

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Fraser Island

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Australia

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

630

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1992


1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
Fraser Island	-24.583 / 152.5	166283	?	166283	1992
Coolooloolo	-26.383 / 153.5	254283	?	254283	1992
Total (ha)		420566	0	420566	

Comment

Above coordinates incorrectly include Coolooloolo section - which was in the original nomination but was not accepted as part of the World Heritage Area. Correct coordinates are as follows: The Fraser Island World Heritage Area is bounded by: latitude 24° 41' 31" S longitude 152° 55' 54" E and latitude 25° 48' 12" S longitude 153° 21' 42" E Correct ha are as follows: 181,852 ha. Approval by the World Heritage Committee is not required.

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Commonwealth of Australia proposed World Heritage Boundary for the Great Sandy Region, 1:500,000	01/10/1991	

Comment

The current map is not accurate. The State Party has been advised that a process is to be initiated by the World Heritage Centre to obtain updated geographic and cartographic information over the next few months and will await this process. Approval by the World Heritage Committee is not required.

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

Mr Peter Burnett First Assistant Secretary Heritage and Wildlife Division Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities GPO Box 787 ACT 2601 Ph: +61 2 6274 1111 Fax: +61 2 6274 2095 Email: Peter.Burnett@environment.gov.au

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Peter Ogilvie
"Land Management Branch"

Comment

Peter Ogilvie Manager Partnerships and World Heritage Department of Environment and Resource Management GPO Box 2454 QLD 4001 Ph: +61 7 3330 5386 Fax: +61 7 3330 5342 Email: peter.ogilvie@derm.qld.gov.au Charmaine Savage Executive Officer Fraser Island World Heritage Area Department of Environment and Resource Management PO Box 101 Maryborough QLD 4650 Ph: +61 7 4121 1938 Fax: +61 7 4121 1650 Email: charmaine.savage@derm.qld.gov.au

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [The Official Site for Australian Travel and Tourism Australia](#)
2. [Fraser Island \(Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service\)](#)
3. [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)
4. [Fraser Island \(Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts\)](#)

Comment

1. Our Place, World Heritage Collection <http://www.ourplaceworldheritage.com>
2. UNESCO World Heritage Centre <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/630>
3. Fraser Island (Queensland Government DERM, QPWS) http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/world_heritage_areas/fraser_island.html
4. Fraser Island (Australian Government DSEWPC) <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/fraser/index.html>
5. Australia's official Tourism website <http://www.australia.com/index.aspx>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

The Great Sandy Strait is a sand passage estuary between the mainland and Fraser Island. The Great Sandy Strait was listed in 1999 under the 'Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat'. Ramsar (Iran), 2 February 1971. UNTS 14583. The Fraser Island World Heritage Area overlaps the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar site on the western side of the island adjacent the Great Sandy Strait and within the tidal area and 500m seaward of the high water mark.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

A Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value was submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 1 February 2011, awaiting World Heritage Committee approval in June 2012.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(vii)(viii)(ix)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

A description of attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Values per criterion for the Fraser Island World Heritage Area can be found at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/fraser/values.html>

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

Not applicable - refer Question 2.1.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact					Origin
3.1	Buildings and Development						
3.1.1 Housing							
3.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure							
3.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities							
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure							
3.2.2 Air transport infrastructure							
3.2.3 Marine transport infrastructure							
3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure							
3.3	Services Infrastructures						
3.3.2 Renewable energy facilities							
3.3.4 Localised utilities							
3.4	Pollution						
3.4.1 Pollution of marine waters							
3.4.2 Ground water pollution							
3.4.3 Surface water pollution							
3.5	Biological resource use/modification						
3.5.1 Fishing/collecting aquatic resources							
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.1 Wind							
3.7.2 Relative humidity							
3.7.3 Temperature							
3.7.6 Water (rain/water table)							
3.7.7 Pests							
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.1 Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses							
3.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage							
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation							
3.9	Other human activities						
3.9.1 Illegal activities							
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1 Storms							
3.10.3 Drought							
3.10.5 Changes to oceanic waters							
3.10.6 Temperature change							
3.10.7 Other climate change impacts							
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events						
3.11.3 Tsunami/tidal wave							
3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition							
3.11.6 Fire (wildfires)							
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species						
3.12.1 Translocated species							
3.12.2 Invasive/alien terrestrial species							
3.12.3 Invasive / alien freshwater species							
3.13	Management and institutional factors						

				Name	Impact	Origin	
3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring activities							
3.13.3 Management activities							
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside	

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.1 Buildings and Development					
3.1.1 Housing	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure					
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure	localised	on-going	minor	high capacity	static
3.2.2 Air transport infrastructure	restricted	frequent	minor	high capacity	static
3.2.3 Marine transport infrastructure	restricted	on-going	minor	low capacity	static
3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.3 Services Infrastructures					
3.3.4 Localised utilities	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.7 Pests	localised	on-going	minor	low capacity	increasing
3.8 Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.9 Other human activities					
3.9.1 Illegal activities					
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1 Storms	extensive	one off or rare	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10.5 Changes to oceanic waters					
3.10.7 Other climate change impacts	localised	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.11 Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition	localised	intermittent or sporadic	significant	low capacity	static
3.11.6 Fire (wildfires)	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.12 Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species					
3.12.2 Invasive/alien terrestrial species	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.12.3 Invasive / alien freshwater species	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is no buffer zone, and it is not needed

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property **do not limit** the ability to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value but they could be improved

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

The Australian Government is proposing to extend Fraser Island World Heritage Area to include Cooloola section of Great Sandy National Park. This extensive proposed change to the existing World Heritage boundary will call for a complete re-nomination of the World Heritage property. This proposal, named the Great Sandy World Heritage Area, has been recently added to Australia's Tentative List

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

At the time of listing, Commonwealth legislation governing the management of World Heritage Areas was the World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983 ('the WHPC Act'). The WHPC Act enabled the Commonwealth to make regulations to protect Australia's World Heritage Properties from threatening actions identified in the regulations. This legislation, in effect, operated as a last resort mechanism for stopping specific actions.

In 1999, the Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 ('the EPBC Act') was introduced. This Act replaces and significantly improves on the WHPC Act, by ensuring up-front protection and improved management for the world heritage values of Australia's World Heritage Properties.

Comment

All World Heritage properties in Australia are 'matters of national environmental significance' protected and managed under national legislation, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth). By law, any action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on the World Heritage values of a World Heritage property must be referred to the responsible Minister for consideration. This includes impacts originating from outside the property boundary.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of inscription on the World Heritage List

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

Queensland state legislation relevant to the protection and management of the Fraser Island World Heritage Area includes: - Nature Conservation Act 1992 - Recreation Areas Management Act 2006 - Marine Parks Act 2004 - Environmental Protection Act 1994 - Wild Rivers Act 2005 - Sustainable Planning Act 2009 The main regional and local government and statutory controls relevant to FIWHA include: - Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan 2007-2026 - Fraser Coast Regional Council Planning Scheme

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The Great Sandy Region Management Plan (1994) is the principal strategic planning instrument for natural and cultural resource management in the region. FIWHA is managed in accordance with this Management Plan. This plan provides direction on the protection of natural systems, landscapes and cultural heritage values throughout the whole region, and also addresses recreation and visitor activities, the commercial use of resources on public land and water, and development in the region (Fraser Island, Cooloola, and the waters of Hervey Bay, Great Sandy Strait, and the Tin Can Bay Inlet).

The day-to-day management of the Recreation Area is undertaken by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), on behalf of the Recreation Areas Management Board (RAM Board). Other State and Local Government authorities manage other areas within their legislative responsibility.

The RAM Board meets with the property managers approximately twice a year to discuss and approve proposed work programs, budgets, and other management issues. Issues are also dealt with out of session as required. There are no formal arrangements covering dealings with other levels of government or other government agencies, these bodies liaise with and are consulted by QPWS as necessary in the course of normal operating procedure. Issues are also raised directly with the RAM Board, and redirected to the appropriate QPWS office for action. QPWS officers are delegated appropriate powers under the RAM Act 1988.

Comment

The protection and management of the World Heritage Area involves a cooperative approach between Australian Government and Queensland State Government, DERM, QPWS (day-to-day managers of the property). The World Heritage property is managed in accordance with the Great Sandy Region, Management Plan 1994 – 2010. Indigenous, community and scientific Advisory Committees provide advice to government on the identification and mitigation of emerging threats to the World Heritage property.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

The Great Sandy Region Management Plan 1994 – 2010 can be found at:
http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/managing_parks_and_forests/management_plans_and_strategies/great_sandy_region.html There are various other management documents relevant to the World Heritage property including dingo, fire and pest management and emergency response. Some are available on the DERM webpage:
<http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/>

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system/plan is only **partially adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Fair
Local / Municipal authorities	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Fair
Landowners	Fair
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Fair
Tourism industry	Fair
Industry	Not applicable

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities **directly contribute** to some decisions relating to management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples directly contribute to **some decisions** relating to management but their involvement could be improved

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **little or no contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

There is no forestry, mining or agricultural activities within the World Heritage property. Consultation with the Traditional Owners, scientific and local community on matters relating to the protection, conservation, presentation and management of the World Heritage property is fostered through the Fraser Island World Heritage Advisory Committees.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) replaced World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983 (Cth). All state legislation listed in Qu. 4.2.6 (except Nature Conservation Act) has been introduced since inscription of property in 1992. National and state legislation can be found at:

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/ComLaw/legislation/actcompilation1.nsf/sh/browse&VIEW=current&ORDER=bytitle&CATEGORY=actcompilation>
http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/acts_sls/Acts_SL.ht

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Governmental (National / Federal)	2%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	3%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	82%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	13%
Other grants	0%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

No international assistance was received from the World Heritage Fund (USD).

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **sufficient** but further funding would enable more effective management to international best practice standard

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

Most infrastructure is maintained in accordance with an Asset Management System and the majority of assets are in good condition. Priorities for maintenance, repair and/or replacement is determined on a risk assessment basis.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	100%
Part-time	0%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	100%
Seasonal	0%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	98%
Volunteer	2%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Good
Promotion	Good
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	Good
Education	Good
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Good
Tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	High
Promotion	High
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	High
Education	High
Visitor management	High
Conservation	High
Administration	High
Risk preparedness	High
Tourism	High
Enforcement (custodians, police)	High

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient for most key areas but there are gaps

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is considerable research but it is not directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are shared with local participants and some national agencies

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

Papers published about the World Heritage property since the last periodic report can be found at the DERM Fraser Island World Heritage Area webpage, under "useful links": http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/world_heritage_areas/fraser_island.html

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

A workshop coordinated by Fraser Island World Heritage Area Scientific Advisory Committee in 2009 (i) identified following research priorities: climate change impacts, water quality of freshwater lakes, aquifers and creeks and implications of fire regimes on biodiversity and (ii) resolved to promote Fraser Island as national laboratory to study environmental changes and impacts of climate change.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In many locations and easily visible to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Excellent

Local landowners	Excellent
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Average

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a planned education and awareness programme but it only partly meets the needs and could be improved

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has been an important influence on education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted but improvements could be made

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Not provided but needed
Site museum	Not needed
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Adequate
Trails / routes	Excellent
Information materials	Excellent
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Not needed

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

A co-ordinated approach to school-based and community environmental education is in place in Great Sandy Region, raising awareness of World Heritage values, Ramsar and Great Sandy Marine Park. DERM, QPWS has approved 15yr lease (in 2004) to University of Sunshine Coast to manage Dilli Village on eastern coast of island for secondary and tertiary environmental education and research purposes.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Decreasing
Two years ago	Decreasing
Three years ago	Minor Increase
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Minor Increase

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries

Accommodation establishments
Transportation services
Tourism industry
Visitor surveys
Other

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

DERM, QPWS provides a range of visitor management information on DERM webpage and at information centres, including: - Conditions report - 4WD safety information and video - Dingo safety brochures and video - Fire management regulations - Fraser Island map - General park info – park features, camping and accommodation, things to do, pre-visit information, staying safe, looking after the park - Fraser Island Great Walks - World Heritage values, natural environment and cultural history

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected and makes a **substantial contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

Information on number of tourists visiting Fraser Island is collated for free and independent travellers (FITs) and visitors on commercial tours. Records from commercial tour operators are based on an honour system. For FITs, the current system only records the number of vehicle permits issued and not number of passengers. An assumption is made that there are on average three passengers per vehicle. An update of the current permitting system is recommended to record actual visitor numbers.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is considerable monitoring but it is **not directed towards management needs** and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Average
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Average
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Average

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

Not applicable.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

With respect to Qu. 4.8.1, periodic monitoring has occurred since the last reporting period, however further detailed and extensive monitoring is required to better inform management decisions on the protection of outstanding universal values. A systematic monitoring regime is recommended.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure							
3.2.3	Marine transport infrastructure	(vii), (ix) Attributes: Natural beauty, coastlines and wetland ecosystems.	Actions are in accordance with National and State Marine Oil Spill Response Plans. DERM, QPWS is responsible for oiled wildlife recovery.	On-going and event based coastal monitoring and assessment is the responsibility of DERM. Maritime Safety Queensland monitors the safe passage of vessels.	On-going.	Maritime Safety Queensland (monitors designated shipping channels and regulates vessel safety). DEEDI (regulates commercial fishing fleet). DERM (regulates uses in marine park).	On-going sedimentation of barge landings including dredging is monitored and regulated by DERM.
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	(vii), (ix) Attributes: Natural beauty, aquatic ecosystems.	Environmental and engineering risk assessments conducted for air and ground transport infrastructure.	Monitor water quality where there is potential connectivity between roads and freshwater lakes from potential sediment impacts.	On-going.	DERM is responsible for permits/approvals and management plans for air and ground transport infrastructure uses within protected areas. Transport and Main Roads is responsible for regulation of road vehicles.	Potential for erosion and sedimentation (down-cutting) of sand roads and subsequent environmental impacts such as reduced water quality. Disturbed areas on road verges are potential invasion windows for plant pests.
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric							
3.7.7	Pests						
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events							
3.10.1	Storms	(vii), (viii), (ix) Attributes: Coastline (including exposure of coloured sands) and dune systems (including sand blows and dune lakes).	Monitoring of historic and current sand dune movement across Fraser Island. Characterisation of freshwater lakes, aquifers and creeks. Proposed development of climate change strategy for the World Heritage property (and wider region).	Monitoring of eastern beaches, coastal erosion and dune encroachment into lakes.	On-going.	Lead Agency: DERM, QPWS Others Involved: DSEWPC, Fraser Island World Heritage Area Advisory Committees and various universities.	Observed impacts on coastline in recent years. Risk of damage to forests in major storm events, e.g. cyclone. Other significant risk from climate change is sea level rise with potential to impact on wetland systems including patterned fens.
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts						
3.11 Sudden ecological or geological events							
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition						

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.1 Boundaries and Buffer Zones						
	Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment		
4.1.2	Boundaries could be improved	Great Sandy World Heritage Area recently added to Australia's Tentative List. Submission for re-nomination to be jointly prepared by DSEWPC and DERM, QPWS.	1-5 years	DSEWPC and DERM, QPWS	Broad scientific consensus exists for the fact that Fraser Island and Cooloola together represent 'Outstanding Universal Value' for a coastal sand system environment that is substantially enhanced beyond that of each property separately. For example, the old whale-back dune system at Cooloola has not been recognised on Fraser Island; also the Noosa River catchment adds a further component to the geological and geomorphological history of coastal lands not present on Fraser Island.	
4.3 Management System / Management Plan						

4.3.10	There is little or no contact with industry regarding management				
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5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Majority of the World Heritage Area is within a protected area, providing statutory protection and ensuring the integrity of the area is maintained. Identified threatening processes include: recreation/tourism activity, fire, pests and climate change. All of identified threats are currently being, or have potential to be, ameliorated through proactive and effective management. Further research and action on climate change impacts and adaptation is required. The site has a current and effective management plan and the State of Conservation of the Property has been maintained through the provision of significant resources by both national and state governments.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Negative
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Positive
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Not applicable
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff
Staff from other World Heritage properties
Non Governmental Organization
Indigenous peoples
Local community
External experts
Advisory bodies

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

More space is recommended for the questionnaire text boxes to ensure a more detailed/adequate response is provided.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Very poor
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The property's Outstanding Universal Value
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Not Applicable
State Party	Not Applicable
Site Managers	Not Applicable
Advisory Bodies	Not Applicable

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

• **Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance**

Reason for update: A Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value was submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 1 February 2011, awaiting World Heritage Committee approval in June 2012.

• **Geographic Information Table**

Reason for update: Above coordinates incorrectly include Cooloola section - which was in the original nomination but was not accepted as part of the World

Heritage Area. Correct coordinates are as follows: The Fraser Island World Heritage Area is bounded by: latitude 24° 41' 31"S longitude 152° 55' 54"E and latitude 25° 48' 12"S longitude 153° 21' 42"E Correct ha are as follows: 181,852 ha. Approval by the World Heritage Committee is not required.

• **Map(s)**

Reason for update: The current map is not accurate. The State Party has been advised that a process is to be initiated by the World Heritage Centre to obtain updated geographic and cartographic information over the next few months and will await this process. Approval by the World Heritage Committee is not required.

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

none