

**SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND
REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT
INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA AUDIT
(FINAL REPORT)**

Compiled by: ROBYN P WILLIAMS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the following people for their help and patience during the past 3 months:

FAIRA

Russell Simpson, Craig Darlington, Tania Rodgers, Gail Garrett, Charmaine Carroll, Pam Jones, and other staff members.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE (NOW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, QUEENSLAND)

Shane Coghill, Judy Powell

ENVIRONMENT AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH

Marilyn Truscott

GOOLBURRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION LAND COUNCIL

Brad Lewis

GURANG LAND COUNCIL

Anje Schimpf

An extra thankyou and special mention is for **Desley Coolwell-Walters** who has provided friendship, gossip and lots of laughter, but most importantly all the entering of the data information, photocopying and gathering of notes in the past three months.

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SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT (RFA) INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE DATA AUDIT

FINAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been prepared for the joint Commonwealth/State Steering Committee which oversees the Comprehensive Regional Assessment (CRA) study phase of forests in the South East Queensland biogeographic region.

The Comprehensive Regional Assessment provides the scientific basis on which the State and Commonwealth governments will sign a Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) for the forests of the South East Queensland biogeographic region. This agreement will determine the future of the region's forests and will define those areas needed to form a comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system and those available for ecologically sustainable commercial use.

The Indigenous Cultural Data Audit was undertaken as part of a comprehensive regional assessment of the South East Queensland (SEQ) biogeographic region. The primary objectives were to identify what Indigenous sites and places have been recorded in SEQ in forested areas, and

This report outlines the methods by which the Data Audit has been undertaken, and the results of this project, including future recommendations. A Historic Places Inventory (the "inventory") of 830 places was

INTRODUCTION

Under the National Forest Policy Statement (NFPS) Commonwealth, State and Territory governments agreed to a framework and process for carrying out comprehensive regional assessments (CRAs) of the economic, social, environmental and heritage values of forests (DNR 1998). Once completed, CRAs provide governments with the information required to make long term decisions about forest use and management, through negotiation of a Regional Forest Agreement (RFA).

The Indigenous Cultural Heritage Data Audit was undertaken as part of a comprehensive regional assessment of the South East Queensland (SEQ) biogeographic region. Guiding Principles for Forest Management of Indigenous Cultural Heritage Places and Values were developed as a separate project.

This final report for the South East Queensland RFA Indigenous Cultural Heritage Data Audit, was developed by Native Title Representative Bodies, FAIRA, Goolburri Land Corporation, who employed staff from 10 August to 5 November 1998 to bring together a comprehensive Data Audit Report for the South East Queensland Biogeographic region.

This Data Audit information was gathered together from materials that had been documented by various researchers and investigators in the forested regions of South East Queensland

BACKGROUND

The Aim of Data Audit is:

- a) To identify sources of information on the known Indigenous cultural heritage places in the forested areas of Southeast Queensland Biogeographic region;
- b) To provide a broad overview of the location and types of Indigenous cultural heritage places researched in the study area; and
- c) To provide an understanding of the cultural heritage places, themes, or related data not represented or under-represented in the source.

The two main areas where the data sources was accessed for this report were:

- i) Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage (now the Environmental Protection Agency)'s Indigenous Cultural Heritage database in the main office at 9th Floor, 160 Ann Street;
- ii) the Australian Heritage Commission's Register of National Estate Indigenous database.

METHODOLOGY

For the benefit of this report the Project Officers had to have access to the various reports.

To gain access to these records the Native Title Representative Bodies requested permission from the Director of the Cultural Heritage Branch, Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage (now the Environmental Protection Agency) in writing. Shane Coghill was employed as the Project Officer for Department of Environment and Heritage Indigenous component of the RFA. He assisted the Project Officers to find where the reports were held and had the Reference Database for use by the Project Officers.

Information held in Aboriginal communities, organisations, universities, libraries, Commonwealth and Queensland Government departments was summarized and recorded. This included reading reports, identifying sites on maps and using the site cards. A Reference Database was also used to gather information.

After the information was gathered it was then placed on an information sheet and then this information was keyed into the database. An Excel database was used and the process was further speeded up once a laptop became available to the Project Officers. To assist with the workload another person was employed in transcribing information and entering it on the database.

The Database has 19 fields, such as Title of Report, Author, Date, Aboriginal Consultation and whether the sites/areas were on Crown forested lands. Some of this information is not appropriate for public release as may be of a secret, sacred or confidential nature. However a summary of the database is contained in the appendices to this report.

PROBLEMS AND BARRIERS

Problems and barriers as stated in an earlier report for completion of the project have been:

- Insufficient and inadequate timeframes to do a comprehensive report.
- Inability to access all information sources other than those from the Department of Environment and Australian Heritage Commission databases.
- Limited funding only allowed for part time Project Officers
- While data from the Australian Heritage Commission was able to be directly downloaded, information from the Queensland Indigenous Cultural Heritage Register was only able to be collated through the tortuous data transcription methods described above. The searches through computers, cards, maps and reports necessary to obtain relevant information makes the Queensland Register impractical to use as a landuse planning tool.

DISCUSSION

There was a marked difference between the Queensland and Commonwealth databases accessed and assessed for this project.

The majority of Queensland reports registered on the data base had little or no Aboriginal input or consultation, while this is a standard feature of any Commonwealth registered information. The Aboriginal input into Queensland reports, where it did occur, appears to have been tokenistic. In no Queensland report assessed for this project was it apparent that there had been full informed consent from all Traditional Owners for release of the cultural heritage information.

There were very few sites/areas or reports common to both the Queensland and Commonwealth registers. There was no cross referencing between the registers, nor within each register to enable verification of information. However the Commonwealth register can be searched for both cultural heritage and natural heritage features.

The coverage of sites/areas in forested areas was very poor on both the Queensland and Commonwealth registers. On both registers the majority of the information seems to have come forward as a result of work proposed especially in National Parks and State Forests. It is apparent that there has been no comprehensive assessment of cultural heritage on Crown forested land and no pre-logging surveys carried out in any State Forests in south east Queensland. However some natural features with Indigenous cultural heritage values appear on the Commonwealth register and provide the clearest picture of cultural heritage on Crown lands in the RFA area.

Any protocols or codes of practice relating to Crown forested land that rely on the Queensland Indigenous Cultural Heritage Register will not identify or protect Indigenous cultural heritage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Research information should not be recorded/documentated if it has not been approved or talked over with Traditional Owners.
2. Government(s) need to expand their definition of Indigenous Cultural Heritage to recognise the holistic nature of Indigenous culture. This should be reflected in the Indigenous Cultural Heritage data holdings of Governments and their Cultural Heritage management regimes.
3. The question of data ownership and intellectual property rights needs to be urgently addressed.
4. An urgent review of the State Indigenous Cultural Heritage Register should be conducted to assess the value, completeness and veracity of the data holdings and whether they can be of any use in assessing Indigenous cultural heritage on Crown forested land. In the interim cultural heritage work area clearances should be undertaken in State Forests and Timber Reserves before any logging occurs
5. That an Indigenous person be employed permanently to update the data base developed by this project. This person could also continue in the role of the data audit project officer to record the information that was impossible to access in the time frame given and any new information that may be registered.
6. Further work needs to be undertaken to verify the results and to ensure the completeness on the data base developed by this project.
7. Ensure that time frames and funding for any community-based audit projects similar to this one are adequate for the scope of the work to be done.

APPENDIX 1

SITES RECORDED IN SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND FORESTED AREAS

MAP SHEET	SHIRES	REGIONAL AREAS	STATE FOREST AND TIMBER RESERVE NOS.	NATIONAL PARKS - SITES	SITES
KC	Caboolture	Peachester 1	561, 611, 589, 766, 313, 753, 311, 291, 341	Cooloola - 22 Noosa - 6	11
	Caboolture	Peachester 2	382, 572, 177		3
	Maroochy Kilcoy Caloundra	Kennilworth/ Jimna	788, 792, 274, 736, 343, 207, 918, 344, 329, 986, 135, 467, 673, 298, 256, 546, 435, 124, 639, 612, 138, 242, 220, TR 220, 82x2, 932x2, 575, 572, TR 502, TR 220, TR 416	Mooloolah River - 4 Bribie - 25 Jimna/ Conondale - 8 Bribie (S) - 1	approx. 108
	Cooloola	Gympie	700, 502x2, 627, 835		3
	Noosa	Kin Kin	393, 983, 950		nil
	Noosa	Cooroy	1271, 959x2, 952, 963, 997, 989		10
	Maroochy	Nambour	234, 351, 689, 1239, 368, 249, 728, 783		30
	Kilcoy	Kilcoy	893, 637		13
	Murgon Wondai	Murgon	535, 12, 536		nil
	Nanango Rosalie Crows Nest Esk	Nanango/ Yarraman	283, 257, 258, 379, 289, 316, 466x2, 118, 117, 618	Tarong - 2	17
	Wondai	Proston	146x2, 554, 74, 254, 255, 249		1
	Wambo Kingaroy Nanango	Bunya Mts	510, 151	Bunya Mts - (2)	2
	Kingaroy Wambo	Chapingah	98, 166, 197, 127, 71		2
JC	Chinchilla Wambo Wondai	Chinchilla/ Jandowae	302, 40, 93, 70, 132		15

LB	Caboolture	Beachmere	611	Blue Lake - 5 Moreton - 178	2
	Beaudesert Gold Coast	Tamborine	326		3
	Logan	Springwood	215, 571	Daisy Hill - 1 Tamborine - nil	1
KB	Kilcoy Esk Pine Rivers Brisbane Ipswich	Mt. Glorious/ Somerset Dam	494, 1355x2, 309, 1376, 69, 1663, 1662, 809, 2680, 893, 637, 2563	Mt Glorious - 1 D'Aguilar - 1	56
	Esk Gatton Crows Nest Laidley	Esk/ Ravensbourne	667, 616x3, 593, 564, 575, 1142, 665x2, 909, 528, 531, 258, 750	Woodbine - 1	3
LA	Gold Coast	Gold Coast	702, 498, 790, 499x2	Springbrook - 4	1
KD	Tiaro Cooloola Maryborough	Maryborough/ Tin Can Bay	1004, 451x2, 944, 1419x2, 958, 957, 915, 965, 990, 960		1
KD	Biggenden Woocoo Gayndah Hervey Bay Isis Tiaro Maryborough	Biggenden & Coalston Lakes	TR 26, TR504, TR376, TR581, TR580, 355, 632x2, 67, 465, 648, 521, 210, 215, 1072, 259, 420, 301, 940, 552, 529, 523, 50x2, 530, 501, 57, 25, 1344, 38, 562, 12, 526, 574, 550, 287, 1294, 682	Mt Walsh - nil Granville - O Woodgate - 1 Burrum - 2	6
	Isis Perry Kolan	Childers & Mt Perry	TR 296, TR 157x2, TR 869, 169, 1068, 832, 779, 840x2, 57, 370, 54		1
KA	Beaudesert	Rathdowney	754, 498, 790, 499x2	Mt Barney - (1)	1
KE	Kolan Burnett Miriam Vale	Rosedale	645, 406, 723, 898, 424	Buruum Coast (N) - nil	2

	Perry Kolan	Many Peaks (South)	381, 269	Litterbella - nil Rodds Pen.- 10	1
	Banana Monto	Many Peaks (West)	316, 680, 53	Castle Tower - nil Deepwater - nil	nil
JE	Calliope Miriam Vale	Many Peaks (North)	TR 353, 193, 287, 695, 506, 391, 509, 645, 121	Kroombit Tops - nil	nil
	Miriam Vale Calliope	Miriamvale	TR 508, 700, 645, 583, 521, 479, 373		nil
JF	Calliope	Gladstone	150x2, 365, 137, 27, 281	Curtis Is. - 10	3
HF	Duaringa	Duaringa/ Blackdown Tbl	175, 177		approx 141
LD				Fraser Is - 47	

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KF				Rodds Pen. (N) - 16 Wild Cattle Is - nil	
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KC	Caboolture	Peachester 1	561, 611, 589, 766, 313, 753, 311, 291, 341	11
	Caboolture	Peachester 2	382, 572, 177	3
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	Kilcoy	Kilcoy	893, 637	13
	Murgon Wondai	Murgon	535, 12, 536	nil
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	Wondai	Proston	146x2, 554, 74, 254, 255, 249	1
	Wambo Kingaroy Nanango	Bunya Mts	510, 151	2
	Kingaroy Wambo	Chapingah	98, 166, 197, 127, 71	2
JC	Chinchilla Wambo Wondai	Chinchilla/Jandowae	302, 40, 93, 70, 132	15

LB	Caboolture	Beachmere	611	2
	Beaudesert Gold Coast	Tamborine	326	3
	Logan	Springwood	215, 571	1
KB	Kilcoy Esk Pine Rivers Brisbane Ipswich	Mt. Glorious/ Somerset Dam	494, 1355x2, 309, 1376, 69, 1663, 1662, 809, 2680, 893, 637, 2563	56
	Esk Gatton Crows Nest Laidley	Esk/Ravensbourne	667, 616x3, 593, 564, 575, 1142, 665x2, 909, 528, 531, 258, 750	3
LA	Gold Coast	Gold Coast	702, 498, 790, 499x2	1

MAP SHEET	SHIRES	REGIONAL AREAS	STATE FOREST AND TIMBER RESERVE NOS.	NATIONAL PARKS - SITES	SITES
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KD	Tiaro Cooloola Maryborough	Maryborough/ Tin Can Bay	1004, 451x2, 944, 1419x2, 958, 957, 915, 965, 990, 960		1
KD	Biggenden Woocoo Gayndah Hervey Bay Isis Tiaro Maryborough	Biggenden & Coalston Lakes	TR 26, TR504, TR376, TR581, TR580, 355, 632x2, 67, 465, 648, 521, 210, 215, 1072, 259, 420, 301, 940, 552, 529, 523, 50x2, 530, 501, 57, 25, 1344, 38, 562, 12, 526, 574, 550, 287, 1294, 682		6
	Isis Perry Kolan	Childers & Mt Perry	TR 296, TR 157x2, TR 869, 169, 1068, 832, 779, 840x2, 57, 370, 54		1
KA	Beaudesert	Rathdowney	754, 498, 790, 499x2		1
KE	Kolan Burnett Miriam Vale	Rosedale	645, 406, 723, 898, 424		2
	Perry Kolan	Many Peaks (South)	381, 269		1
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	Miriam Vale Calliope	Miriamvale	TR 508, 700, 645, 583, 521, 479, 373		nil
JF	Calliope	Gladstone	150x2, 365, 137, 27, 281		3
HF	Duaringa Emerald	Duaringa/Blackdown Tablelands	175, 77		approx. 141

Mapsheets (1:250 000)

KC Gympie

KD Maryborough

JC Chinchilla

KE Bundaberg

LB Brisbane

JE Monto

KB Ipswich

JF Rockhampton

LA Tweed Heads

HF Duarina

KA Warwick