

Department of Environment and Science Strategic Plan 2019–23



OUR VISION

Our environment, science and the arts enrich Queenslanders' lives now and into the future

OUR PURPOSE

We lead the efforts to achieve a better Queensland through healthy natural environments, science and innovation, and vibrant cultures and the arts

OUR VALUES



Customers first



Ideas into action



Unleash potential



Be courageous



Empower people

The department contributes to the Queensland Government's objectives for the community—*Our Future State: Advancing Queensland's Priorities:*



Protect the Great Barrier Reef

- Reduce Queensland's contribution to climate change through delivery of transition and adaptation programs
- Improve water quality through the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program
- Deliver reef joint field management services with the Australian Government



Keep Queenslanders healthy

- Promote active recreation in parks and forests
- Ensure clean and healthy air, land and water through effective regulation
- Support science research, technologies and arts engagement that improve health outcomes



Create jobs in a strong economy

- Facilitate sustainable development
- Identify opportunities to support growth in eco nature-based, arts and cultural tourism



Give all our children a great start

- Support arts programs and develop science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning pathways for young children
- Provide opportunities for children to learn about and experience the natural environment and cultural and heritage values



Be a responsive government

- Engage, collaborate and partner with First Nations peoples and key stakeholders
- Design and deliver improved customer-focused services

OUR OBJECTIVES

Lead climate change action



Protect the Great Barrier Reef



Conserve Queensland's protected areas and biodiversity



Strengthen our partnerships with First Nations peoples



Protect the health of the environment and our communities



Promote engagement with the arts and heritage



Strengthen and harness Queensland's scientific excellence



OUR STRATEGIES

Lead whole-of-government climate change transition and adaptation strategies

Facilitate interventions to deliver carbon and biodiversity co-benefits

Raise climate change awareness and policy action through a series of forums and events

Support collaboration across government, business, research and community sectors

Lead the progress towards 2025 Great Barrier Reef water quality targets

Lead the implementation of the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program

In partnership with the Australian Government, lead the implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan

Set policy and deliver programs, underpinned by science, to protect Queensland's natural and cultural values and ecosystems

Improve strategic approaches to biodiversity and threatened species management

Enhance protected area management practices and partnerships

Support nature-based tourism and recreation opportunities

Partner with First Nations peoples to co-steward protected areas

Respect and incorporate First Nations knowledge in land and sea management

Embed First Nations knowledge and leadership in our systems, policies and programs

Increase policy and program co-design with First Nations peoples

Implement the Queensland Waste Strategy to reduce waste and increase recycling

Build new opportunities through a circular economy

Engage industry, community and stakeholders to manage environmental impacts

Deliver an improved regulatory framework to reduce environmental harm

Create a 10-year roadmap and action plan for arts, culture and creativity in Queensland

Protect and celebrate Queensland's unique heritage

Invest in new and enhanced cultural infrastructure

Provide greater opportunities to experience arts and culture

Promote Queensland stories and creative talent

Provide leading-edge science to support government decision making

Maximise community engagement in science

Strengthen the science base in Queensland and improve the translation of research

Harness digital and disruptive technologies to increase our impact

OUR OUTCOME INDICATORS

Contribution towards the government's target of:

- **30%** reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- **zero** net emissions by 2050

Contribution towards the government's target of:

- **60%** reduction in anthropogenic end-of-catchment dissolved inorganic nitrogen loads
- **25%** reduction in anthropogenic end-of-catchment loads of sediment

Increased percentage of Queensland's land area that is protected

Key natural and cultural values are maintained or improved

Increased number of co-stewardship agreements

Increased employment of First Nations peoples in DES

Increased public access to a wider range of online compliance and enforcement data

Reduction in overall risk to the environment

Reduction in waste to landfill and increased recycling rates

Increased utilisation of, and visitation to, state-owned cultural facilities

Increased participation in Queensland's arts and cultural activities

Increased national and international science collaborations and partnerships

Greater participation in Citizen Science and STEM

OUR OPPORTUNITIES

- Providing stewardship for future generations through early engagement in the environment, science, heritage and the arts
- Transforming our customer experience and the way we do business through new digital technologies
- Collaborating and building partnerships beyond traditional boundaries—global, government and community—to deliver best practice and solutions to complex problems

OUR STRATEGIC RISKS

- Balancing environmental protection with economic development
- Building and maintaining agility to anticipate and respond to emerging trends and issues, and to balance a future focus with current demands
- Adapting our service delivery models and workforce profile to respond to major economic and social shifts brought about by technological transformation, and government and community expectations

