



Logan Basin WRP draft amendment to include southern Moreton Bay islands

September 2007 Newsletter #2

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the community about the progress of the water resource planning process.

Submissions and nominations close soon

Public submissions are being sought regarding the intention to prepare a draft amendment to the Logan Basin Water Resource Plan to include the southern Moreton Bay islands. A Community Reference Panel is being established and a nomination kit is available if you are interested in nominating to be a member of this panel.

Reminder!

Closing date – 5 pm, 10 September 2007 for:

- Public submissions on proposal to prepare a draft amendment
- Nomination for membership of the Community Reference Panel

Call 1800 308 252 (toll free) for further information.

The community information and workshop sessions

As part of the release of the notice of intent to prepare a draft amendment to the Logan Basin Water Resource Plan and its accompanying Information Report, the Department of Natural Resources and Water has held four community information and workshop sessions. These sessions provided an avenue for communicating the water resource planning process with the general community and aided the Department in further understanding the community's views on water resource planning.

The information sessions were held on North Stradbroke Island at Dunwich and at

Alexandra Hills and were facilitated by Ms Saleena Ham from The Right Connections.

At these sessions Mr Tad Bagdon (Director of Water Planning, South East) and Mr Randall Hart (Regional Manager of Water Services, South East) of the Department of Natural Resources and Water promoted an overview of the water resource planning process to develop the amendment to the Logan Basin Water Resource Plan. They urged community input into the process.

The presentations were followed by an open discussion period where the community raised particular issues of concern. All of the issues raised were recorded by the water planning team.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to attend the sessions and raise issues.

Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island, Saturday 11th August 2007

This was the first session held and approximately 150 people attended. The session opened with an overview of the current water situation, highlighting the importance of the community taking the opportunity to have their say. During the meeting the forum participants moved outside the hall to gather with members of the Islands' Aboriginal community where they witnessed a traditional Water Ceremony followed by a traditional dance performance featuring "Maroochy", a war dance written especially for the occasion. Following the performance Traditional Owners and other Island residents expressed their concerns before moving back into the hall to continue proceedings.

This session informed the department of important community views including:

- North Stradbroke Island is highly valued by many people and that water should be managed to ensure long term sustainability of the resource;
- The environmental impacts of water extraction need to be investigated - including the impacts on North Stradbroke Island's lakes and swamps;
- The risks and impacts of seawater intrusion;
- Community views and knowledge are valuable and should be used in the planning process; and
- Information should be made available to the community.

Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island, Tuesday 14 August 2007, 10am and 7pm

The two sessions held at Dunwich on Tuesday 14 August had lower attendance figures however they still provided an opportunity for the public to raise important issues.

Issues raised were wide ranging and included questions about:

- The process that will be undertaken for the hydrological and environmental scientific investigations;
- What monitoring will be done under the planning process; and
- The Community Reference Panel process.

Alexandra Hills, Thursday 16 August 2007

The fourth information session was held on the mainland and it had a small number of attendees. Issues raised included:

- Concern over the fragile state of the North Stradbroke Island aquifer;
- Questions about the process that will be followed to investigate the possible impacts on the environment;
- How the adaptive management approach is proposed to be incorporated into the plan;
- The process and role of the Community Reference Panel; and
- How people can nominate to be involved.

Community conversations from the sessions were collated by The Right Connections and will be available on NRW's website in the coming weeks -
<<http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/wrp/logan>>

Closing date for nomination for membership of the CRP and for public submissions is 5pm Monday 10 September 2007

Contact us for further information

To obtain a copy of the Information Report, a nomination form for the Community Reference Panel, a submission form or to make general enquiries:

- Visit <www.nrw.qld.gov.au/wrp/logan>
- Email to logan.wrp@nrw.qld.gov.au
- Call **1800 308 252** (toll free)

You may make a submission to us by email, fax or post:

- Email to logan.wrp@nrw.qld.gov.au
- Fax (07) 3224 2933
- Mail to
The Chief Executive
Department of Natural Resources and Water
Attention: Ms Nerida Gilbert
Water Services (Logan WRP amendment)
PO Box 1653
Coorparoo DC Qld 4151

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