## QPWS
## Values Based Management Framework

**Accountability
and transparency
in park management**

Queensland Government

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## Why the Values Based Management Framework

*To strive for a protected area system that is one of the best in the world. One that is resilient, adaptable and valued by the community.*

*With innovation and a contemporary approach— we will hone in on what is most important, focussing our effort and resources, testing our approach, and asking if we can do better.*
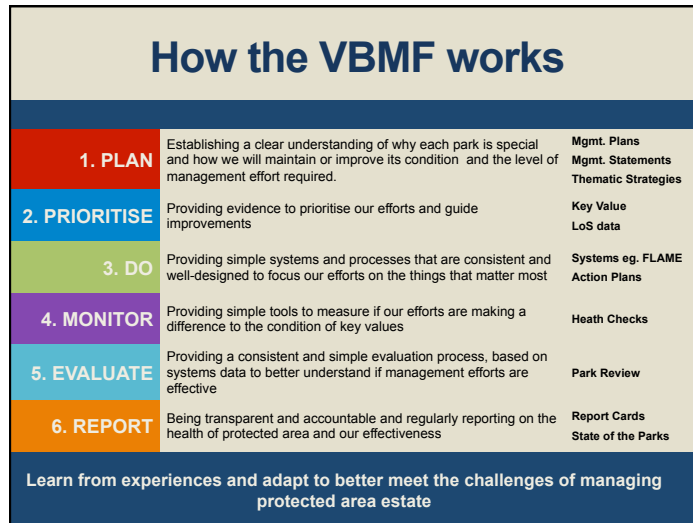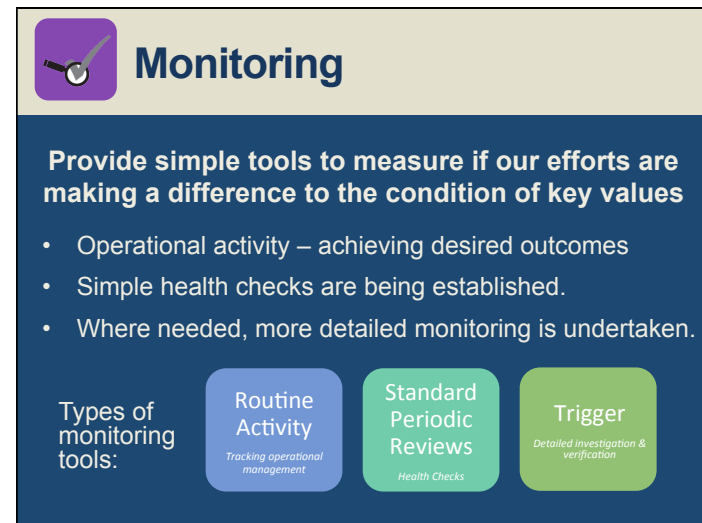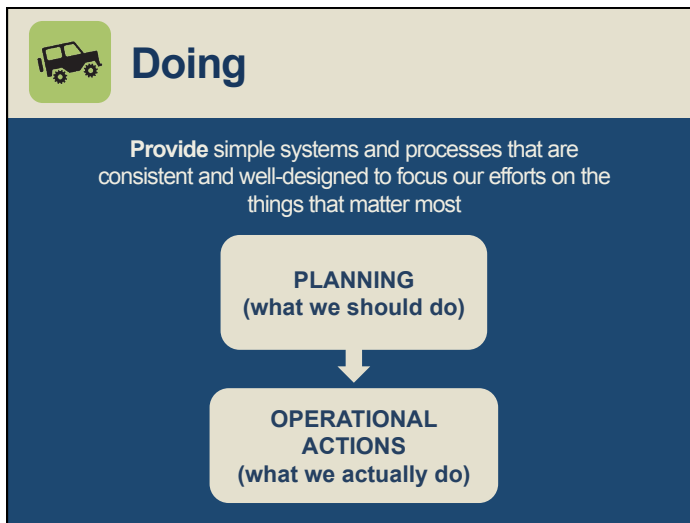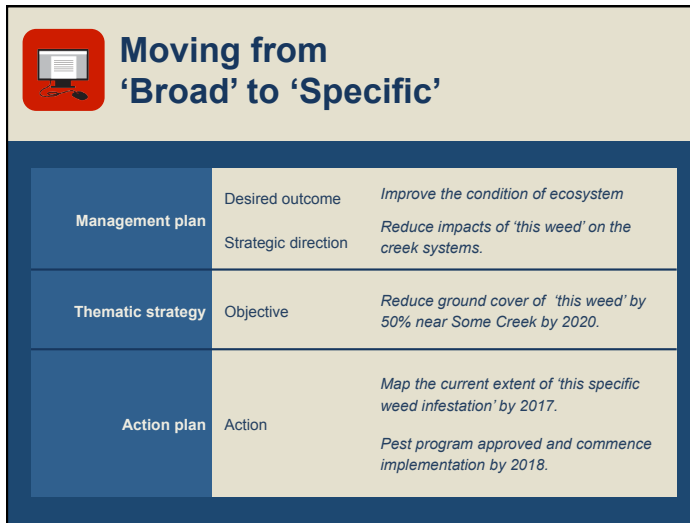
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## What is the 'Values Based Management Framework'?

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## It is an 'adaptive management model' based on ICUN best practice standards
**Implementing a simple, effective and user-friendly approach to management:**

## How the VBMF works

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1. PLAN** | Establishing a clear understanding of why each park is special and how we will maintain or improve its condition and the level of management effort required. | **Mgmt. Plans** **Mgmt. Statements** **Thematic Strategies** |
| **2. PRIORITISE** | Providing evidence to prioritise our efforts and guide improvements | **Key Value** **LoS data** |
| **3. DO** | Providing simple systems and processes that are consistent and well-designed to focus our efforts on the things that matter most | **Systems eg. FLAME** **Action Plans** |
| **4. MONITOR** | Providing simple tools to measure if our efforts are making a difference to the condition of key values | **Heath Checks** |
| **5. EVALUATE** | Providing a consistent and simple evaluation process, based on systems data to better understand if management efforts are effective | **Park Review** |
| **6. REPORT** | Being transparent and accountable and regularly reporting on the health of protected area and our effectiveness | **Report Cards** **State of the Parks** |

**Learn from experiences and adapt to better meet the challenges of managing protected area estate**

## Planning and Prioritising

### Values Assessment

why each park is special and how we will maintain or improve its condition



| | Good | Good with some concern | Significant concern | Critical |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Condition of key value** | The value is in good condition and is likely to be maintained for the foreseeable future, provided that current measures are maintained | The value is likely to be maintained over the long-term with minor additional conservation measures to address existing concerns | The value is threatened by a number of current and/or potential threats. Significant additional conservation measures are required to preserve the value over the medium to long-term | The value is severely threatened. Urgent additional large-scale conservation measures are required or the value may be lost |
| **Trend rating of condition** | Improving ↑ | Stable ↔ | Deteriorating ↓ | No consistent trend ⊖ |
| **Confidence in assessment** | Inferred ○ | Limited ◑ | Adequate ● | |

## What is 'Levels of Service'?

A park planning and prioritisation **tool that determines the level of management effort required.**

ACCEPTABLE  MEDIUM  HIGH  VERY HIGH  EXCEPTIONAL

Applied to QPWS's management areas:

## Moving from 'Broad' to 'Specific'

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Management plan** | Desired outcome | *Improve the condition of ecosystem* |
| | Strategic direction | *Reduce impacts of 'this weed' on the creek systems.* |
| **Thematic strategy** | Objective | *Reduce ground cover of 'this weed' by 50% near Some Creek by 2020.* |
| **Action plan** | Action | *Map the current extent of 'this specific weed infestation' by 2017.* |
| | | *Pest program approved and commence implementation by 2018.* |

## Provide evidence to prioritise our efforts and guide improvements



Values and threats data, along with condition reporting will help inform management priorities

## Doing

**Provide** simple systems and processes that are consistent and well-designed to focus our efforts on the things that matter most

**PLANNING**
**(what we should do)**

↓

**OPERATIONAL ACTIONS**
**(what we actually do)**

## Monitoring

**Provide simple tools to measure if our efforts are making a difference to the condition of key values**

- Operational activity – achieving desired outcomes
- Simple health checks are being established.
- Where needed, more detailed monitoring is undertaken.

Types of monitoring tools:

| Routine Activity | Standard Periodic Reviews | Trigger |
|---|---|---|
| *Tracking operational management* | *Health Checks* | *Detailed investigation & verification* |

## Standard Periodic Reviews
### Health Checks

| | |
|---|---|
| **WHY** | Evaluate the condition of Key Values at the ecosystem level (natural, visitor and historic cultural). |
| **WHAT** | Basic monitoring of key values using Health Checks |
| **HOW** | Structured observations using Health Check tool. |
| **WHO** | Operational staff with support |

## Trigger
### Detailed investigation & verification

| | |
|---|---|
| **WHY** | Triggered where reliable information and knowledge is lacking about the condition of values (and monitoring is beyond the scope of health checks i.e. for species). |
| **WHAT** | Detailed assessment or monitoring and verification of data. |
| **HOW** | Coordinated, approved projects using 'fit for purpose' methods for data collection, management and analysis. |
| **WHO** | Specialist regional or centric staff to coordinate, lead or mentor, or external specialists as required. |

## Evaluation

### Park Review Program

*Do we have the right management tools in place?*

*Are doing what we said we would?*

*Is what we are doing effective?*

Delivers a simple outcomes-focussed analysis of our performance as park managers

## Reporting

## Our Iconic Parks

Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park
Carnarvon National Park
Daintree National Park
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
Great Sandy National Park
Hinchinbrook Island National Park
Lamington National Park
Moreton Bay Marine Park
Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park (CYPAL)
Whitsunday Islands National Park



VBMF
The Big Picture
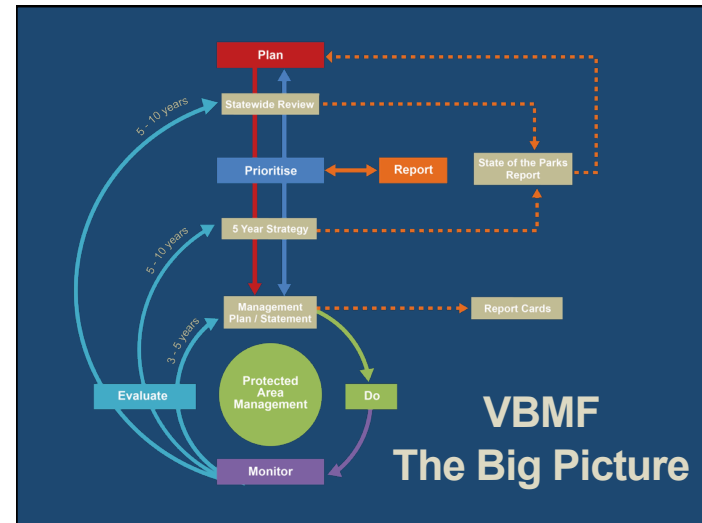
## Great Sandy Area

- Draft Management plan and visitor strategy have been prepared

- Seeking Ministerial approval to release for public consultation

### Indigenous: Connection to Country

Traditional Owners' Connection to Country

Butchulla People

Kabi Kabi First Nation

Ecosystems services:
Aesthetic and geomorphological value

*World Heritage Criterion 7*

Ecosystems and biodiversity:
Parabolic dunes and associated communities
*World Heritage Criteria 7, 8 and 9*

Ecosystems and biodiversity:
Lakes, rivers and wetlands
*World Heritage Criteria 7 and 8*

Habitat for significant species:
Heath communities
*World Heritage Criterion 9*

Historic cultural heritage:
*Queensland Heritage Register* sites


Sandy Cape lightstation
© Queensland Heritage Register


Double Island Point lightstation
© Queensland Heritage Register


Woody Island lighthouse
© Queensland Heritage Register


Mill Point settlement site © Queensland Heritage Register


Remnants of the Pettigrew's Cooloola timber tramway
© Queensland Heritage Register

## Ecotourism and recreational opportunities

- Beach Camping Experience
- 4WD touring Experiences
- Lake Experience
- Central Station Rainforest Experience
- Eli Creek
- Dingo Experience
- Coloured Sands
- Everglades Experience