

LOWER FITZROY RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project Project Update – Summer 2009

The Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project Team would like to convey their sincere thanks to all stakeholders who attended the Community Information Sessions and project meetings in October and provided their input. Discussions have provided valuable local area knowledge and highlighted important community and environmental issues. Along with comments received via feedback forms, this input has been collated and recorded for consideration in the Environmental Impact Assessment. Stakeholder and community input is an important part of the process and all comments and contributions are appreciated.

Some key topics raised by stakeholders

- ≈ Stock water access;
- ≈ Water allocations and licences and water resource planning;
- ≈ Recreational use of the Fitzroy, Mackenzie and Dawson Rivers;
- ≈ Nearby roads and river crossings;
- ≈ Vegetation clearing and management; and
- ≈ Nature conservation considerations.



Project activities that have been completed

- ≈ Environmental field surveys and investigations have been completed;
- ≈ Community Information Sessions and liaison with State and Federal agencies;
- ≈ Liaison with the Department of Environment and Resource Management regarding vegetation management and nature conservation;
- ≈ Identification and notification of Aboriginal parties with regard to indigenous cultural heritage;
- ≈ Engagement of Land Liaison Officers to facilitate discussion with landholders in the project area;
- ≈ Aerial laser survey, data analysis and interpretation; and
- ≈ Flood modelling and interrogation of yield modelling to inform weir design.
- ≈ Preparation and submission of an EPBC Referral (2009/5173) to the Commonwealth's Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts regarding Matters of National Environmental Significance;



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What's next?

- ≈ A Fishway Design Program, in collaboration with the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation – Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries and independent 3rd party specialists; and
- ≈ Endorsement of Aboriginal parties with cultural heritage interests and compilation of Cultural Heritage Management Plans
- ≈ Analyse, assess and integrate the findings of technical studies and prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for stakeholder review
- ≈ Stage 2 Community Consultation and a further round of Community Information Sessions will occur coinciding with the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report in early 2010. At these sessions, attendees will be able to view Report and submit comments.

Project Contact Hours over the holidays

The Project Team will be unavailable during the period Thursday, 24 December 2009 to Tuesday, 5 January 2010 and will respond to voice messages and emails on their return.

Project Contact Details

For more information or if you no longer wish to receive Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project Updates please contact the Project Team.

Freecall: 1800 423 213

Email: fitzroyweirs@ghd.com.au

Write to: Reply Paid 668, Brisbane QLD 4001

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy festive season. We look forward to working with you in 2010.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Murray Wilson

Principal Project Manager

On behalf of the Project Team

Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project

