

R-PP 5: Influencing the Research Agenda (including condition monitoring)

Develop a region-wide, collaborative Research and Development Agenda/Strategy – focusing on the research needs to deal with future challenges, and including the need for more cohesive, long-term landscape condition monitoring.

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 collaborative, region-wide Research and Development Strategy/Agenda will result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaboratively developed and delivered action research that meaningfully engages natural resource managers (farmers, Traditional Owners, local government, community groups). ▪ Research findings and products that are relevant to, and used by, natural resource managers/community. ▪ Research which focuses on future challenges that natural resource managers will face. ▪ Research which assists us to track our progress towards a healthy and resilient landscape.
Justification	<p>By providing cohesive and united direction to the research sector, clarifying the knowledge gaps for effective adaptation and increased resilience, investment in R&D will be more targeted and effective, delivered through active researcher/practitioner partnerships. This includes a strategic and collaborative approach to the collection of long-term landscape health data. Clear communication of the success stories will highlight to community/policy makers the value proposition of research that delivers against practical needs, and provide a strong case for investment in research that delivers more effective management.</p>
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Undertake an analysis of who does what and where (gaps, specialisations). 2) Undertaken an audit of the existing research that is relevant and available for application, including whether it is in an appropriate form (does it require some further packaging?). 3) Establish a “Research Group” to develop a prioritised ‘research needs’ list, to provide to researchers when funding opportunities arise, drawing on existing processes (eg. invasive species prioritisation, biodiversity prioritisation) and covering the 5 regional themes of the Plan. 4) Identify and pursue key research/stakeholder partnership opportunities for the purposes of collaborative research design and implementation. 5) Proactively support meaningful Traditional Owner participation in the identification of research priorities and the establishment of ongoing research partnerships. 6) Prepare case studies to showcase the benefits/influence of research partnerships. 7) Make research results easily accessible to community eg. Plan; “Research Roadshow” for farmers/community. What is the latest research saying about the things they care about?

Feasibility
considerations

- ✓ There are existing relationships and good prioritisation processes already in place (eg. for weeds).
- ✓ Getting people together and creating personal connections is an effective way of influencing.
- ✗ There is limited funding for research and this funding is highly contested by research entities that have their own areas of focus and priorities.
- ✗ There is more status in producing scientific papers than in producing good communication products for community.