

## Noosa Parks Association 5-year Strategic Plan - September 2021 Review

### Introduction

NPA is a volunteer, not for profit enterprise that works to conserve the Noosa/Cooloola region's biodiversity and enrich people's connection to nature. Established in 1962, our advocacy is guided by history, science and conservation values. We acknowledge and respect the Kabi Kabi people's rights to their traditional lands and waterways.

### Vision

Community guardianship of Noosa's environment

### Mission

To shape public discourse, build working relationships and act on key human-environmental issues

### Our Core Value

Doing what is right for human wellbeing and the natural environment. In

this we are guided by Leopold's (1949) [Land Ethic](#)

*"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."* [Strategic Objectives](#)

1. Conservation of the region's biodiversity
2. A built environment that sits lightly within the regional landscape
3. A social contract between Noosa residents, businesses and visitors that recognizes the Quadruple Bottom Line (environment, economy, society, and ethics)
4. A well-run, financially viable, progressive organisation which serves members needs and interests

### Key Projects: Conservation of the region's biodiversity

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to advocate for a National Park from Coolool to Coolool – linking Noosa, Tewantin and Coolool NPs</li> </ul>	Dialogue commenced with Noosa Shire Council and Qld Parks and Wildlife regarding purchase of land to link Tewantin and Noosa National Parks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise renegotiated Ringtail-Yurol Forest acquisition and revegetation plan in partnership with Department of Environment and Science (DES), Noosa Shire Council (NSC) and HQPlantations (HQP), Greenfleet, and Kabi Kabi</li> </ul>	Anticipate Agreement by end of year: Ringtail-Yurol acquisition agreement.  Agreement with Greenfleet to fund revegetation plan in exchange for Carbon offsets.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue the <i>Bring back the Fish</i> project working with NSC and The Nature Conservancy (TNC)</li> </ul>	<p>\$1.2million funding secured from Commonwealth government</p> <p>Application made to relevant State Government Department regarding installation of artificial reefs.</p> <p>Investigations commenced to include a Citizen Science component of Bring Back the Fish.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for Noosa River and Lakes system and Laguna Bay to become a Marine Park or Conservation Park</li> </ul>	<p>Discussions commenced with QPWS and NSC regarding Lake Weyba becoming a conservation zone.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for the closure of beam trawl fishing in the Noosa river and lakes</li> </ul>	<p>Advocacy ongoing.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the establishment of a revolving land acquisition fund to purchase/covenant/sell infill strategic link parcels of environmental land (mid to long term project)</li> </ul>	<p>Project on hold until full impact of Covid 19 on organisation's finances is understood.</p>

*Key Projects: A built environment that sits lightly within the regional landscape*

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for the adoption of the current draft Noosa Planning scheme</li> </ul>	<p>Noosa Plan 2020 endorsed by Council on July 16 2020.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursue World Heritage listing of NoosaCooloola National Park for its natural and modern cultural values</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage in the public discussion on the impacts of climate change</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to Local and State Governments to develop environmentally responsible strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support other local groups and businesses in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Key Projects: A social contract between Noosa residents, visitors and businesses that recognizes the Quadruple Bottom Line (environment, economy, society, and ethics)

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate the important role that community activism has played in protecting Noosa’s environment over the last 70 years</li> </ul>	<p>Contributed background information to Phil Jarrett for his book Place of Shadows.</p> <p>Investigating opportunities to contribute to Noosa Council’s Heritage Noosa website.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act as a watchdog to safeguard Noosa residents’ way of life and the Noosa experience for visitors</li> </ul>	<p>Made submission to Noosa Council on Short Term Accommodation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for a governance firewall separating Noosa’s destination management and destination marketing to guarantee sustainable tourism within the region (click <a href="#">here</a> for background)</li> </ul>	<p>Noosa Council has taken responsibility for destination management from 1 July 2021 which leaves Tourism Noosa with responsibility for destination marketing going forward.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Advocate capping visitor numbers</a> to acceptable levels during peaks periods (e.g., using online booking systems) to environmentally significant 'hot spots' such as:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Noosa National Park headland section</li> <li>○ Noosa Spit</li> <li>○ Teewah Beach to Double Island Point</li> <li>○ Upper Noosa River and Cooloola Sand Blow</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Successfully advocated to QPWS for reduction in camping numbers on Noosa North Shore during peak periods.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate establishing a broad-based environment group, <i>Guardians of Noosa</i>, involving NPA, Traditional owners, local residents, businesses and property owners (based on <a href="#">Fiordland Marine Guardians</a>)</li> </ul>	<p>Funding requests submitted.</p>

*Key projects: A well-run, financially viable organisation*

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement a succession strategy for the NPA Management Committee</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>New Management Committee elected at 2021 AGM</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a communications and marketing strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Working with other community organisations/partners to help establish Noosa Matters</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage the Noosa National Park Visitor Information Centre and the Double Island Point cottages as a source of income for the organisation</li> </ul>	<p>NPA Volunteers continue to manage the Visitor Information Centre. However, Covid 19 pandemic has severely affected NPA's income from Visitor Information Centre.</p> <p>SevGen Indigenous Corporation appointed to manage coffee business at Visitor Information Centre.</p> <p>Double Island Point cottages continue to provide regular income stream.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review sources of income and financial commitments as part of adopting an annual budget</li> </ul>	<p>Proposed to adopt an annual budget for 2022.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee NPA's re-emergence post COVID 19 and ensure compliance with government guidelines</li> </ul>	<p>NPA Management Committee to continue to ensure all NPA activities are Covid compliant.</p>

*Key projects: A progressive organisation*

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an alliance/MOU with the Kabi Kabi First Nation</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing discussions with Kabi Kabi on a range of projects including Yurol/Ringtail and Great Walks.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a strategy to attract younger members and volunteers</li> </ul>	<p>On hold due to Pandemic.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursue charitable status for the NPA (mid-term project)</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the feasibility of NPA developing new income sources including environmental and cultural products (mid to long term project)</li> </ul>	Project to commence in 2022
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*Key projects: An organisation which serves members needs and interests*

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide environmental education at the NPA Friday Environment Forum Noosa National Park Visitor Information Centre, Double Island Point Information Hut, NPA Environment Centre, NPA Bird Observers Group, and NPA Botany Group</li> </ul>	Environmental educational activities modified due to Covid 19 pandemic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the bushwalking and extended outings groups</li> </ul>	Bushwalking and extended outings groups activities modified due to Covid 19 pandemic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue Greening Noosa and NPA Noosa National Park Weeder activities</li> </ul>	Greening Noosa and NPA Noosa National Park Weeder activities modified due to Covid 19 pandemic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the purpose of the Environmental Forums and the potential to move them online</li> </ul>	Project on hold until new coordinator identified.