

Project Progress Report

Project: Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the Proposed Traveston Crossing Dam

Reporting Period: from 16 February to 6 April 2009

Lead Agency: Department of Infrastructure and Planning

Agency Contact: Fiona Bailey

Project Objective

The Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam will assist in informing a long-term land use plan and infrastructure program for the Mary Valley region. This will include investigating the impacts of the proposed dam on existing land uses and settlement patterns in addition to identifying and assessing options for locating future land uses and infrastructure.

Summary of Progress

The Department of Infrastructure and Planning is currently reviewing the draft Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. Most of the planning study area falls within the Gympie Regional Council area; it also includes part of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council area.

The Department of Infrastructure and Planning are responding to enquiries from State Government agencies, local government and the public in relation to the draft Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

Planning officers from the Department of Infrastructure and Planning and the Gympie Regional Council met to discuss strategic planning issues, in January 2009.

Key Milestone

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Public Release of draft Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study	To follow assessment of the Environmental Impact Statement of the Traveston Crossing dam, should the State and Federal Government approve the dam.	In Progress

Activities outstanding at end of reporting period

- Completion of the draft and finalised Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the Traveston Crossing Dam as proposed by the Environmental Impact Statement currently under consideration.

Achievements to Date

- Provided feedback to community members on information obtained at community meetings;
- Responded to community/other stakeholder questions regarding land use issues in the Mary Valley region and obtained community feedback on general land use issues within the Mary Valley region;
- Presented draft township concept plans to the Imbil and Kandanga communities;
- Obtained community feedback on land use issues affecting Federal State School. In particular, impacts associated with proposed highway realignment;
- Organised and facilitated numerous community and reference group meetings regarding land use issues within the Mary Valley region;
- Liaised with relevant stakeholders regarding land use issues in the Mary Valley Region;

- Attended and provided input into a range of committees and working groups associated with the proposed Traveston Dam;
- Sourced and co-ordinated relevant consultants to undertake technical projects associated with progressing the Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam;
- Consulted with the relevant shire councils, State agencies and Queensland Water Infrastructure to discuss land use and infrastructure planning matters in relation to the draft Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study;
- Prepared an update and response to 'Frequently Asked Questions and Answers' in relation to the Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the Community Futures Task Force Newsletter – Issue 14; and
- Briefed the Gympie Regional Council on the draft Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study in response to the request from the Mayor.

Stakeholder Consultation

Stakeholder	Date	Outcome of Consultation
Kandanga	21 Nov 2006	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Imbil/Brooloo	5 Dec 2006 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Carters Ridge	7 Dec 2006 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Federal	21 March 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Carters Ridge	26 March 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Kandanga	28 March 2007 (6pm to 9pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Federal – school community	3 April 2007 (3pm to 5pm)	Obtain community feedback on land use issues affecting Federal State School
Imbil/Brooloo	4 April 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Kandanga	11 April 2007 (6pm to 9pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Imbil/Brooloo	2 May 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Present draft township Concept Plans to community
Federal – school community	3 May 2007 (3pm to 5pm)	Obtain community feedback on land use issues affecting Federal State School. In particular, impacts associated with proposed highway realignment
Federal	9 May 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Obtain community feedback on general land use issues
Kandanga	29 May 2007 (6pm to 8pm)	Present draft township Concept Plans to community
Gympie	22 July 2008	Briefed Gympie Regional Council on draft Planning Study
Kandanga/ Imbil	To date numerous meetings have been held with reference groups from Kandanga and Imbil on land use planning issues	

Project Progress Report

Project: Imbil Recreation Area – Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment

Reporting Period: 16 February 2009 to 6 April 2009

Lead Agency: Department of Communities, Sport and Recreation Services (formerly Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation)

Collaborating Agency/Organisation: Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation, Gympie Regional Council (GRC), Community Futures Task Force (CFTF).

Agency Contacts: Matthew Horder (Senior Development Officer), Stephen White (North Coast Area Manager)

Project Objective

The purpose of the project is to examine the demand for and possible uses of the Imbil Recreation Area, a 9.4 hectare parcel of land adjacent to the existing Mary Valley Showgrounds in Imbil. The planning project will provide a Concept Master Plan for future development of recreation activities at the Imbil Recreation Area, investigate the economic and community impacts of the facility on Imbil and surrounding communities and determine the feasibility of establishing activities that may attract and support regional, State or National events.

Summary of Progress

The Gympie Regional Council was briefed on the Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report on 25 March 2009. Council will now consider its options in implementing the findings of the study.

This now completes the master planning process and finalises the project. The Department will continue to support Gympie Regional Council in implementing the findings through normal service delivery.

Activity Report

- The Gympie Regional Council was briefed on the Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report on 25 March 2009.

Key Milestones

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Consultation with all Parties and Project Brief Finalisation	28 September 2007	Completed
Project Brief to Tender	2 October 2007	Completed
Tenders Close	23 October 2007	Completed
Brief to Minister for Sport requesting appointment of Selected Tenderer.	12 November 2007	Completed
Project Commencement	Mid November 2007	Completed
Draft Discussion Paper (for the Imbil Recreation Area)	Mid February 2008	Completed
Draft Concept Master Plan (for the Imbil Recreation Area)	Early May 2008	Completed
Draft Community and Economic Impact	End May 2008	Completed

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Report (for the Imbil Recreation Area)	(revised to end Aug 2008)	
Draft Feasibility and Management Report (for the Imbil Recreation Area)	End June 2008 (revised to mid Aug 2008)	Completed
Presentation of Draft Concept Master Plan to Gympie Regional Council	End August 2008	Completed on 27 August 2008
Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report (for the Imbil Recreation Area)	End July 2008	Completed on 27 November 2008
Final briefing session to Gympie Regional Council.	25 March 2009	Completed
Final report will be made available publicly on the Community Futures Task Force website.	April 2009	On track

Achievements to Date

- DLGSR, DTRDI and CFTF each agreed to commit \$15,000 towards the total project cost of \$45,000.
- DLGSR has co-ordinated stakeholder input, planning brief finalised, tender finalised and consultant appointed.
- A Discussion Paper was finalised on 13 March 2008.
- Stakeholder consultation program commenced during March 2008.
- Potential user survey completed.
- Draft Concept Master Plan finalised June 2008.
- Second round of Stakeholder and public consultation completed during June 2008.
- Draft Concept Master Plan (incorporating the Community and Economic Impact report and the Feasibility/Management report) was presented to Gympie Regional Council on 27 August 2008.
- Gympie Regional Council provided their response to the draft Concept Master Plan on 25 September 2008.
- The Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report (for the Imbil Recreation Area) was finalised and forwarded to Gympie Regional Council on 27 November 2008.
- The master planning process (this project) is now complete.
- The Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report was tabled at the Community Futures Taskforce meeting on 8 December 2008.
- The Gympie Regional Council was briefed on the Final Concept Master Plan and Impact Assessment Study Report on 25 March 2009. Council will now consider its options in implementing the findings of the study.

Stakeholder Consultation

Consultation for this project has now been finalised.

Project Progress Report

Project: Economic Futures – Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) (formerly Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry) component and Business Adjustment Scheme and Worker Assistance Program

Reporting Period: 16 February to 31 March 2009

Lead Agency: Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (formerly Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry)

Agency Contacts: Gary Warrener, Lynne Wilbraham, David Stubbin, Lara Tabua, Celena Ross, Shaun Leggate, Ron Everest

Project Objective

To assist the communities in the vicinity of the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong Dams to gain significant economic benefit from these projects and associated infrastructure works; to assist businesses and workers impacted by the government's decision to build the dams; and to provide information and build economic development capacity to facilitate local businesses to participate in the emerging opportunities.

Summary of Achievements

- Mary Valley Business Retention and Expansion Coordinator (Stage 2) appointed.

Activity Report

Business Adjustment Scheme

The total number of Business Adjustment Scheme applications received from the Traveston Crossing area, by Category as at **19 March 2009**, is as follows:

Fund Type	Applications Received to 19 March 2009		
	Former DTRDI	Former DPIF	Total
Business Advice	38	3	41
Business Restructure	28	3	31
Business Exit	11	1	12
Total	77	7	84

Note: Applications Received for DTRDI includes three applications withdrawn by the same client, one for Business Advice Assistance and one for Business Restructure Assistance and one for Exit Assistance.

Projects to mitigate the economic impacts of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam

- **Business Opportunity and Capacity Development** – Collaborating with Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI), Australian Industry Engineering and Manufacturing Network Co-Operative Ltd (AIEM Net), industry and government agencies to ensure that business and industry are informed of economic and business development opportunities.

Regional Development -

- **Gympie Regional Council Industrial Land Development Strategy** –The issue of access to main roads is a constraint and consultation is underway between the consultants, DEEDI, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Council to seek options and solutions. The Steering Committee met at the end of March 2009 to review a draft final report. The draft final report will be reviewed by steering committee members and comments provided to the consultant to finalise the report.
- **Gympie Region Investment Strategy** – A project proposal is being considered by the Department.
- **Toyota National Country Music Muster** – Tenders have been called for and received from Consultants to conduct the Business Review of the Muster. The consultancy is currently on hold pending feedback from the Muster committee regarding Emergency Services Funding issues.

Industry Development –

- **Manufacturing Industry Development –**
 - The Department is working with business and industry in the Gympie region to deliver Departmental programs and services
 - The Department is working with manufacturers in the Gympie region to form a Lean Manufacturing Network
 - Member of Steering Committee for organisation of Gympie Careers Expo to be held 5 August at the Pavilion.

Business development –

- 2 one-on-one business client meetings held during the reporting period.
- *Charging what you're worth – getting your pricing strategy right*– Gympie - 15 attendees
- Attendance at Gympie Chamber of Commerce and Women in Business functions.
- **Mary Valley Business Expansion and Retention Program** – The Department (with the support of CFTF) has entered into a contractor agreement for the ongoing delivery of project coordination services in the Mary Valley. The Steering Committee (Mary Valley Inc and DEEDI) have identified four projects to be progressed:
 - Business Profiling Project
 - Business Eco-Sustainability Project
 - Village Renewal Pilot
 - Agri and Food Processing – Business Project

Projects to build the economic capacity of the region surrounding the proposed Wyaralong Dam

- **Boonah District Futures Study:**

Project	Progress
Community Audit & Boonah and District Leadership Program	These projects have been delayed through illness of the consultant undertaking the project.

Key Milestones

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Boonah District Futures study	April 2009	To be completed early 2009.

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Gympie Regional Council Industrial Land Development Strategy	April 2009	The Steering Committee is reviewing a draft final report.

Achievements to Date

- A Departmental Office and Officer has been established in Gympie.

Studies Completed:

- Scoping Economic Futures – Traveston Crossing Region.
- Mary Valley Economic Development Strategy report.
- Scoping Economic Futures – Wyaralong Region report

Business Adjustment Scheme and Worker Assistance Program

- 84 businesses and 9 individual workers have requested assistance in the Traveston Crossing area through the Business Adjustment Scheme and Worker Assistance Program. To date no applications have been received from the Wyaralong area.

Industry Development in Gympie Regional Council Area

- Construction and manufacturing industry - 12 Business Opportunity and Capacity Development Awareness Raising Forums, with AIEMnet and QWI - 410 attendees; 118 firms assisted to complete capability statements for QWI
- E-Commerce workshop for tourism industry (15 attendees); Accommodation Industry Forum (50 attendees); Clean, Green & Profitable workshop – targeted at Tourism industry operators – 31 attendees; Business Side of Art workshop – 15 attendees
- Value Added Food Processing - Agri-Food Innovators Forum (in partnership with the former DPIF) - 45 attendees
- Creative Industries -facilitated Strategic Planning and establishment of exhibition site for Imbil Artists

Business Development in Gympie Regional Council area

- Business Development seminars and workshops – 12 conducted, 270 attendees. attendees. Topics covered included - Business Planning, Marketing, Managing Your Cash, Pricing for Profit, Winning and Keeping Customers.
- Business Opportunity and Capacity Development Seminars – 17 conducted, 418 attendees. Topics covered included – Tendering, Project Management, QA, WH&S
- Business engagement - 303 one on one business appointments to discuss opportunities and issues
- Mentoring for Growth program - Launched in Gympie - October 2007. Participants – 2 businesses from Gympie; 3 businesses from the Mary Valley
- Mary Valley Business Retention & Expansion Project - **Initial project completed.**

Scenic Rim Regional Council Area

- The Boonah and District Enterprise Board has been established.
- Boonah Chamber of Commerce has been re-established.
- Boonah business “Walkabout” report finalised .
- Boonah businesses survey report finalised
- Boonah Business District Planning Study report finalised
- Investment Profile for Boonah and District: report finalised

- Marketing Plan for Families; retirees; home based business and tele-commuters: report finalised
- District-Wide Population Profile and Statistical Database: report finalised.
- Boonah District Business and Industry Gap Analysis: report finalised
- Boonah Touring Loops Management Plan: plan finalised
- Catalogue of Natural Assets has been completed

Project Progress Report

Project: Mary Valley and Scenic Rim Tourism Projects

Reporting Period: 16 February to 6 April 2009

Lead Agency: Tourism Queensland (TQ)

Agency Contacts: Lynne Banford, Sharon Raguse and Therese Phillips

Project Objectives

To identify and map current tourism product in the Mary Valley and in the Scenic Rim, and to identify and implement priority tourism development, marketing and training initiatives for the two regions.

Summary of Progress

The Mary Valley and Scenic Rim Tourism Projects are continuing.

Activity Report

Mary Valley Tourism Project:

- TQ has committed funds to a page of editorial for the Mary Valley region to appear in the 2009 South East Queensland Country Guide (to be released in early June 2009). TQ provided the opportunity to place a fully subsidised one ninth of a page advertisement in the guide to industry. 10 operators including accommodation, events and tours have confirmed their participation in the guide.
- TQ has committed funds to a page of editorial for the Mary Valley region to appear in the South East Queensland Country Club Winter Newsletter (to be released 24 May 2009). TQ has also committed funds to purchase the back page of the newsletter and will provide the opportunity to place subsidised advertisements on this page to industry.
- TQ has committed funds for the employment of a full time resource to implement key tourism projects including the Mary Valley signage project and branding identity project. Recruitment for this position will commence mid April.
- A planning meeting was held with QTIC and Mary Valley Inc on 31 March to finalise the skills and training program for the region in 2009. Key deliverables have been identified as AussieHost training, networking opportunities to connect the tourism industry and other agencies together, and small business mentoring for individual operators to improve their bottom line.

Scenic Rim Tourism Project:

- QTIC has developed a training schedule for the Scenic Rim, and are obtaining feedback from industry currently.
- A Scenic Rim Tourism Project Steering Committee Meeting was held 6 March. The meeting was facilitated by the consultant who prepared the Tourism Action Plan. The projects listed in the Tourism Action Plan were discussed, in order to determine which project(s) to fund through the Scenic Rim Tourism Project. The notes of the meeting have been circulated to the Steering Committee, and will be finalised shortly.

Key Milestones

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
Mary Valley Skills and Training Program	In progress	Audit report finalised. 2009 training program has been finalised. Key deliverables have been identified as AussieHost, networking opportunities, and small business mentoring programs.
Following whole of Government consultation the draft Mary Valley Tourism Action Plan has been revised and is now with the new Minister.	In progress	In progress
Implementation of priority tourism projects including the Mary Valley signage project and branding identity project.	In progress	TQ has committed funds to employ a full time resource to implement these projects. Recruitment for the position will commence mid April.
Prioritise projects in the Scenic Rim Tourism Action Plan	April 2008	In progress

Stakeholder Consultation – Mary Valley

Stakeholder	Date	Outcome of Consultation
Dams' Officers Liaison Group meeting	25 March 2009	Provided update on Mary Valley Tourism Project
QTIC and Mary Valley Inc	31 March 2009	Meeting to finalise the skills and training program for April – December 2009.

Stakeholder Consultation – Scenic Rim

Stakeholder	Date	Outcome of Consultation
Queensland Water Infrastructure	04 March 2009	Discussion on tourism related initiatives QWI are planning to undertake
Scenic Rim Tourism Project Steering Committee	06 March 2009	Discussion to prioritise project identified in the Scenic Rim Tourism Action Plan
Dams' Officers Liaison Group meeting	25 March 2009	Provided update on Scenic Rim Tourism Project

Project Progress Report

Project: Economic Futures Project (former Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (PI&F) component)

Reporting Period: 16 February 2009 – 6 April 2009

Lead Agency: Department of Employment Economic Development and Innovation

Agency Contact/s: Primary – Jason Keating;
Secondary – John Switala, Graeme Whittaker

Project Objectives

To assist the communities in the vicinity of the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong Dams to gain significant economic benefit from the dam developments and associated infrastructure by:

- providing information to, and building economic development capacity of, primary producers in the region; and,
- facilitating agricultural development in the emerging opportunities to create sustainable rural landscapes.

Summary of Achievements

DEEDI (PI&F) has finalised the scoping study and implementation strategy for the Farm and Nature based business development program (FANT BDP) for the Mary Catchment region. Funding is being sought to enable the project to commence in the first half of 2009.

DEEDI (PI&F) has completed an overview of market opportunities for the ginger industry in Queensland.

DEEDI (PI&F) secured funding to conduct a Building Rural Leaders short course in the Upper Mary Valley which commenced on 3 April 2009. 15 community members from the Mary Valley region are participating in the program. The program will be held over 5 months

PI&F held a networking event in Kandanga on 14 March 2009 for farm families in the Mary Valley with a local guest speaker who works as a consultant for Meat and Livestock Australia. The event was well attended and helped rebuild social capital within the farming community.

Activity Report

Food and Fibre Futures

The Food and Fibre Futures team has undertaken extensive consultation with landholders in the Traveston Crossing region following the announcement of rescheduling of the construction phase of the project, subject to approvals. It is anticipated that a series of Land & Water Management workshops will be held later in 2009 following assessment of the Environmental Impact Statement of the Traveston Crossing Dam proposal.

PIF is working closely with the Regional Development and Industry on a project that will inform industry and government of the scope, diversity and opportunities for agribusiness and processed food enterprises in the Greater Mary Economic Region. A business survey of all agribusinesses within the region was carried out during February and March and a final report will be released in late May 2009 highlighting survey outcomes.

Final external review by industry stakeholders (Agribusiness sector and Local Government) of a draft of the Mary Economic Region: *Agricultural Resource Guide* is presently underway. Public release of the *Agribusiness Resource Guide* is planned to occur in early 2009.

The scoping study for a Farm and Nature Based Tourism Business Development Program (FANT-BDP) for the Mary region, completed in February 2009, has generated considerable local interest. DEEDI is securing funds to enable the delivery of Phase 2 of the project to be fast tracked.

PI&F established a partnership with the Australian Centre for Lifestyle Horticulture, Queensland University, the Queensland Flower Industry Council and Cedar Hill Corporate Group. Planting of the first demonstration site is complete. An industry development and research proposal is presently being developed.

DEEDI is managing an Apiculture Industry Development project aimed at establishing trial plots to determine, of the *Leptospermum* species that grow and flower in the Mary Valley area, which produces honey with the greatest anti bacterial properties. University of the Sunshine Coast and DEEDI are preparing a Smart State application to leverage research funds for the biomedical research component of the project.

Business Adjustment

There have been nine landholders assisted throughout this reporting period.

There have been no enquiries from landowners in the Wyaralong region although information about the services has been made available through the Scenic Rim Regional Council and Boonah Development Board.

Key Milestones

Outcome	Date to be Achieved	Status
KPA 1 – Adjustment Project Activity – Information and Advice; Seminars	June 2009	Land and Water Use seminars speakers confirmed. Presentations delayed by Premier’s announcement of 24 November 2008 and delay in release of the DNRW ROP for the Mary River.
KPA 2 – Economic Development Project Activity : Greater Mary Agribusiness and Processed Food Manufacturing Audit	First quarter 2009	Joint project with regional development division of DEEDI to audit Agribusiness and Processed Food Manufacturing capacity in Mary Economic region. Survey undertaken in March 2009. Report of project in progress.
KPA 2 – Economic Development Project Activity: Mary Economic Region - <i>Agricultural Resource Guide</i>	Early 2009	Draft completed in August 2008. Final edit and external peer review underway.
KPA 2 – Economic Development Project Activity: Promotion of Greater Mary Investment Opportunities; Mary River Water Supply Scheme (MRWSC)	Ongoing	Investigating opportunities to promote the utilization of unallocated water entitlements in the MRWSC for high value agricultural production. Presently facilitating negotiations between government and nongovernment stakeholders.
KPA 2 – Economic Development Project Activity: Promotion of Greater Mary Investment opportunities; Ginger industry adjustment and development	Ongoing	A draft situation analysis report for the ginger industry now complete and receiving peer review. Meeting with industry being planned.
KPA 3 – Agribusiness Partnerships Project Activity: Agribusiness Networks	Ongoing 2009	Funding for a Building Rural Leaders program committed by Department of Communities. Project commenced on 3 April 2009 and will continue till September 2009.
KPA 4 – Policy and Advice	Ongoing	Regional Trend Reports being completed for both Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong Dam projects emphasizing agricultural production in regions.

Achievements to Date

- Food and Fibre Futures report outlining potential scenarios for agribusiness in the Mary Valley. The findings will inform the *Mary Economic Region: Agricultural Resource Guide*.
- An overview and comprehensive analysis of the impacts on the dairy industry from development in South East Queensland has been completed. The analysis outlines trends within the industry and implications for the supply of fresh milk for SEQ. Report available on Community Futures Task Force website www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au.
- Investigation into the Ginger industry supply chain to identify impediments and to provide information to government and industry on possible future scenarios for consideration.
- Identification of opportunity to utilise unallocated water entitlements in the Mary River Supply Scheme to accelerate the gross value of agricultural production in the Greater Mary region.
- Provision of information and advice to 67 producers in the inundation area of the proposed Traveston Crossing dam. A total of 137 producers and agribusinesses have been assisted throughout the Mary Valley region.
- A Building Rural Leaders course in the Upper Mary Valley commenced on 3 April 2009.

Future Activities

Immediate: Production of multiple publications aimed at stimulating agribusiness investment in the Mary Region and assisting landowners with agricultural adjustment options. To be launched via dedicated DEEDI Food and Fibre Futures web page.

Industry: Identification and facilitation of opportunities to establish new, or grow existing, agribusinesses in the Lower Mary Irrigation Area is ongoing.

DEEDI is planning a series of one day workshops on sustainable horse management to be held in the Mary Valley. Initial consultation indicates that there is considerable demand and keen interest for these workshops. Proposed venues are Imbil, Kenilworth, Eumundi and Lagoon Pocket. The events are planned for mid 2009.

Stakeholder Consultation

Stakeholder	Date	Outcome of Consultation
University of Sunshine Coast and multiple local agribusinesses	February March	Collaboration on agribusiness audit.
Maryborough Sugar Factory	February March	Continued involvement in expanding agriculture in Lower Mary region.
Community	February March	Consultation with Mary Valley Inc regarding Mary Valley Agritourism Project (FANT BDP)
Qld Horse Council Inc	March 2009	Consultation with Qld Horse Council Inc regarding a seminar for horse owners.

Project Progress Report

Project: Community Support
Reporting Period: February/March 2009
Lead Agency: Department of the Communities
Agency Contact/s: Ms Fleur McLeod, Ms Wendy Keeton

Project Objective

To deliver immediate and ongoing community support and specialised community development and engagement activities and provide a coordinated response to the social needs of the communities affected by the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong Dams.

Summary of Progress

In February/March 2009, the Department of the Communities has:

- provided information/referral and case management services to Mary Valley community members and organisations at the Kandanga One Stop Shop (KOSS);
- funded Lifeline counselling services in the Mary Valley (full-time service) and Boonah (as needed);
- managed community development activities/projects and assisted with community funding applications;
- co-ordinated and chaired the Regional Services Forum; reported to the Sunshine Coast Regional Managers' Coordination Network which has adopted the Regional Services Forum as a formal project.

Activity Report

TRAVESTON CROSSING DAM

- **Kandanga One Stop Shop (KOSS) community contacts**
 - Since establishment of the department's services in Kandanga to 20 March 2009 inclusive there have been 5,074 (previously 4,969 at 30/1/09) community contacts in relation to the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.
 - In February and up to 20 March 2009, there were 105 (previously 156 at 30/1/09) contacts comprising 99 (previously 138 at 30/1/09) community development and project contacts (94% of total) and 6 (previously 18 at 30/1/09) referrals/information enquiries (6% of total). Other contacts at the KOSS related to operational activities.
- **Regional Services Forum:**
 - The Regional Services Forum met on 19 February 2009.
 - There was general discussion on the transitional activities of member agencies.
 - The following priority projects are being implemented by Regional Services Forum members:
 - Mary Valley Inc. – viability planning and ongoing community development support;
 - Queensland Government Agent Program (QGAP) – establishment of QGAP agency at the Kandanga Post Office to enhance government service provision in the Mary Valley (revised launch date: April 2009) (Department of Communities (Smart Service Queensland)/Community Futures Task Force);
 - Oral History Project – recording and preserving local history and unique experiences of Mary Valley residents (revised timeframe: June 2009 to coincide

with Q150 celebrations) (Department of Communities/Community Futures Task Force);

- “Building Prosperity in the Mary” – a shorter form of the Building Rural Leaders program to stimulate new leadership skills within the agricultural sector including providers in the supply chain (e.g. farmers, fencers, slashers, rural produce agents etc). The project consists of a number of short workshops (1-2 days in duration) on a monthly basis over 4-6 months (Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries).

- The next meeting of the Regional Services Forum is scheduled for 19 April 2009.

- **Community development/capacity building:**

- Priority community development projects progressed during February/March 2009 included:

- Community and Business Hub
- Social Enterprise
- Village Renewal
- Transport Council & QT proposal
- Bus Shelter Renewal
- Cycle Paths
- Art Gallery – funding application awaiting approval
- Oral History – funding applications, conference and book proposal
- Mary Valley Inc – Strategic Planning
- Kandanga Information Centre – Viability Strategy and Administrative Planning
- Kandanga Hall – painting and funding - applications for equipment
- Trainee – event organiser application and discussions (through DEIR and University of Sunshine Coast)

- The department assisted community organisations with five funding applications in February/March 2009.

- **Counselling:**

In February 2009, Lifeline met with 16 new counselling clients, conducted 49 personal and financial counselling sessions and facilitated a six-part journaling workshop and a parenting workshop.

- **Case Management:**

During the reporting period, the Case Manager worked with a small number of clients on issues mainly surrounding housing, finance and employment.

WYARALONG DAM

- Since establishment of the department’s services in Boonah to 20 March 2009 inclusive there have been 225 (previously 193 to 30/1/09) community contacts in relation to the proposed Wyaralong Dam, with 30 (previously 20 to 30/1/09) contacts recorded during February/March 2009.

Key Milestones

Project	Date to be Achieved	Project Components
Mary Valley Inc.	Ongoing December 2009 March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with strategic planning, organisational management and projects; • Audit of community skills and resources;

Project	Date to be Achieved	Project Components
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main Street beautification.
Imbil Revitalisation Projects (Imbil Community/Business Hub/Incubator)	April 2009 June 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising of Show Society Hall premises to build offices and meeting rooms underneath; Developing a strategy for use of the office space to generate income for the Show Society and enhance future sustainability.
Imbil Development Group	June 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viability strategy/vision planning; Relocalisation project (meeting needs locally).
Kandanga Information Centre	March 2009 June 2009 Ongoing September 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering funding sources; developing website content. Strategic planning with artist. Strategic planning for long-term viability of the information centre. Project planning; identifying funding sources.
Youth	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various educational and entertainment activities.
Mary Valley Hall Upgrades	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading of Brooloo, Imbil, Kandanga and Amamoor Halls
Mary Valley Oral History	May 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recording and transcription of oral stories; Completion of digital DVD; Identifying funding sources for a book; Oral history launch and community celebration.
Community Gardens	June 2009 June 2009 Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kandanga community garden currently being established; Mary Valley College community garden requires funding and assistance with planning to progress to the next stage; Community garden projects for other communities will depend on availability of community input and land and water availability.
Horticultural Work Placement Program	Completed Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kandanga Information Centre Railway walkway, steps and gardens; Dagun Nature History Walk (beside the Dagun Railway Station); Mary Valley College Multipurpose Centre gardens and landscaping; Imbil bike track (landscaping); Eradication of weeds and planting of shade trees; Regeneration of Anzac Memorial garden at Brooloo.
Mary Valley Art Gallery (Imbil)	Mid-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refurbishment and development of the old Imbil church building to house artworks.

Project	Date to be Achieved	Project Components
Community Transport Strategy	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determining viability and funding of options identified in the needs analysis (completed October 2008).
Mary Valley Sports Expo	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance to Community Futures Task Force unit – expo to be held to raise awareness of Mary Valley sporting clubs and increase membership.
Aged Care Strategy	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determining viability and funding of options identified in the needs analysis (completed November 2008).

Stakeholder Consultation

- The department continues to work effectively with regional agencies, local organisations and individuals and has ongoing consultation with:
 - Community Futures Task Force (CFTF) unit (community issues and social impact planning);
 - Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd (QWI) (local issues);
 - State Government agency regional staff (Mary Valley projects and core service delivery);
 - Lifeline Sunshine Coast and Lifeline Ipswich and West Moreton (service provision to residents affected by the proposed dams);
 - Mary Valley residents and organisations (specifically Mary Valley Inc.) (community-based projects, case management and information/referrals);
 - Gympie Regional Council staff and local counsellors (project initiatives);
 - Scenic Rim Regional Council and Fassifern Community Centre (monthly consultation on contacts about the Wyaralong Dam and requests for services).
- Monthly meetings of the Regional Services Forum are held to monitor and address issues of concern to Mary Valley residents and progress projects.
- Monthly Regional Services Forum reports are provided to the Sunshine Coast Regional Managers' Coordination Network to ensure that Mary Valley issues remain a priority for the region.