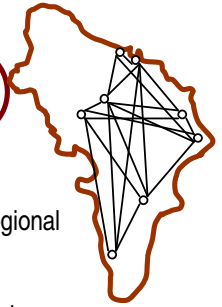


**Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM)**



**Improving Communication**

Notes from the BDT (Burdekin Dry Tropics) Boardroom is a new initiative of the Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM) to improve communications between local government and the peak natural resource management (NRM) group in the Burdekin Dry Tropics region. Notes from the BDT Boardroom will be a regular 'newsletter' for Network Councils with input and comments from the new local government Burdekin Dry Tropics Board (BDTB) Directors, Cr Brian Beveridge of Charters Towers City and Cr Treena List of Burdekin Shire, and the Executive Officer from the BDTB, Bob Frazer.

The first edition has been prepared by HESROC NRM Facilitator, John Gunn, who attended the open session of the BDTB meeting held on 9 June 2005.

**Getting to Work**

The new Executive Officer of the BDTB, Bob Frazer, started work on 23 May 2005 and has been extremely busy since then gaining an understanding of the past operations of the BDTB while looking at the future direction of the BDTB and the structures and processes required to deliver the BDT Regional NRM Plan.

A number of matters are being dealt with at present with the most notable being:

- Review of staff number and positions required to effectively deliver the NRM Plan & Investment Strategy;
- Determination of office space requirements based on review of staff numbers;
- Status of the Regional Investment Strategy and the release of funds by the Commonwealth and State governments to enable continuing operation of the BDTB and allow the NRM Plan to be put into action;
- Advertising for expressions of interest from potential providers to deliver components of the NRM Plan;
- Developing and improving processes and governance arrangements for the BDTB;
- Developing processes and protocols for engaging service providers to deliver components of the NRM Plan and Regional Investment Strategy (RIS);
- Proposed delivery arrangements for the Coastal Catchment Initiative (CCI) water quality project including development of a Water Quality Improvement Plan and Best Management Practice for water quality improvement for the Grazing industry and the Cane industry;
- Review of the 'green paper' on future arrangements for regional NRM;
- Support for sub regional groups.

**Governance**

A workshop for BDTB Directors was held on 17 and 18 June 2005 to review issues associated with governance. This follows a review conducted through the Joint Steering Committee, which identified a number of areas requiring attention. With a predominantly new Board the time is right to put the changes in place that will take the BDTB forward and enable the NRM Plan & Investment Strategy to be administered in an effective manner and set up an operational platform for future initiatives.

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