

## Working in Partnership

We believe that working collaboratively is the only way to achieve improved land and water management outcomes for the region.

The types of organisations we work with include community-based groups and organisations, industry groups, government agencies, science organisations including universities, traditional owner groups, peak industry bodies, and many other natural resource management groups.

We also employ community engagement officers that are located in Bowen, Charters Towers, Townsville and Emerald. They work closely with local people to help deliver projects and to increase community understanding of sustainable land and water management.



Seen here is a map of our region and where it is situated in Queensland. It is named the Burdekin Dry Tropics NRM region because of the Burdekin River, the main water system in the region.

## Local Government

Our region covers all or part of twelve local government authority areas.

- › Barcaldine Regional Council
- › Burdekin Shire Council
- › Charters Towers Regional Council
- › Etheridge Shire Council
- › Flinders Shire Council
- › Hinchinbrook Shire Council
- › Isaac Regional Council
- › Mackay Regional Council
- › Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
- › Tablelands Regional Council
- › Townsville City Council
- › Whitsunday Regional Council



## Find out more ...

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*facilitating the improvement of land and water management practices in our region*

## *What we do*

### **NQ DRY TROPICS**

is a community based, not-for-profit company. It was established in 2002 to deliver land and water management activities and enhance the community's involvement throughout the region.

Our areas of focus include improving water quality, supporting sustainable farming and grazing practices, protecting rare and threatened species, protecting native habitat and engaging the community to achieve this outcome. We have a suite of skilled staff with expertise in these areas.

## *Our region*

Our region is located in north eastern Queensland, covering an area of approximately 140,000 square kilometres (almost 8 per cent of the State). The region extends into marine waters and includes Magnetic Island and the Palm group of Islands. It is an area

The economy of the region is mostly made up of natural resource-reliant industries. Agriculture (farming and grazing) is by far the most important employer in the rural areas of the region. Other natural resource dependent industries include mining and tourism.

## *Basins*

There are eight basins within the region. These are distinct in environmental, economic and social characteristics and have issues specific to these characteristics.

They are: Belyando, Bowen Broken Bogie, Bowen Coastal, Cape Campaspe, Lower Burdekin, Suttor, Townsville Coastal, Upper Burdekin.



NQ Dry Tropics has successfully managed over \$34 million worth of project investment over the last five years and has a history of solid technical and business expertise.

We exist to help people and organisations improve their land and water practices to ensure a sustainable future for us all. This includes farmers, urban, rural and coastal residents, as well as organisations and community groups.

While the company trades primarily from its main office in the regional hub of Townsville, key staff are also located in Bowen, Charters Towers and Emerald, enhancing the organisation's ability to effectively engage and work with people across our vast and diverse region.

of environmental significance for all Australians due to its location adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef.

About 210,000 residents live in the region with the majority of those people living in Townsville (more than 160,000). Others live in rural centres such as Charters Towers, Ayr, Home Hill, and Bowen. Away from these major centres the region is very sparsely populated.

Approximately 5 per cent of the population is indigenous with 15 Traditional Owner groups located in the region. It includes the largest Torres Strait Islanders population outside of the Torres Strait, located primarily in the Townsville area.

## *Bioregions and Wetlands*

There are three terrestrial bioregions in our region, including the Einasleigh Uplands, the Desert Uplands and the Brigalow Belt North. There are also fourteen marine bioregions. These regions are considered national biodiversity hotspots.

Our region also contains one of Queensland's few Ramsar sites, which are wetlands of global importance. Wetlands centered on Bowling Green Bay near Townsville form one of tropical Australia's largest and most diverse coastal wetlands.

It is one of many wetlands of national significance in our region.