

21 January 2014

Australian Heritage Strategy
Heritage Branch
Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA, ACT 2601

By email: AusHeritageStrategy@environment.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

National Heritage Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the development of an Australian Heritage Strategy.

The Wet Tropics Management Authority provided a submission on this topic during 2012. This submission remains largely relevant and is attached for your further consideration. Some issues are amplified or updated in responses to questions posed in the attached coversheet.

It is of concern to the Authority that your report on the 2012 round of consultations indicated only limited input from the natural heritage sector. Given the preponderance of natural heritage values in Australia's World Heritage properties at least, it is important to ensure effective engagement of this sector in the development of the strategy.

Since the last round of consultation, the Australian Committee for IUCN published, *Keeping the Outstanding Exceptional: The Future of World Heritage in Australia*. The Authority urges careful consideration of this document, in particular the *Cairns Communique* developed at the World Heritage Symposium in Cairns in 2012.

If you would like to discuss our submission, or if I can otherwise be of assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Maclean
Executive Director