

Noosa Parks Association 5-year Strategic Plan Reviewed August 2022

Introduction

NPA is a volunteer, not for profit organization 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 protects the environment and improves the experience of all parties
4. A well-run, financially viable, future-focused 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"> Continue to advocate for a National Park from Coolum to Cooloola – linking Noosa, Tewantin and Cooloola NPs 	<p>Dialogue continuing with Noosa Shire Council and Qld Parks and Wildlife regarding purchase of land to link Tewantin and Noosa National Parks.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise Ringtail-Yurol Forest acquisition and revegetation plan in partnership with Department of Environment and Science (DES) and QPWS, Noosa Shire Council (NSC), HQPlantations (HQP), Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Greenfleet and Kabi Kabi Aboriginal Corporation. 	<p>Ringtail - Yurol project entering final phase.</p> <p>May 2022 – approx. 1200 hectares of the old Yurol Ringtail State Forest now transferred into Tewantin National Park.</p> <p>Greenfleet is project managing the vegetation reinforcement of natural native forest regeneration occurring in recently cleared planation areas. In return for being able to sell the carbon credits generated by the project.</p> <p>It is anticipated that a further transfer of some 1200 hectares into National Park will occur by mid 2023.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the <i>Bring back the Fish</i> project working with NSC and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) 	<p>\$1.2million matching funding secured from The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Federal Government and Noosa Council for Noosa Estuary Oyster Reef project.</p> <p>Approval received from State Government Departments regarding installation of 4 oyster reefs at Tewantin, Goat Island, Noosa Sound east and Noosa Sound west.</p> <p>Noosa Estuary Oyster Reef Restoration project now commenced.</p> <p>Contractual arrangements in place between NPA, TNC and Ecological Service Professionals (ESP) to undertake The Noosa Sediment Accumulation study which includes a citizen science component.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocate for Noosa River and Lakes system and Laguna Bay to become a Marine Park	Discussions commenced with State agencies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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)	Ongoing discussions about whether or not NPA should set up such a fund or work with an existing NFP organisation such as the Queensland Trust for Nature which has the same goals as NPA and an already established fund.

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

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for ongoing adherence to the current Noosa Planning scheme 	Ensure any revisions to the Noosa Plan 2020 are consistent with the current plan's intent.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue World Heritage Listing (WHL) of the Noosa-Cooloola Region's National Park for its natural and/or modern cultural values 	Continuing to pursue: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> renomination of Cooloola Section of Great Sandy National Park for WHL on natural value grounds. WHL of Noosa, Tewantin, and Cooloola National Parks on modern cultural value grounds.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in the public discussion on the impacts of climate change 	Ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to Local and State Governments to develop environmentally responsible strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change 	Ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support other local groups and businesses in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 	Ongoing.

Key Projects: A social contract between Noosa residents, visitors and businesses to protect the environment and improve the experience of all parties

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate the important role that community activism has played in protecting Noosa's environment over the last 70 years 	Continue to provide material and background for articles in Noosa Today.

	NPA Website and Friday Forums also play an important role.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act as a watchdog to safeguard Noosa residents' way of life and the Noosa experience for visitors 	Ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for a governance firewall separating Noosa's destination management and destination marketing to guarantee sustainable tourism within the region (click here for background) 	<p>Noosa Council has taken responsibility for destination management from 1 July 2021 with Tourism Noosa having responsibility for destination marketing.</p> <p>To date little indication of any change in direction so NPA to continue advocacy.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate capping visitor numbers during peaks periods (e.g., using online booking systems) to environmentally significant 'hot spots' such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noosa National Park headland section Noosa Spit Teewah Beach to Double Island Point Upper Noosa River and Cooloola Sand Blow 	<p>Successfully advocated to QPWS for booking system to reduce number of campers on the Noosa North Shore during peak periods.</p> <p>Continuing to lobby for reduction in day visitors to the area.</p> <p>Working with the University of Georgia to develop pilot surveys on acceptable visitor capacities.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate establishing a broad-based environment group, <i>Guardians of Noosa</i>, involving NPA, Traditional owners, local residents, businesses and property owners (based on Fiordland Marine Guardians) 	Project to commence in 2023/4.

Key projects: A well-run, financially viable organisation

Name of Project	Status
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a succession strategy for the NPA Management Committee 	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>New Management Committee elected at AGM</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a communications and marketing strategy 	<p>Strategy to be completed in 2022/3.</p> <p>Website to be updated by end of 2022.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the Noosa National Park Visitor Information Centre and the Double Island Point cottages as a source of income for the organisation 	<p>NPA Volunteers have successfully managed the Visitor Information Centre through Covid 19. Visitor numbers now returning to pre pandemic levels.</p> <p>SevGen Indigenous Corporation appointed to manage coffee business at Visitor Information Centre for further 12 months.</p> <p>Double Island Point cottages continue to provide regular income stream. Planned renovations on hold.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review sources of income and financial commitments as part of adopting an annual budget 	<p>Review of income stream risks and potential new opportunities planned for 2022/23.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversee NPA's re-emergence post COVID 19 and ensure compliance with government guidelines 	<p>All NPA activities during the pandemic were Covid compliant and are now returning to normal operations .</p>

Key projects: A future focussed organisation

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop closer links with the Kabi Kabi First Nation people. 	<p>Ongoing discussions with Kabi Kabi on a range of projects including Yurol/Ringtail and Cooloola Great Walk.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a strategy to attract younger members and volunteers 	On hold.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue charitable status for the NPA (mid-term project) 	Project ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the feasibility of NPA developing new income sources including environmental and cultural products (mid to long term project) 	To be included as part of the review of income streams and financial commitments.

Key projects: An organisation which serves members needs and interests

Name of Project	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<p>Environmental educational activities returning to normal post pandemic.</p> <p>Friday Forum now fortnightly rather than weekly. Numbers gradually returning to pre pandemic levels.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the bushwalking and extended outings groups 	Bushwalking and extended outings groups activities resumed .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Greening Noosa and NPA Noosa National Park Weeder activities 	Greening Noosa and NPA Noosa National Park Weeder activities resumed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the purpose of the Environmental Forums and the potential to move them online 	<p>On hold.</p> <p>New coordinator required for this project to recommence.</p>

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