



# CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

National Native Title Conference

2015

1. Welcome
  2. Eco-Infrastructure & Sustainable Land Use
    - a. Strategy
    - b. Proposed Use and Capability
    - c. Next Steps
-

# ABOUT MYAC

- MYAC is a Registered Native Title Body Corporate RNTBC – Prescribed Body Corporate PBC, which holds in trust the MY peoples recognised native title rights and interests.
- MYAC and MY People are the primary decision makers in terms of use, management and activity on our native title lands and waters arising out of the Federal Court native title consent determination made in 2006.
- MYAC is registered with ORIC in accordance with the CATSI Act 2006 and responsible for statutory functions in accordance with s.56 and s.57 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth).
- In 2009 MY established Djunbunji Ltd. Djunbunji Ltd is headed up by a Board of Directors and 100% owned by the MY people. Djunbunji Ltd is has charitable and PBI status.
- Primary Djunbunji Ltd is an agent that delivers services and socio-economic enhancement for the MY People, our country and the wider community.
- In 2011 MYAC made history by securing Australia's first multi-tenured Indigenous Protected Area (IPA). MYSPIC collaborative framework was instrumental in achieving another layer of investment into an environmental economy, education, preservation, natural and cultural values.

# MYAC VISION

- Our land is an important part of our identity and culture. We are protecting and caring for it so it can remain resource rich and in a natural state of beauty. We don't want our land to rot, be taken over by acid sulfate soils or for industry to use it as a dumping ground. We will ensure it will continue to be healthy for many generations to come. We remain obligated to our responsibilities to manage these lands and are restoring the environment and Mandingalbay Yidinji cultural values to educate our people and the wider community on the socio economic importance of management for our land for now and the future. We take pride in our land and have a deep connection to country and for this reason we want to continue managing it in our own unique way. This means using traditional practices to rejuvenate and nourish the land so that our children and their descendants can appreciate its cultural meaning and natural beauty.
- Sharing our pristine natural environment, culture, knowledge and practices with like-minded people from near and far is also important. The way we intend to operate tourism is respectful to, and sustainable for, the land. It helps us to create new skills and allows many of the mob to work on-country. Tourism increases our capacity to earn, learn and become self-sufficient. It provides a solid financial base to support and care for our mob. This will continue long into the future.
- Our land and culture will continue to thrive through our traditional land management and cultural practices. Our legacy is strong and lasting.

# MYAC STRATEGIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC PLAN

## Economic Outcomes

- *Goal: To develop a growing and sustainable economy based on appropriate use of our Country MYAC will support and:*
  - Attract new industries to create new jobs (eg. primary production, tourism, commercial, services).
  - Develop supporting infrastructure across the Mandingalbay Yidinji Country (eg. roads, walking trails, visitors centre).
  - Train and support for Mandingalbay Yidinji people to participate in new industries (value adding).

## Social Outcomes

- *Goal: To replace a welfare dependent community with a community empowered to determine its own future MYAC will support a higher level of social capital through pursuit of the following outcomes:*
  - Facilitating higher levels of education and training.
  - Promoting healthier lifestyles and well-being.
  - Encouraging home ownership.
  - Better/more coordinated service delivery by providers (eg. between State/ Federal agencies).
  - Self-sustainable business growth and industry development.

## Environmental Outcomes

- *Goal: To enhance the natural and cultural environment by protecting and preserving country for its uniqueness. MYAC will support 'Working on Country' initiatives through pursuit of the following outcomes:*
  - Maintaining active engagement and better coordination with natural resource management agencies like Wet Tropics, QPWS and DERM.
  - Developing relevant environmental plans to achieve higher level outcomes geared towards sustainable land management practices, workforce development coupled with career pathways. For example, environmental science, environmental engineering, eco-infrastructure, education, and collaborative investment initiatives supported by local, state and federal government including industry.

# MYAC STRATEGIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC PLAN

## Political Outcomes

- *Goal: To be a voice that influences policy in a positive way MYAC will influence policy through pursuit of the following outcomes:*
  - Delegations to political and bureaucratic representatives on behalf of the Mandingalbay Yidinji people are coordinated and targeted.
  - To maintain an interactive process that facilitates responsibilities, obligations with the support of policy initiatives and indigenous programs, that comprise of linkages to public interests and industry whilst maintaining our cultural integrity.

## Corporate Outcomes

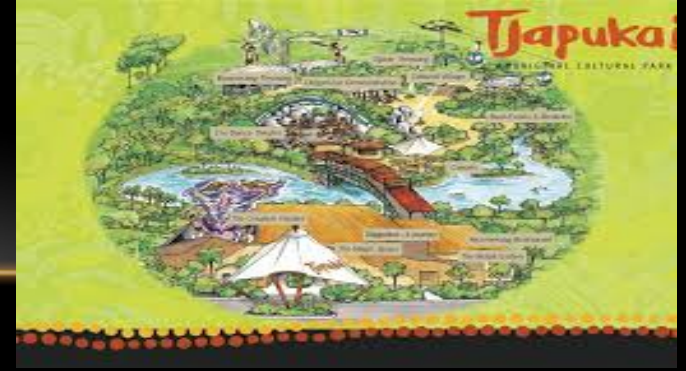
- *Goal: To grow social and professional capital that translates into delivering tangible benefits to the MY community.*
  - Good corporate governance is practised by the Board which is comprised of MY people with a range of professional competencies, supported where necessary by external specialist advice.
  - MYAC, and its subsidiary entities, will drive a sustainable economic future through sound commercial practices, supported at appropriate junctures with government
  - Secure necessary investment.
  - Facilitate a consultative process that includes the requirements of informed decision making, capacity building competencies and creation of viable opportunities in partnerships with stakeholders, industry and interests.

# SUCCESSFUL LOCAL INDIGENOUS ECO-INFRASTRUCTURE ENTERPRISES

## MOSSMAN GORGE CENTRE



## TJAPUKAI ABORIGINAL CULTURAL PARK



# *MANDINGALBAY YIDINJI ECO INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECT*





# MANAGEMENT AIMS

The aims of this strategic property management plan are to:

- Identify what further investigations and plans are required to assist in making an informed decision to progress the project;
- Establish a 'plan of attack' for how the additional work will be undertaken and approximate timeframes for doing the work;
- Create a world class and best practice eco-infrastructure and eco-tourism project that is financially and environmentally feasible to implement and manage;
- Protect, manage and share the cultural significance, stories, history and natural beauty of the site;
- Ensure eco-infrastructure is respectful of the environment and our culture;
- Provide eco-tourism opportunities for local and international visitors through guided and group activities centered around Indigenous cultural heritage, care for country and the natural beauty of the site;
- Provide opportunities to educate people (including our own MY people) on our culture and caring for country through a variety of education and scientific programs;
- Forge strong partnerships with local industry and government to maintain and improve land management;
- Provide opportunities for our people to up-skill, train and earn money for a self-sufficient MYAC;
- Ensure that eco-infrastructure leaves a lasting culture and environmental legacy for future generations; and
- Identify business opportunities for the MY people.

These management aims form the basis of this plan and underpin the development, economic, environmental, social and cultural outcomes sought by the MYAC.

# PURPOSE

- Prepare a plan that identifies eco-infrastructure opportunities and a property management plan that supports the sustainable use, protection and enhancement of 'on the ground' environmental values.
- The plan aims to strengthen the Mandingalbay Yidinji community by identifying opportunities for employment, business creation, training and the ability to reinvest returns in Country for current and future generations. Caring for Country and leaving a lasting legacy of culture for future generations is of the utmost importance.
- The property management plan will also provide an opportunity to develop detailed and collaborative arrangements between the Mandingalbay Yidinji people and other protected area managers (such as the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Wet Tropics Management Authority) for fire management, pest species management, rehabilitation and restoration priorities. Working together will help to achieve the best results possible for the IPA land.
- Engage with the Mandingalbay Yidinji people and to have them involved in deciding the future use and management of their Country. This plan is for everyone and will reflect the united voice of the people.
- Once the messages of the Mandingalbay Yidinji people are clear, the project team will consult with other stakeholders like Cairns Regional Council, the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and local tourism organisations.

# *LOCATION*

- The project involves the development of options for eco-tourism and eco-infrastructure on two of the IPA lands, being Lot 36 on AP7426 and Lot 34 on USL9876 (known to MYAC as 'Lots 2 and 3' of their 4 lot land holdings) with a total area of approximately 143.3 hectares.
- These lots are under the MYAC's ownership through native title and are formally described as Lot 36 on AP7426 and Lot 34.
- These lots are located next to Trinity Inlet and are accessible either by boat from the west and by vehicle across other lots 1 from the east.
- Please refer to next slide, which illustrates the lots.

# SITE IDENTIFICATION



# PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE ZONING



## ZONE 3

"Science, Education & Culture"

- MYAC exclusive areas
- Science & research activities
- Training & cultural activities
- Boardwalk
- School excursions
- Cultural interpretation activities
- Cultural healing
- Guided tours
- Fishing expeditions
- Transport linkage from East to West
- Boat access
- Storage areas

### A Scientific Outlook

## ZONE 2

"Adventure & Performance"

- High viewing tower
- Zip links / flying fox
- Pop up dining
- Adaptive space for overnight stays / temporary architecture
- Performance space / amphitheatre
- Day use areas
- Multi use space (arts and crafts, etc)
- Shade & undercover areas
- Refreshment
- Boardwalk
- Bike riding
- Croc & night tours
- Segway tours

### An Exhilarating Experience

## ZONE 1

"Visitor Welcome"

- Viewing tower
- Visitor information centre
- Guided tours pick up point
- Pop up "golf cart" refreshments
- Small kiosks
- Retail space to sell MYAC products
- Boardwalk

The Place of Welcome & Farewell

# ORGANISATIONAL STRATEGY



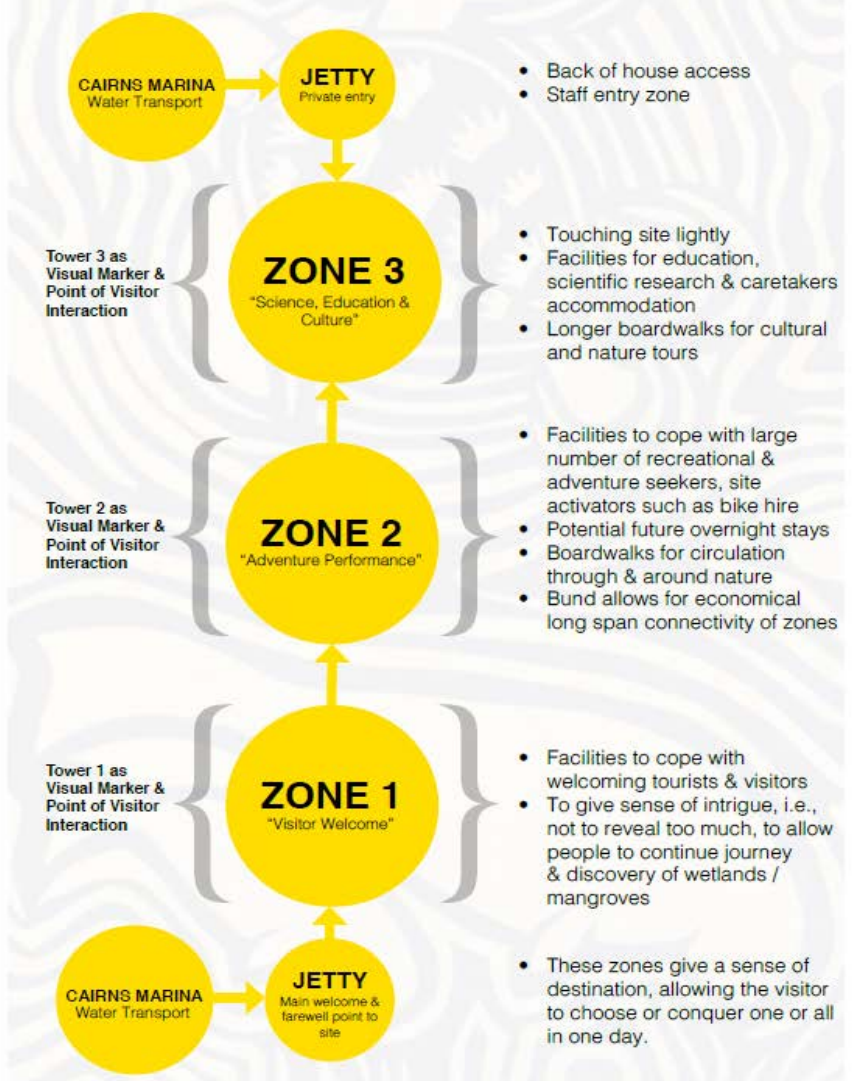
**LEGEND**

- BOAT PATHS
- LINES OF SIGHT FROM TOWER
- PATHWAYS (BOARDWALKS)
- PATHWAYS (BUND TRACK)
- 1**
- 2**
- 3**
- TOWER LOCATIONS
- JETTY LOCATIONS
- O/N ACCOMM.
- SHADE POINTS
- VISUAL PROMINENCE OF TOWERS

- All towers can be exteriorly illuminated for special events via colour & pattern

ORGANISATIONAL STRATEGY

## RATIONALE: A TOWER AS LOCUS OF ZONE

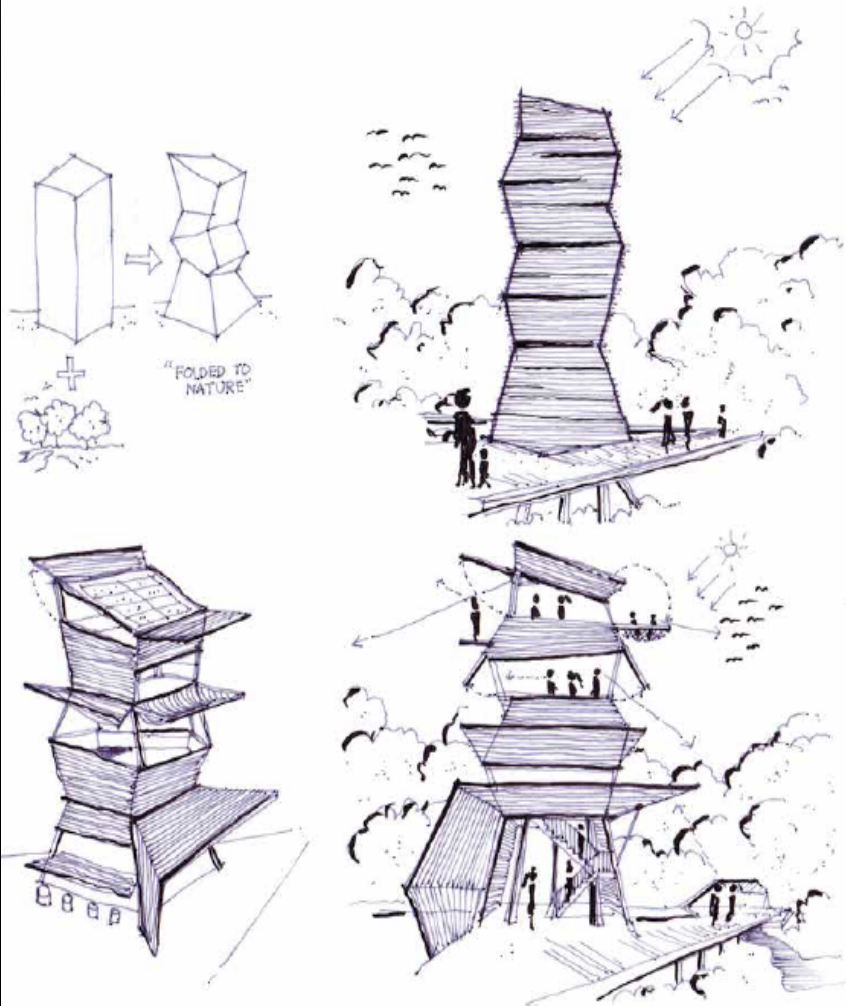


## ORGANISATIONAL STRATEGY

# ECO TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES



# INDICATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN



## TOWER OF WELCOME & FAREWELL

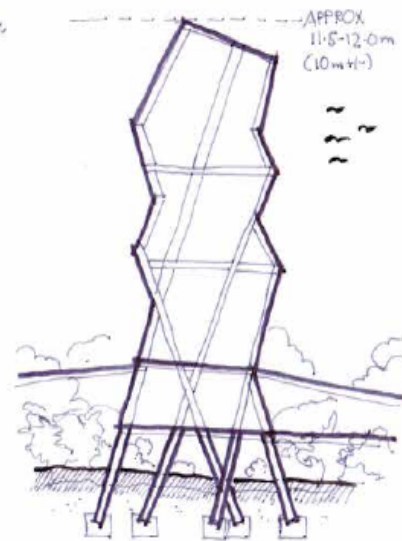
1

- To be connected to jetty
- To have W/C
- "Golf-car" type refreshments
- To provide shade
- Welcome and farell point
- Visitor information & on site office
- Boardwalks to connect to main bund

## TOWER OF ADVENTURE & PERFORMANCE

2

- To have zip line / flying fox
- Viewing point to old & new mangroves
- Compostable W/C
- Disability water lift to top level
- Mix use shaded activity spaces
- Stage and adjacent amphitheatre facilities
- Pop up dining / BBQ areas
- Performance deck
- Photovoltaic cells on roof



## TOWER OF SCIENCE & EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

3

- To have field study centre
- Science research facilities
- Caretaker's room + bed
- Compostable W/C's
- On site photovoltaic cells on roof
- Water and refreshment point for cultural and scientific tours







VIEW FROM RIVER BOATS







# STRENGTHS

- Proximity to Cairns via Boat
- Cultural Heritage (non Indigenous) – Chinese market garden
- Cultural Heritage (Indigenous)
- Marine Environments / Nationally important wetland
- Significant Natural Assets

# CHALLENGES

- Site Access
  - Bund Wall Ownership and Access
  - Acid Sulphate Soils and Contaminants
  - Land Tenure
  - Statutory requirements
  - Adjoining land uses
  - Port Developments
  - Dredging works
  - Sea Level Rise
  - Extreme events and climate change factors
  - Flooding
  - Water Quality
-

# PROJECTED SOCIAL BENEFITS

BENEFITED AREA	BENEFIT	TIMING
Social	Preservation of cultural sites	Short Term
	Funds to invest in cultural education and programs	Short to medium term
	Raise awareness of caring for Country to the wider community	Short-term
	Raise awareness of the cultural significance of the site	Short-term
	Provide opportunities for additional ranger training for MY people	Medium to long term
	Improve skills in hospitality and tourism for MY people	Short to medium term
	Opportunities for the space to be used for social functions and events. Will diversify the range of facilities on offer in Cairns.	Medium-term



# PROJECTED ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

BENEFITED AREA	BENEFIT	TIMING
Environmental	Preservation of environmental significance of the site	Short Term
	Raise awareness of the environmental significance of the area.	Short Term
	Funds to restore degraded environmental areas	Medium Term
	Additional funds for the acid sulphate soil treatment program	Medium Term
	Improve skills and training in science, research and environmental management	Short-Medium Term
	Funding for new environmental management and monitoring programs	Medium Term

# PROJECTED FINANCIAL BENEFITS

Benefited Area	Benefit	Timing
Financial	Revenue to assist the MYAC become self-sufficient	Medium to Long Term
	Revenue for the expansion of the tourist facility	Medium to Long Term
	Additional business opportunities for MY people	Short to Medium Term
	Revenue for the potential purchase of additional traditional lands	Long Term

# RECOMMENDATIONS: PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

#		Recommendations	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
8.1	Emergency Corrective Maintenance	MYAC prepare an emergency corrective maintenance plan. The plan is to be completed prior to the finalisation of the property management plan proper and will be incorporated into that document.	External	
8.2	Planned & Corrective Maintenance	MYAC prepare a property maintenance plan. The plan is to be completed prior to the finalisation of the property management plan proper and will be incorporated into that document.	External	
8.3	Building & Infrastructure Maintenance	MYAC prepare a building and infrastructure maintenance plan. The plan is to be completed prior to the finalisation of the property management plan proper and will be incorporated into that document.	External	
8.4	Environmental Maintenance	MYAC to update all plans associated with the Working on Country program prior to the finalisation of the property management plan proper.	Combined	
8.4.1	Vegetation Management	MYAC undertake a native vegetation and weed survey, prioritise weed control works and allocate resources for this work. A vegetation management plan will need to be prepared and incorporated into the property management plan proper.	Combined	
8.4.2.	Water Quality	MYAC prepare an integrated water cycle management plan (IWCMP). The development designs also need to minimise hardstand areas and detail how runoff will be recycled and purified prior to leaving the site. The plan must be prepared as part of the property management plan proper.	Combined	
8.4.3	Waste and Wastewater Management	MYAC include wastewater management as part of the integrated water cycle management plan (IWCMP). Refer above for detail.	External	

# RECOMMENDATIONS: PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

#		Recommendations	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
8.4.4.	Ecologically Sustainable Practices	MYAC prepare a detailed sustainability strategy for the development of the eco-tourism infrastructure project. This plan will inform the finalisation of the development designs and will need to form part of the property management plan proper. The plan will need to inform the procurement and purchasing strategy (part of the business plan).	External	
8.4.5	Ground and General Site Maintenance	MYAC prepare a ground and general site maintenance plan to form part of the property management plan proper.	Combined	
8.4.6	Third Party Auditing & Quality Assurance	MYAC update existing Quality, OH&S and environmental management plans. Auditing by a third party must be undertaken on a regular basis. The updated plans and auditing results must be included (and updated) in the property management plan proper.	Combined	
8.4.7	Current Maintenance Activities	MYAC update environmental maintenance plans to reflect changed circumstances from the proposed eco-tourism infrastructure. These plans are to form part of the property management plan proper.	Combined	

# DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

- Development Approval for a Material Change of Use under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*;
- Development Approval for Operational Work under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*;
- Development Approval for Building Work under the *Building Act 1975*;
- Development Approval for Tidal Work associated with a Material Change of Use and
- Operational Work under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*;
- Development applications seeking approval for the above works will also trigger referral to the State government. The referral will be handled through a central agency called SARA and is likely to be assessed by the state for matters affecting the following state interests:
- Vegetation clearing;
- Taking or interfering with water;
- Tidal works;
- Development in a fish habitat area;
- Removal, destruction or damage of marine plants;
- Development in or near a wetland;
- Access to and from a state-controlled road (South Pine Road);
- Development in a coastal management district; and
- Tourist attraction impacting on state-owned infrastructure.
- The exact nature of impact and more accurate range of issues would need to be investigated as part of any development application, following the refinement of development

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND PERMIT APPROVALS

- *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and Regulation
- May require the following ERA's:
- Dredging a total of 1000t or more of material from the bed of naturally occurring surface waters, in a year (Schedule 2, Part 4, section 16(1)(a) of the Regulation) – however this would not be required for the construction of a building or place;
- ERA may be required for sewage treatment / disposal under Part 13, Section 63 of the regulation depending on volumes (i.e. 21 EP or more).
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* may be required where the works impact on items or land of cultural significance, a cultural heritage management plan may be required.
- *Water Act 2000* May require:
- A resource operating licence to interfere with the natural flow of water
- A licence to take water from the catchment or taking water from a watercourse
- An interfering with a watercourse permit for interfering, taking and/or controlling the flow of water in a watercourse
- Interfere with overland flow of water or other works in a water course *Vegetation Management Act 1999* Clearing of Native Vegetation, in particular regional ecosystems classified as 'endangered' and 'of concern' would require appropriate offsets.
- Clearing of Native Vegetation may be approved as part of the development application process.
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* A clearing permit would be required for clearing endangered, vulnerable and near threatened plants.
- *Fisheries Act 1994* The clearing of marine vegetation and the construction of waterway barriers requires a permit.
- In addition, Trinity Inlet is a declared Fish Habitat and any building or operational work requires a permit.
- *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*
- Building and operational work within a high tide mark and development within a coastal management district requires a permit.

# NEXT STEPS

- **General work**
- *Undertake technical studies*
- *Negotiation with government*
- *Prepare business plan*
- *Firm up design and activities*

February – July 2015

## New/updated MYAC plans

- Update WOC program*
- Update MYAC strategic plan/organisational profile*
- Prepare management and maintenance plans*
- Update OH&S plan*
- Update governance strategy*

April – October 2015

## Approvals

- Secure rights for jetties*
- Determine necessary planning approvals*
- Determine necessary environmental approvals*
- Prepare development applications*
- Obtain necessary approvals*

July 2015 – March 2016

*ECO-TOURISM ACTIVITIES, S.34 NCA QLD &  
COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY AGREEMENT*

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# INTENDED TOURISM PARTNERSHIPS

- Big Cat Cruises
  - Wet Tropics Management Authority
  - Cairns Regional Council
  - Ports North
  - Savannah Guides
  - TAFE Queensland and James Cook University
  - Old Parks and Wildlife
  - TTNQ
  - Investors
  - Dept. Science, Information Technology and Innovation (DSITI)
-

# TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND VISITOR MARKET PERFORMANCE 2013

- 16% growth in international visitors
- 644,000 total visitors with 620K holiday visitors
- Expenditure total \$1,250 per visitor

China	+45% - 136,000
Europe	+10% - 152,000
North America	+4% - 104,000
Japan	+10% - 96,000

- 11% growth in domestic visitors
- 1.6 million total visitors with 950K holiday visitors
- Expenditure total \$1,000 per visitor
- The average length of stay increased to 5.3 nights

# WHY PEOPLE TRAVEL?

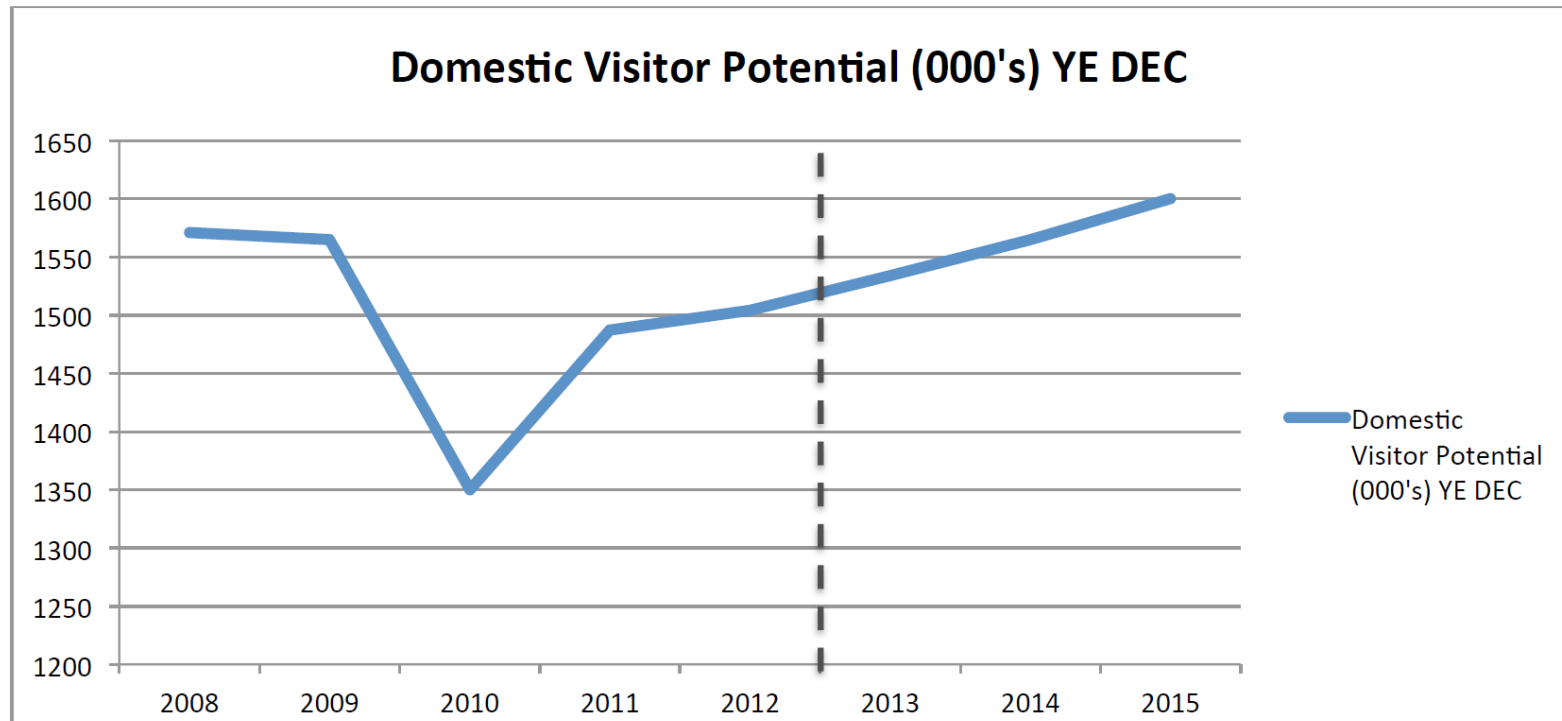


# INDIGENOUS TOURISM

- Only 250 Indigenous owned and managed tourism businesses and events in Australia
- 3.5 million overnight visitors participated in an Aboriginal activity in 2013.

# DOMESTIC STATISTICS

## Visitor Potential Graph:

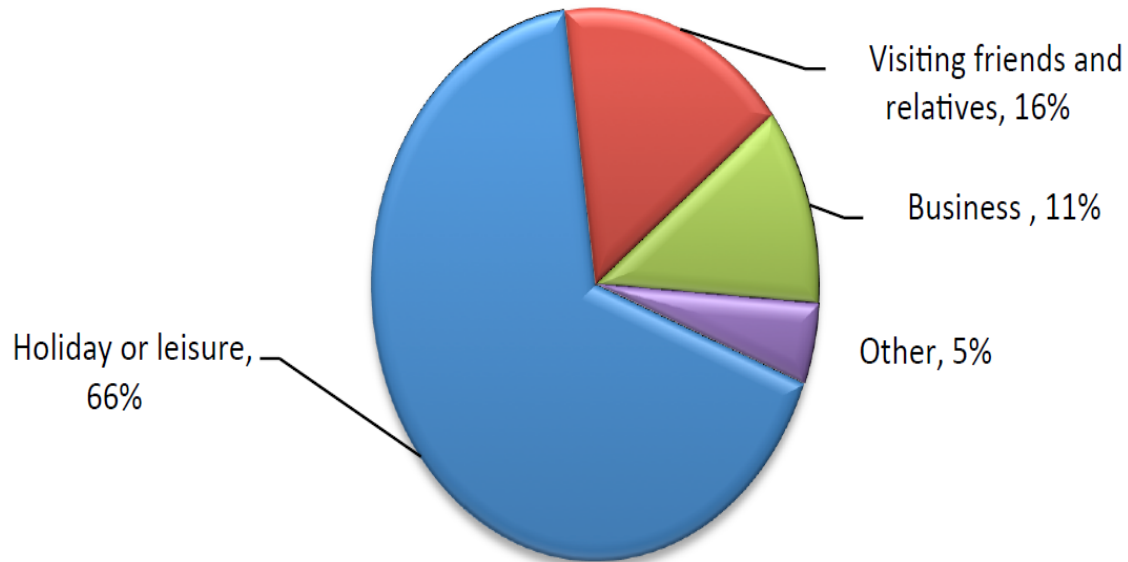


Source: Tropical North Qld, Market Profile Domestic 2013-14

# INTERSTATE VISITORS

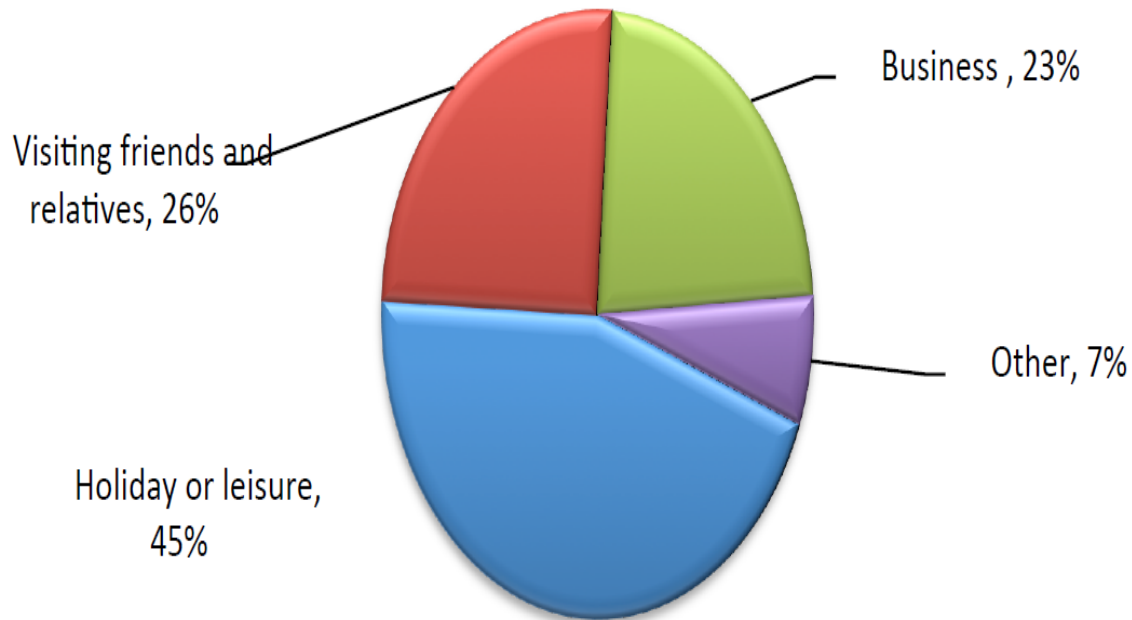
## Analysis of visitors

### Purpose of INTERSTATE Visitors to TNQ 2012

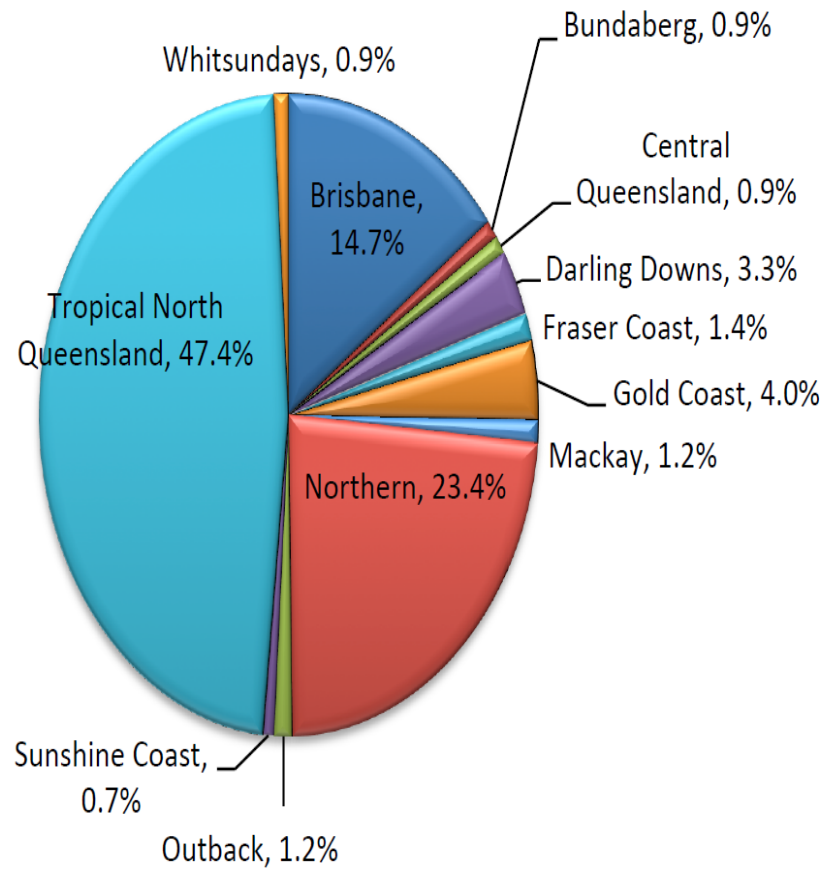


# INTRASTATE VISITORS

## Purpose of INTRASTATE Visitors to TNQ 2012



## Home Region of Intrastate Holiday Visitors to TNQ - YEDEC12



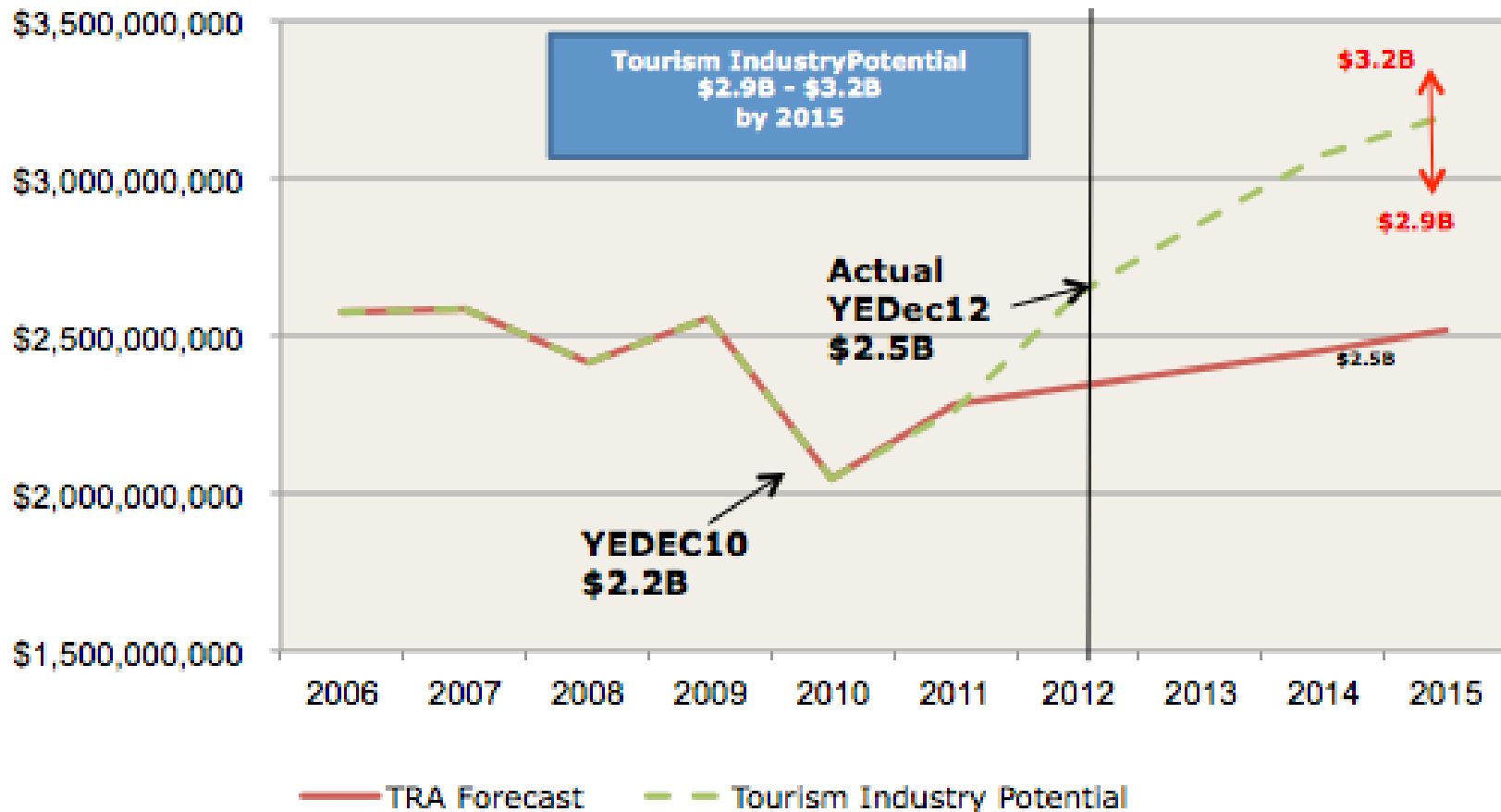


# TARGET SEGMENTS

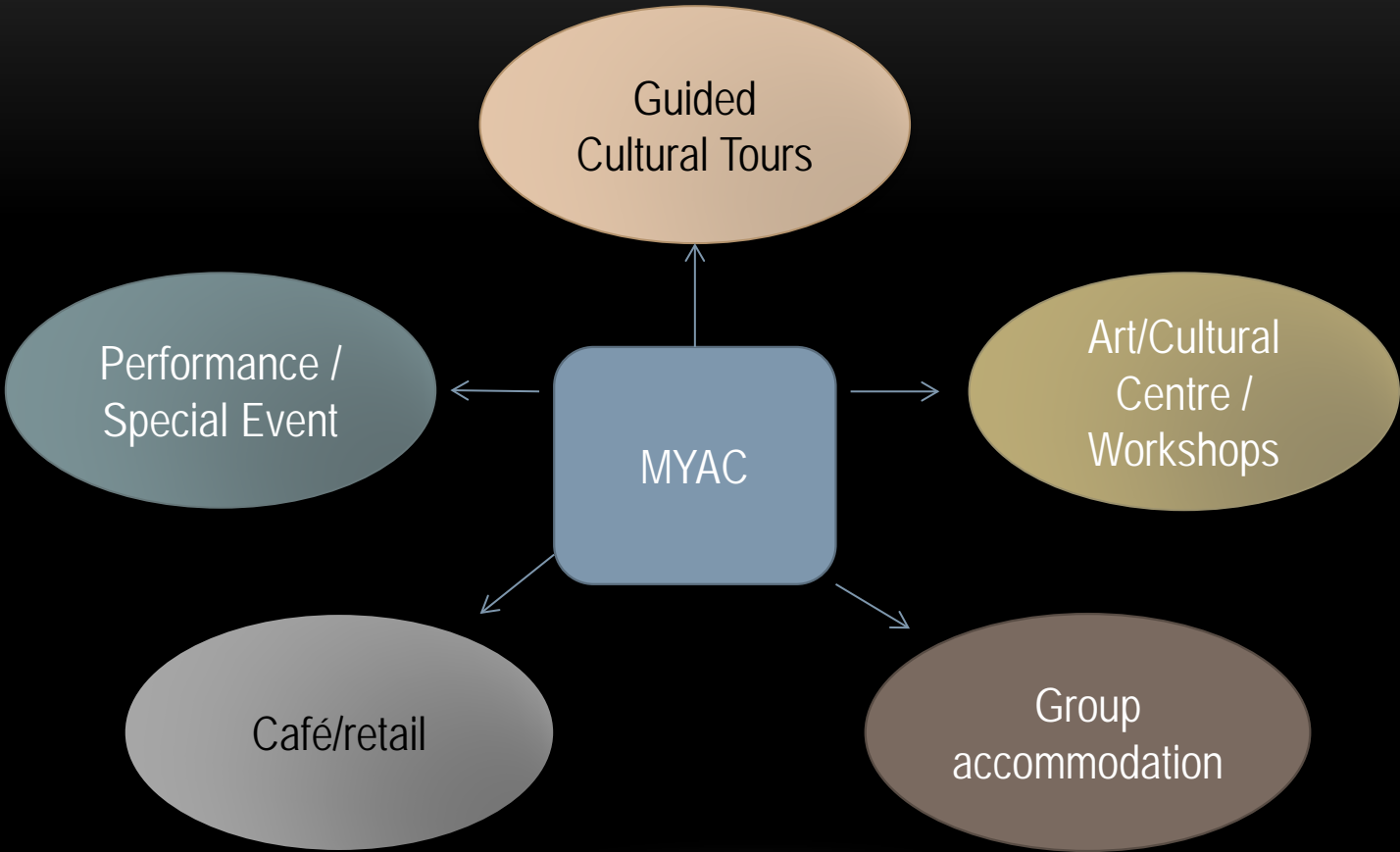
<p><b>Key Segments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Fun seekers (25-45 year olds)</li> <li>• 25% of the domestic holiday market. 2<sup>nd</sup> largest segments with 3.75 million Australians</li> <li>• Connectors 925-30 young family /45-65 couples)</li> <li>• 32% of the domestic holiday market, the largest segment with 4.8 million consumers</li> <li>• Active Explorers (18-35)</li> <li>• 11% of the domestic holiday market, 1.65 million Australians</li> </ul>
<p><b>Experiences Match what do they want to do:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Barrier Reef (Day trip and extended, learn to dive)</li> <li>• Rainforest</li> <li>• Self Drive</li> <li>• Nature experiences</li> <li>• Wildlife</li> <li>• Bird Watching</li> <li>• Local Life Style</li> </ul>
<p><b>Precincts Match</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cairns</li> <li>• Palm Cove</li> <li>• Kuranda</li> <li>• Port Douglas</li> <li>• Daintree/Cape Tribulation</li> <li>• Mission Beach</li> <li>• Atherton Tablelands</li> <li>• Great Barrier Reef Islands</li> </ul>

# TNQ TOURISM INDUSTRY POTENTIAL

The TNQ region has seen a 17% increase on international visitors expenditure and 4% increase on domestic expenditure as of YE December 2012.



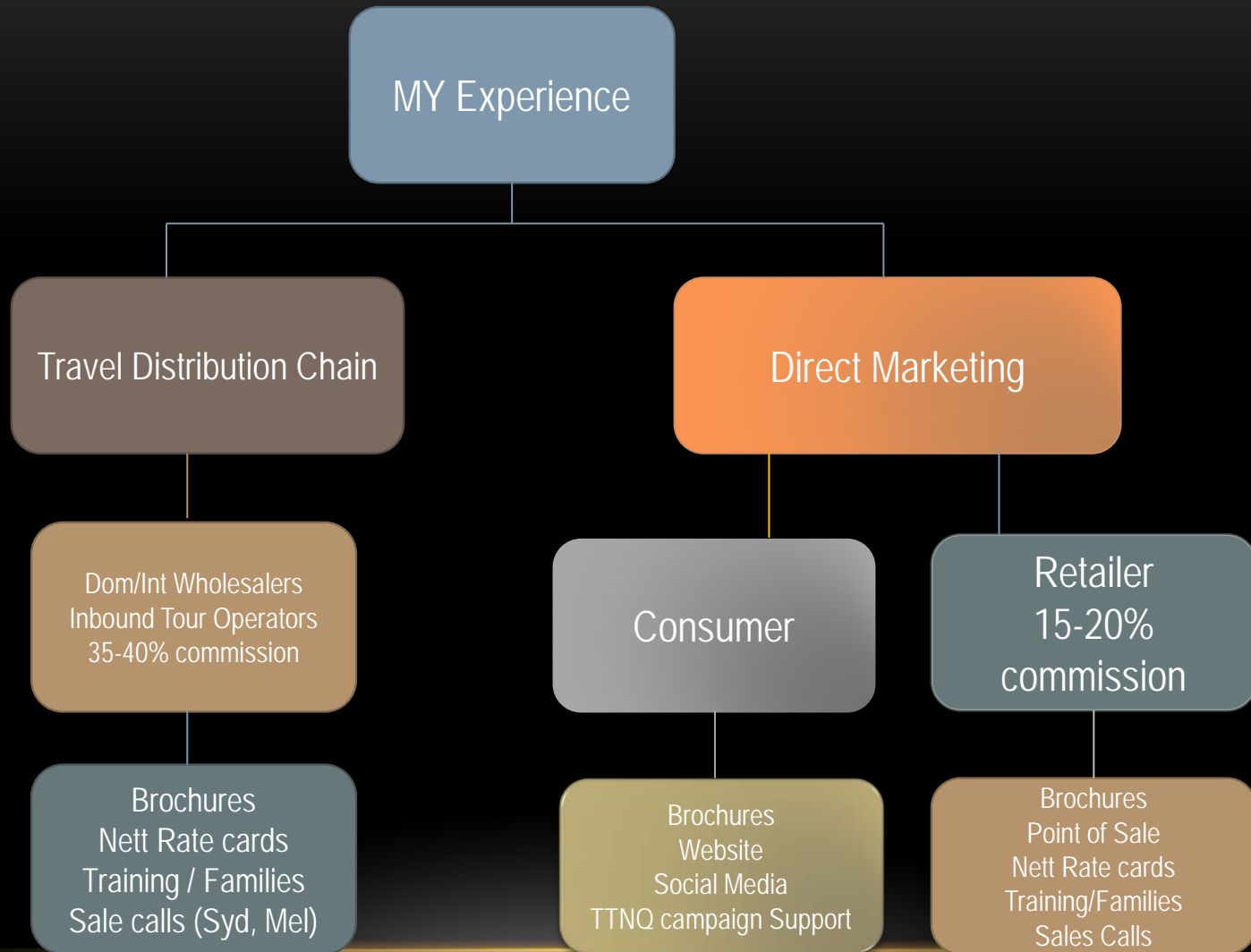
# TOURISM ACTIVITIES



# TOURISM ACTIVITIES - PHASE ONE

- Guided 3 hour MY Cultural Tour
  - Mandingalbay Yidinji guides
  - Interpretation of the cultural landscape / creation story
  - Return boat transfer across sheltered Trinity inlet from Reef fleet terminal
  - Pristine Mangrove/Wetland environment
  - Learn how MY are regenerating and protecting the environment through their innovative land and Sea Ranger Program
  - Grey Peaks National Park:
    - Artefacts, Bush foods and midden walk
    - Historical presentation
  - Hosting Corporate and other events, such as training
-

# SALES AND MARKETING STRATEGY

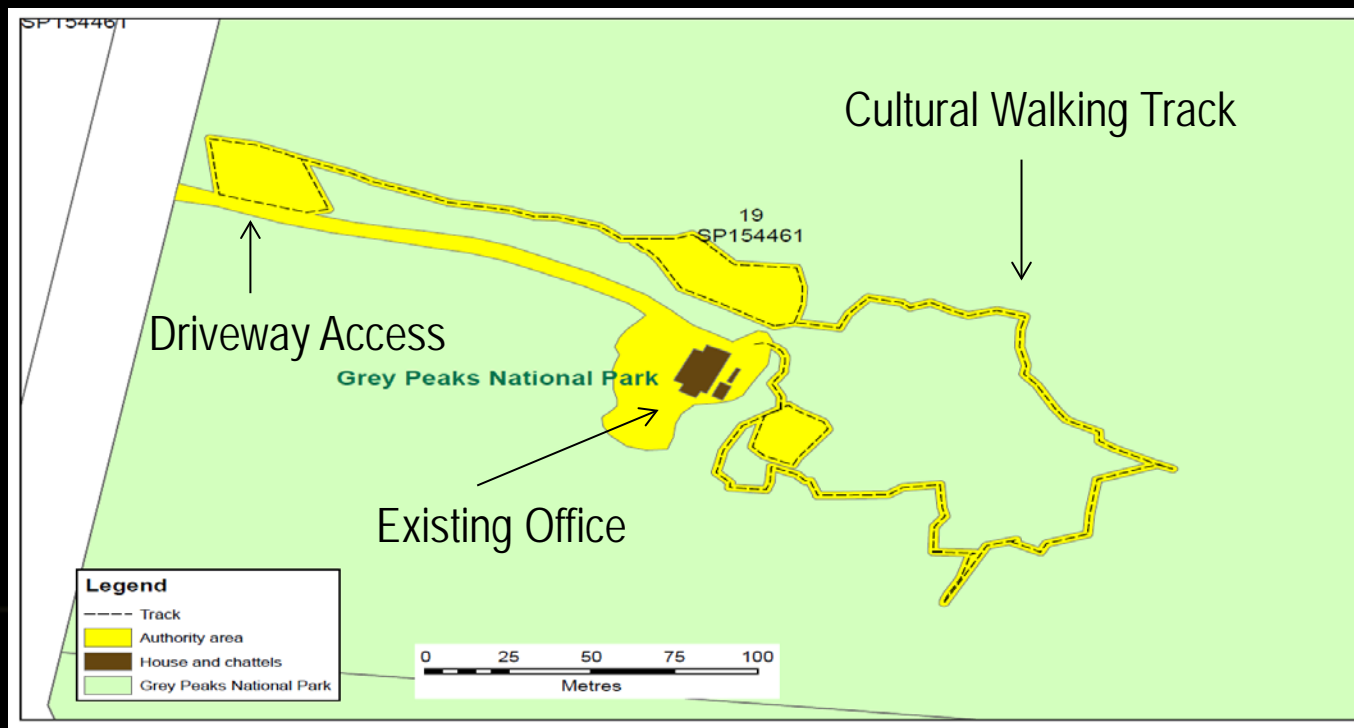


# TARGET MARKETS

- Free Independent Travellers
  - Tours (private tours)
  - Groups and Charters
    - Cruise Ship Passengers
    - Educational (universities and schools)
    - Conference Delegates
    - Corporate incentive
-

# ENABLING LINKAGES

- S.34 Letter of Authority under *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (Old), Grey Peaks National Park.
  - This authority is in place for an interim 3 years
  - Within 6-18 months MYAC will develop a future long term authority plan with QPWS, CRC and industry partners.
  - The authority is specific to the use and access of infrastructure currently existing on Grey Peaks National Park, including identified cultural walking tracks.



# ENABLING LINKAGES CONT.

- Commercial Activity Agreement with OPWS:
  - Grey Peaks National Park & Trinity Forest Reserve
- Eco-Cultural Activities, including:
  - Guided Tours
  - Art/Cultural Centre workshops
  - Performance/special events
- Capacity and Frequency of Tours:

Activity	Capacity	Frequency
Guided tours	Forty (40) clients and six (6) staff	Three (3) visits per month
Art/Cultural Centre workshops	Forty (40) clients and six (6) staff	Three (3) workshops per month
Performance/special events	Forty (40) clients and six (6) staff	Three (3) events per month



# ENABLING LINKAGES CONT.

- Trust Permit / East Trinity Reserve:
- Permitted Location
  - East Trinity Environmental Purposes Reserve being Lot 158 on plan NR5877, Lot 1 on plan SP154461, Lot 1 on plan RP722816 and Lot 3 on plan RP722816

Approved Activities	Frequency	Capacity
Eco-cultural activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Guided Tours</li><li>• Art/Cultural Centre workshops</li><li>• Performance/special events</li></ul>	3 tours per month 3 workshops per month 3 events per month	Forty (40) clients and six (6) staff

# EAST TRINITY TRUST PERMIT AREA

