

Resolution from the 2004 Biodiversity Conference

The 4th Southern Biodiversity Conference, held at the UQ - Gatton Campus June/July 2004, resolves that an integrated natural resource and environmental management strategies for the protected areas, and their surrounds, of the Lockyer Valley be implemented on Ecological Sustainable Development principles to improve biodiversity outcomes.

Proposal

To advance this resolution it is recommended a partnership be forged between the key stakeholders including Local Councils (Gatton, Laidley and possibly Esk); EPA - QPWS; DNRM&E; DPI; UQ - Gatton Campus and NGOs, to continue the service to the community of the Lockyer Catchment Centre.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- There is currently 25,000 ha (approx) of protected land in the Lockyer Valley (once all the SEQRFA land tenure has been finalised)
- There is NO EPA - QPWS staff presence in the Lockyer Valley. The district offices are either in Toowoomba or Moggill.
- Weed, fire, wildlife and visitor management strategies need to be developed and implemented, in partnership with the community, for all these protected areas.

BENEFITS

- The Lockyer Catchment Centre was established in 1994 and already has strong community links and involvement.
- When the EPA - QPWS presence is required to manage their assets in the Lockyer Valley, access to the existing Catchment Centre would reduce the infrastructure costs to host an EPA - QPWS officer.
- The capacity of the UQ - Gatton Campus - Natural Resource Management courses could be utilised to support the environmental outcomes of both the Catchment Centre and the University.

BENEFITS (continued)

- The joint partnership of the local councils through the catchment centre would contribute to the community capacity building.
- The wealth of scientific, cultural and citizen science information that currently exists within the Lockyer Catchment Association is a valuable resource that currently accessible through the Lockyer Catchment Centre.

OUTCOMES

- Through the aggregated commitment of resources from ALL the key stakeholders, a potential partnership could be forged and agreed through a Memorandum of Understanding, to continue the operations of the Lockyer Catchment Centre as a centre of excellence in community based rural catchment, natural resource and environmental management and information.

LOCKYER CATCHMENT CENTRE

Local Councils
(Gatton & Laidley)

UK Gatton Campus



LPA QPWS

*Caring for people,
because people care for
catchments*

Lockyer Catchment
Association