

R-TO 3: Cultural Values Mapping and Management

Establish a Wet Tropics Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Mapping and Management Centre to inform policy, planning and project development and guarantee the protection of cultural values and sites.

This strategy delivers on these Regional Themes	Biodiversity	Biosecurity	Coastal Systems	Sustainable Industries	Water
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
This strategy delivers on these Strategic Outcomes	Supportive, policies, plans and regulations	Collaborative, adaptive planning and action	Traditional Owner Benefits	Sustained and diverse resourcing	Community stewardship, values and action
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Outcome	<p>A Cultural Values Mapping and Management Program will result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The required measures for protecting and enhancing Wet Tropics Cultural Values integrated into local, regional, state and national policies and plans (e.g. planning schemes, research protocols). ▪ Increased awareness (community, industry, academics, agency) of the importance of taking cultural values into consideration in all planning and project implementation processes. ▪ Increased protection of culturally significant habitats, waterways and other sites and values. ▪ Minimising the gradual loss of Traditional Owner knowledge, particularly where this exists currently in oral tradition.
Justification	<p>The listing of the WTWHA for its Indigenous Heritage gives impetus to the protection, maintenance, interpretation and promotion of the cultural values of Far North Queensland's wet tropical rainforest country and traditional peoples. Supporting cultural knowledge holders to share and record cultural values held in stories, practice and knowledge of country is a priority for both protecting that knowledge, but also having a solid basis from which to inform and influence policies and plans that could either threaten or enhance cultural values. Due to the Listing of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area for its "Cultural Values" it is integral that "Free, Prior and Informed Consent" is authorised by the rightful people or the PBCs that have a Determination of Native Title. This will comply with "International Rights of Indigenous People."</p>
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Building on existing Cultural Values Mapping initiatives, establish a Centre for RAP Culture and Knowledge, to strategically and holistically manage and maintain Bama culture in the Wet Tropics region (Project 2020?). This centre would support the 20 Tribal Groups in recording their cultural values of country and develop management plans, as well as support them in engaging with government and industry programming and decision making. 2) Training can be identified in strategic areas that would provide support or assistance to enhance the Governance, Administration and strategic directions of the identified PBCs. 3) 'Brokerage Service' - the Centre will assist with structured support for PBCs in commercial agreement making, the identification of Partners and implementation of Business Plans.

Feasibility considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The re-listing of the WTWHA for its cultural values gives international recognition to the importance of this region for cultural values. This can be used as a hook for securing investment and support for recording and considering appropriate management of these values. ✓ Considerable thought has already been invested in this program through Project 2020. ✓ Pilot work has been undertaken, resulting in mapping heritage sites and recording and monitoring cultural values, and provides the foundation from which to build future effort. ✓ A program which not only records the values but also provides guidelines on how they are managed, turns knowledge into action and provides partners (e.g. agencies, researchers, community) with a solid basis upon which to ensure that cultural values are protected. ✗ There is a tension between having values mapped and ‘known’ and the potential that once mapped and ‘known’ they could be subject to damage through things such as inappropriate visitation. 	
	Local Landscape Projects	Local Landscape Project
CN9 Maps with the Message		Cairns
DT6 Protecting Natural and Cultural Values of Blue Hole		Daintree