

9. Implementation Arrangements

9.1 General Implementation Arrangements

Implementation arrangements will be determined following the formation of the Haughton River Catchment Coordinating Committee (HRCCC) after further consultation with stakeholders and the wider catchment community. Also refer to projects and programs in **Appendix Q**.

The basis has been laid for cooperative action, and networks strengthened, during the development of this plan. Implementation will be a function of the HRCCC guided by the findings of this Integrated Catchment Management Plan.

The general process for implementation of key actions is described in **Figure 8-1**.

Priority actions for immediate consideration by the HRCCC upon formation are:

- a) Development of the processes and structures necessary to ensure the effective operation of the HRCCC (Actions 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 1.2 and 1.3 from **Table 8-1**).

These actions are predominantly associated with developing policy, protocols and processes to enable information sharing, ongoing communication, network building, and involvement of all stakeholders. These functions should be able to be carried out using the combined resources of HRCCC, principally the human resources. Some assistance may be required to facilitate these actions with the decision on the level of assistance to be decided by the HRCCC after due consideration of the available internal resources and the level of objectivity required for the tasks.

Potential resources required:

- Human resources of the HRCCC (Actions 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 1.2 and 1.3)
- Human resource allocation-Local Government (Action 1.3)
- Potential external assistance (Actions 2.4 and 2.5)

- b) Development of submissions to attract funding for priority actions (from **Table 8-1**)

The following actions have been identified as priority actions by the consultants. Implementation of these actions is required to enable progression towards addressing the underlying causes of the presenting issues.

Action 1.8 - Information needs to be gathered to determine the actions that may be addressed through other groups and agencies e.g. Action 5.1 a submission has been prepared by the Burdekin Dry Tropics Board, which has the potential to implement this action.

Potential resources required:

- Human resources of the HRCCC

Action 4.1 - A better understanding of the source of the sediment in the Haughton River and tributaries is required to determine the management measures required to address the issue. This would take the form of a sediment budget i.e. how much sediment is coming from where. The CSIRO has experience in this type of investigation and from initial discussions has estimated up to \$30,000 would be required to undertake the work.

Potential resources required:

- Human resources of the HRCCC
- Technical advice from CSIRO
- Technical advice from DNRM
- In kind contributions from stakeholders

Potential funding source:

- Envirofund (NHT2)

Action 4.2 - Information from Action 1.8 on industry sectors needs to be compiled for this project to add to information already identified during the development of this ICMP. Development of best practice guidelines for the main agricultural industries in the Haughton River catchment would then be a function of:

- A desktop review of the available information
- Consultation with the relevant people in agencies conducting research and providing extension for those industries
- Consultation with industry sector focus groups to add practical input to the body of knowledge
- Development of guidelines from the various sources of information and knowledge above

Potential resources required:

- Human resources of the HRCCC
- Technical advice from various agencies including DNRM and DPI
- In kind contributions from stakeholders

Potential funding source:

- Burdekin Rangelands Reef Initiative
- Envirofund (NHT2)

c) Information requirements and target setting

Action 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 6.2 and 6.4 - These are actions required to improve the available knowledge for natural resource management purposes and target setting. The resources of the HRCCC need to be assessed and the requirement for additional resources to implement these actions determined. Having done that the additional resources should be pursued.

Potential resources required:

- Human resources of the HRCCC
- Information and advice from various stakeholders
- In kind contributions from stakeholders

Potential funding sources:

- Envirofund (NHT2)
- Burdekin Rangelands Reef Initiative

It should be noted that the funding sources mentioned are **not** the only sources available and other options should be investigated as a function of the HRCCC. The sources mentioned are the most obvious sources at the time of writing.

9.2 Landcare And Community Group Support Mechanisms

Landcare and other community groups are already supported in a variety of ways by the participating Local Governments, State Agencies, industry groups and research bodies. Recognition of the valuable work carried out by members of the community on a group basis and individually is important, as is the ongoing support of these groups and individuals.

Where ever possible the HRCCC will continue to involve and support community efforts to improve natural resource outcomes through:

- Support of groups in their efforts to obtain funding through recognised natural resource programs
- Facilitating the provision of technical support for projects and activities
- Sharing information and inclusion in communication networks
- Provision of relevant resources when available
- Administration of devolved grant style projects as appropriate

Projects such as Land for Wildlife are already sponsored and supported by the Local Governments that form part of the HRICSC and will continue to be supported and promoted with the formation of the HRCCC.

10. Monitoring, Assessment And Review Process

10.1 Monitoring

Certain elements of the Plan will require monitoring to track variations in conditions from baseline data and to determine levels of improvement or decline in the natural resources of the Haughton River catchment.

The type and method of monitoring will vary depending on the information available and the data to be collected for a specific application. The style of monitoring will need to be planned as part of any project undertaken and follow, where possible, the guidelines established for Environmental Indicators for National State of the Environment Reporting. Where applicable, standard monitoring methods will be employed so that results can be used in compiling data sets for applications beyond the catchment boundaries. To enable appropriate monitoring locally relevant targets need to be established to enable performance to be gauged against (see Action 1.9). Monitoring programs are already in place for some natural resource parameters and these should be utilised wherever possible to reduce potential monitoring costs e.g. Waterwatch.

Locally relevant environmental indicators that can be used, in addition to those mentioned in section 5. Objectives and Targets are:

- Land condition - erosion potential, erosion actual, and quantity of sediment in waterways

The ICMP will also need to be monitored to measure progress and to ensure the strategies and actions for implementation remain relevant to the state of the catchment and contemporary priority issues. This will be achieved through feedback from stakeholders and those involved in implementation of actions and administration of the plan. The wider catchment community will be encouraged to provide feedback at any time for consideration in relation to the Integrated Catchment Management Plan (ICMP).

10.2 Assessment

There will be a need to evaluate the activities of implementation projects and programs. Assessment will be based on baseline data and the information gathered from monitoring operations. For the evaluation process to be meaningful, monitoring methods will need to be designed in conjunction with the design of the evaluation process.

Factors, which will need to be evaluated include:

- Rate of progress of programs and projects towards achieving stated objectives;
- Status of the issues being addressed;
- Efficiency of resource use in achieving objectives;
- Resources required, including time, to continue or complete programs and projects;
- Levels of cooperation and coordination;
- Effectiveness of programs and projects in achieving objectives; and
- Public and members' perceptions of activities and progress.

10.3 Review

As this ICMP has been developed with guidance from the Haughton River Integrated Catchment Steering Committee (HRICSC) rather than by the Haughton River Catchment Coordinating Committee (HRCCC) one of the first functions of the HRCCC will be to review the document and modify and/or commence implementation of priority actions. Part of the review would include determining the relevance of the priority actions to the incoming HRCCC.

Future reviews would be at the discretion of the HRCCC. It is suggested that subsequent reviews take place annually to enable the realignment of projects and activities with achievements and expectations, and to enable time to prepare submissions for funding and cooperative actions.

11. Conflict Resolution

11.1 The Conflict Resolution Process

Given the broad range of stakeholders and the varying social and economic interests, there will be times when it is difficult to reach a consensus. A robust conflict resolution process must be put in place to ensure the maintenance of workable relationships while continuing to progress towards agreed goals.

The following outline for a conflict resolution process is based on the assumption that the HRCCC is formed. If the conflict cannot be resolved through discussion then it would be appropriate for the HRCCC to identify a suitably qualified independent arbitrator to provide an objective viewpoint and/or relevant information. The nature of the conflict will provide guidance as to the relevant arbitrator or referral body and the terms of reference for engagement of an arbitrator. A situation may arise where the conflict is based on the beliefs of a representative and a quantitative solution cannot be reached with or without an arbitrator. In such situations the democratic group process prevails.

The conflict resolution process is summarised in **Figure 11-1**.

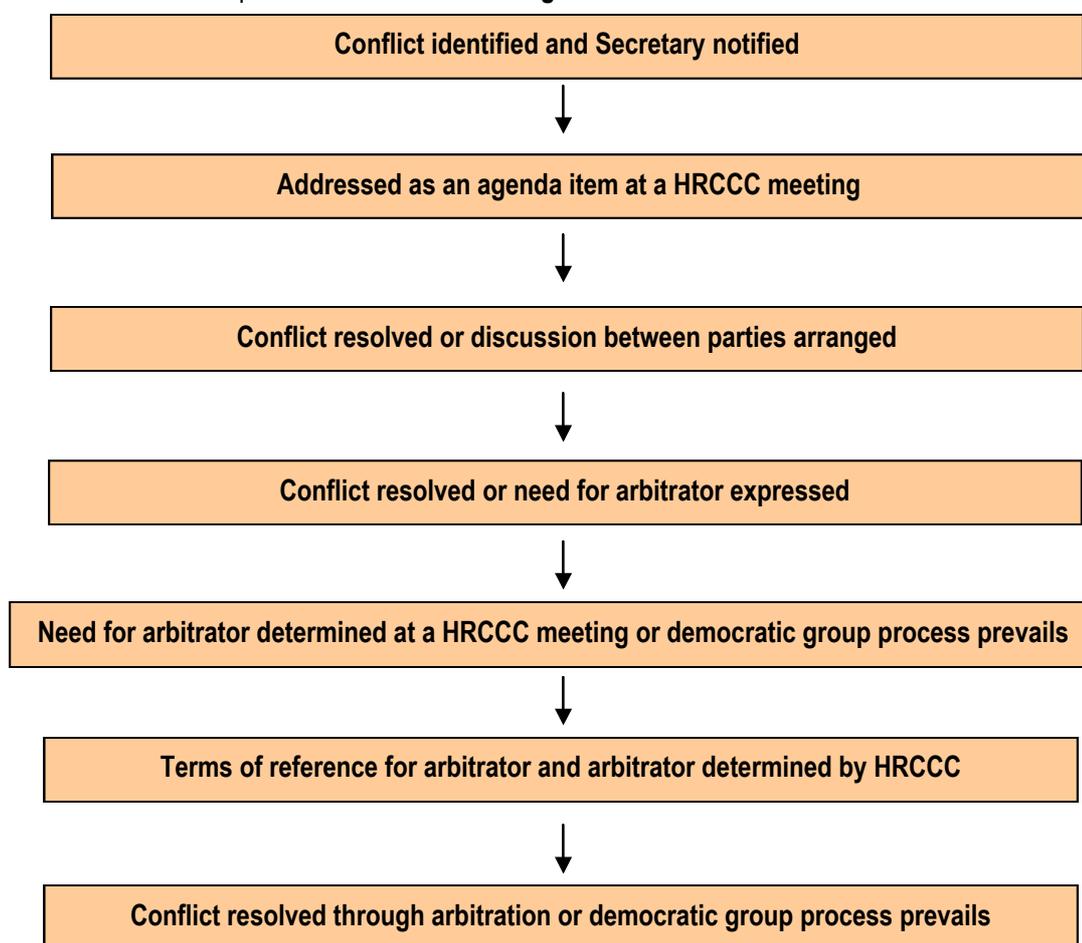


Figure 11-1 Conflict Resolution Process