

# **INPUT INTO MANAGEMENT PROCESSES**

Especially in the last year, the RIVER Group has been frequently asked to participate in working and focus groups that were/are part of the development process of natural resource management strategies. A few recent examples:

## **Community Natural Resource Management and Environmental Conservation Strategy for the Townsville Coastal Plains**

The RIVER group has participated in working groups focusing on three of the four key areas: Coastal & Marine, Pollution, Wetlands and Riparian Issues.

## **Natural Resources and Environment Forum (NaREF)**

As a result of the working groups' participation in the development of the strategy named above, it was necessary to begin a group to oversee the implementation of the strategy. RIVER was invited to provide a representative to sit on the interim committee of the Natural Resources & Environment Forum, and our representative is the current chair of this interim committee.

## **Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Strategy Group (RSG)**

RIVER was invited to provide the third community representative from the Townsville/Thuringowa Subregion to sit on the Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Strategy Group (together with representatives from the Burdekin Rangelands and the Burdekin/Bowen Floodplains subregional groups). The RSG oversees the collation and integration of subregional community strategies into a regional strategy document. These regional natural resource management strategy documents will then be used to generate a document that highlights the priorities for action across Queensland. Such documents will be vital in ensuring appropriate allocation of funding to on-ground projects. The RSG reports to the Landcare and Catchment Management Committee in Brisbane.

## **RIVE~estiva I**

A RIVER representative has been asked to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> International River Management Symposium, a key event of Riverfestival, Brisbane's annual river celebration and report back to the Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Strategy Group. The program contained papers regarding a) Information and Empowerment - b) River Health - c) Local and Regional Planning - d) Institutional Arrangements, as well as case studies and community group presentations.

## **Waterwatch Coordinators Conference**

BHP provided funding for airfare and conference fees to allow a representative from RIVER to attend the Waterwatch coordinators conference held in Brisbane. This allowed the group to enhance their knowledge on what is required to establish a sound water quality testing project.

## **RAAF Base Townsville Redevelopment Stage I**

RIVER took part in a series of Environmental Focus Workshops as part of the Community Involvement Program concentrating on the effects of this redevelopment on the Town Common Conservation Park.

## **Cleveland Bay Consortium (Presentation Days)**

This consortium is an informal group of science and industry representatives who meet to discuss issues relating to the environment of Cleveland Bay. RIVER has been invited to make presentations at these meetings outlining our activities in Cleveland Bay.

## **Ross River Parklands Masterplan**

RIVER attended an environmental focus group meeting and promoted an Ross Colony viewing platform next to the National Park Boatramp car park and an interpretive boardwalk through the adjacent mangrove stands. These concepts have been incorporated into the overall masterplan for the Ross River Parklands.

## **Townsville-Thuringowa Integrated Regional Transport Plan**

Comments and suggestions brought forward in the initial community consultation resulted in an invitation to a RIVER representative to join a set of three working groups regarding Public Transport, Road Network and Bike & Footpaths.

## **Volunteer 2000**

Volunteer 2000 will be a conference for cultural and environmental volunteer organisations in regional Queensland, to be held in the weekend of 14-15 May in the Museum for Tropical Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland complex. The idea originated within the Reef HQ Volunteers, but a host of organisations are now taking part in the organising committee, and the RIVER Group is one of them.