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Fraser Island (K'gari) World Heritage Community Advisory Committee Communiqué February 2018



The Fraser Island (K'gari) World Heritage Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met in Hervey Bay on Wednesday 21st February 2018. The CAC comprises an independent chair and eleven members and provides advice to the Queensland and Federal Government on matters relating to the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage of the Fraser Island (K'gari) World Heritage area from a community perspective.

The Committee members were excited to hear about upcoming events to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the World Heritage inscription. In particular, the event on the 18th April (World Heritage Day) where they will have the chance to meet with dignitaries including Ministers from the Queensland Government and the Assistant Federal Environmental Minister, the Hon. Melissa Price MP, on K'gari.

The Committee discussed 25th Anniversary celebrations beyond this formal event, with additional activities planned for the remainder of 2018. The Committee view this as an opportunity to raise the bar for K'gari, promoting its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) to a broader national and international audience.

The Committee met with senior members of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) planning group to further discuss the values-based management framework, which was commended by the Committee.

As the theoretical basis for a management plan, the approach is sound and provides the opportunity for best management practice in planning. A significant benefit is that the framework allows OUV to be directly and transparently incorporated into the planning process. The Committee believes that this, along with an increased commitment to annual monitoring of values, will enable Queensland (and Australia) to better meet World Heritage obligations and aspirations.

During the meeting, the Committee provided their input to the draft Great Sandy Area Management Plan and draft Visitor Strategy for K'gari.



The Committee would like to acknowledge the opportunity afforded to them through the meeting to provide their advice and input and look forward to ongoing interactions with the Minister and senior officials in QPWS as the Framework and Thematic Strategies are further developed.

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Committee will be the annual combined meeting with Scientific Advisory Committee which will be held on K'gari on the 17th April.