

Cardwell Tropical Mountain Bike Trails Project

Ride where our ancestors once walked, Girramay Country



Overview

The Cardwell Tropical Mountain Bike Trails Project (the Trails or the Project) includes the proposed development of a new 94km, 26-trail mountain bike network World Heritage rainforest in Cardwell, on the southern end of the Cassowary Coast. The Project is focused on establishing the region as a 'Ride Destination' and integrates and promotes the unique cultural heritage of the local Traditional Custodians, the Girramay People.



Key Features of the Trails



94km, 26-trail world class network that offers a variety of styles and difficulties for all riders



Meaningful involvement and recognition of the Girramay People



Ride in, ride out trails, located within 500m of the town centre and foreshore



Off-bike cultural experiences and natural attractions in proximity to the Trails and Cardwell



Community-led project that has been recognised on the national scale



Significant on-bike and off-bike spending and economic contribution to the Cassowary Coast

Why Mountain Biking?

Mountain biking is one of the fastest growing recreational and adventure tourism activities in Queensland and Australia. The appeal of the sport is wide ranging and is expected to continue to grow across a diverse riding demographic. This presents a significant opportunity for the Trails to attract visitors to Cardwell and the Cassowary Coast, which will generate significant socio-economic benefits for the region.

28.6%

Average annual growth in mountain biking participation across Australia from 2018 to 2021

30%

Of mountain bike riders are categorised as high value travellers

\$40M

Queenslanders' expenditure travelling to other Australian jurisdictions for mountain biking in year ending November 2018

\$1,708

Average expenditure per intrastate visitor per trip

\$2,486

Average expenditure per interstate visitor per trip

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Benefits of the Trails

Economic Benefits



Increase visitation and greater length of stay in regional communities



Provide employment opportunities for youth, community members and Traditional Custodians



Diversify the economy in Cardwell and the Cassowary Coast

Social and Community Benefits



Respectfully promote the Girramay Peoples culture and heritage, as Traditional Custodians



Increase participation in outdoor and recreational activities



Enhance the liveability and amenity of Cardwell

Environmental Benefits



Increase access to natural areas for recreation, whilst protecting environmental values



Promote sustainable visitation to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area



Increase community ownership and connection with natural areas

Next Steps

The Trails are a community-led initiative that has been jointly driven by the Cardwell community and the Girramay Peoples with the support of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council. All equally share the ambition to establish Cardwell as a 'Ride Destination' where locals and visitors can '*Ride where our ancestors once walked, Girramay Country*'. It is important to maintain the momentum and strong advocacy for the Trails by implementing the following next steps:

01

Engage with key regional advocacy groups, such as Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) and Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ), to participate in discussions regarding the definition of regional mountain biking strategies and promotions.

02

Engage with the Queensland Government to seek support for progressing the Trails and to secure funding for the detailed environmental and cultural assessments, which are required prior to detailed design and construction ('Approvals and Due Diligence Process').

03

Commence the Approvals and Due Diligence Process as soon as practical, to assess the potential environmental and cultural heritage impacts for the Trails.