Department of Environment and Science
Strategic Plan 2022–26

Queensland | *Good **jobs*** *Better **services*** *Great **lifestyle***

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.

THE AGENCY SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMMUNITY:

Good jobs: Good, secure jobs in our traditional and emerging industries
- Supporting jobs
- Backing small business
- Investing in skills

Better services: Deliver even better services right across Queensland
- Backing our frontline services
- Keeping Queenslanders safe

Great lifestyle: Protect and enhance our Queensland lifestyle as we grow
- Protecting the environment
- Growing our regions
- Honouring and embracing our rich and ancient cultural history

OUR WORK IS GUIDED BY OUR VALUES:
- Customers first
- Ideas into action
- Unleash potential
- Be courageous
- Empower people

ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR OBJECTIVES IS 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
- Promoting and supporting good governance and the ethical conduct of all employees
- Embedding First Nations peoples' knowledge and leadership in our systems, policies and programs through the Gurra Gurra Framework
- 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

Our key objectives	How we contribute to Queensland Government objectives	Our key strategies and programs to achieve our objectives	Indicators of our success
Conserve and restore Queensland's unique biodiversity, heritage and protected areas		• Conserve and protect Queensland's biodiversity, threatened species and critical natural assets • Continue to grow the protected area estate • Partner with First Nations peoples to steward Country and incorporate traditional knowledge in program delivery • Connect people with, and improve accessibility to, Queensland's national parks and our cultural and built heritage • Enhance strategic land use planning in Queensland to support ecologically sustainable development • Facilitate solutions that build environmental and economic resilience to climate change and extreme weather events	• Increased percentage of Queensland's land area that is protected • Increased number and diversity of places with State cultural heritage significance listed in the Queensland Heritage Register • Maintained or improved key natural, cultural and heritage values
Support job creation and the diversification of the Queensland economy		• Enable the continued growth of a strong and compliant resource recovery and recycling manufacturing industry • Support job and business opportunities through national park capital works programs and innovative and sustainable ecotourism • Stimulate natural capital markets and jobs through the Land Restoration Fund, Queensland Natural Capital Fund and the Reef Credits program • Enable the growth of the biodiscovery industry through best practice legislation and streamlined permitting • Enable a strong, resilient Queensland by supporting communities, businesses and government to reduce carbon emissions, manage climate risk and seize the opportunities of a low-carbon economy	• 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 waste reduction 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		• Protect and maintain the value of Queensland's World Heritage areas • Lead the protection and restoration of the Great Barrier Reef through the implementation of reef reforms, water quality programs and regulation • 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	• 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 sediment loads
Empower Queensland's young people		• 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 greater participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects	• Increased inclusion of the voices of young people 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		• Harness Queensland's scientific excellence to support improved government decision making and services, strengthen disaster recovery and resilience, and respond to climate change • Contribute to diversifying Queensland's economy by supporting the translation and commercialisation of Queensland science • Promote science and support Queensland scientists to engage the community and improve science literacy • Implement the Natural Capital Framework underpinned with best practice scientific evidence, monitoring and modelling of the condition and quality of our environment and natural resource assets	• 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		• Provide strong protection for the environment, and human health and wellbeing • Maintain a 'fit for purpose' and streamlined regulatory framework to support economic recovery • Enhance enforcement activities and incident response • Continue to implement rehabilitation reforms, and identify and promote best practice rehabilitation	• 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 by:
- continuously improving our preparedness, response and recovery capability for bushfire and extreme weather events
- acting as an exemplar in climate change mitigation and adaptation
- recognising, respecting and embedding First Nations peoples' knowledge and culture in our work
- delivering a regulatory framework that can adapt to the evolving standards of contemporary environmental regulation and community expectations
- harnessing leading-edge science, technology and innovation to deliver value to the community
- building staff capability to anticipate and respond to emerging risks and opportunities
- communicating clearly, effectively and in a timely manner

We will embrace opportunities to:
- effectively partner with First Nations people 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 the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

Queensland Government