



WHITSUNDAY CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Caring for the future is in our nature

Email: admin@whitsundayconservation.org.au

www.whitsundayconservation.org.au

Contact: Secretary 0407 207 441

27 November 2022

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for Environment and Water

email: Minister.Plibersek@dcceew.gov.au , tanya.plibersek.mp@aph.gov.au

The Hon Meaghan Scanlon MP, Minister for the Environment & the Great Barrier Reef, Science and Youth Affairs

email: environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

cc: Penny and Peter Warren email: penwarr@hotmail.com

Dear Ministers Plibersek and Scanlon,

RE: PROTECTION NEEDED FOR ENDANGERED/THREATENED NORTHERN QUOLLS

L:558 SP: 296795 T: RES & EMT A/SP221683

WHITSUNDAY REGIONAL COUNCIL D/A 20190346 – BOWEN JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB INC.

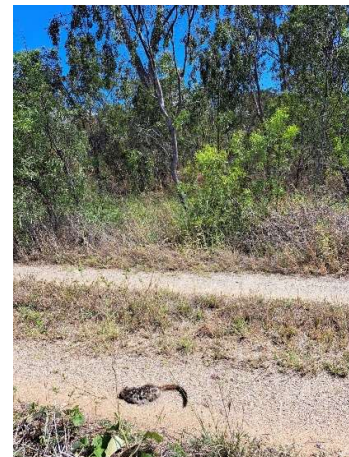
We have been contacted by Penny and Peter Warren, residents who live immediately adjacent to the property mentioned above, and have been, and still are, concerned for the safety and preservation of endangered Northern Quolls.



Recently they observed live quolls alongside a track on the above land and unfortunately also found dead quolls on this track. see photos.

The last activity on this development application (d/a) was in a letter dated 13 May 2019 from the Whitsunday Regional Council to the Bowen Junior Sports Club requesting additional information about their plans. And a letter dated 18 July 2019 from Veris acting for the applicants advising of "Notice of intention to commence public notification – d/a for Material Change of Use.

As far back as 30 November 2017 Penny & Peter Warren wrote to "Cameron – State Assets and Land Vegetation Management/Dept Environmental and Heritage" stating their concerns in regards to the use of some of this land for a motorcycle and motocross facility citing various reasons including protection of the endangered northern quolls and other nocturnal fauna which they knew to be living on this land.



They also reported that work had commenced which destroyed a large, vegetated area leaving it bare and susceptible to soil erosion and run-off. Previous to this, trees in another area had been "pushed over".

In the ensuing years Penny & Peter Warren have continued to try and have this issue resolved but to no avail.

Most recent attempts being:

RE: PROTECTION NEEDED FOR ENDANGERED/THREATENED NORTHERN QUOLLS

2021

18 April; to Dept State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
SARA reference 1904-10678 SRA – WRC d/a 2019 0346
Also advised they had contacted Dept of Agriculture Water and the Environment
No response to date

2022

23 February: to Scott Hardy – Whitsunday Regional Council
Advising sighting of Northern quolls
Response: “that he has copied information to Steve Moss – local NP ranger who might be able to add this sighting into a fauna sighting database.
14 October: to Scott Hardy – Whitsunday Regional Council & Steve Moss – National Parks Ranger
Querying lack of response from Steve Moss
17 October: from Scott Hardy – Whitsunday Regional Council
Advising “ I will place this information on Council file for future reference....
We will note this information when the area is scheduled for a planned burn”
No response from Steve Moss – NP ranger to date

In investigating this matter last month, we, the Whitsunday Conservation Council, found that it was impossible to find a department who could offer any appropriate actions to address our concerns for the endangered Northern Quoll.

Consequently, we refer to The Hon. Tanya Plibersek MP’s
“Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032: 110 Priority species - incl NORTHERN QUOLL

EXTRACT: Habitat Destruction Development for mining, housing, agriculture, etc., in areas of native vegetation within the distribution of the northern quoll is likely to result in clearing and loss of quoll habitat, particularly in rocky areas. This will be at a smaller scale than the habitat degradation described above but may still have a significant impact on critical habitat for the species. In recognition of this, the Australian Government drafted a set of policy guidelines for the assessment and mitigation of impacts of development on the northern quoll (DEWHA in prep.). That document provides advice, survey guidelines and mitigation measures for proponents of projects that will potentially have a significant impact on the northern quoll. Page 9 (page 13 pdf)

Also to the Hon. Meaghan Scanlon MP’s, “Funding for community-led threatened species action” which includes the NORTHERN QUOLL published 07 September 2022.

We ask that, as soon as possible, both you, Minister Plibersek and Minister Scanlon, work together to instigate a new survey be taken of this property to confirm the recent sightings of the quolls made by Penny and Peter Warren.

And that once the presence of the Northern Quoll on this State reserve is officially confirmed that appropriate actions be undertaken, including advising the Whitsunday Regional Council that d/a **20190346** does not provide adequate protection for the endangered Northern Quoll and should be refused.

Sincerely,



Faye C Chapman
Secretary
Whitsunday Conservation Council

