

Trails Forum

Meeting Minutes: May 29th 2008, Sports House

Attendees:

- Tamsin Barnes (TRAQ)
- Greg Chatfield (Orienteering QLD)
- Gillian Duncan (Gap Ck. Trails Alliance)
- Michael Griffin (BCC)
- John Guise (QORF)
- Simon Hughes (EPA)
- Ian Javes (TRAQ)
- Kathy Kingsford (DSR)
- Kerry Partridge (BCC)
- Richard Robinson (QLD Rogaine Association)
- Guy Thomas (EPA)
- Catherine Volkov (QORF)
- Greg Waite (TRAQ)

Apologies:

- Anne Warmbrunn (Noosa Council)

Discussion:

- Clarification of Forum Purpose

Mountain Bike Forum a useful reference (Michael & Gillian): Consistency in communication necessary. Common principles are useful. Need support of land managers. Government policy management slow to respond: new groups take time to build up recognition. Forum is helpful for establishing broader understanding re: land boundaries. National Mountain Bike social ride policy developed. Need for partnerships. IMBA books useful.

Clarification of TRAQ's intent (Tamsin, Ian & Greg W): Trails access issues. TRAQ aims for single tracks use. Aims for group activities on established trails (reduces need to mark trails).

EPA (Guy & Simon): Consider incorporating other user groups with associated interests. Need to address broad spectrum of land managers, tenures and activity user groups. Need to work through fundamental issues. Forum is not the only means to communicate with EPA. Address community benefits. Need for a strategic viewpoint.

Kathy: Forum focus for trail running or specifically for trails?

General: More suitable data needed to monitor impact of user groups. Co-ordination of events amongst different user groups is useful. Need to address potential conflicts of interest with other users/ non-users (eg. picnickers). Further discussion re: competitive/ non-competitive events. Clarification of government policy re: trail users. Clarification of forum format.

- **Issues for forum to address:**

Stakeholders: (In addition to existing list) Pine Shires Council. Moreton R.C. Noosa Trails.

Government Policy Overview: **EPA (Guy):** Tenure outline. RAM Act. Permit assessment criterion. Exclusive/ Shared use of trails. Issue is the consistency of decision making. Variety of land providers necessary. **BCC (Michael):** Local Government Act. Issues re: large-scale events (noise, parking, supply-demand). Community push to initiate events (Gap Creek Competitive Circuit).

Kathy: SEQRORS Discussion Paper. Resolve issues by having government policy addressing outdoor activities.

General: Case Study addressing borderline application(s) for permit approval, eg. Lamington, Whitsundays. Suggestion for a comprehensive overview of events. Need to understand application of land system management.

Actions:

- EPA to forward policy documents regarding trails & user groups.
- Orienteering QLD to supply events calendar.
- EPA to provide case study for permit application.
- QORF to modify Mountain Bike Forum Terms of Reference.
- EPA to forward landscape classification system documents.

- Other

Meeting Schedule: approx. every 6 weeks (Next Meeting 17th July?); 17.30- 19.30 time slot;
Sports House; QORF to administer.