Each year, South East Queensland (SEQ) residents undertake 170 million outdoor recreation activities worth an estimated $1 billion. The social, community, health, spiritual and educational benefits of outdoor recreation are major contributors to the liveability and outdoors lifestyle of SEQ. Picnicking, surfing and swimming in rivers, lakes and the sea; and walking/nature study are the most popular activities undertaken in SEQ.

With SEQ boasting some of the finest places for outdoor recreation activities in Australia, it is no wonder outdoor recreation is such an enjoyable feature of our lives. In recognition of the key role outdoor recreation plays in our lives, the Queensland Government, in consultation with key stakeholders including the community, is developing the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy to ensure outdoor recreation is planned for at a regional level.

There are many organisations involved in the provision of outdoor recreation services and infrastructure, including all 18 local governments in SEQ, 12 State agencies, three State corporations; private companies and community-based organisations. To improve coordination between these key stakeholders and partners, the Office of Urban Management, with assistance from the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation, will coordinate the development of the Strategy.

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will provide the framework to coordinate efforts in developing and managing outdoor recreation activities and foster partnerships between key stakeholders across SEQ. A coordinated regional approach to the development of outdoor recreation in SEQ will enable better planning for the development of outdoor recreation infrastructure and more efficient long-term management of that infrastructure. It will also contribute to the fulfilment of the 2006 Living the Queensland Lifestyle election commitment and is an intended outcome of the South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026.

We would also like to recognise the valuable input of the SEQ Regional Landscape and Open Space Advisory Committee in assisting the Government to develop this Discussion Paper. This Committee and its members are strong advocates of the importance of outdoor recreation to the region’s lifestyle and liveability and for improved coordination of outdoor recreation service delivery in the region. The Committee will continue to consult with the Office of Urban Management in developing the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

This Discussion Paper sets out the issues and concepts proposed to be addressed in the Strategy. Prior to the Government considering its policy directions, we are seeking your thoughts and ideas on the concepts presented in this Discussion Paper. Your responses will help inform the development of the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

This is an opportunity for everyone in SEQ to have a say on the Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy as it will provide the framework for how outdoor recreation services and infrastructure will be provided in the future. Comments on the Discussion Paper can be forwarded to the Office of Urban Management by 30 March 2007.

We look forward to your involvement to shape the future for regional outdoor recreation in SEQ.
**About the South East Queensland Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy**

The South East Queensland (SEQ) Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will deliver the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005–2026* (SEQ Regional Plan); Principle 3.4:–

*Provide a range of outdoor recreation opportunities which meet the diverse needs of the community and enhance the liveability of the region.*

The *SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy* will develop these concepts and detail how they will be achieved. It will provide the framework to coordinate efforts to provide high quality places for outdoor recreation for SEQ’s residents and visitors while managing those places sustainably now and into the future. It will enhance partnerships between the Queensland Government and the Council of Mayors SEQ, individual local governments, the private sector and community sector organisations.

**What is outdoor recreation?**

Outdoor recreation includes a range of leisure, recreation or sport activities, undertaken in natural, rural and urban open space.

Outdoor recreation activities require open space like reefs, beaches, rivers, creeks, lakes, bushland, cliffs and mountains but, for safety or sustainability, may need built facilities such as amenities blocks, camping areas, car parks and tracks for walking, cycling, horse riding or off-road vehicles.

Outdoor recreation activities include but are not limited to:

**Absailing**

**Base-jumping**

**Cycling:** road bikes – touring and road racing and mountain bikes – touring, downhill, mountain, cross-country and trials

**Camping:** tent, caravan and campervan

**Caving:** including cave diving

**Climbing:** rockclimbing, canyoning and mountaineering

**Canoeing and kayaking:** white water, flat water, surf and sea

**Driving off-road vehicles** – touring, racing and challenge courses

**Fishing:** line, spear and net

**Gilding:** hang gliding and paragliding

**Horse riding:** recreational trail riding and endurance competition

**Hunting and shooting:** with firearms, spears, bow and arrows

Riding off-road motorcycle-like vehicles: trail bikes, motocross bikes, trikes, quads, etc.– recreational rides, touring, enduro and motocross

**Picnicking**

**Power boating:** motor boats, jet skis, etc. – recreational touring, racing and other forms of competition

**Sailing:** yachts, sailboards, kiteboards & any other wind-powered vessels

**SCUBA diving and snorkelling**

**Surfing:** surfboards, boogie boards, wave skis and surf skis

**Swimming:** body surfing, swimming in rivers, creeks, waterholes and the sea

**Walking:** walking, running, orienteering, rogaining and bushwalking

**Water-skiing:** skiing, tobogganing, wake-boarding and para-sailing

Note: For the purpose of the SEQ Regional Plan, those sports and non-competitive recreation activities which take place in purpose-built facilities such as sports fields, arenas, stadiums, courts, race courses or racing tracks will be addresses by other mechanisms.

Outdoor recreation activities are undertaken for a range of purposes including:

**Non-competitive outdoor recreation** – activities in a non-competitive context (for example, bushwalking, bicycle touring, picnicking and camping)

**Outdoor and environmental education** – using outdoor recreation activities to help achieve formal and informal educational outcomes

**Adventure-based counselling** – using outdoor recreation activities for therapeutic outcomes – improved physical, psychological, social and spiritual well-being.

**Outdoor sports** – formally organised, competitive events such as orienteering, rogaining, surfing competitions, long distance off-road motorcycle racing, car rallies and endurance horse riding

**Health and lifestyle improvement** – active forms of outdoor recreation (walking, riding, canoeing, etc.) improve health and wellbeing or as part of a balanced lifestyle.

**Adventure tourism, eco-tourism and nature-based tourism** – outdoor recreation activities provided by commercial tourism enterprises
Why we need an outdoor recreation strategy for the region

The 1998 and 2001 Outdoor Recreation Demand Studies indicated that a large number of people in the region regularly participate in outdoor recreation in different parts of the landscape. Outdoor recreation activities such as picnicking, walking, cycling, swimming and camping are important components of the SEQ’s sub-tropical outdoor lifestyle – a lifestyle that is envied by many people throughout Australia. There is something for everyone who appreciates the great outdoors – beautiful beaches, bushland, forests, national parks, mountains, marine parks, rural landscapes and rivers.

Outdoor recreation provides opportunities for SEQ residents to connect with their families, with their landscapes and with nature. Physical activity through outdoor recreation is also critical to the health and well-being of the region’s population. Given the population in SEQ is growing at the rate of more than 1000 a week, it is essential we make the best use of our existing outdoor recreation places and, where necessary, provide new places to enjoy the outdoors for the people who live here and for those who visit each year.

The outdoor environment is to be enjoyed. But to do this, there are some challenges...

Constraints and issues

All outdoor recreation activities are dependant on access to open space. This is different from those sports which need land for purpose-built facilities such as sports fields, gyms, courts, swimming pools or racing tracks.

Most people who participate in outdoor recreation do so in areas which are owned, managed or controlled by someone else (such as private landholders, private corporations or the community represented by local governments or the Queensland Government). Often these areas have a primary purpose other than outdoor recreation. Examples of open space areas where outdoor recreation is not the primary purpose include:

- Water storages – quality and quantity of water yield
- State forests – timber production
- Roads – transport
- Farms – agricultural production
- Stock routes – movement of livestock
- National parks – nature conservation and protection of cultural heritage

In these situations, outdoor recreation may be permitted, but only with conditions or rules to avoid conflicts with the primary use, protect other important values, comply with relevant laws and ensure sustainable use.

Public open space is generally owned and managed by State or local government and includes national parks, state forests, beaches, rivers and waterways, regional parks, local parks, regional trails and water supply reservoirs.

Consequently, the responsibilities for outdoor recreation places, activities and issues in SEQ are spread across a number of Queensland Government agencies and the 18 local governments in the region. State and local governments deal with many matters which directly or indirectly affect how, where, when and why people participate in outdoor recreation. These matters include land use planning, water supply, sport, recreation, fisheries management, wildlife management, tourism, search and rescue, nature conservation, forestry, licensing of drivers and registration of motor vehicles, transport planning, cultural heritage, outdoor and environmental education, physical and mental health and management of bushfires, weeds and feral animals.

Because many individuals and organisations are involved in providing our outdoor recreation needs, coordination of their work is essential if we are to successfully solve outdoor recreation problems and satisfy community needs for a wide range of high quality, safe and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities.

Other issues which might be considered in a coordinated strategic approach to outdoor recreation in SEQ:

- Contribution of outdoor recreation to liveability
- Better health and well-being through physical activity
- Demographic trends and population growth, including spatial distribution
- Magnitude and diversity of demand for outdoor recreation
- Identification and designation of areas for particular outdoor recreation activities
- Provision of supporting facilities such as toilets, shelters, car parks, water supply, etc
- Consideration of conflicts between outdoor recreation activities and other land uses such as forestry, farming and water catchment management
- Integration and/or conflict with surrounding land use activities
- Role of private sector in providing outdoor recreation opportunities
- Economic value of outdoor recreation
Links between outdoor recreation and tourism

Fewer places and less variety of places for outdoor recreation

Concerns about liability of landholders

Mechanisms for incorporating outdoor recreation into land use planning

Emerging issues with relevance to outdoor recreation include:

- overcoming the obesity trend
- encouraging physical activity opportunities for the older population
- providing appropriate places for trail bikes and mountain bikes
- providing appropriate places for 4-wheel driving
- providing appropriate horse riding trails
- overcoming trespass on private and public land
- preventing the negative impacts of outdoor recreation activities on water quality, biodiversity, cultural heritage and primary production
- addressing the capacity constraints of key outdoor recreation sites and infrastructure such as availability of camping areas at peak times and the consequences of exceeding capacity such as surf rage, boat ramp rage and overcrowding of pathways or trails shared by walkers and cyclists
- managing outdoor recreation on the Brisbane River corridor from Wivenhoe Dam to Mt Crosby Weir.

The **SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy** will also consider the diversity of outdoor recreation activities and the specific locational needs of different activities. Opportunities may exist to provide facilities capable of accommodating a range of activities, for example multiuse trails. Alternatively, some activities may be required to be located in areas where they do not disturb or endanger other activities or communities.

**Where will the Strategy apply?**

The **SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy** will apply to the area covered by the SEQ Regional Plan which incorporates the 18 SEQ local government areas. It stretches 240km from Noosa in the north to the Gold Coast in the south, and 140km west to Toowoomba.

The Strategy applies to all four land use categories in the SEQ Regional Plan and regional landscape values (including outdoor recreation) are present in each of these land use categories. These land use categories are:

- Urban Footprint,
- Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area,
- Investigation Area, and
- Rural Living Area.

**Who is involved in outdoor recreation?**

- Individual participants in outdoor recreation activities, including anyone who is a surfer, 4-wheel driver, camper, water skier, mountain bike rider, sailor, hang glider, kitesurfer, trail bike rider, rockclimber, hunter, canoeist, kayaker, scuba diver, horse rider, bushwalker or fisher.
- Community organisations including youth groups, activity-based clubs, professional associations and volunteer-based search and rescue organisations.
- Public and private schools with outdoor education programs.
- The Queensland Government departments, agencies and corporations which manage outdoor recreation areas or have responsibilities which affect how, where, when and why people participate in outdoor recreation include:
  
  - Department of Infrastructure including the Office of Urban Management
  - Queensland Police Service
  - Department of Natural Resources and Water
  - Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation
  - Department of Education, Training and the Arts
  - Environmental Protection Agency incorporating the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
  - Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol
  - Forestry Plantations Queensland
  - SunWater
How the Strategy will work

Providing a framework

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will complement and, where necessary, provide a coordinating framework for the outdoor recreation components of land use planning processes and government initiatives including:

- SEQ Regional Trails Strategy (Active Trails)
- SEQ Forests Agreement Horse Trails Project
- The work program of the inter-departmental Trail Bike Working Group
- Local government– planning schemes and other types of plans including– corporate plans; open space plans; sport and recreation plans; and park or precinct master plans
- Queensland Government grants programs for sport and recreation
- Management plans for State Government-controlled water storages, waterways transport, protected areas, marine parks, State forests, and recreation areas
- 2006 Obesity Summit initiatives including – Supportive Environments for Active Living and Be Active Queensland
- SEQ Integrated Regional Cycle Network Plan
- Smart Travel.

Integrating and complementing related SEQ Regional Plan Principles and Policies

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will complement and, where necessary, integrate with, other initiatives of the SEQ Regional Plan including:

- Local Growth Management Strategies
- SEQ Rural Futures Strategy including Rural Precinct Planning
- Structure and master plans
- SEQ regional open space network
- SEQ Regional Nature Conservation Strategy
- Strong Communities including Access to Social Infrastructure and Safe and Healthy Communities
- The annual SEQ Infrastructure Plan and Program.
Coordinating outdoor recreation

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will provide a framework for coordinating the assessment, planning, delivery and management of outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities across the region. It will build on the existing protocol that establishes the roles and responsibilities of State and local governments in Queensland.

Importantly, the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will assist in:

- Coordinating activities between different government agencies and community and business organisations involved in outdoor recreation activities,
- Establishing whole-of-government institutional arrangements to facilitate delivery of outdoor recreation opportunities,
- Providing a regional framework for establishing community outdoor recreation needs and priorities, and
- Facilitating development of outdoor recreation infrastructure by all levels of government.

Funding for outdoor recreation

State and local governments already provide significant funding for outdoor recreation programs, services and opportunities in SEQ. The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will coordinate funding for outdoor recreation, including the development of innovative funding models that engage a combination of State and local governments and the private sector in delivering programs and projects that meet regional priorities. Expanding opportunities for private sector involvement in outdoor recreation could provide a more diverse range of opportunities and reduce stress on the public open space network.

Links to health and active lifestyles

There is an extensive and strong body of scientific evidence demonstrating that participation in physical activity has significant benefits to health and well-being. The benefits can be both physical and mental and may also involve increased social cohesion and cultural interaction within communities. On the other hand, a more sedentary lifestyle has been shown to be an independent risk factor for being overweight or obese. In addition, obesity is known to lead to other health problems such as cardio-vascular disease, diabetes and poor mental health.

Participation surveys consistently show that outdoor recreation activities—particularly walking, surfing, swimming in rivers, creeks and lakes and cycling—contribute more than half of all participation in physical activity. Participation in physical activity can significantly improve health and well-being for individuals and for communities. For example, it can also reduce the risk of developing heart disease and of suffering strokes. A healthy active lifestyle will also help people develop and maintain healthy body fat levels, bones, muscles and joints and will generally assist people to maintain overall well-being.

What is the process for developing the Strategy?

1. Release of the Strategy Discussion Paper
2. Public submissions accepted in response to the Strategy Discussion Paper
3. Submissions considered and incorporated into the Strategy and targeted consultation
4. Strategy released
5. Implementation of Strategy
6. Monitoring and review

January 2007 to 30 March 2007
April to June 2007
Late 2007
From late 2007
Ongoing

Key issues and possible strategy directions

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will canvas a range of issues relating to the planning and delivery of outdoor recreation opportunities for the region’s communities. These issues will be worked up in consultation with key stakeholders over the next six months. In addition, submissions in response to this Discussion Paper will be used to guide the development of the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy. Relevant initiatives and implementation activities from existing outdoor recreation plans, such as the Active Trails: A Strategy for Regional Trails in South East Queensland may also inform the development of the Strategy.

Importantly, the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will be consistent with and build upon the principles and policies set out in the SEQ Regional Plan which are relevant for outdoor recreation.

To facilitate discussion and to provide a working framework for submissions on this Discussion Paper, the following section indicates potential issues, outcomes and strategic directions for the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.
Outcome 1 – Planning for sustainable outdoor recreation

Action – Use integrated planning:
- Provide a regional scale strategic planning framework specifically for outdoor recreation in the context of other regional planning issues and processes.
- Base planning for outdoor recreation infrastructure, activities and places on the spatial and statistical relationships between supply and both current and latent demand at regional and sub-regional scales.
- Develop a region-wide spatial inventory of outdoor recreation opportunities to inform outdoor recreation policy, planning, infrastructure development and regulation.
- Establish cooperative and complementary multi-agency and inter-governmental outdoor recreation planning and management arrangements which integrate outdoor recreation outcomes.
- Integrate planning for outdoor recreation with planning for other land uses.
- Identify opportunities for outdoor recreation activities to be encouraged or permitted as auxiliary activities to the site’s primary purpose.
- Incorporate outdoor recreation considerations into the planning for land uses and infrastructure.
- Establish a regional approach and framework for planning and management of outdoor recreation activities throughout the region.

Action – Provide a variety of high quality outdoor recreation opportunities:
- Facilitate provision of a diverse range of outdoor recreation opportunities to meet the needs of residents and visitors on a sustainable basis.
- Provide a range of outdoor recreation places from built-urban areas to wild-natural areas.
- Identify opportunities for co-location of different outdoor recreation activities, for example, combined walking, cycling and horse trails.
- Identify appropriate locations for difficult to locate outdoor recreation activities, including appropriate management mechanisms to minimise impacts on the community, the environment and other recreation users.

Action – Meet current and future demand:
- Ensure the reasonable outdoor recreation needs of regional residents and visitors are identified and met.
- Protect and manage outdoor recreation places to both meet current and future outdoor recreation demands and protect the quality and diversity of places.
- Encourage the private sector to provide outdoor recreation opportunities where appropriate.

Action – Outdoor recreation planning guidelines:
- Develop guidelines to assist in planning for outdoor recreation activities.
- Encourage integration of outdoor recreation planning guidelines into the land use and infrastructure planning processes.

Action – Ensure sustainability:
- Ensure outdoor recreation activities are planned for and managed so that the landscape values of areas used do not degrade.
- Ensure outdoor recreation activities are planned and managed on a sustainable basis, and are consistent with the protection of ecological, scenic, cultural and community values of the region’s open space.

Action – Involve the community:
- Ensure all relevant stakeholders are involved in planning for outdoor recreation and managing areas where outdoor recreation occurs.
- Recognise other land use interests, the carrying capacity of the landscape and landholder rights and responsibilities.

Action – Research:
- Support research programs to inform outdoor recreation policy, planning, management and regulation about priority topics such as:
  - Visitor preferences and satisfaction.
  - Environmental, social and economic impacts and benefits of outdoor recreation.
  - Spatial and temporal distribution of outdoor recreation activities.
  - Emerging outdoor recreation issues or activities.
  - Public safety.
Outcome 2 – Provide appropriate and well-located and managed places for outdoor recreation

Action – Allocate land for outdoor recreation in land use planning processes:
- Identifying the existing regional open space network.
- Identifying suitable new open space areas for outdoor recreation.
- Defining linked networks of recreation trails and places for outdoor recreation which support the preferred settlement pattern within SEQ.
- Providing places with the right attributes for particular activities and/or participants.

Action – Provide lands and waters for a wide range of outdoor recreation activities:
- Identify key attributes of open space required for different outdoor recreation activities.
- Investigate new mechanisms for providing lands and waters for outdoor recreation.
- Facilitate community access to outdoor recreation areas.
- Investigate opportunities for private industry or community organisations to provide and/or manage outdoor recreation areas.

Action – Provide access to land and water for difficult to locate outdoor recreation activities:
- Identify needs of difficult to locate activities, for example off-road motorcycle riding, mountain bike riding and personal water craft.
- Establish performance criteria to assist in the identification of land and water suitable for these activities.
- Ensure appropriate management controls are put in place and administered to alleviate potential impacts on the community, the environment and other activities.

Outcome 3 – Develop and manage infrastructure required to support outdoor recreation activities.

Action – Establish infrastructure requirements for outdoor recreation activities:
- Identify appropriate land and infrastructure, including built facilities, required to support different outdoor recreation activities.
- Identify opportunities for joint use of outdoor recreation infrastructure.
- Identify mechanisms for delivery and funding of outdoor recreation infrastructure.
- Provide for ongoing operation and maintenance of outdoor recreation infrastructure.
- Coordinate delivery of land based and water based infrastructure for water outdoor recreation activities.
  (for example, boat ramps and access channels).

Action – Incorporate regional level outdoor recreation infrastructure into the SEQ Infrastructure Plan and Program.

Action – Coordinate local government involvement in securing, developing and managing regionally significant areas and ancillary facilities for outdoor recreation.

Action – Encourage private sector investment:
- Encourage private sector investment in outdoor recreation infrastructure (land and ancillary built facilities) through public-private partnerships, advice, incentives and innovative land use planning mechanisms.

Outcome 4 – Sustainably manage outdoor recreation activities, places and ancillary built facilities

Action – Ensure appropriateness of location for activity:
- Ensure that outdoor recreation management (eg. facilities design, regulation, risk management strategies, education activities) and outdoor recreation activities are appropriate for the settings in which they occur.
- Redirect recreation activities that are not appropriate in particular locations to appropriate alternative sites/areas.

Action – Educate, promote and involve visitors:
- Educate outdoor recreation participants about minimal impact techniques.
- Ensure participants know where they can undertake their preferred outdoor recreation activities and where their preferred settings are located.
Provide structured opportunities for community/volunteer involvement.

Provide opportunities for the involvement of the various stakeholders and the community in planning and management processes that affect the provision of opportunities for outdoor recreation activities.

**Action – Establish and implement management plans for sustainable outdoor recreation:**

- Develop and implement regional ‘best practice’ management guidelines for the establishment and operation of outdoor recreation activities consistent with protecting and presenting the inherent environmental, scenic and cultural values of open space areas.
- Provide for appropriate integration and/or separation of different outdoor recreation activities, including equitable consideration of community and visitor interests.
- Promote incorporation of interpretive and educational components into outdoor recreation activities.
- Minimise impacts on surrounding community and activities.

**Action – Monitor impacts of outdoor recreation activities:**

- Monitor and report on outdoor recreation activity areas with respect to on-site and off-site impacts.
- Monitor community satisfaction with outdoor recreation areas.

**Outcome 5 – Service delivery and coordination**

**Action – Establish inter-governmental coordination mechanisms to manage the planning, delivery and management of outdoor recreation opportunities:**

- Coordinate activities within and between State agencies with primary and secondary responsibilities for outdoor recreation.
- Establish cooperative and complementary multi-agency and inter-governmental outdoor recreation planning, development and management arrangements.
- Coordinate delivery of local government outdoor recreation planning, development and management.

**Action – Establish collaboration between government agencies:**

- Establish arrangements for collaborative and complementary inter-governmental outdoor recreation policy, planning, development, research and management.
- Establish arrangements for cooperative and complementary multi-agency outdoor recreation policy, planning, development, research and management.

**Action – Encourage support from the private sector and the community:**

- Encourage private sector investment in outdoor recreation infrastructure (land and ancillary built facilities) and other ways to support outdoor recreation through a range of public-private partnerships, advice, incentives and innovative land use planning mechanisms.
- Involve community-based organisations in securing places for outdoor recreation and the provision of outdoor recreation services.
- Where appropriate, involve participants in facilities development and maintenance, site management, and rehabilitation and in educating other users.

**Outcome 6 – Outdoor recreation activity sub-strategies**

**Action – Progressively implement the Active Trails: A Strategy for Regional Trails in South East Queensland.**

**Action – Develop strategies to address priority outdoor recreation issues:**

- This could include:
  - Recreational and endurance horse trail riding.
  - Water based outdoor recreation activities.
  - Difficult to locate outdoor recreational activities, including trail bikes, mountain bikes and motorised water craft.
Proposed format for the Strategy

The following structure for the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will be considered.

**Background**
- Definition of outdoor recreation for the purposes of the Regional Plan,
- List and description of outdoor recreation activities,
- Key outdoor recreation planning and management concepts,
- Benefits of outdoor recreation, and
- Links between outdoor recreation and State and local government priorities.

**Current situation**
- Identification of high priority issues and activities requiring immediate action,
- Demand and supply,
- Identification of public, community and private sector providers of outdoor recreation services and description of the services they provide,
- Identification of parties with interests in outdoor recreation and description of those interests,
- Current and emerging outdoor recreation issues,
- Identification and analysis of gaps, overlaps and duplication in outdoor recreation service delivery, and
- Strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities.

**Vision, strategic directions and frameworks**
- Vision for outdoor recreation,
- Strategic directions,
- Principles of collaboration, cooperation and coordination,
- Frameworks for collaboration, cooperation and coordination,
- Processes for identifying and addressing emerging issues, and
- Assessing priorities.

**Actions, responsibilities and timelines**
Prioritised strategic actions linked to partnerships with lead and support agencies and/or organisations potentially covering:

- Research,
- Planning,
- Safety issues,
- Built infrastructure development,
- Management and maintenance of existing built infrastructure,
- Development, management and/or regulation of specific activities or groups of related activities,
- Monitoring and reporting,
- Development and management of shared decision support systems,
- Funding and revenue options, and
- Development, implementation and management of innovative partnerships between the public, private and community sectors.

**Regular reviews**

The SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy will be reviewed every five years concurrently with the reviews of the SEQ Regional Plan.
Facts and figures on outdoor recreation in SEQ

The Queensland Government, in partnership with the SEQ local governments, undertook outdoor recreation demand surveys in 1998 and 2001 to assist in assessing community demand for outdoor recreation activities. A third survey is proposed for 2007 to inform the development of the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

The 2001 South East Queensland Outdoor Recreation Demand Survey confirmed that participating in outdoor recreation activities is very important to the region’s community and is a significant part of the region’s lifestyle. Some important facts from the survey were:

- The three most popular outdoor recreation activities—picnicking, water activities and walking/nature study—represented half of all outdoor recreation activity in SEQ in one year.

2001 SEQ Outdoor Recreation Participation

Source: 2001 SEQ Outdoor Recreation Demand Study.

- In the 12 months prior to the survey, 67 per cent of SEQ residents went on a picnic, 53 per cent went swimming in the sea, rivers or lakes and 47 per cent walked in the outdoors.
- Walking/nature study, bicycling and water activities had the highest frequency of participation (that is, the number of times people did them) per year.

2001 SEQ Outdoor Recreation Participation

Source: 2001 SEQ Outdoor Recreation Demand Study.

- When the number of people doing walking/nature study, water activities and bicycling is combined with the average number of times these activities are done, these three are the most popular outdoor recreation activities. They also require physical effort which is “…essential for health and general well-being. Physical inactivity costs about $400 million per year in direct healthcare costs”. (Source: Be Active Queensland 2006-2010)
Good attributes of outdoor recreation places were seen as: accessible, safe, having facilities, and providing access for people living with disabilities.

Some of the perceived threats to the quality of participants’ outdoor recreation experiences were: ‘urban development’, ‘being pushed out’, ‘overuse’, ‘crowding’ and ‘noise’. ‘Unmanaged urban development’ was seen as the greatest threat.

The estimated annual expenditure on participation in outdoor recreation activities in SEQ exceeds $2 billion (Source: Issues & Options for Regional Landscape Discussion Paper, 2003).

Tell us your views on outdoor recreation in SEQ

We are seeking your thoughts and ideas on this Discussion Paper. Your responses to the Discussion Paper will help inform the development of the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

Complete this questionnaire to have your say about the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy Discussion Paper.

Please complete one questionnaire for each individual or organisation.

Your comments can be provided via writing to the Office of Urban Management or by completing the attached questionnaire. Use of the questionnaire will assist in the review of your comments as it will assist in the collation and analysis of issues of most concern to the community.

Once you have read the Discussion Paper, please complete the following questionnaire and return to the Office of Urban Management by 30 March 2007:

Post:  Reply Paid 15009 City East Qld 4002
Fax:  07 3235 4563
Email:  feedback@oum.qld.gov.au
Freecall: 1800 021 818

Privacy statement:
The Office of Urban Management is committed to protecting your privacy. Feedback you send to the Office of Urban Management will be used for purposes related to the consultation, as well as for monitoring and improving services offered by the Office of Urban Management. Your feedback may be stored in a database maintained by the Office of Urban Management. If you do not wish for this to occur, please contact the Office of Urban Management’s Secretariat Director on 07 3247 5447. Your feedback will be disclosed to relevant staff from the Office of Urban Management and may also be disclosed to staff from other relevant government agencies. Personal information (as defined in the Queensland Government’s Information Standard 4.2) will be disclosed only in accordance with that Standard. Feedback you send to the Office of Urban Management will be retained as required by the Public Records Act 2002 and other relevant Acts and Regulations, and is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1992. If you have any further questions regarding your privacy, please contact the Office of Urban Management.

Release Note:
This Discussion Paper is for public consultation purposes only and does not represent Queensland Government policy. This Discussion Paper has been prepared in good faith to enable the community to review the matters being considered for inclusion in the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy and to encourage their involvement in developing this Strategy.
A bit about you

To help us analyse the responses, we would like to find out a little bit about you and your involvement in recreational activities, keeping in mind that outdoor recreation activities are undertaken in open space such as the sea, rivers, bushland or mountains. For those outdoor recreation activities you did (or your organisation organised) in 2006, how many times did you do the following activities (write the number in the relevant box below).

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<td></td>
<td>• Caravan or campervan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climbing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Rockclimbing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mountaineering</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Abseiling</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canoeing &amp; Kayaking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• White Water</td>
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<td>• Flat Water</td>
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<td>• Surf</td>
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<td>• Sea</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driving off-road 4 (or more)</td>
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<tr>
<td>wheeled vehicles (excluding quads)</td>
<td>• Touring/sightseeing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Challenge or “hard core” driving</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Racing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Hang gliding</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Paragliding</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gliding</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Walking (other than bushwalking)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Running cross country</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Orienteering</td>
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<td>• Rogaining</td>
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<td>• Bushwalking</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walking</td>
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<td>• Spear</td>
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<td>• Net</td>
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<td>Fishing</td>
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<td>Sailing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Yachts/sailing boats</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Sailboards</td>
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<td>• Kiteboards</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riding off-road motorcycle-like</td>
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<tr>
<td>vehicles</td>
<td>• Touring/sightseeing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Enduro</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Observed trials (natural terrain)</td>
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<td>• Motocross (natural terrain)</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boating (motorised)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Conventional displacement and planing hulls</td>
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<td>• Personal water-craft (jet skis)</td>
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<td>Picnicking</td>
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<td>Scuba diving</td>
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<td>Snorkelling</td>
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<td>Surfing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Surfboards</td>
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<td>• Boogie Boards</td>
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<td>• Wave Skis</td>
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<td>• Surf Skis</td>
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<td>• Body Surfing</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<td>Swimming excluding surfng</td>
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<td>• Swimming in rivers, creeks, waterholes &amp; the sea</td>
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<td>Horse riding</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Recreational trail riding</td>
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<td>• Endurance competition</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<td>Water skiing &amp; related activities</td>
<td>• Skiing</td>
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<td>• Tobogganizing</td>
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<td>• Wake-Boarding</td>
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<td>• Para-Sailing</td>
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<td>Other (Specify)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any other outdoor recreation activities (Specify)</td>
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</table>

Any other outdoor recreation activities (Specify)
Tell us what you think

The following questions relate to the series of proposed outcomes and actions to support the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy (on pages 7 to 10).

Q 1. Setting aside appropriate land to establish a network of recreation trails and outdoor recreation locations must take into account our future needs, current land uses and the natural environment. We have suggested ways to identify land for outdoor recreation.
Do you think this will be (please check):
- effective
- ineffective
- unsure
If ineffective, tell us what you think would work:

Q 2. The development and ongoing management of new and existing outdoor recreation infrastructure must be adequately funded. We have suggested the following three groups be responsible for funding. Please indicate who you think should fund outdoor recreation infrastructure by allocating either A, B, C or D.
- all the funding
- some of the funding
- majority of the funding
- none of the funding
- State Government
- Local government
- Private sector
- Other (please specify)

Q 3. Planning for outdoor recreation in SEQ is essential. We have proposed a series of ways to better plan for outdoor recreation.
Do you think this will be (please check):
- effective
- ineffective
- unsure
If ineffective, tell us what you think would work:

Q 4. Finding a balance between using outdoor areas and ensuring they do not suffer from overuse is crucial. We have suggested ways to sustainably manage the impact of people undertaking recreation outdoor activities on the environment.
Do you think this will be (please check):
- effective
- ineffective
- unsure
If ineffective, tell us what you think would work:

Q 5. Looking after the outdoor recreation infrastructure will require a partnership approach. We have suggested the groups that may need to be involved. Please indicate who you think should be involved (allocate either A, B or C) and in what way (eg. provide daily management or provide funding only).
- heavy involvement
- some involvement
- no involvement
- Volunteers
- State Government
- Local governments
- Private sector
- Community sector
- Other (please specify)

Is there anything else we have left out that you think should be considered in the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your responses to the Discussion Paper are invaluable to the development of the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy.

More information on the SEQ Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy and this Discussion Paper is available via the Office of Urban Management’s website.