



Australian Fossil Mammal Sites - Riversleigh World Heritage

Advisory Committee Meeting Communiqué March 2018

1. The Riversleigh Community and Scientific Advisory Committee welcomes the opportunity to respond and offer advice to the Minister to support World Heritage obligations for the Riversleigh section of the Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (AFMS) (identification, presentation, conservation, protection and management).
2. The Committee's first meeting for 2018 was held in Mount Isa on 5 March and was attended by 10 Committee members including member-designate Councillor Peta MacRae from Mount Isa City Council.
3. The Committee were pleased to note the promotional opportunities for the Riversleigh World Heritage area being explored by the Department of Environment and Science's (DES) Principal Communications Officer. This includes the development of an audio guide to be used by independent visitors to the World Heritage Area and the formalisation of a partnership with Queensland Museum to co-publish a Discovery Guide to Central Queensland.
4. The Committee were appreciative of the brief provided by Tourism and Events Queensland's Director, Outback and Country Queensland, on the new *Best of Queensland Experiences* initiative to identify and benchmark those experiences that best bring the Queensland story to life and consistently deliver a high-quality visitor experience.
5. The Committee endorsed the '*Vision for D-site strategy*' and reiterated their support for Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to seek the necessary budget funding to deliver this strategy. The Committee strongly supports the realisation of the strategy as essential to better convey the Outstanding Universal Value of Riversleigh and improve the Riversleigh visitor experiences.
6. The Committee were pleased to hear that funding had been secured to complete the Site marker project prior to the next meeting proposed for early July at Riversleigh. This project

will deliver significantly improved identification of the locational position of fossil sites and enable adherence to international standards of practice.

7. The Committee agreed that significant benefit might be gained through the Committee seeking further opportunities to engage with Waanyi Advancement Limited and the Waanyi Prescribed Body Corporate in order to promote the opportunities presented by commercial tours to the Bitesantennary Valley adjacent to the existing D-Site visitor experience.
8. The Committee noted with interest the *Reef, Rainforest, Rock and Riversleigh* initiative of the Burke Shire Council, developed as a way to place Riversleigh among other famous Australian icons.
9. The Committee supported the Department's work in commencing development of the Strategic Management Framework, and expressed its interest in continuing to work with DES on its development.
10. The Riversleigh Community and Scientific Advisory Committee would like to thank the Minister for her ongoing interest and support of the work of the RCSAC.