

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

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