

# Department of Environment and Science Strategic Plan 2021–25

## OUR VISION

One of the world’s most diverse natural environments is maintained for the health and prosperity of current and future generations.

## OUR PURPOSE

To be effective leaders and partners in managing, protecting and restoring Queensland’s natural environment and heritage.

### OUR WORK IS GUIDED BY OUR VALUES:



### OUR ACHIEVEMENTS ARE ENABLED BY:

- Using leading scientific, behavioural and data insights to improve decision-making and actions
- Strengthening our partnerships with First Nations peoples, local government, community and industry stakeholders
- Embedding First Nations’ knowledge and leadership in our systems, policies and programs through the Gurra Gurra Framework
- Promoting and supporting good governance and the ethical conduct of all employees
- Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of staff and creating an inclusive working environment
- Delivering efficient and agile services supported by best-in-class Corporate Services
- Respecting, protecting and promoting human rights in all that we do

We contribute to the Queensland Government’s objectives for the community—*Unite and Recover*—by:



Our key objectives	Our contribution	Our key strategies and programs to achieve our objectives	Indicators of our success
<b>Conserve and restore Queensland’s unique biodiversity, heritage and protected areas</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve and protect Queensland’s biodiversity, threatened species, and critical natural assets and continue to grow the protected area estate</li> <li>Promote and connect people with national parks</li> <li>Protect Queensland’s cultural and built heritage</li> <li>Enhance strategic land use planning in Queensland to support sustainable development</li> <li>Prepare for and manage bushfire and extreme weather events on Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service managed estates</li> <li>Partner with First Nations peoples to steward country and incorporate traditional knowledge in program delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased percentage of Queensland’s land area that is protected</li> <li>Inclusion of culturally significant places in the Queensland Heritage Register</li> <li>Maintained or improved key natural, cultural and heritage values</li> </ul>
<b>Enable job creation, and the growth of new industries and environmental markets</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable the continued growth of a strong and compliant resource recovery and recycling manufacturing industry</li> <li>Support ecotourism opportunities that are innovative and sustainable</li> <li>Enable the biodiscovery industry through best-practice legislation and streamlined permitting</li> <li>Support small businesses to be energy and resource efficient to reduce costs and improve sustainability</li> <li>Enable strong resilient communities to achieve zero net emissions by 2050</li> <li>Support jobs and regional businesses through capital works programs</li> <li>Support Queensland communities and businesses to manage climate risk and seize the opportunities of a low carbon economy</li> <li>Improve the translation of science and research to create jobs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution towards the government’s target of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— 30% reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions by 2030</li> <li>— zero net emissions by 2050</li> </ul> </li> <li>Contribution towards the government’s waste target for 2050</li> <li>Increased economic and job opportunities arising from Queensland’s investment in environmental outcomes</li> </ul>
<b>Protect World Heritage areas including the Great Barrier Reef</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and maintain the value of Queensland’s World Heritage areas</li> <li>Lead in the protection and restoration of the Great Barrier Reef through the implementation of reef reforms and water quality programs</li> <li>Facilitate new job opportunities and improve environmental outcomes through the delivery of targeted programs in reef catchments and World Heritage areas</li> <li>Deliver a world-class Joint Field Management Program together with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution towards the government’s target of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— 60% reduction in anthropogenic end-of catchment dissolved inorganic nitrogen loads</li> <li>— 25% reduction in anthropogenic end-of catchment sediment loads</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Empower Queensland’s youth</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen leadership skills and capabilities to help provide young Queenslanders with a stronger future</li> <li>Engage, celebrate and listen to the voices of young Queenslanders to shape and improve Queensland Government policy and services</li> <li>Enhance the safe and responsible behaviour of school leavers and support Queensland communities over the schoolies holiday period</li> <li>Encourage participation and enrolment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased inclusion of youth voices in shaping government policies, programs and services</li> <li>Greater promotion of STEM education</li> <li>Contribution towards improved social, economic and civic participation of young people</li> </ul>
<b>Strengthen and harness Queensland’s scientific excellence</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide leading-edge science to support government decision making</li> <li>Strengthen disaster recovery and resilience and climate change response by harnessing Queensland’s scientific excellence</li> <li>Diversify Queensland’s economy by growing emerging knowledge intensive industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased leveraging of national and international science collaborations and partnerships</li> <li>Maintain high client satisfaction with science services</li> <li>Greater access to and use of science data</li> </ul>
<b>Deliver a world class environmental, heritage and biodiscovery regulatory system</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide strong protection for the environment and human health</li> <li>Maintain a ‘fit for purpose’ and streamlined regulatory framework to support economic recovery</li> <li>Enhance enforcement activities and incident response</li> <li>Continue to implement resource industry rehabilitation reforms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased public access to a wider range of online compliance and enforcement data</li> <li>Reduction in overall risk to the environment</li> </ul>

### We will manage our strategic risks to:

- set heritage policy and legislation to protect state heritage
- deliver waste and resource recovery outcomes
- lead effective climate change action
- recognise and respect First Nations’ peoples knowledge and culture in our work
- provide flexible regulatory arrangements for efficient and effective service delivery
- manage more intense and longer fire seasons to protect the community and biodiversity
- communicate clearly, effectively and in a timely manner

### We will embrace opportunities to:

- effectively partner with First Nations peoples to better steward Country and culture and deliver economic, social and cultural impact for all Queenslanders
- provide stewardship for future generations through early engagement in the environment, science and heritage
- transform our customer experience and the way we do business through new digital technologies and leading edge science and social science
- build partnerships beyond traditional boundaries—global, government and community—to deliver best practice solutions to complex problems
- promote the voices of young people across government to deliver better outcomes and help recover from the COVID-19 pandemic