

Statement of Management Intent

Springvale Station 2016-17

Vision

Our vision is to manage and conserve Springvale Station's biophysical values and to contribute to improved water quality within the Normanby River catchment.

Management intent

Management of the property will be consistent with the protected area management principles outlined in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (the Act) and will consider other relevant government policies, procedures and protocols.

It is intended that Springvale Station be declared a nature refuge under the Act. The longer-term intent is to dedicate the property as a higher class of protected area (e.g. Conservation Park). This process will be subject to a negotiated native title outcome through the Cape York Tenure Resolution Program.

Springvale Station forms part of the 'Cape York United Number One Claim' (One Claim), however; as yet there is no native title determination over the property. The Queensland Government recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the Traditional Owners of the Great Barrier Reef area and have a continuing connection to their land and sea country.

Engagement

It is the intention of the Queensland Government to actively engage with Aboriginal peoples, adjoining landowners and local communities in the ongoing management of Springvale Station. Regular opportunities for consultation will be embedded in the planning and management schedules.

Governance

A government Steering Committee comprised of staff from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) and a representative from the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing has been established. The Committee provides strategic oversight and governance of the management of Springvale Station by EHP and uses the department's broad expertise in identifying and achieving the goals for the property.

Short-term management

EHP is currently managing Springvale Station. The immediate management priority is to improve the capacity for the property to be managed more sustainably in the longer term by identifying and addressing critical and urgent land management matters. The station will be de-stocked of cattle by 31 October 2017. Until then, the sub-lessee to the property is responsible for the management of the cattle as well as other matters related to grazing. Implementation of a program of works to manage and reduce erosion on the property has commenced.

Long-term management

The long-term management aim is for the property to be de-stocked and managed for conservation purposes.