton catchment & determine the 'hot spots' for initial remediation work	CSIRO
		4.2 Consolidate the available information on management practices for the agricultural industries in the Haughton River catchment and develop best practice guidelines suited to the catchment	HRCCC
		4.3 Develop, adapt or utilise industry specific training packages to promote the adoption of best management practices in the Haughton River catchment with particular emphasis on areas identified as 'hot spots' in action 4.1.	HRCCC
		4.4 Propose the upper Haughton catchment as a pilot project area to implement grazing management practices based on the best practice guidelines developed for the area and specifically the management of erosion through maintenance of pasture condition and groundcover, partitioning of homogeneous land units, management of riparian vegetation, and other identified methods.	HRCCC
5	Unsustainable water management practices	5.1 Investigate the interactions between surface water and groundwater resources in the Haughton River catchment and especially with regard to the areas downstream of the Haughton Main Channel (incl. Giru Benefited Area).	BDTB, CSIRO and others
		5.2 Review information from the Burdekin Water Resource Plan studies and Giru Flood Study, when available, to identify any land use management activities impacting the potential to sustainably manage water resources in the Haughton catchment.	HRCCC
		5.3 Adjust programs & projects to reflect knowledge gained from the review of newly acquired information.	HRCCC
		5.4 Support the Waterwatch program to enable the ongoing monitoring and analysis of surface water quality in the catchment.	HRCCC
6	Vegetation clearing and degradation	6.1 Facilitate the integration of the relevant sections of the Pest Management Plans for the four local government areas within the catchment in conjunction with other organisations with responsibilities for managing state land, public infrastructure land and associated corridors, and where appropriate involve individual landholders and community groups	HRCCC, Loc.Govt. and others
		6.2 Identify key habitat areas & linkages in the catchment by extending the work already undertaken by Townsville City Council	HRCCC
		6.3 Promote participation in Land for Wildlife & other voluntary conservation & native vegetation management programs.	HRCCC
		6.4 Determine the extent and condition of riparian vegetation in the catchment.	HRCCC
		6.5 Seek funding options for acquisition and management of habitat areas that are critical to the maintenance of biodiversity and habitat values within the catchment and surrounds	HRCCC

¹ HESROC NQ is North Qld (Health and Environment) Regional Organisation of Councils

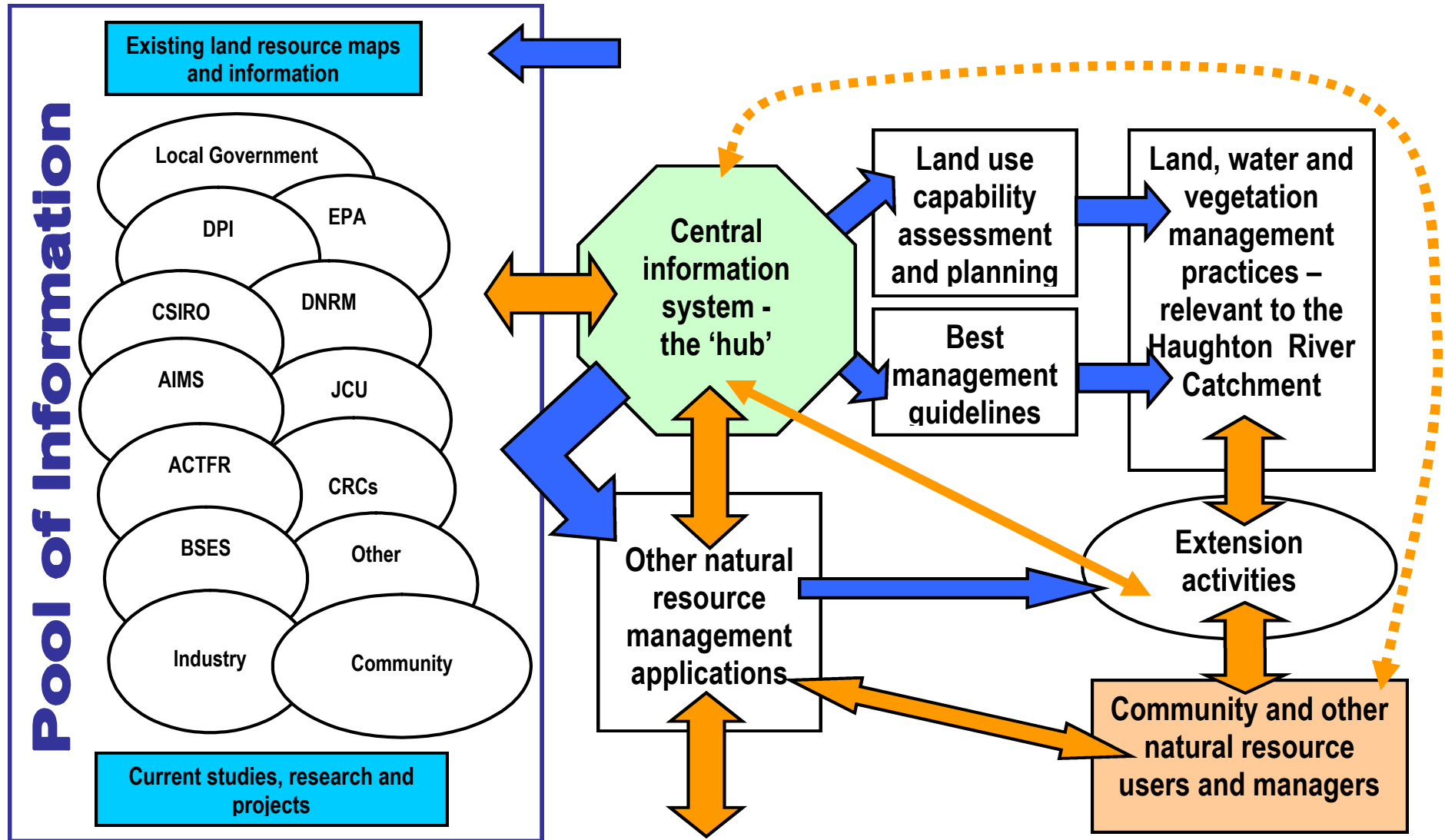


Figure 8-1 Generalised Process to Implement Key Actions