



Strategic Plan 2022-2027

Vision

The waterways of the Scenic Rim Region will be enhanced through targeted waterway projects and partnerships that support sustainable waterway use, ecological function, and positive community engagement in their management.

Purpose

The Trust is a statutory body constituted under the River Improvement Trust Act 1940 and its associated regulations, operating within the powers and responsibilities of this legislation.

Between 2021 and 2025, we will collaborate with Scenic Rim Regional Council, other organisations, landholders, and community groups to raise awareness of riverine management issues and implement projects that improve waterway health.

We are committed to protecting waterways as valuable natural resources, recognising that the region's environment, communities, and industries rely on their ecological function both now and in the future.

Objectives

We are dedicated to enhancing the health of waterways and riparian lands within the Scenic Rim by:

- Partnering with like-minded individuals, organisations, and groups to implement riverine and waterway improvement projects.
- Systematically managing invasive vegetation.
- Promoting and executing re-vegetation, bank stabilisation, and debris removal projects to support erosion control and waterway restoration.
- Improving water quality and river system function across rivers and their catchments.
- Developing land management initiatives in collaboration with the local community.

- Seizing opportunities that enhance the Trust's reach and influence in achieving its purpose, objectives, and strategies.

Community Engagement & Input

Recognising the crucial role the community plays in maintaining and restoring waterways, the Trust will:

- Conduct regular community forums and public consultations to gather input and share progress.
- Establish volunteer programs and citizen science initiatives that enable residents to actively participate in waterway restoration.
- Provide educational workshops and resources to inform the community about sustainable riverine management practices.
- Create accessible channels for reporting waterway concerns and suggestions from the public.
- Strengthen relationships with indigenous groups, incorporating traditional ecological knowledge into river management efforts.

Alignment

Our work program and initiatives align with the Queensland Government's objective to improve environmental health, including the protection of flora, fauna, landscapes, waterways, and biodiversity.

Additionally, our efforts support regional and local government goals, along with initiatives from other organisations that aim to protect and restore at-risk ecological communities, enhance water quality, preserve the region's scenic beauty, and promote a healthy environment while fostering biodiversity outcomes.

Strategies

The Trust will adopt the following strategies:

- Engage landholders, entities, and the wider community to promote a partnership approach to riverine management and improvement.
- Acknowledge that effective riverine management requires an ongoing commitment to be successful.
- Plan works programs strategically, adopting a progressive expansion strategy into areas under management/works.
- Utilise experienced and competent contractors to deliver the program of work and support services to the Trust.

- Target opportunities that enable the Trust to expand its reach and impact in the region while achieving its Purpose, Objectives, and Strategies.
- Foster community engagement in waterway health through inclusive and accessible initiatives.

Risks

Environmental

- Environmental conditions and severe weather impacts will continue to affect the delivery of works during and after these events.
- Environmental pressures are expected to increase with the expansion of invasive weed species in riparian areas.

Financial The Trust is dependent on partners to fund its work. Main contributors include:

- **Scenic Rim Regional Council**, providing Works Program and service provider/contractor management functions along with the majority financial contribution.
- **The Queensland Government**, offering legislative support and funding available through the State Council of River Improvement Trust.
- **State Council of River Improvement Trusts**, providing overarching support and distributing State Government funding through grants/claims.
- **External funding sources**, which enable the Trust to undertake special projects as partnership opportunities arise.
- **Landholder in-kind commitments**, adding value to Trust expenditure and works programs.

Performance

The Trust will adopt and commit to a funded works program each financial year that advances the Strategic Plan, previously committed works, and partnerships. The works program will take advantage of opportunities at all levels that achieve the Purpose, Objectives, and Strategies of the Trust while integrating ongoing community input and participation.