



# First Nations Engagement Framework

2022 - 2025



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as Australia's First Nations Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to their ancestors and Elders past, present and upcoming and thank them for enriching us with their cultural practices, traditions and connection to Country.



## Foreword

HQPlantations First Nations engagement framework has been developed as a starting point for positive relationship building between HQP and the local First Nations. The group involved with developing the framework did so with a genuine vision to understanding and respect for our culture while improving communication, working relationships and protection of Country. In symbolic language this document is seen as the center of a ripple effect, each layer slowly getting bigger as it reaches out. HQP hopes to mimic these ripples as positive, respectful and genuine relationships grow.



HQP is genuine in the aspirations of this document and believe that the histories, stories of the people and cultural significance of the areas in which their plantations are, have invaluable importance. This document was created with true intent to do things in 'proper and respectful ways' and provide a foundation for HQP and the local First Nations Groups to build on potential opportunities that are balanced and sustainable for future generations.

The engagement working group recognises the significance of places and connections to Country are inseparable from our people, but also individual for every First Nations Group and therefore welcome the input and involvement of those from the different local areas with the interest of building positive relations.

***Tolita Dolzan, First Nations representative on the development of HQP's First Nations Engagement Framework***

***"Ngai Cobble Cobble Warra, ngai Boobargun Nguumunge, ngai Gujus,  
ngai Cabool, ngai Barrungam, Budin Yadgie, Ngeum"***

*"I am a descendant of the Cobble Cobble people from Warra. I am kinnected to Bunya Mountains, I am kinnected to carpet snake. I am Barrungum language speaking. I am called Big Sister."*

All artwork by Butchulla artist **Joel Barney**, reproduced here with permission. Read more about Joel's cover artwork *Ku'lulu Dauwa Dhu* on page 18. All photographs taken by or on behalf of HQP and reproduced here with permission.

## Executive summary

At HQPlantations we're proud to be growing for generations. Our people follow generations of professionals passionate about managing our plantations sustainably for over a hundred years and for generations to come.

However, there are also proud people who have been connected to the Country where our plantations grow in deep and spiritual ways for hundreds, if not thousands, of generations. They intuitively understand the cycles and gifts of the land and are forever bound to it.

We acknowledge these First Nations People – their spiritual connection, ancestry, innate wisdom, and both ancient and modern culture and customs – and that this is their Country.

Our First Nations Engagement Framework, developed with First Nations People, guides how we will continue to grow genuine, meaningful and balanced relationships with local First Nations Groups, share our management plans, seek advice on protecting cultural heritage as we work, look for opportunities to work together when it's good for everyone, and discuss potential land use changes.

This approach, supported by our board, management and every level of our business, will be led by our people who live locally, manage the land and have the direct relationships with local First Nations People who call this land Country.

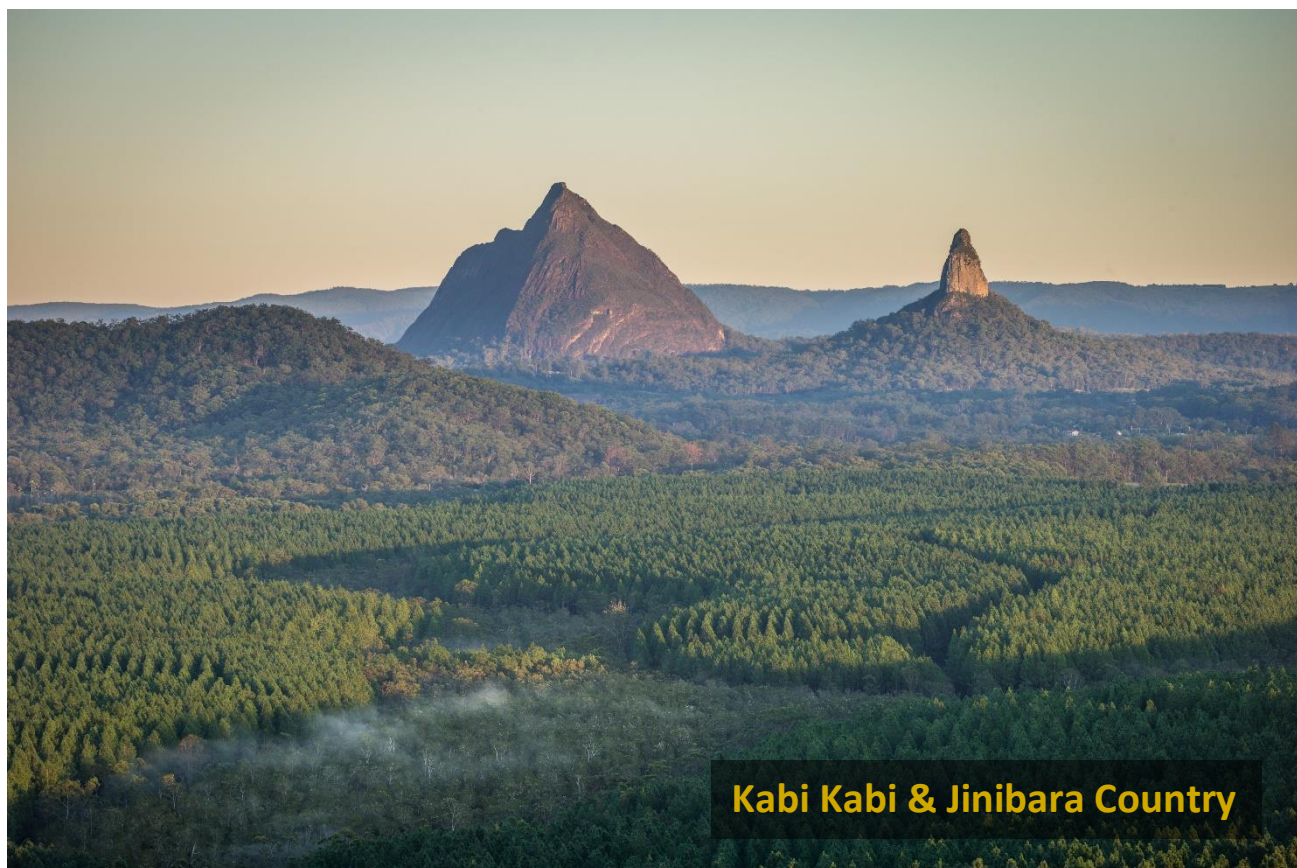
The framework is a live relationship document and will be updated regularly as required, including a formal review and evaluation after the initial three years of implementation.

**Jeremy Callachor**  
*HQPlantations Chief Executive Officer*



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## HQPlantations – who we are

As a custodian of Queensland’s largest plantation estate, we are responsible for the stewardship of the forest and managing a range of conservation, community and other social, cultural and environmental values. These values, along with the development of our relationships with First Nations People, are integral in maintaining and protecting our forest assets.

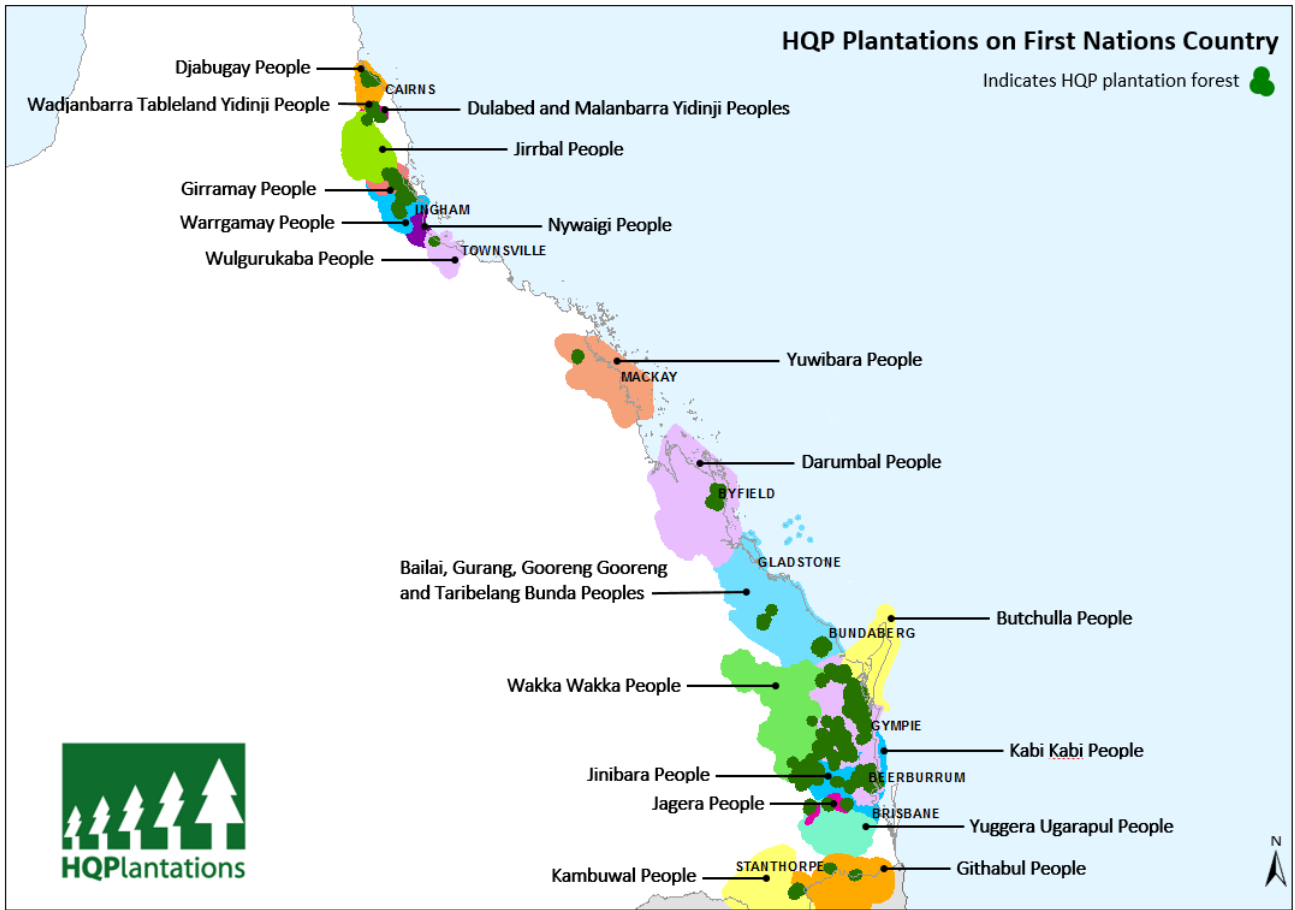
HQPlantations is an Australian company owned by ethical investors, mainly superannuation and pension funds, from Australia and all around the world. We have approximately 150 employees in up to 20 different locations with key offices in North Lakes, Beerburrum, Blackbutt, Imbil, and Toolara, and field offices in Jimna, Tuan, Byfield and Ingham.

We manage approximately 315,000 hectares (ha) of forest in Queensland from Passchendaele near the New South Wales and Queensland border to Kuranda in North Queensland. Most of our estate is on state forest land tenure across 78 different state forests managed under a 99-year plantation licence with the Queensland Government that commenced in 2010.

Our plantation forests are primarily managed for timber production and our native forests, which are not harvested by HQP, are managed for fire protection, conservation and other values. We grow almost 200,000 ha of commercially important subtropical and tropical tree species, including Southern Pine and *Araucaria cunninghamii*, known commercially as Araucaria or commonly as hoop pine. You can find more information about what we do in **Appendix 1**.

Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do. Our forest management practices are independently accredited to internationally recognised certification standards by both Responsible Wood® (RW/1-21-3) and Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®-C107541), providing customers, stakeholders, neighbours and forest visitors with the assurance that our forest assets are managed sustainably and responsibly.





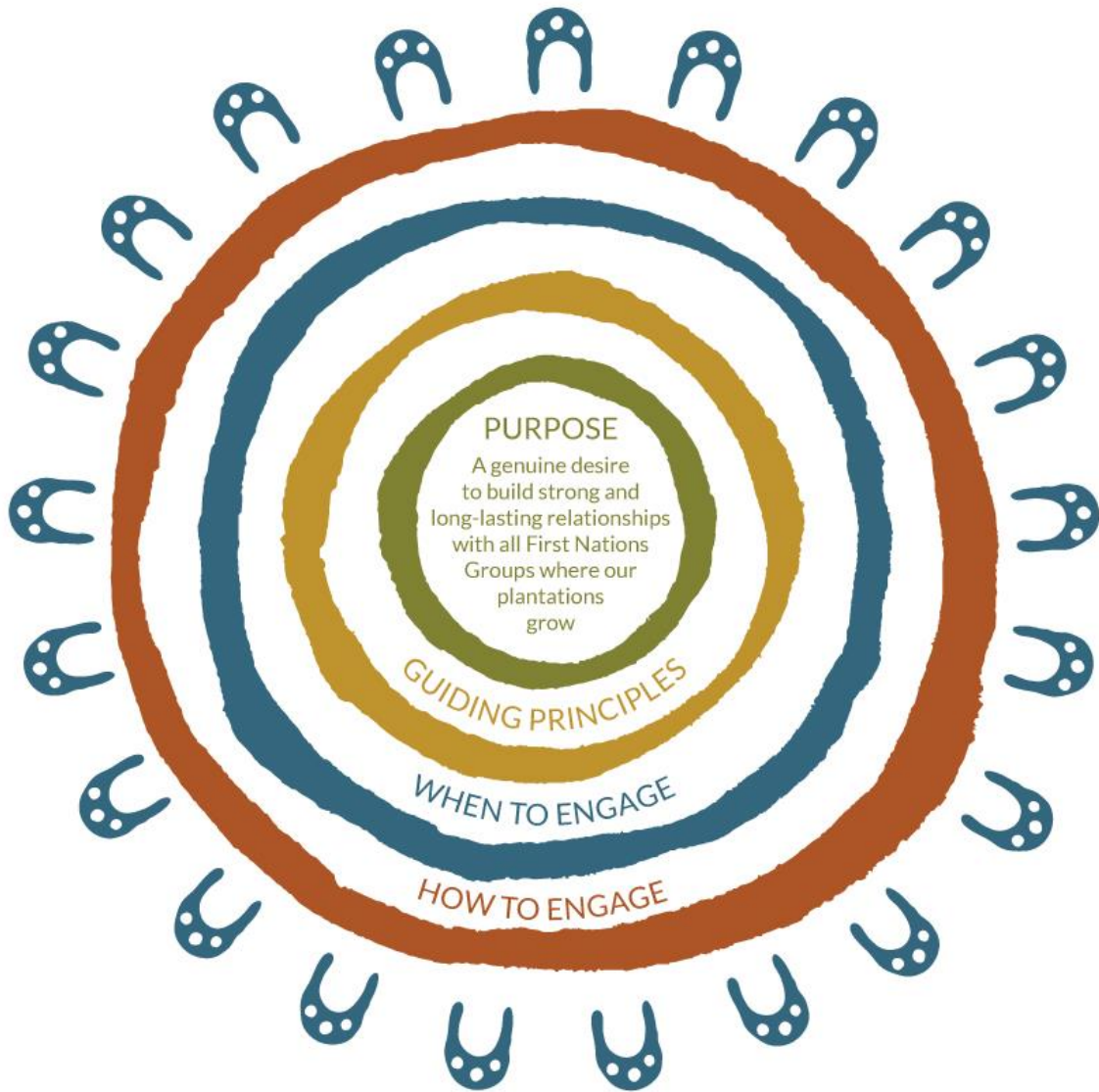
**Plantations managed by HQP growing on Country of known First Nation Groups as of March 2022**

The information in this map has been derived from multiple sources including HQP’s Plantation Licence Area, HQP’s GIS layers for cultural heritage bodies, native title information and other publicly available information.



## Introduction

HQP's First Nations Engagement Framework outlines our commitment to consistent and meaningful engagements, sharing of knowledge and information about our operations and matters of importance with the local First Nation Groups. We have developed a set of guidelines to support an informed discussion, to build on our people's capability to engage through existing relationships, to start new relationships in a positive and respectful way and to support our social licence. It comes from a genuine desire to build strong and long-lasting relationships with all First Nation Groups where our plantations grow. Building on this purpose, the framework details our guiding principles, when we engage and how we engage with local First Nations Groups.



### **HQP's First Nations Engagement Framework**

For HQP and our people, the framework seeks to increase awareness, provide guidelines to support informed discussion, build on our capability to engage in a culturally appropriate way and support our social licence.

For First Nation Groups, it provides a pathway for a growing relationship and genuine opportunities for collaboration with HQP, including the contacts to do so.



## Symbolism of the framework

The framework design was drawn by Butchulla artist Joel Barney to symbolise First Nations Groups and HQP coming together on Country, with the rings symbolising a meeting place as well as the rings of trees. Tolita Dolzan, a member of the group who developed the framework has provided the following further interpretation:

*Each colour used in this has a deeper meaning and significance to the story being told - red represents the lands, blue for our waters, yellow for our sun, stars and moon, green for our grasses. These colours build on the elements of Country.*

*The people sitting around represent the groups, but also represent equal balance. Setting circle is a practice of significance and holds its own levels of importance to our culture. The images of people also complete the elements of Country - our people and our stories.*

## How we developed this framework

This First Nations Engagement Framework has been developed through a series of stages including:

1. Review of past and present relationships, activities and initiatives (see case studies in Appendices 2 and 3).
2. Desktop research, geographic analysis and regional consultation to identify all known First Nation Groups in relation to our plantation forests.
3. A series of meetings and workshops with First Nations representatives specialising in different fields.
4. Consultation with First Nation Groups we have already worked closely with to ensure the proposed framework will deliver on its purpose (see Appendix 4).
5. Ongoing consultation and regular updates as required.

### **The working group who developed this framework over a series of workshops and meetings included the following contributors:**

#### **First Nations participants:**

Tolita Dolzan – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Advisor

Anthony Czygan – Indigenous forestry

Rachael Cavanagh – Firesticks Alliance, Aboriginal partnerships and engagement

Leeton Lee – Firesticks Alliance, cultural fire practitioner

#### **HQP participants and consultants:**

Mark Annandale & Chloe Annandale – Landroc Consulting

Steve Walker – HQP General Manager Operations

David West – HQP Senior Manager Stewardship

Stephanie Hunt – HQP Community Engagement Facilitator

Andrew Dunn – HQP Corporate Fire Manager

Dan O'Regan – HQP Regional Planning Manager Inland & North Queensland

Tom Clapson – HQP Regional Planning Manager Coastal & Central Queensland

Shona Heading – HQP Lead Planner Coastal & Central Queensland



## Our guiding principles

Our guiding principles in the application of this framework are to:

- respect First Nation Groups custodianship and connection to Country
- recognise, value and integrate their diverse cultural knowledge, protocols and obligations
- acknowledge the impacts of past and ongoing trauma
- take the time to plan and deliver meaningful engagement
- be transparent and ensure Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* regarding our forest management activities
- act with respect – listen, learn, share
- act with integrity and deliver on commitments
- support beneficial relationships to enhance social, economic, cultural and well-being outcomes.

\* **Free and Prior Informed Consent** establishes a framework for First Nations Peoples' participation in decision-making on activities that affect their rights. The four elements of FPIC are interdependent, with 'free,' 'prior,' and 'informed' setting the conditions for a 'consent' based decision-making process. The process provides equal opportunity for discussion and allows adequate time for due consideration before commencement of activities, taking into account First Nations Groups' own decision-making processes and cultural traditions or sensitivities.

This First Nations Engagement Framework builds on our existing internal policies and procedures. In accordance with these policies and procedures, we will undertake our activities in a manner which ensures the cultural heritage values of First Nation Groups are protected and maintained, consistent with the requirements of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

## When we engage

Through this framework, we respect the diverse range of First Nations interest in forests including:

- protection of cultural values and heritage
- forest access and uses
- management of forests, using and integrating traditional knowledge
- development of forest-related economic development opportunities, employment, education and training.

While we are open to engaging on any matter of importance to local First Nations Groups, we can contribute the most in the following four areas.



## Periodic planning

We invite First Nations Groups to meet with us to share upcoming activities at agreed intervals (e.g. annually) in any format such as a formal meeting, walk on Country, field trip, etc. Information shared by HQP can include annual silviculture, harvesting and prescribed burning plans and management of our native forest buffers. Ad hoc meetings may also take place to discuss plans following adverse events (e.g. cyclone or major wildfire requiring broad-scale salvage). We would also welcome First Nations Groups sharing their own plans or information, and any additional engagement as requested. For more information about our operations, see **Appendix 1**.

## Cultural heritage management

We consult with the relevant registered Cultural Heritage Body on cultural heritage management in accordance with our existing policies and procedures including prior to activities such as harvesting occurring where registered cultural heritage sites are located or where additional site disturbance is planned (e.g. clearing for new road construction or gravel pit expansion), and where suspected new cultural sites are identified during operations (e.g. artefact finds). For more information about our cultural heritage management and a case study, see **Appendix 2**.

## Cooperative initiatives

We seek to explore more opportunities to develop cooperative initiatives around:

- management and leadership
- employment and training
- access
- partnership projects
- commercial opportunities (see case study in **Appendix3**)
- cultural awareness and education.

## Land use changes

Although they don't arise very often, we will provide an opportunity to discuss upcoming substantive land use changes, such as transitions in major species grown as well as arrangements with the Queensland Government, to progressively hand back areas for conservation. Conservation handbacks may create opportunities for local First Nation Groups to work with the government on the transition of these areas back to natural forest.

## Who engages

At HQP we have two regions – one is Inland and North QLD, and the other is Coastal and Central QLD. Within these regions there are six districts – Burnett and Downs, Mary Valley, Beerburrum, Fraser Coast South, Fraser Coast North, Central QLD and North QLD.

With our operations team, First Nations Groups can meet and engage with:

**Regional Managers** who are responsible for strategic planning and decision making and will be involved when engagements with First Nations Group are complex or involve formal agreements and contracts

**Regional Planning Managers** and **District Managers** who work closely together to plan and manage most of the operational work. One or the other will usually be the key relationship pathway for most First Nations Groups and they will lead most engagements, sometimes with someone from the Stewardship team.

**Lead Foresters** who work at a local and regional level and identify and progress opportunities with First Nations Groups.



**Foresters** who work with First Nations Groups on a day-to-day basis in accordance with existing plans.

First Nations Groups without a local HQP contact, or unable to reach their local contact, are encouraged to get in touch with our Community Engagement Facilitator in the Stewardship team, who will make the necessary local introductions.

A map and list of current key contacts by region and district is provided in **Appendix 4**.

## How we engage

Not only is it important to understand when to engage and who should participate in that engagement, it is important to identify how we engage with First Nations Groups. Guidelines on how we engage include:

- Ensure engagement is started early in the process, to ensure First Nations Groups are aware of the proposed activities.
- Involve the correct people are part of the engagement, including First Nations Groups and other Indigenous People with rights and interests in the area.
- Share information on what activity is proposed, in a way everyone can understand and without jargon or a technical focus, for example the cultural heritage assessment and management process as detailed in existing internal policies and procedures.
- Agree to some ground rules for engagement, what each person's roles and responsibilities are and a process for engagement including for disagreements.
- Arrange a meeting of all stakeholders to discuss the project or activity and provide information on the Free Prior and Informed Consent process.



Kabi Kabi Country



When planning or approaching an engagement, other factors to consider are listed below.



### Appropriate engagement

- Prioritise face-to-face informal meetings, walks on country, having a 'yarn' rather than formal meetings.
- Consider other communications such as phone calls and written correspondence to be complementary.
- Everyone to show leadership in First Nations engagement.
- Provide appropriate training on First Nations engagement for employees.



### Relationship building

- Build and maintain sustainable relationships on our lands.
- When available, explore opportunities for partnerships, commercial opportunities, employment, etc.
- Utilise regional networks and organisations to consult with appropriate groups.



### Respect knowledge and consider feedback

- Build knowledge for all parties.
- Be aware of intellectual property of cultural knowledge.
- Seek, analyse and review feedback for improvement.



### Timely decision-making

- Set realistic and achievable timeframes for engagement.
- Provide clear information on the decision-making process and feedback once decisions have been made.
- Understand cultural considerations such as Sorry Business and other cultural sensitivities.
- Be aware of engagement fatigue and everyone's capacity to participate.



### Transparency

- Be open and transparent.
- Say what we mean and mean what we say.
- Deliver on commitments.



# Appendices

## Appendix 1: What we do

Sustainable plantation forest management is a continuous cycle of growth. We plant up to 10 million seedlings while only harvesting 2-3% of our plantations each year, ensuring that we're in a perpetual cycle of growth while meeting customer demand to turn our timber into wood products. The following diagram indicates the major stages in this cycle.



### Tree breeding, seed collection and the nursery

We invest in a mix of short, medium and long term research to increase plantation productivity and value, enhance sustainability and minimise risk, including a world-class tree breeding program to ensure our trees have the best characteristics for the areas they're grown. We collect more than one tonne of seed a year from our 15 seed orchards strategically positioned throughout Queensland to produce up to 10 million Southern Pine and Araucaria seedlings a year which are grown in our nursery at Toolara.

### Silviculture – site preparation, planting, weed control and nutrition, growing and maintenance

Depending on the species, we prepare the ground then nurture and protect the trees for around 28 years for Southern Pine and up to 50 years for Araucaria before harvest. During this time, we use an integrated approach to manage plant and animal pests based on complementary techniques founded on a good understanding of pest life cycles and effects on plantations.

## Fire protection

We consider wildfires to be one of our greatest threats. In response we invest heavily in control measures (including prescribed burning) to protect our people, neighbours, local communities and our plantations from wildfire.

## Harvesting, haulage and road construction.

Using state-of-the-art technology, we have the capacity to sustainably harvest around 2 million cubic metres of plantation timber from our forests every year which are hauled to local and regional timber processors on our plantation roads. These networks provide a safe path to transport timber and access for firefighting and forest operations as well as lawful recreation. Timber surplus to our domestic customers' needs may also be exported.

## Other management functions

There are other teams who perform a variety of tasks to support these activities.

**The stewardship team** manages research and development, plantation health, water and soil monitoring, risk management and community engagement to ensure our systems and practices meet global best practice and sustainable forest management.

**The resources group** ensures the management of our long-term resource planning as well as the development of decision support systems, spatial resource information and tactical harvest planning functions.

**The marketing team** is the conduit between HQP and our customers to ensure positive commercial relationships and optimal resource allocation.

**The commercial services group** is responsible for the delivery of a range of financial, legal, information technology and other services to help achieve our business goals.

**The people and safety group** manages human resources, health and safety, and fire management and is responsible for developing our Growing Together culture to ensure everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

More detailed information about the stages of the plantation lifecycle can be found at <https://www.hqplantations.com.au/our-plantations/plantation-lifecycle>

More detailed information about the different aspects of plantations management can be found at <https://www.hqplantations.com.au/our-plantations/forest-management>

More detailed information about how we care for the environment can be found at <https://www.hqplantations.com.au/our-sustainability/environment>

More detailed information about the work undertaken by different workgroups can be found at <https://www.hqplantations.com.au/our-people/career-pathways>



## Appendix 2: Case study 1 – Appropriate engagement for cultural heritage management

### Who: Jinibara People

**What:** Engagement for a gravel pit expansion

In 2019, our operational planning team identified a requirement to access and expand an unused gravel pit in the Jimna plantation forest to support routine harvesting and forest management operations in the area. This would involve clearing of a small portion of previously disturbed remnant vegetation and additional ground disturbance.

The first step was to consult existing internal policies and procedures that outlines our duty of care under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and steps to identify, maintain and preserve cultural heritage and engage with the relevant First Nations People.

Following this process, the area was identified as Jinibara Country. While no sites of cultural heritage were identified on the state register or on HQP's internal dataset in the vicinity of the operation, the likelihood and risk of disturbance to any unknown sites determined we should still consult with the Jinibara People.

We engaged the Jinibara People to conduct an initial inspection and site clearance to enable initial ground works to commence. Due to the potential presence of culturally significant flora and fauna being identified as part of this inspection, a subsequent ecological assessment was also completed to determine the floristic composition of the area proposed for clearing and identify if any endangered, vulnerable or near-threatened species were present.

A cultural induction for our people was arranged with the Jinibara People to coincide with the commencement of site works. The induction provided employees and contractors with an appreciation of the First Nations history of the area, a display of potential artefacts that may be found in the area to aid recognition, and a discussion on procedures to follow if an artefact was discovered.

From planning to completion of the work, including the follow up assessment with the Jinibara People, took approximately 12 months in line with HQP's work program. Making contact and preliminary inspections would likely have taken longer had we not had a pre-existing relationship with the Jinibara People and their representatives from earlier engagements.





## Appendix 3: Case study 2 – Relationship building

**Who:** The Butchulla Indigenous Industries Group (BIIG)

**What:** BIIG personifies a balance between First Nations economic independence and reconnecting young Butchulla People with Country.



Norman Barney, a proud Butchulla man, connected with HQP several years ago to discuss opportunities for the Butchulla People to work with us in some capacity. Over many years, we have developed a personal and culturally respectful relationship with the Butchulla People, and Norman in particular, culminating in a commercial agreement for the provision of custodial, forest management and silvicultural services on Country. Butchulla Country, recognised through Native Title consent determination, extends from the Tuan State Forest to Burrum Heads and east to K’gari (Fraser Island).

A genuine partnership, the joint vision was to economically empower young Butchulla People while providing opportunities to work on and reconnect culturally to Country. After implementing a full Health and Safety Management System, the BIIG crew commenced working for HQP in July 2019. Most of the initial five-person crew came from backgrounds of long-term unemployment. BIIG provided them with an opportunity to be part of something that offers better lifestyle choices, a chance to upskill and the potential for financial security. Norman has often shared how this opportunity has changed their lives culturally and economically. Now with two crews and ten people, Norman is proud of the leadership skills they are beginning to display and the instinctive knowledge of their land they have developed. He is confident members of his crews will be strong Butchulla leaders in years to come.

Most of the BIIG team have gained Crew Member fire accreditation and they have taken on some additional silvicultural tasks such as planting, particularly in culturally sensitive areas.

Through this program, we have built strong relationships with several Butchulla People, including Elders, and learnt some of the Butchulla language, their goals for long term financial independence, their passion to share knowledge with their young people and the undeniable connection they have to Country.



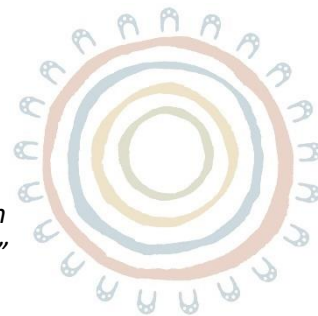
## Appendix 4: Framework consultation

We invited three First Nations Groups we have worked with in the past from the north and the south to seek feedback on the draft First Nations Engagement Framework to ensure it is likely deliver on its purpose. Each Group was sent the framework two to three weeks before an in-person meeting to review and discuss and then an additional month was given for the Groups to provide any additional feedback, which was reviewed by the working group and incorporated into the framework document where appropriate. Any feedback not included was communicated back to the people who provided it, with the reason for its non-inclusion. Unfortunately, only two of these consultation meetings took place, with the third meeting cancelled for reasons internal to that Group and unable to be rescheduled.

Following consultation, the following comments were received.

### **Norman Bond, Chair, Kabi Kabi Peoples Aboriginal Corporation, July 2022**

*“The KKFNTO'S are supportive of working collaboratively with HQP and other key stakeholders to help create a culturally safe environment nurtured by the guiding principles in this First Nations Engagement Framework which promotes greater inclusiveness for all.”*



### **Phil Rist, Executive Officer, Girringun Corporation, July 2022**

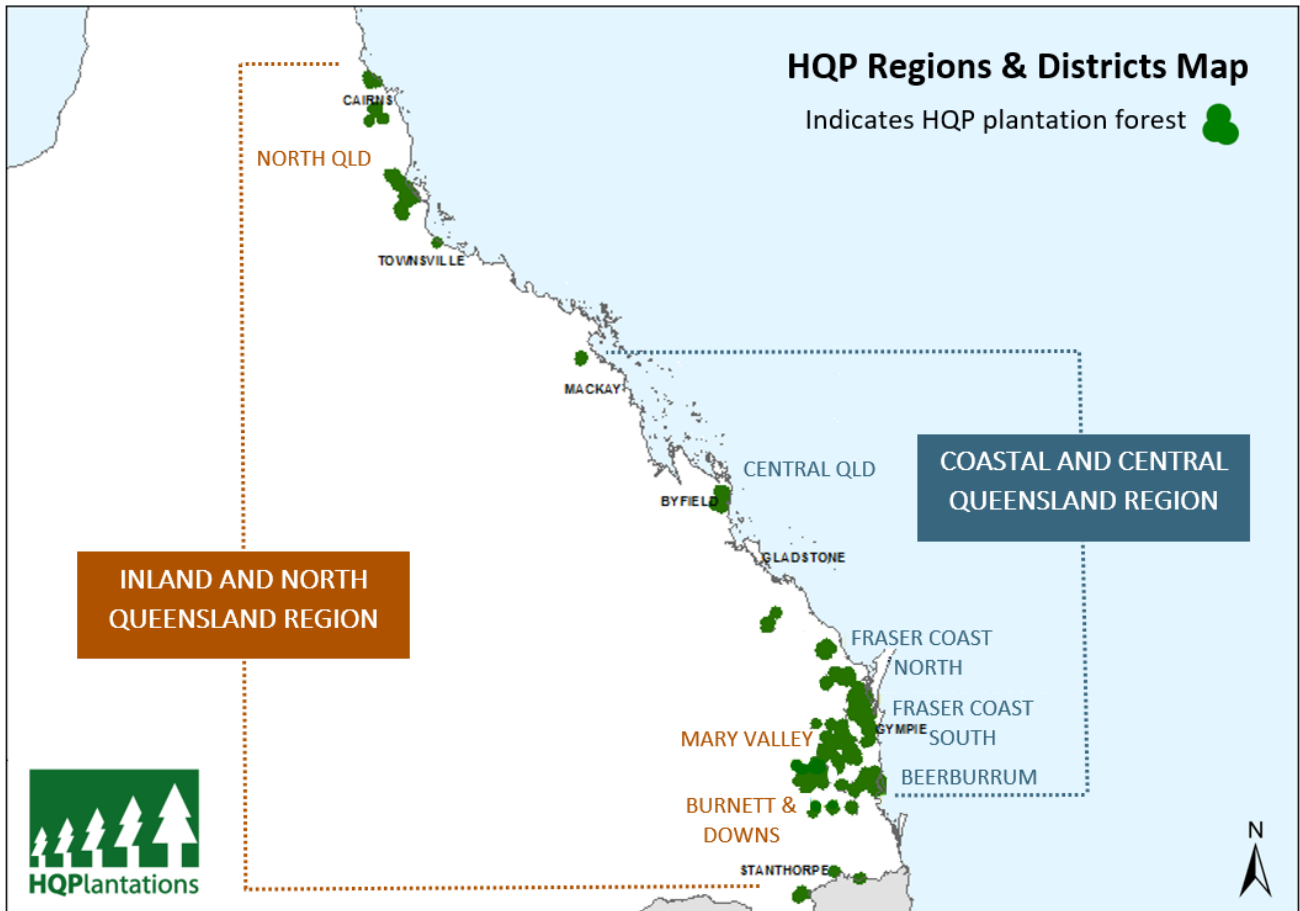
*“Regarding Australia’s First Nations peoples and their collective quest for recognition across all levels in the broader society. The heart of an organisation is not in the bricks and mortar or associated infrastructure, it cannot live there, it exists in the hearts and minds of the people. This is often the beginning of change for the better. As an Indigenous leader in the Indigenous land and sea management sector, I commend HQPlantations for initiating positive change within their company. I have had the privilege to be a part of this initiative and feel that this is definitely the start of bigger things in the future. The development of positive relationship building between Queensland’s First Nations Peoples and HQPlantations have taken a massive step in the right direction. It is the beginning of an exciting journey. Thank you HQPlantations.”*



**Phil Rist, Girringun Corporation, at Toolara Nursery**

## Appendix 5: Local contacts and HQP regions and districts

The map below shows HQP's regions and districts, followed by a list of local contacts on the following page.



The following people are the current key relationships for First Nations Groups as at March, 2022.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
<b>Inland and North Queensland Region (Burnett and Downs, Mary Valley, North QLD districts)</b>			
Regional Planning Manager	Dan O'Regan	07 5484 4202 0428 115 439	dan.o'regan@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Burnett & Downs	Jeff Ihle	07 4170 2801 0428 102 097	jeff.ihle@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Mary Valley	Bob Lewis	07 5484 4204 0427 015 910	bob.lewis@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – North Queensland	Craig Armstrong	07 4776 2777 0408 634 843	craig.armstrong@hqplantations.com.au
<b>Coastal and Central Queensland Region (Beerburrum, Fraser Coast South, Fraser Coast North, Central QLD districts)</b>			
Regional Planning Manager	Tom Clapson	07 5488 2114 0428 101 746	tom.clapson@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Beerburrum	Greg Stuckey	07 5438 6632 0429 629 291	greg.stuckey@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Fraser Coast South	Russell Vance	07 5488 2117 0428 157 773	russell.vance@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Fraser Coast North	Roger Anderson	07 5488 2146 0428 736 661	roger.anderson@hqplantations.com.au
District Manager – Central Queensland	Stephen Watson	07 4837 4102 0428 104 274	stephen.watson@hqplantations.com.au
<b>Stewardship – all regions</b>			
Community Engagement	Stephanie Hunt	07 5438 6637 0439 936 890	community@hqplantations.com.au stephanie.hunt@hqplantations.com.au

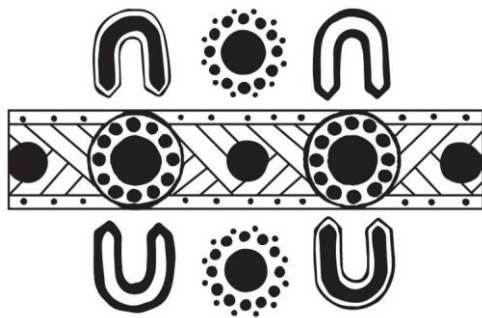


# Ku'lulu Dauwa Dhu artwork story

by Joel Barney, Butchulla First Nations artist

Joel Barney's *Ku'lulu Dauwa Dhu* story (pine tree timber story) on the cover of this document was presented to HQPlantations at Toolara on 24 March 2021, representing the coming together of Indigenous People and HQPlantations on country.

The symbology reflects different groups of people meeting and travelling together on a journey toward a sustainable future for present generations and those to come.



The log pattern in groups of threes represents the lores ingrained in Butchulla People:

- ⦿ What is good for the land comes first
- ⦿ Do not take or touch anything that does not belong to you
- ⦿ If you have plenty, you must share.

The Butchulla People believe living by these lores will help Mother Earth heal from the damage of the past and provide a blueprint for working together.

The circles, representing different species of pine, and repeating patterns reinforce sustainability, including the continual, circular nature of plantation forests – planting, growing, harvesting and replanting to begin the cycle again. Tracks and water courses through the pine trees are also shown, bringing and sustaining life.

Yindinji, the carpet snake that appears in HQPlantations website art also designed by Joel based on the *Ku'lulu Dauwa Dhu* story, is a spiritual totem for the Butchulla People representing creation. Yindinji was sent to help create the animals, plants and rivers and teach traditional custodians the lore of the land. To the Butchulla People, Yindinji is a symbol of lore and sustainability of this beautiful shared land.



Joel Barney, a proud Butchulla First Nations man, is a self-taught artist born and raised in Hervey Bay.

“I started painting in 2015 and developed my own style of Aboriginal art based on my People’s stories and also my mentors from other tribes who taught me how to use paint to express myself. When I paint Butchulla art, I take all my reference colours from the life and scenes I see around Butchulla country.”

