

# 2017

Queensland Conservation Council  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



Queensland  
Conservation

Since 1969 we have worked with our Members, supporters and the community to protect, conserve and sustain Queensland's unique environments.





# Contents



About Us	6
Our Values	6
QCC Organisational Structure	7
From the Chair	8
Coordinator's Report	10
Achievements	12
Activities	13
Queensland Women's Week	16
Members	18
Current QCC Members	19
Committees	20
Collaborations	22
Campaign Updates	23
Our Staff	24
QCC Supporters	25
Governance	26
Our Executive	27
Treasurer's Report	28
Financial reports	29





We pay our respects to the many diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners of the lands, waters and seas of today's Queensland, and their custodianship of these over millennia. We recognise their continuing efforts to care for these lands, waters and seas in the face of dispossession, extreme prejudice and enforced hardship. We acknowledge their living cultures, languages, customs and traditions and pay our respects to their Elders – past, present and future.

In doing so, we recognise the deep knowledge of place and associated living things which many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to hold to this day, whilst accepting that there is meaning and knowledges that science cannot tell us, and which are not ours to own.

We seek to collaborate across cultures in allied solidarity for an ecologically sustainable future.











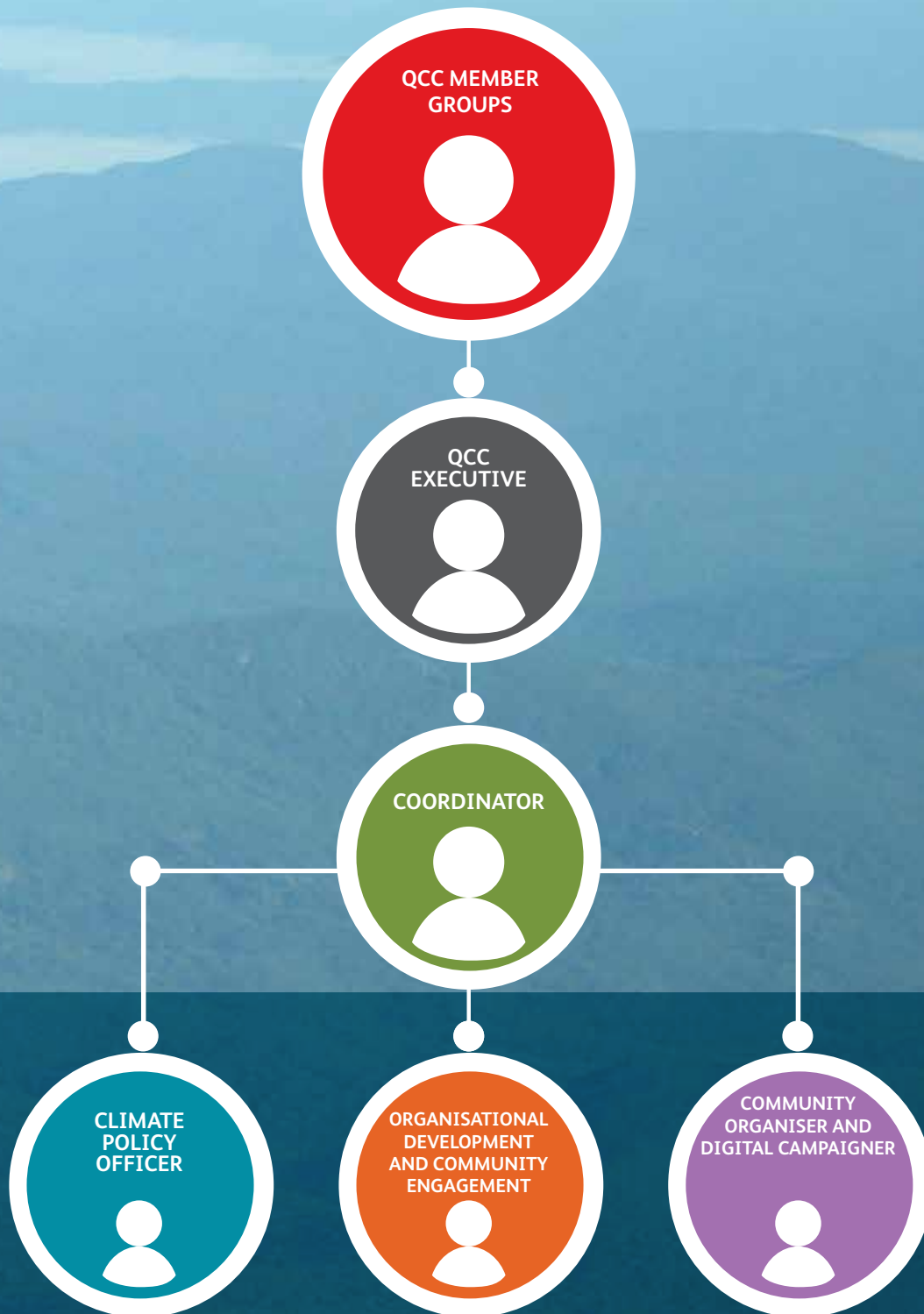
## About Us

### Queensland Conservation Council

We are the peak body for conservation groups in Queensland, and we work together with our fellow conservation groups across the state to engage organisations, communities and individuals to defend nature for current and future generations.

Since 1969 we have worked with our members, supporters and the community to protect, conserve and sustain Queensland's unique environments.

# QCC Organisational Structure

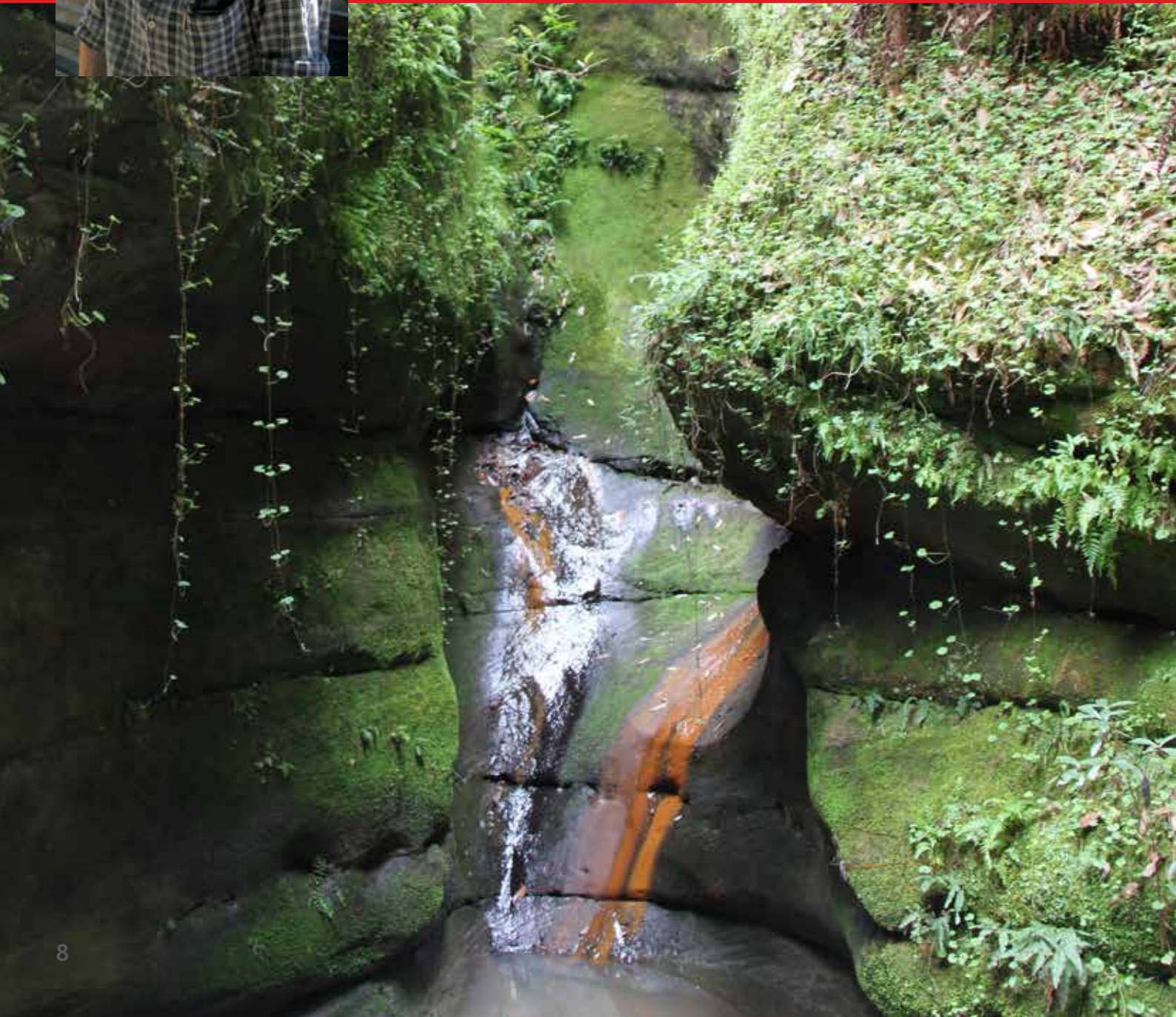




# From the chair



Over the past year, QCC has consolidated its position after the difficulties of the preceding two years and started to expand its funding and staffing. This has allowed us to rebuild our role as the peak body of the environmental movement in this state and our profile as the main spokes organisation for the movement.







Not a moment too soon, we hear many say, because the environment and the community in Queensland are under increasing pressure from climate change, deforestation, loss of habitat and biodiversity, pollution and excessive, unregulated development. Awareness of these escalating threats has motivated the Executive and Staff to work hard to ensure that QCC is able to fully play its role in working to counter these threats and develop and promote sustainable alternatives.

A planning weekend early in the year established clear direction for our campaigns and for our work of engaging with and supporting our member groups. The staff, under the leadership of Tim Seelig, our coordinator, have taken the campaigns forward through QCC's leading roles in both the Sun Powered Queensland alliance and the Land Clearing alliance and it has been pleasing to see the recent strong growth in the roll out of renewable energy and the increasing focus on land clearing as a key issue in the coming state election.

The Executive has been pleased also with the increasing level of engagement with our member groups, through a Women in Environment workshop in N QLD and a series of member meetings, training webinars and e-newsletters, coordinated by Liz Murphy-Forrester. Visits to regional groups by the coordinator and facilitation of successful roundtables with the government have also helped keep QCC relevant and useful to its member groups as they endeavour to act and lobby on the issues in their areas. QCC has joined with other environmental groups

and family members to support women in conservation through the Felicity Wishart Legacy Fund.

Our Community Organisers/Campaigners, Jackson Turner, and now Caspian Bahramshahi, have updated and refined our records and systems to help us engage better with our existing supporters and to enlist new supporters. This work has helped us improve the reach of our campaigns and increase our fundraising success. An active fundraising committee of staff and executive members has sought expert advice and is working to increase our donor funding, while the Coordinator has been successful in attracting extra government and non-government funds to support our work in climate policy and the land clearing campaign. Lisa Cliff has recently joined us as Climate Policy Project Officer.

Meetings of the Executive Committee have been productive and constructive. We have focussed on ensuring the good governance and financing of QCC while supporting the staff in their campaigning, advocacy and member support functions. I thank all members of the Executive Committee for their work and support during the past year, and in particular, our Treasurer, Colin Stewart and Secretary, Ellie Bock.

As QCC approaches its fiftieth anniversary in 2019, I am confident that the organisation is well positioned to continue and expand its crucial role of advocating for our precious environment.

**// DICK COPEMAN**

# Coordinator's Report



The past twelve months have been a pretty frenetic time for the Queensland Conservation Council, with staff, the Executive, and a number of volunteers putting in a huge effort to help better protect nature, address climate change, and make the conservation sector stronger.

Queensland is an amazing place for nature: we have a wide variety of regional ecosystem, and some very special natural areas such as Cape York Peninsula, Channel Country, the Great Barrier Reef, sand islands and coral cays, pristine rivers, rainforests, the Brigalow Belt and vast northern savannah woodlands. We have some spectacular national parks, and marine areas, sensational beaches, and outback landscapes. We have lots of species and are a relative biodiversity hotspot.

There's much to love and look after in natural Queensland, but from a conservation perspective our recent track record of caring and protecting Queensland is pretty patchy. Land clearing is the largest single threat to our biodiversity including threatened species. Land clearing is once again out of control, and our laws need to be much stronger. Key species including Queensland's faunal emblem the Koala are under threat. In SE Qld, we risk losing the koala as a wild species in the next 10 years.

The Great Barrier Reef has been hit hard by climate change warming the oceans – we have had two coral bleaching episodes in as many years. Water quality needs improving, but we also need to do much more as our part in responding to climate change. Our pristine, free flowing rivers are no longer protected from destructive development, and our coastal and urban fringe areas are under constant threat of new development destroying or impacting on natural ecosystems and habitats.

These issues need to be addressed as state policy priorities, and across the board there's no doubt our environmental laws need to be

substantially strengthened to properly protect what we value and treasure. Looking to the longer term, we need to wean our economy away from reliance on mining, and shift to more sustainable opportunities, and transition our energy to renewables and away from coal and gas. The renewables revolution is happening, but it needs steering and support.

Over the last year, QCC has developed a strong news media and social media presence. We have been in the news on TV, radio, print and online almost every week on a variety of issues, including water reforms, plastic bags, return of lands to Traditional Owners, GBR bleaching, State of the Environment, koala protection, transition for Gladstone, Abbot Point coal port and wetlands pollution, Threatened Species Day, Springvale Station, World Environment Day, coal dust and pollution, Queensland's biodiversity, Queensland Climate Change policy, Adani royalties subsidies and NAIF loan, and a large number of items on land clearing and renewables.

We have made a number of submissions to government, raising issues such as renewable energy, retirement of coal fired power stations, Koalas, Gas Action Plan, Climate Adaptation Protected Areas Murray Darling Basin Plan, ShapingSEQ Plan, Land Clearing Alliance, DGR reform, Stop Adani Bill, Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill, and others. We have also written letters, joint letters, or expressed support on World Heritage Tentative Listing of Quandamooka land and water, Colton Coal Mine, Joint Management of Moreton Is NP, carbon farming priorities, and several other matters.





We have convened a number of forums, meetings and engagement opportunities for member groups and others in the conservation sector on a range of state, regional and local priorities. We have convened NGO forums on current issues for groups including land clearing, climate and renewables policy, state government environmental policy priorities, and future directions for Queensland, and the Environment Minister's Roundtables. We have also made presentations on environmental issues at conference, spoken at rallies and commenced a new program of skill-sharing and training webinars for groups.

We have met regularly with a wide range of state and federal MPs, including Ministers, Opposition front benchers, other MPs and their advisors to raise priority conservation issues, discuss policy options and responses, and ensure that nature and climate are seen as critical considerations in government action and current/future policy development. As we approach the next state election (due by early May 2018), we are working hard to make sure nature is not forgotten.

Internally, the team has also been very active in some important work to make our organisation and workplace more productive. We have developed the new website and this will be undergoing some further enhancements soon,

we have been ensuring our contact data are up to date, and as our team has been growing and changing, we have been improving our office space and looking into options for new premises.

The past twelve months have been super busy, but they have also been an incredibly industrious, creative and rewarding time for me as Coordinator. I am very fortunate to work with such a talented and energetic team, and am privileged to be able to work with and for our members and broader conservation sector to secure a healthier environment for nature and people.

Thanks for all the amazing efforts from the staff over the last year (Liz, Lisa, Caspian, Jackson, David), volunteers, and huge thanks too to the members of the QCC Executive (Dick, Ellie W, Colin, Ellie S, Ellen R, Ted Ellen W and Narelle) who help steer and manage the organisation, and thanks to all our members, donors, supporters and followers.

**// TIM SEELIG, COORDINATOR QCC.**

# Achievements

## Growth

QCC has seen massive growth over the last 12 months as a result of the inspiring efforts of its volunteers, staff, and Executive. The supporter base has grown by 3746 new supporters, nearly doubling the size of the base in just one year from 4564 as of last year to 8310 as of the publication of this report. The monthly eConnections newsletter has been read 8719 times.

Monthly page likes on the Facebook page are up a staggering 928 %, growing from an average seven likes per month in 2015/2016 to sixty five likes per month in 2016/2017. Monthly post engagement is also up 348 % on last year, growing from an average of 6672

engagements per month in 2015/2016 to 23223 engagements per month in 2016/2017.

The staff team has grown as well. In 2017 QCC hired a new Community Organiser, and expanded the team to include a Climate Policy Officer. We also took on a short term Event Coordinator to organise the Sun Powered Queensland Renewables Summit.

We also welcomed 4 new member groups in 2016/2017, bring QCC up to 56 member groups. We would like to welcome Redlands 2030, Western Downs Alliance, Koala Action Inc and Reef Check Australia to the family.

## Supporter Base

# + 3746



- 3746 new supporters (up 82 %, 4564 as of last year to 8310 this year)
- eConnections read 8719 times

## Communications



Facebook:

- Monthly page likes up by 928 % on last year (7/month – 65/month)
- Monthly Post engagement up 348 % on last year (6672/month – 23223/month)





# Activities



## Environment Minister's RoundTables

QCC has again been a co-convenor and facilitator two Environment Minister's Roundtable events in the last twelve months. These are hosted by Dr Steven Miles, Minister for the Environment and Minister for the Great Barrier Reef, and are designed to enable policy engagement between regional conservation councils, QCC, other state and national groups and the Minister and his senior departmental officials. As facilitator, QCC has changed the approaches for the last two events, and has included senior staff from several other departments (including National Parks; Energy and Water; and Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning). QCC also uses the presence of regional cons councils in Brisbane to hold broader sector meetings, skillshare opportunities and events.



## World Environment Day

This year QCC celebrated World Environment Day with some schools in Brisbane. The day was promoted through supporting Active School travel days. QCC staff talked at assemblies, presented books to the library and were present on the day. We look forward to extending this program through our member groups and the local schools in their areas.

QCC also joined member group the Sunshine Coast Environment Council (SCEC) at their World Environment Day Festival.



## Sun Powered Queensland Alliance Pledge Handover

In 2016, 39 groups that wanted to see Queensland become a renewable energy superpower came together and created the Sun Powered Queensland Alliance. Since then almost 25000 people and dozens of community organisations and businesses have signed on to the Sun Powered Qld Pledge. In September 2017 QCC took part in a handover of the collected pledges, and went to parliament with the names of everyone who took the pledge printed on big suns, to be given to minister Steven Miles of the Queensland Government. As part of the creative action, over 50 Queenslanders took part in a solar flash mob, and mimed a chance gathering that erupted into a swell of solar panels, before the pledges were handed over. QCC delegates also met with several members of parliament on the day, including Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and Opposition Shadow Ministers Michael Hart and Christian Rowan.

# Activities (cont.)

## Shelburne Bay region of Cape York Peninsula

**In December 2016, Wuthathi Traditional Owners of Shelburne Bay, Cape York Peninsula celebrated the formal return of their lands and islands.**



Shelburne Bay is an area of outstanding and largely undisturbed natural values and cultural heritage, but has been previously threatened by sand mining and logging. The area is best known for its huge white sand dunes and perched lakes that run right up to the coast line. It also contains ecologically diverse heathlands, rainforest and eucalypt woodlands.



The Queensland Conservation Council was involved in the campaign to prevent sand mining on Shelburne Bay in the early 2000s, and other conservation groups (ACF and The Wilderness Society) were a part of the process of securing substantial government funding to support Cape York

land acquisition and tenure transfers such as Shelburne Bay.

The Cape York Tenure Resolution process, through which the return of the Shelburne Bay lands has been effected, has delivered some 3 million hectares of land returns to Traditional Owners, with a mix of unencumbered Aboriginal Freehold, Aboriginal-owned national park and nature refuge areas.

Conservation groups have supported the process over the years through campaigns for state and federal government funding, and by providing advice on natural values and national park priorities.

Photo Courtesy of Kerry Trapnell





## Caley Valley Wetlands Visit

In May 2017, in response to concerns about coal effluent from Abbot Point overflowing into the Caley Valley Wetlands during Cyclone Debbie, QCC was invited by the Department of Energy and Heritage Protection (EHP) to be present while samples of water and sediment were taken by government scientists.



In August Adani were issued with a \$12,000 fine for exceeding the release amount allocated in a Temporary Emissions licence into the ocean at Abbot Point. In September 2017 results from testing in the Caley Valley Wetlands showed that water at one section contained 10 % coal pollutant. Whether this contamination is a result of water pollution, airborne pollution, or both is not obvious. The absence of baseline historical and periodic data makes it hard to be certain, but there is now strong if not irrefutable evidence that

the coal terminal is responsible. This case has also highlighted that there is a complete lack of baseline and periodic data collection, independent environmental monitoring, and real-time enforcement of standards. Until we know what exactly is going on at Abbot Point, QCC believes the government should seriously consider suspending Adani's operating licences as well as commissioning further research.

# Queensland Women's Week

**The weekend retreat**, held during Queensland Women's Week, saw women from Mackay through to Cairns come together to share stories, skills and strengthen networks. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women shared stories, through dance, about their life journeys and caring for country.

Women shared some stories about past campaigns whilst also reflecting on what has changed and what hasn't. This was an excellent opportunity for emerging advocates for nature to ask questions and deepen their understanding of the issues and the environment movement in QLD/NQLD as a whole.

While some limitations to women's participation and leadership were noted, such as the disparity between representation on the ground, as compared to say in the policy making sphere, and the barriers that caring for children can create. There was an overall focus on resilience, sharing, care and support as key components to facilitating spaces

where women can be empowered and bold in using their voices for nature.

The event was also an opportunity to share skills in community organising, social media and digital technology as well as the making of cloth (recyclable) bags. North Queensland is in the thick of politics around climate change and it is important that the women there have time to come together as they did during this event to share stories and skills, seek support and share challenges. QCC was grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with NQCC in putting this event together. QCC would also like to thank the QLD government and the YWCA for the funding of this event.

In a culture where we are often focused on limitations, 'Empowering NQ women for the Environment' on Magnetic Island was an event that celebrated the incredible capacity of generations of North Queensland women standing up boldly for the environment.





# Empowering NQ women for the Environment



Photo courtesy of Liz Murphy-Forrester



# Members



QCC's membership base is the foundation of the organisation. In 2017 QCC staff have worked hard to develop and implement strong organisational policy and efficient systems that strengthen engagement with its members.

Much of this engagement in 2017 has been focussed around creating opportunities for groups to consult with each other, work together, network and share information. QCC has also created opportunities for capacity building within the sector - with a focus on skill sharing from within the sector.

## Annual Member Survey

The annual member surveys are an important way to ensure that Member Group contact details and nominated representatives are up to date.

This survey also gathers information about where members see their strengths and areas for development - which helps to shape QCC engagement activities.

The annual survey defines what the members hope to get out of their relationship with QCC. To date there has been a 58 % rate of survey participation.



# Current Queensland Conservation Council Members

- Alliance to Save Hinchinbrook Inc
- Animal Liberation Queensland
- Australian Marine Conservation Society
- Australian Rail Tram & Bus Union
- Australian Rainforest Conservation Society Inc
- Australian Whale Conservation Society
- Bat Conservation and Rescue Queensland Inc
- Bayside Creeks Catchment Group
- BirdLife Southern Queensland
- Birds Queensland
- Bribie Island Environmental Protection Assoc. Inc.
- Brisbane Region Environment Council
- Cairns & Far North Environment Centre
- Capricorn Conservation Council
- Catholic Justice & Peace Commission
- Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc
- Conondale Range Conservation
- Darling Downs Environment Council
- Douglas Shire Sustainability Group
- Environmental Defenders Office of Northern Queensland Inc
- Environmental Defenders Office (QLD) Inc
- Environment Council of Central Queensland
- Fitzroy Basin Association
- Fraser Island Defenders Organisation
- Fosi Friends of Stradbroke Island
- Friends of the Earth, Brisbane
- Gecko Environment Council Ass Inc Gecko
- Gladstone Conservation Council
- Householder's Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc
- Invasive Species Council
- Karawatha Forest Protection Society Inc
- Koala Action Inc
- Logan & Albert Conservation Association Inc.
- Mackay Conservation Group
- Maleny Credit Union Ltd (MCU)
- Manduka Community Settlement Coop
- Moreton Island Protection Committee
- National Parks Association of Queensland
- Noosa Parks Association
- North Queensland Conservation Council
- Numinbah Valley Environmental Education Centre
- Protect The Bush Alliance
- Redlands 2030 Inc
- Reef Check Australia
- Save Our Waterways Now Inc
- Stradbroke Island Management Organisation Inc
- Sunshine Coast Environment Council
- The Bimblebox Alliance
- The Wilderness Society Queensland
- Toowoomba Field Naturalists Club Inc
- Western Downs Alliance
- Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council
- Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland
- Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Branch Inc
- Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Logan Branch
- Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Sunshine Coast & Hinterland Inc

# Committees

During 2016/2017 QCC was represented on the committees listed below by the following representatives

Biosecurity Queensland  
Ministerial Advisory  
Committee (BQMAC)  
**Andrew Cox**  
(Invasive Species Council)

Water Engagement Forum-  
Department of Natural  
Resources and Mines

**Currently vacant - Seeking  
Expressions of Interest  
Nigel Parratt – Proxy**

QDOG - Qld Dog  
Offensive Group

**Des Boyland  
(WPSQ)**

Wildlife Advisory  
Committee  
**Pelin Beklenoglu  
(HOPE)**

Regional Landscape  
and Open Advisory  
Committee  
**Ted Fensom (BREC)**

Lake Eyre Basin Community  
Advisory Committee - *This is  
a joint nomination from CCSA,  
QCC and ALEC.*

**Matthew Turner**  
Conservation representative

QIPAC- Queensland  
Invasive Plants and  
Animal Committee  
**Dr Bruce Wilson (QCC)**

Reef 2050 Advisory  
Committee  
*Now Imogen Zethoven,  
formerly Darren Kindleysides  
(AMCS)*

Resources  
Community  
Roundtable  
**Jo Bragg (EDO Qld)**



## Webinars

In 2017 QCC began facilitating webinars as a means of capacity support with member groups. Topics to be covered have been determined by a mix of annual survey results, discussions that have come out of

member gatherings and/or pre Environment Round Table days. The webinars are a means to share the skills that we have in our network and also to bring in content specialists, when required.

Webinar Title	No. of Participants
Nationbuilder Skill Share	6
Social Media	16
Intro to Community Organising	10
Government Engagement Webinar	14

## Member Network Gatherings

This year QCC launched its Member Network Gatherings program. These gatherings are an opportunity for Member Groups, particularly in SEQ, to come together, network and share information. Where possible gatherings are timed to maximise potential attendance from regionally based QCC members, a video link is made available for groups outside of SEQ who wish to participate.

The first gathering hosted by Assoc. Prof James Watson, Acting Director of the Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science who spoke about climate change and threatened species. Other gatherings have focussed on networking opportunities for members.

### Conservation Sector issue briefings



Throughout the year QCC has conducted forums, briefings on issues such as climate change and land clearing. These meetings have been well attended by QCC members, and have become a vital hub of collaboration across the sector.

# Collaborations



## Land Clearing Alliance

After efforts to see Queensland's land clearing laws strengthened in 2016 were frustrated in State Parliament, Queensland Conservation Council has been working with other key conservation and wildlife carer groups across Queensland to build a new alliance to help raise public awareness of the scale of land clearing and its impacts on wildlife and the reef. The Queensland Land Clearing Alliance held a formal launch in May 2017, and comprises QCC, WWF-Australia, the Wilderness Society, Environmental Defenders Office Qld, the Sunshine Coast Environment Council, Gecko Environment Council, Mackay Conservation Group, Cairns and Far North Environment Centre, the Queensland Koala Crusaders, Koala Action Inc, Pine Rivers Koala Care Assoc. and other groups. Each week more groups seek to join.



Photo courtesy of ACF

## SPQ Alliance

The Sun Powered Queensland Alliance formed to call on the Queensland Government to commit to an ambitious renewable energy target, phase out coal-fired power and invest in large-scale clean energy projects across the state. It is made up of 39 organisations statewide, 16 of which are QCC members.





# Campaign Updates



## Land clearing

Land clearing in Queensland has been spiralling out of control over the last few years, following a major weakening of the state's vegetation laws, policies and enforcement processes. Land clearing has a major impact on native wildlife and threatened species which depend on woodlands for habitat. Clearing is also bad for the Great Barrier Reef, waterways, and the climate. QCC has helped lead the work to develop a 10 Point Plan for Land Clearing Reform, which is being promoted to government officials and political parties, and has provided commentary and analysis for a number of media stories on the issues. We have also supported several public engagement events and community actions, and have briefed the conservation sector on the need for reform and how to get involved.



## Renewable Energy

The renewable energy revolution is well underway, and is a key part of the response to climate change. Queensland has been a pioneer on the household rooftop solar front, but had been well behind the eight-ball on larger scale renewables. The Sun-Powered Queensland campaign has sought commitments across the political spectrum to embrace ambitious state targets for renewables and to secure support for the rapid roll-out of large-scale projects, ongoing expansion of household solar and storage, and other smart policies for a clean energy future. The Palaszczuk government has since committed to a 50% Renewable Energy by 2030 target, and the Alliance has met with senior LNP representatives to discuss their position.



## Climate and Transitions

In recognition of the need for informed analysis of and responses to state climate policy development that has been underway within the Queensland government, QCC sought project funds from DEHP to enable it to track the production of the Climate Change Transition Strategy, its further planning and review, and its implementation. We are now in the process of focussing on key aspects of state climate policy and opportunities for conservation sector and broader community engagement on the issues. QCC has also commenced work on what sorts of broader economic and social transitions are either necessary or anticipated in the longer term process of transforming Queensland's energy profile, carbon footprint, and economic foundations to a more sustainable, zero-net emissions position.

# Our Staff

Coordinator

## **Dr Tim Seelig**

The role of coordinator at QCC is to be the public spokesperson for the organisation, and to take the lead in advocating for the key issues facing Queensland's environment. Other responsibilities include leading and managing the organisation, fundraising and organisational budgets.

Organisational Development and Member Engagement

## **Liz Murphy-Forrester**

The role of Organisational Development at QCC focuses on identifying key systems issues within the organisation and developing effective strategies to address them. The Member Engagement role is a point of contact for member groups and is responsible for the engagement of QCC member groups.

Community Organiser + Digital Campaigner

## **Caspian Bahramshahi**

The role of Community Organiser and Digital Campaigner at QCC is to empower everyday Queenslanders to get involved and fight for the protection of our unique ecosystems, as well as engaging communities to take a stand on the issues that affect them directly. They also manage QCC's digital presence through emails, social media, and the website, and ensure that the digital backend of the database is well managed.

Climate Policy Officer

## **Lisa Cliff**

The role of the Climate Officer at QCC is to analyse Queensland's climate change policy; share information with the sector; identify greenhouse gas mitigation priorities for the conservation sector (and broader community); compile a climate transition feedback report from the sector; and provide constructive feedback to government.





# QCC is supported by

QCC wishes to acknowledge the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection for the operating grants provided to the organisation, and the additional Climate Change Policy Project funds for 2017/18.

QCC also acknowledges the financial support it has received from CANA and WWF to undertake specific project work.

We would like to thank our valued donors for their contributions that make our organisation strong and contribute to getting protecting Queensland's natural environments.



Photo courtesy of QCC

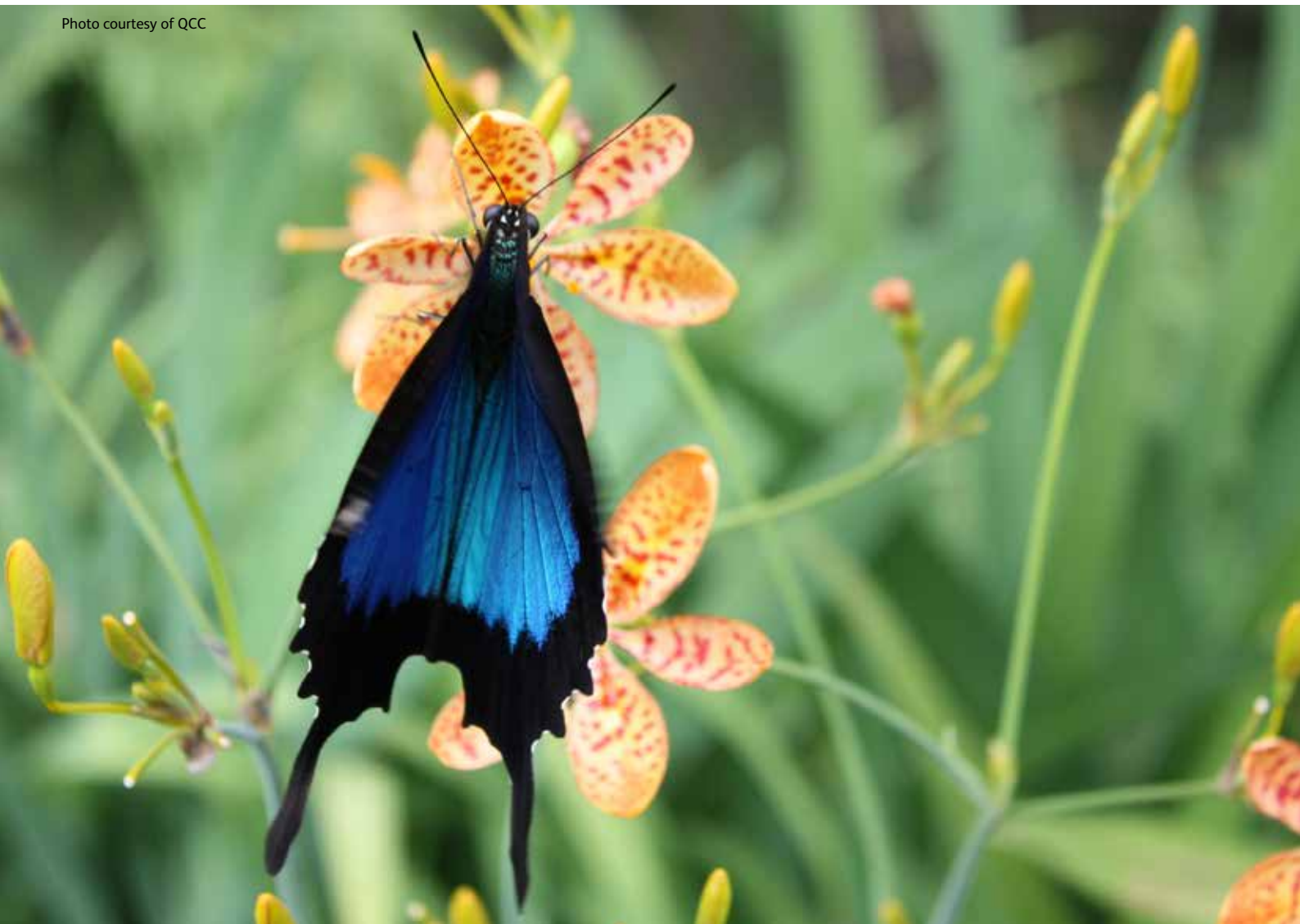
# Governance

Queensland Conservation Council Incorporated is a not-for-profit incorporated association under the *Association Incorporations Act 1981(QLD)*.

Our organisation is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. The Queensland Conservation Council fulfils its governance obligations through reports and returns, as required, to The Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission, The Office of Fair Trading, and the Register of Environment Organisations through the Australian Tax Office.

QCC is governed by an Executive as determined by QCC's constitution. The Executive are appointed by member organisations at the Annual General Meeting. QCC Executive members serve a minimum of one year and do not receive remuneration for their role.

Photo courtesy of QCC





# Our Executive



The Executive's primary role is the good governance of QCC, including the development and monitoring of long term direction and goals. The Executive also appoints and manages the Coordinator and ensures that the organisation complies with its contractual, statutory and legal obligations, remains financially viable and proactively manages risk. The Executive regularly engages with staff via strategy planning sessions, sub-committees and meetings. The Executive meets monthly, as a minimum, and has an ongoing program of reviewing policy areas as part of these meetings. The Executive are also available to provide advice and support as required.

QCC is committed to openness, transparency and accountability. To assist in the execution of its responsibilities the QCC Executive has established sub-committees to investigate various issues and make recommendations to the Executive. Regular sub-committees consist of the Fundraising sub-committee and the Public Fund Management Committee, other committees are formed as required around particular issues, events, policy areas or employee selection.

## Executive members serving in 2016/17

**Chair** – Dick Copeman

**Secretary** – Ellie Bock

**Treasurer** – Colin Stewart

### Ordinary Members

Ellie Smith

Narelle McCarthy

Ellen Weber

Ted Fensom

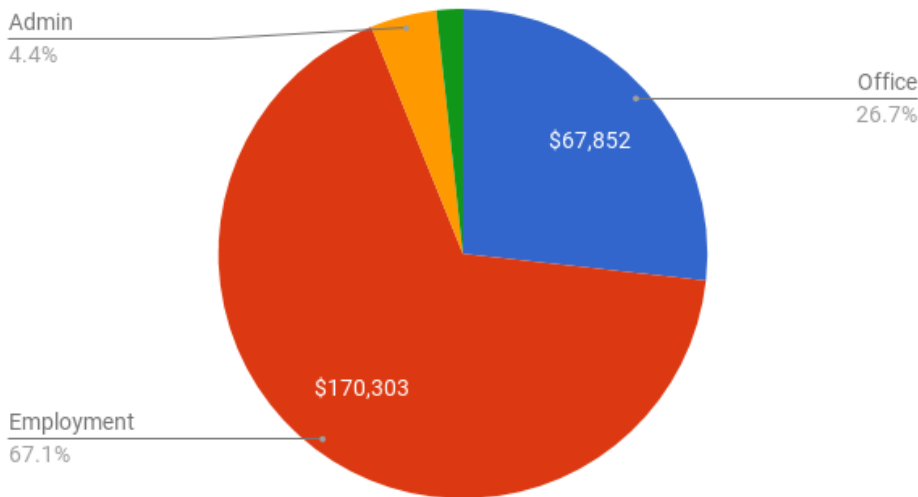
Ellen Roberts



# Treasurer's Report

The Executive had taken the decision to set a significant deficit budget for 2016-17, recognising that it was important that we invest in the organisation, to increase QCC's capability, influence and effectiveness. At the end of the Financial Year we had an operating loss of \$25,538, which was a considerably better result than budgeted due to increased income and decreased costs compared to budget - while still meeting our growth objectives

**Expenses 2016-7 - less Regional Funding (\$254k)**



Thanks to the generous support of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and a range of individual funders QCC is able to carry out its important work. QCC has set a challenging fundraising target for 2017-18 to enable further organisational development and also to help diversify our funding

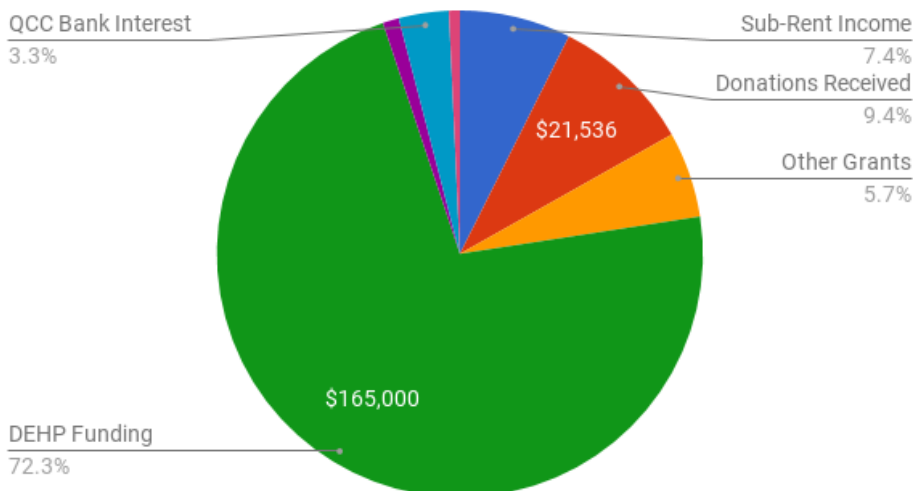
As can be seen most of our expenses are staff and office expenses.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection provide funding to Regional Conservation Councils via QCC - these funds are basically in and out of our accounts and don't affect QCC's budget, so are not included in the charts above, but do appear in the audited accounts.

As at 30/6/2017 QCC had Equity of \$171,818, which means the organisation is well placed financially going forward.

The Audited Accounts are available at the end of this Annual Report.

**Income 2016-7 - less Regional Funding (\$228k)**





**PETER M WILDE & ASSOCIATES**

ACCOUNTING, BUSINESS & TAXATION SERVICES

PETER M WILDE & ASSOC. PTY LTD  
ABN 49 091 492 358  
Suite 12 / 34 Dominions Road  
Ashmore Qld 4214  
PO Box 312  
Ashmore City Qld 4214  
Telephone 07 5597 7228  
Facsimile 07 5597 7229  
info@wildeaccountants.com.au

26 September, 2017

Queensland Conservation Council Inc  
9/10 Thomas Street  
WEST END QLD 4101

Dear Dick

**Re: Independent Auditor's Report**

I am pleased to enclose completed financial statements and audit for the Queensland Conservation Council Inc. with respect to its operations for the year ended 30 June 2017.

The financial statements have been based upon my examination of the accounting documentation and books of account provided by you.

My audit has been undertaken with a view to compliance with relevant Australian Auditing and Accounting Standards and Concepts so as to provide an opinion to members as to the state of affairs of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc.

If you have any questions, please contact me on (07) 5597-7228 and I would be pleased to discuss the matter with you.

Yours faithfully,



**Helene Cassidy CPA**  
**Peter M Wilde & Associates Pty Ltd**

# PETER M WILDE & ASSOCIATES

ACCOUNTING, BUSINESS & TAXATION SERVICES

PETER M WILDE & ASSOC. PTY LTD  
ABN 49 091 492 358  
Suite 12 / 34 Dominions Road  
Ashmore Qld 4214  
PO Box 312  
Ashmore City Qld 4214  
Telephone 07 5597 7228  
Facsimile 07 5597 7229  
info@wildeaccountants.com.au

26 September, 2017

Queensland Conservation Council Inc.  
9/10 Thomas Street  
WEST END QLD 4101

Dear Dick

## Independent Auditor's Report

I have audited the Financial Statements of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2017. The audited statements consist of a Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. I have conducted the audit of the Financial Statements in order to express an opinion to the members of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. My examination included a review of supporting documentation used to prepare the figures in the Financial Statements and an evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates.

This examination has been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material aspects, the Financial Statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Concepts and Standards. I may then present a view that is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc.

## Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements are properly drawn up:

So as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2017 so far as they concern the members.

- (a) In accordance with Statement of Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Standards.

Yours faithfully,



Helene Cassidy CPA  
Peter M Wilde & Associates Pty Ltd



**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**

**ABN 89 717 887 219**

**Financial Statements  
For the year ended 30 June 2017**

**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**

**Contents**

**Committee's Report**

**Income and Expenditure Statement**

**Detailed Balance Sheet**

**Statement by Members of the Committee**

**Certificate by Member of the Committee**



**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Committee's Report**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**

---

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the Queensland Conservation Council Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

**Committee Members**

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Dick COPEMAN  
Colin STEWART  
Ellie SMITH  
Ellen ROBERTS  
Ellie BOCK  
Ted FENSON  
Ellen WEBER  
Narelle McCARTHY

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: .

**Significant Changes**

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**Operating Result**

The deficit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2017	30 June 2016
\$	\$
(25,537.84)	1,177.22

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:

6/10/17



Dick COPEMAN



Colin STEWART

---

**These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.**

**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest received	7,590.98	8,742.63
Fundraising & Appeals	22,586.38	19,599.81
Campaign Income		940.82
Sponsorship/Grants	578,016.55	565,000.00
Member Subscriptions	2,462.05	2,516.36
Expenses Reimbursements	599.33	1,675.85
Sundry Income		135.96
Rents received	16,900.00	21,445.00
Total income	<u>628,155.29</u>	<u>620,056.43</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising and promotion		17.00
Audit fees	1,160.00	1,925.00
Bad Debts		220.00
Bank Fees And Charges	425.46	956.86
Board Meeting Expenses	164.99	230.91
Campaigns & Project Ex	1,398.03	2,076.37
Computer Expenses	3,780.59	1,565.39
Cleaning/rubbish removal	20.87	10.91
Contract payments	7,860.00	12,607.25
Depreciation - other	3,161.76	2,016.88
Electricity	3,444.43	2,325.55
Equipment	79.26	234.77
Events Expenditure	1,530.75	457.10
Environmental Group Funding	400,000.00	400,000.00
Internet & Web Site Fees	40.00	58.05
Legal fees	46.40	
Membership & Subscriptions	500.00	1,102.71
Meetings	308.36	150.44
Spinifex Production & Postage		2,520.91
Photocopier Lease	14,352.22	15,121.28
Printing & stationery	1,729.62	1,119.91
Rent on land & buildings	40,884.12	40,085.03
Repairs & maintenance		75.61
Staff amenities	42.43	307.16
Staff training	1,000.00	

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's  
Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.



**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Staff Acquisition	220.00	
Sundry expenses	85.15	939.32
Superannuation	14,102.66	10,920.46
Telephone & Fax	2,168.16	1,660.91
T-Shirts		2,475.82
Travel, accom & conference	3,120.15	900.68
Wages	151,233.55	116,340.39
Workcover	834.17	456.54
Total expenses	<u>653,693.13</u>	<u>618,879.21</u>
Profit (loss) from ordinary activities before income tax	<u>(25,537.84)</u>	<u>1,177.22</u>
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
Net profit (loss) attributable to the association	<u>(25,537.84)</u>	<u>1,177.22</u>
Total changes in equity of the association	<u>(25,537.84)</u>	<u>1,177.22</u>
Opening retained profits	137,160.52	135,983.30
Net profit (loss) attributable to the association	<u>(25,537.84)</u>	<u>1,177.22</u>
Closing retained profits	<u>111,622.68</u>	<u>137,160.52</u>

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.

**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
MECU - Operation AC		78,574.32	15,327.25
MECU - Public Fund		2,393.30	24,524.64
MECU - Keycard 12112352		1,000.00	
Bendigo - Trust Ac		71.23	9,387.91
Term Deposit - Donations		106,321.24	103,570.82
Paypal		5,592.96	519.36
Term Deposit-138358132		51,645.73	50,330.34
Term Deposit-138359053		38,619.71	16,110.00
		284,218.49	219,770.32
<b>Receivables</b>			
Trade debtors		732.60	
Undeposited receipts		350.00	
Interest Receivable		1,048.54	
Other Debtors		5,000.00	2,202.82
		7,131.14	2,202.82
<b>Other</b>			
Security Bond		8,937.50	8,937.50
Prepaid Expenses		3,418.18	
		12,355.68	8,937.50
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>303,705.31</b>	<b>230,910.64</b>

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's  
 Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.



**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>			
Furniture & Equipment at Cost		4,329.49	3,726.76
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(4,129.30)	(3,497.42)
Plant & equipment - at cost			492.73
Less: Accumulated depreciation			(296.78)
Office equipment		28,932.54	25,554.17
Less: Accumulated amortisation		(21,282.75)	(18,456.09)
		<u>7,849.98</u>	<u>7,523.37</u>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u><b>7,849.98</b></u>	<u><b>7,523.37</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>311,555.29</b></u>	<u><b>238,434.01</b></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Trade creditors		1,125.54	792.00
Sundry Creditors		130.00	
Env Group Funding - Climate		50,000.00	
Future Grants & Donations		30,000.00	30,000.00
Grant - C/Fwd-GCBF			6,699.84
		<u>81,255.54</u>	<u>37,491.84</u>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Accrued Expenses		5,779.20	454.98
		<u>5,779.20</u>	<u>454.98</u>
<b>Current Tax Liabilities</b>			
GST payable control account		6,230.12	1,314.71
Input tax credit control account		(3,219.41)	(1,820.46)
PAYG Withholding Liabilities		2,400.00	1,704.00
		<u>5,410.71</u>	<u>1,198.25</u>

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's  
Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.

**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>Provisions</b>			
Superannuation		3,575.33	3,559.17
Annual Leave		5,029.86	3,919.25
Felicity Wishart Memorial		38,686.22	20,650.00
		<u>47,291.41</u>	<u>28,128.42</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>139,736.86</u>	<u>67,273.49</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>139,736.86</u>	<u>67,273.49</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>171,818.43</u>	<u>171,160.52</u>
<b>Members' Funds</b>			
<b>Reserves</b>			
Capital profit reserve		60,195.75	34,000.00
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		111,622.68	137,160.52
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<u>171,818.43</u>	<u>171,160.52</u>

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's  
 Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.



**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Statement by Members of the Committee**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**


---

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Queensland Conservation Council Inc as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



---

Dick COPEMAN  
President



---

Colin STEWART  
Treasurer

---

**These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.**

**Queensland Conservation Council Inc**  
**ABN 89 717 887 219**  
**Certificate by Member of the Committee**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2017**

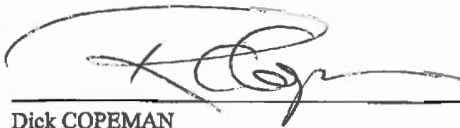
---

I, Dick COPEMAN and I, Colin STEWART certify that:

- a. We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on .
- b. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated

6/10/17



Dick COPEMAN  
Committee Member



Colin STEWART  
Committee Member

---

**These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's  
Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.**





All photos (unless stated otherwise) are courtesy of Tim Seelig.



Queensland  
Conservation

Queensland Conservation Council  
9/10 Thomas Street, West End QLD 4101  
Telephone (07) 3846 7833  
[admin@qldconservation.org.au](mailto:admin@qldconservation.org.au)  
[www.queenslandconservation.org.au](http://www.queenslandconservation.org.au)  
[www.facebook.com/QueenslandConservation/](https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandConservation/)  
[@QLDConservation](https://www.instagram.com/QLDConservation)