



Australian Fossil Mammal Sites - Riversleigh World Heritage

Advisory Committee Meeting Communiqué November 2016

1. The Riversleigh Community and Scientific Advisory Committee would like to thank the Minister for the appointment of the members and Chair, and support convening an annual Ministerial World Heritage Chairs meeting.
2. The Committee welcome the opportunity to respond and offer advice to the Minister on identifying, presenting, conserving, protecting and managing the Riversleigh section of the Australian Fossil Mammal Sites.
3. The Committee supports the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service's (QPWS) new 'Values Based Management Framework' approach and the preparation of the draft Boodjamulla National Park Management Statement. As requested by QPWS the Committee is keen to provide input into the draft Statement, especially into the research and management strategy.
4. The Committee recommend that the presentation of Riversleigh as a World Heritage site should be improved as current interpretation is dated, and does not reflect the World Heritage status of the property. To better convey the Outstanding Universal Value of Riversleigh and improve the Riversleigh visitor 'experience' the Committee recommend:
 - a. Finalising the 'Vision for D-site strategy' (already has had considerable investment)
 - b. Opening the 'Bitesantennary trail' to commercial operators to enhance the interpretation by improving education opportunities, and better protects the fossils.
5. The Committee will continue to progress the 'site marker project', in line with international best practice, as opportunity arises.
6. The Committee will continue to work with Tourism and Events Queensland on the 'Outback Queensland Dinosaurs-Palaeo Tourism Opportunities to 2020' by providing general advice on fossil tourism, and the appropriate inclusion the Riversleigh as part of the outback fossil story.

7. The Committee were supportive of the updated draft Riversleigh brochure that has been prepared by the Riversleigh Executive Officer, and recommend once finalised it is distributed to all of the outback regional centres.
8. The Committee recommend the Riversleigh World Heritage Management Strategy is edited to complement QPWS Adaptive Management Framework and will provide feedback on the revised draft.