



Great Keppel Island
REVITALISATION PLAN

EIS UPDATE

Environmental Impact Statement Community Newsletter

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Latest News

Welcome to the second edition of the GKI Revitalisation Plan Project newsletter. This newsletter will be regularly distributed to the community and various stakeholders to keep them abreast of project activities undertaken throughout the EIS process.

In this newsletter you'll find information relating to project timelines and milestones. You'll also be kept up to date with EIS activities on and off the Island including community consultation, land management and constraints mapping.

This newsletter is available to download and view from the GKI Revitalisation Plan website (www.gkiresort.com.au). You may also choose to receive the newsletter electronically by registering online. Alternatively you can contact the Project Team to receive the newsletter in hardcopy.

The Project Team want to keep the community informed about the Plan, the process and the activities being undertaken to achieve revitalisation of Great Keppel Island. An EIS is an iterative process and additional information will be provided as it becomes available. If you have questions relating to the Project or any component of it, please don't hesitate to contact the Project Team through any of the methods provided in this newsletter.

What's been happening

- The EIS consultants have met with all levels of Government to present the key findings of the EIS.
- Consultants are currently finalising the EIS Impact Assessment and Mitigation sections of their respective reports.
- A draft Land Management Plan is being prepared and will be submitted to the Department of Environment and Resource Management for review as part of the Lease Conditions of Lot 21. GKI Resort Pty Ltd have committed to a number of land management strategies including the control of goats and pests.
- Community consultation is continuing. To date CQ Consulting Group and ImpaxSIA have met with over 100 different stakeholders and groups to discuss the Project.

Website Launch

Go online and check out our new website - www.gkiresort.com.au

The website is aimed at providing you with the latest information on the Project. This includes; the Great Keppel Island Revitalisation Plan, project benefits, media releases, fact sheets, and information on the EIS process including community consultation, timetable of activities and links to relevant information and other websites. You are also able to read about the companies involved in the GKI Revitalisation Plan EIS and the nature of their contribution. The GKI Revitalisation Plan Sustainability Statement and project newsletters are available for download also.



Environmental Constraints Mapping Complete

The environmental specialists have completed the constraints mapping for the GKI Revitalisation Plan EIS.

Constraints maps have been prepared for both terrestrial and marine areas to identify sensitive areas in terms of visual impact, water quality, cultural heritage, world heritage values, flora and fauna, soils, noise, town planning, air quality and social impacts.

The Project architects are now preparing the concept design for the GKI Revitalisation Plan, using these constraints maps. On completion of the first draft the consultant specialists will review the proposed design to ensure any impacts can be mitigated.

The public display of the draft EIS will include the constraints mapping and concept designs.



Aerial view of part of the existing Resort.

Work Method Statements

Work Method Statements (WMS) are documents that give specific instructions on how a task will be performed in a safe manner and how possible damage or incidents can be avoided.

WMS are prepared for all activities undertaken by our Project Team on the Island to identify potential risks and appropriate mitigation measures to protect environmental and cultural values as well as ensure the safety of the Project Team. The WMS include a description of how an activity will be performed and an explanation of how control measures would be monitored and reviewed to protect identified values and ensure safe work practices.

While working on this Project the Project Team want to take every possible measure to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Island and the protection of Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Values.

Consultant Profile

ASK Consulting Engineers

ASK Consulting Engineers have been engaged by GKI Resort Pty Ltd to assess the potential noise and air quality impacts from the proposed Plan.

ASK Consulting Engineers provide clients with a range of specialist acoustic engineering and scientific services. The company has been in operation for 18 years and consists of a team of highly skilled engineers and scientists trained to provide clients with the most practical solutions to their problems. Each of ASK's

engineers and scientists has a wealth of knowledge and experience gained from working on numerous and diverse projects.

ASK values the importance of clean communications with their clients. They consistently maintain an open and clear dialogues, keeping all stakeholders informed throughout the engineering process. This allows ASK to deliver services on time and within budget but to also exceed client expectations.

The ASK team aims to achieve socially, environmentally and economically sustainable solutions for clients. They strive to deliver an efficient and professional level of service by ensuring they thoroughly understand and fulfill clients' needs.

The company appreciates the importance of professional and personal ethics and values the service, support and success of both clients and staff. ASK aims to build long-term, mutually rewarding working relationships with clients and to provide a satisfying and rewarding work environment for employees.

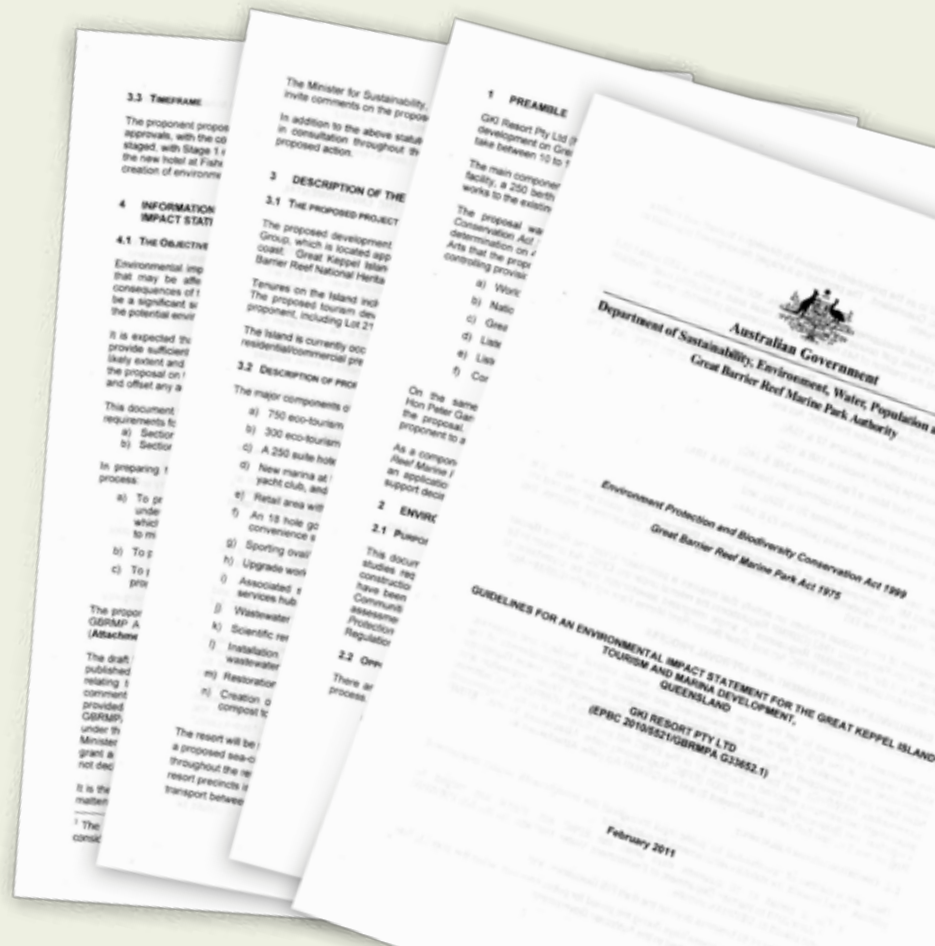


Federal Government Guidelines

The final Federal Guidelines have now been released for the GKI Revitalisation Plan EIS. Release of these Guidelines will now enable the Project Team to ensure any additional activities determined through public comments and submissions as necessary to determine potential impacts, are undertaken.

The Federal Guidelines will sit alongside the State Government Terms of Reference as two separate scoping documents, which will guide the content of the final EIS.

While many of the baseline studies are similarly required by both the federal government and the state government, two sets of process must run through side by side effectively to produce the EIS.





Consultants and stakeholders inspecting Great Keppel Island in February.

Community Consultation Update

The EIS requires the Great Keppel Island Revitalisation Plan Project Team to prepare a Social Impact Assessment to gauge the potential social impacts of the proposed plan on the Island and surrounding communities.

This consultation activity has to date involved: one on one interviews with Island residents, Island businesses and other interested parties as well as focus group meetings, and telephone interviews with other identified stakeholders. A random phone survey with regional residents has also been conducted by Newspoll to gather broader community feedback about the proposed Plan and its various components.

Part of community consultation ensures that residents on the Island and other stakeholders have their opinions on the revitalisation of GKI heard. A recent focus group on the Island also helped to collate some common values of the Island as perceived by its residents and business owners.

The values below highlight an overview of some of the values identified by Great Keppel Island business owners. Their comments in full will be incorporated into community consultation reporting.

- The Island offers an abundance of natural wonders to explore, including its beautiful landscape, pristine swimming beaches and hidden valleys.
- The secluded Island is a unique place to visit that offers an environment of relaxation and freedom.
- The Island has a balanced atmosphere, with designated quiet areas and other areas for energetic activities.
- The Island offers a perfect location for family getaways, as a place of solitude, or to enjoy the wildlife, nature, and bio-diversity.
- Both safety and preservation of the Island are of utmost importance.



Waste collection for residents of the Island.

Feral goats roaming the Island.

What is an Environment Management Plan?

An **Environment Management Plan (EMP)** is one of the most important outputs from an EIS process.

An EMP forms part of an EIS and outlines the mitigation measures that need to be incorporated into a project’s design, construction and operational phases to avoid or minimise harm to social, environmental and cultural values identified through an EIS.

The GKI Revitalisation Plan EMP will outline the environmental management commitments, conditions and statutory requirements that GKI Resort Pty Ltd will need to implement. An EMP is a living document, in that it may change and improve over time in the light of ongoing monitoring results, new techniques and relevant legislative requirements.

WHAT IS A LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Local environmental, planning and engineering firm CQ Consulting Group is currently preparing an EMP with input from all the specialists who worked on the EIS and from the public (gathered during the community consultation program). CQ Consulting Group has also been engaged by GKI Resort Pty Ltd to develop a **Land Management Plan (LMP)** which is a requirement as per the lease conditions of Lot 21. The community consultation program has reinforced the need for an LMP to improve the management of weeds, feral goats and infrastructure on the Island. The LMP outlines short term, medium term and long term land management initiatives for the Island.

Activities nominated in the LMP focus on maintaining the existing values within Lot 21, and implementing appropriate land management techniques to protect these values. Specifically, this will be achieved through a combination of a range of different measures, including removal of feral goats and active weed management initiatives; protection of native flora and fauna of the Island; fire risk management; maintenance of existing assets within Lot 21; waste management procedures; and cultural heritage protection. The draft LMP will be reviewed by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM).



Leekes Homestead on Great Keppel Island, where a conservation plan is being prepared.



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Field Studies Update

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Since the previous newsletter, Converge Heritage Consultants have conducted an inspection of Leekes Homestead and are currently preparing a Conservation Plan as part of the EIS.

Geotechnical firm Douglas Partners installed bores on the Island to determine the depth and quality of groundwaters as part of design modeling for irrigation and reuse of wastewaters from the proposed development. frc Environmental's aquatic ecology team has been back in the water in recent months doing the sea grass and coral surveys around the Island.



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Meet with CQ Consulting Group team members at 21 East Street, Rockhampton.

www.gkiresort.com.au
(Information about the project, the developer or to register interest)

www.cqenviro.com.au
(Information about the EIS approval process or to have your say)