



Central Queensland **FOREST ASSOCIATION**

Annual Report 2004-05

CQFA gratefully acknowledges the funding and partnership support provided by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments and the local Natural Resource Management Groups



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1. Executive Summary

Key Achievements

- Delivered the Mackay Investment Workshop on behalf of the Forest and Wood Products Council and the Forest and Wood Products Committee.
- Prepared Forest Management and Harvest Plans for Belmont Station. With assistance from CQFA Belmont Station was the first property in Queensland to obtain a Riverine permit to harvest timber under the Water Act 2000.
- Secured funding through the Fitzroy Basin Association under the National Landcare Program to employ a forest management advisor for 12 months.
- Secured funding through the Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group, under National Landcare Program to employ forest management Advisor for 15months.

Overview of the Association

The Central Queensland Forest Association Inc. was formed in 2001, with the first meeting of the Interim Management Committee held July 2001. The period 2005-2006 will build on the strong foundations that have been established and focus on industry development in the region.

Management Committee 2004-05

Role	2004-05 Mgt Cttee	Organisation
Chairman	Prof Bob Miles	Central Queensland University
Vice Chairman	John Elliott	Becky, Knight Elliott, Solicitors
Treasurer	John Hinz	Landholder and grazier
Secretary	Ian Dare	Livingstone Shire Council
Member	Michelle McLean	Acting EO Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation
Member	Graham McKenzie	Mackay Whitsunday AFG Branch, National Director AFG
Member	Dave Arnold	Remote Area Planning and Development Board
Member	Dixie Nott	Landholder and grazier
Member	Larry Acton	Landholder and grazier
Member	Ted Jago	Dawson Agroforestry Group
Advisors	Rohan Allen*/ John Grimes**	DPI&F
Industry Advisors	Peter Larsen*** Andrew Dunne***	Integrated Tree Cropping DPI&F Forestry
Executive Officer	Heather Norris****/ Dr Bruce Williams	

* Resigned due to work commitments in Brisbane after Christmas 2004

** Resigned August 2005

*** Commenced September 2005

**** Resigned December 2004

The association has traditionally had approximately 30 members. In the last year membership numbers slipped to 22 people. However in the past 4 months membership has increased by 6 to 28 paid members [24th October 2005]. It is important that the membership of the Association continues to grow.

Schedule of Meetings

Meetings were held and are planned across the region as below. One meeting planned for Emerald was shifted to Rockhampton due to the difficulty of bringing members to the meeting. The final meeting for this year will also be shifted from Theodore to Rockhampton.

Management Committee	Other
30/11/04 Rockhampton	6/10/05 Business planning session Rockhampton
10/2/05 Mackay	27/10/05 AGM Rockhampton
15/3/05 Rockhampton	
21/4/05 Rockhampton	
9/6/05 Mackay	
21/7/05 Rockhampton	
1/9/05 Rockhampton	
24/11/05 Theodore	

Staff

The Association has a full time Executive Officer Dr Bruce Williams

Gayle DeCosta has been appointed as part time administrative support [3 days per week] and works from the Rockhampton Office.

Dr Robyn Bell is based in Mackay to deliver two projects [a] native forest management in the Upper Fitzroy Basin and [b] demonstration of forestry species potential on Cane lands in the Mackay region.

Mr Ross Miller DPI&F has been delivering Forest Management Advisory service in the Fitzroy Basin under a contract from CQFA.

Mrs Heather Norris resigned in December to take a position with the Sugar industry in Mackay. The Association thanks Heather for her tireless commitment and work in the establishment and the development of the Association since its inception in 2001.

2. Chairman's Report

I am pleased to be able to provide to you my annual report as Chairman of the Central Queensland Forestry Association (CQFA). It is with regret however that I am not able to be with you all today at the Annual General Meeting due to other work commitments. Accordingly I apologise for this and thank the Deputy Chairman for standing in for me on this occasion.

It has been a busy and successful year for CQFA and our team, headed by Bruce Williams who has done a great job. As would be expected the context of our activities has been determined by our Mission and Vision Statements and delivered within the framework of our business plan. Our mission and vision are:

Mission **“To facilitate and promote sustainable forest-based industries in Central Queensland.”**

Vision **“Central Queensland is widely recognised as a region in which forests are valued for their economic, social and environmental contributions to our community.”**

It is of note that the Central Queensland Forest Association has undergone significant change and development over the past year.

- We have grown from a staff of one Executive Officer to a total of 3 staff and have opened two offices.
- We have been successful in winning and managing 4 funded projects, two are managed directly by CQFA, one is subcontracted to DPI+F and another is auspiced on behalf of the Mackay Master Tree Growers
- Our capacity to provide industry development service has grown substantially with the employment of Robyn Bell [Mackay] and the contracted work associated with Ross Miller [DPI&F Rockhampton]

We have also achieved significant success in many of our objectives as per.

1. Strategic Initiatives
2. Environmental Services
3. Support for on farm forestry, information, training and market intelligence. A brief overview of these follows:

A. Strategic Initiatives.

With restricted resources and the uncertainty of continuing funding, CQFA made many important contributions in various forums including

- ***Industry development***
Predominantly driven by large scale operators significant plantation development is now occurring in Central Queensland. This year approximately 6,000 ha were planted to bring the planted area to 13,126 ha. Within the next year it is anticipated that this area will nearly double to 24,326ha. This is a heartening achievement for the region.
- ***Investment workshops***

On March 1st CQFA hosted a very successful, major investment workshop in Mackay which assisted in attracting national attention to the potential for development within the Central Queensland Region

- ***Native Forest Code of Practice***

We have made substantive contributions to the planning and implementation of the *Native Forest Code of Practice* with submissions and attendance at regional meetings and forums.

- ***Quasi Government Bodies***

We have formalized links with Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation and have a staff member working from their offices.

- ***AFG***

Our relationship with the two local branches of the AFG – Mackay Whitsunday and Capricornia as well as the head office continues to develop. Significant resources have been provided to assist both groups grow and mature.

B. *Environmental Services*

- ***Catchment Resource Planning Groups***

We have made substantive contributions to the planning and implementation processes. CQFA continues to provide industry feedback on NRM planning processes and makes sure that a proactive attitude for forestry is included in the planning and implementation process.

We have received significant support from our local NRM groups and now have NLP funded programs with both the Fitzroy Basin Association [\$180,787] and Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group [\$83,700]. Their support is publicly acknowledged and is invaluable in helping us achieve our objectives.

C. *Support for on farm forestry, information, training and market intelligence*

- ***Extension services***

The association continues to develop value propositions for members and these include an upgraded website, extension package for Mackay Whitsunday and improved monitoring of local species demonstration trials.

Summary

In summary due to the support of many and the hard working team at CQFA, we are now recognized as a Private Forestry Development Committee which has identified and begun to implement strategies for a future and enlarging forest industry in Central Queensland.

In closing would like to thank:-

- The FBA for office assistance provided to us by them over the years as well as the financial support and partnership approach,
- The MWREDC has also provided considerable support including similar new office arrangements in Mackay
- DPI+F are fundamental partners for CQFA and have provided significant support to CQFA over the years. In particular I would like to acknowledge the tireless support of Mike Shaw for this wonderful support and service.
- The Committee for volunteering their time and expertise and their strong support for me as the President.
- The CQFA team – Bruce, Gayle and Robyn and our delivery partner in Ross Miller.
- The ongoing underpinning funding and support from DAFF and DPI+F. From recent ministerial press releases, financial support is expected to be extended to End June 2008 by DAFF. DPI+F funding is secure until end June 2006.
- Regional Groups for supporting forestry on regional basis
- The strong support by our partners in our Projects which include:-
 - Nebo Broadsound Landcare Group,
 - AFG,
 - Central Queensland Forestry Cooperative,
 - Integrated Catchment Groups; PIMCA, SLCMA, WRICMA
 - Mackay Whitsundays Master Treegrowers.

I believe the Forestry Industry in Central Queensland has a bright future and some real challenges ahead.

It is with regret that I announce that I will not be running for election as Chairman this year. I have found that my work commitments do not allow me to support the CQFA team to the extent that I think is needed from this position. Accordingly I will still offer my services to the CQFA wherever I can be of assistance.



R. L. Miles
Chairman 2004-2005

3. Treasurers Report and Financial Statements 01 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

I would like to thank Gayle and Bruce for their co-operation and help throughout the year. I feel that we have a good working relationship.

The books were presented to Ward and Harms to complete the audit process. The Audited Financial Statements have been tabled. The audit fee has more than doubled this year. We were advised by the Auditor that the books were presented in excellent order and that this increase was due to the increased monies received for projects.

Last year when we reviewed the budget in January it was predicted that we would face a significant budget deficit of approximately \$30,000. Since then we have relocated the office and incurred further expenses that weren't budgeted for. However, due to prudent expenditure and good management we were able to finish the year with a minimal deficit of approximately \$10,000. This deficit was covered by the carryover reserves.

This year we changed to a new accounting program, Quickbooks Pro. It has not all been beer and skittles, however the end results should be more beneficial. We are still working on entering all the budget information. Quickbooks will allow us to track individual projects automatically which will make for a much easier reporting process and in the past these were always done manually.

Items for 2004/05 to note:

- Grants received were in excess of \$300,000.00
- Membership income was approx. \$1,200.00. [we hope to increase this with more active committee members]
- Expenditure (including projects) was approx. \$214,000.00. These projects are not finalised and there are still considerable monies to be spent.
- There are currently 4 projects running:- the two most important are the extension work being carried out in Rockhampton and Mackay/Whitsunday
- The 2005/06 budget is running as to be expected at this time of year. We will work on entering project budgets to produce more meaningful reports for future meetings.

John Hinz
Treasurer
Central Queensland Forest Association
21 October 2005.

4. Executive Officer's Report

I would like to thank all members of the Management Committee for their support and their significant contributions to the Association. Members not only spend time related to organizational meetings and business, but many are available to assist as challenges arise and help push projects over the line.

It should be noted that John Hinz has spent significant time in re-organising the financial processes which is important due to significant increase in funds being administered by the Association.

I also thank Gayle DeCosta for her diligent and prudent attention to detail and task. She is a great asset to the Association. Much of the business development and capacity to manage organizational growth would have been extremely challenging without her help.

I also welcome Robyn Bell as Forestry Advisor at the Mackay Office and acknowledge the partnership with Peter Long and good work undertaken by Ross Miller via our subcontract with DPI&F in Rockhampton.

It has been a year of significant challenge and growth for CQFA and the industry. The following point encapsulate the scope of this and the year of significant change.

1. The Chairman and the three Association staff are all new to their roles.
2. A number of key staff left the Association. Executive Officer Heather Norris and Rohan Allen, [DPI&F] had been instrumental in charting the course for the Association since its inception and their input will be missed.
3. Two new offices were established and a significant paradigm shift in our capacity to deliver occurred. The Rockhampton office was relocated on May 3rd and a new office opened in Mackay in July.
4. The Association for the first time commenced the administration, management and delivery of 3 large external projects and significant funds [\$264,000]. For the first time this income exceeded core contributions from Government [\$75,000 DAFF and \$75,000 DPI&F]. A major focus of the year was setting the projects up and getting them running smoothly.
5. Due to this funding CQFA's capacity to provide industry development services has grown substantially with the employment of Robyn Bell [Mackay] and the contracted work associated with Peter Long and Ross Miller [DPI&F Rockhampton. To date there have been:-
 - a. Ten workshops or field days presented [and more to come]
 - b. Forest management and harvest plans completed
 - c. In excess of 86 extension enquires throughout Central Queensland
 - d. In excess of 30 property visits have been undertaken
 - e. A draft extension pack has been developed for Mackay [requires updating]

- f. In excess of 16 extension handouts have been produced as extension aids.
6. A Forestry Investment Workshop was held in Mackay in March and drew over 80 people from around Australia. This was one of six national workshops and it significantly raised the profile of the association, the forestry industry and its potential within the region.
7. DPI&F Forestry and Integrated Tree Cropping undertook significant plantation forest establishment in Central Queensland and there will be ongoing and significant planting next year.
8. The executive officers of the three Queensland Private Forest Development Committees (and some committee members) met in Mackay in March, 2005, and continue to forge closer working relationships between these three groups. Since then:-
 - a. PFSQ has attended an Association Management Committee meeting to describe their fee for service model. They have also produced a Landholder Guide for Sustainable Forest Management in Queensland.
 - b. PFNQ has participated in co-sponsoring the Mackay Investment workshop, and the ‘Innovation in the Sugar Industry’ conference held by Australian Cane Farmers Association. We are currently working in partnership to engage in the delivery of the Indigenous Forestry Strategy.
9. Private development at the farm forestry level is challenged in Central Queensland and there are difficulties in engagement to conduct workshops and forums due to uncertainty caused by :-
 - a. general lack of rainfall
 - b. the introduction of changes to the Vegetation Management Act,
 - c. the proposed Private Native Forest Code of Practice,
 - d. confidence relating to sovereign rights to harvest resource security
10. Another major focus for the year was ongoing participation in the natural resource planning/delivery processes and the development of proposals to continue the current funded projects. A number of proposals have been submitted to retain staff for the continuation of current projects.
11. The business plan for 2005 was reviewed in January with assistance from the Heather Norris and Bob Miles. The highest priority activities were identified for action. These activities were ratified by the Management Committee in March 2005 and built into an annual work plan.
12. The development of the business plan must address a wide range of criteria which include supporting the 2020 Vision, DPI&F contract requirements, National Forest Policy Statement, National Action Plan for Salinity and Water, National Heritage Trust, State Programs and policies.
13. In the past 6 months major achievements have been made against the following business plan objectives:-

- a. Provision of extension services
 - b. Inclusion of forestry within regional NRM planning and investment process
 - c. Removal/ mediation of statutory impediments to investment in private forestry
 - d. Promotion and facilitation of regional investment
 - e. Communication strategy
 - f. Building partnerships with other PFDC's and Government
14. The existing business plan is probably beyond the scope of the organizational resources [regional skills and financial] and this will require significant and careful review for the coming year. It is also apparent the there have been significant annual shifts in the direction of the business plan over the years. As of 19th October, CQFA now has funding allocated from the Federal Government through to July 2008. There is an opportunity for the business plan to be developed with longer term consistency and vision.
15. It is important that the Association develops more tangible value propositions and a vision of growth. There is the scope for increased activity in some identified and new priority areas such as:-
- a. Improved value for members
 - b. The development of practical "local" resources to assist and enable landholders to become foresters. This would include extension services within the scope and context of organizational resources.
 - c. The obvious need to collate and coordinate data on species performance in Central Queensland and develop best bet recommendations
 - d. The obvious need to develop an understanding of the existing native forest resource and how it can be sustainably managed for timber production.
 - e. Embracing greater partnerships with industry
 - f. Sourcing project funds to continue existing projects and to develop new projects which deliver harvest planning or forestry management services
16. It is important that the Association also addresses processes to manage a growing organization. In 2004, a move was made to increase the number of Management Committee meetings. Currently nine meetings are held each year [including the AGM] and this creates a significant workload for both the committee and the administration and becomes a real financial burden for the Association. Consideration could be give to reducing the number of meetings and taking these in a more strategic direction. Support is also required to increase membership numbers.

A list of activities can be found in the actions against the Business Plan which follows.

This is an exciting period where there are significant opportunities. CQFA is poised to achieve great things in the next year.



Dr Bruce Williams
Executive Officer

5. Achievements against the Priorities and Activities in the 2004 – 2006 Business Plan

Goal 1 : Increased up take of private forestry by landholders

1.1 Facilitate extension services

Extension Services

Forest Management Advisor Rockhampton

CQFA obtained \$90,000 funding for a Forest Management Advisor position under the Community Support Grants under the National Landcare Program through the Fitzroy Basin Association.

A contract was draw with DPI&F to employ the officer and deliver the project. CQFA maintains ownership of the project and chairs the Reference Committee to ensure that project objectives are addressed. The primary purpose of this position is to provide support to Neighborhood Catchment Programs and forestry capacity as a solution to regional NRM issues.

Forest Management Advisor Mackay

CQFA obtained \$174,000 funding for a Forest Management Advisor position under the Community Support Grants under the National Landcare Program through both the Fitzroy Basin Association [\$90,000] and MWNRMG [\$84,000]

The project and position is managed by CQFA from our office located within the MWREDC. This builds on the partnership in development of commercial investment projects activated by CQFA in previous years.

Funding

Applications were submitted to both the FBA and MWNRMG for the 2005 round of the community support grants to enable the continuity and expansion of both projects.

Applications for Regional Investment Strategy proposals are also submitted or in the process of preparation for both FBA and MWNRMG.

1.2 Promote inclusion of forestry in regional NRM and investment plans

Presentations have been made to the Steering Committee of CQ a New Millennium (CQaNM) on the development of private forestry in the region. CQFA is also a member of the Environment and Conservation group of CQaNM. A review of CO2 trading and its potential for Central Queensland has been submitted to this Group.

We continue to build relationships with regional economic development bodies including Rockhampton Regional Development and the Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation.

Further developed the relationship with both the local AFG branches and the National AFG group, which will increase with the presence of a Queensland representative from Mackay (Graham Mckenzie) on the AFG Board. Funding [\$500 offer per group] to attend the AFG policy forum in Melbourne.

We continue to build a strong relationship with catchment groups in the region, particularly the Fitzroy Basin Association and the Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group.

1.3 Promote sustainable and commercial management of private native forests

Workshops and Field Days held

- Sponsored delivery of Kevin Glenross Forest Wood Quality Seminar, re high quality timber.
- “Forestry – productive options for your remnant vegetation” held in Calliope 20th May 2005.
- Field day held June 25th species trials on Capricorn Coast, where about 24 people attended.
- Two workshops held re “Integration of Farm Forestry into Natural Resource Management” Locations Emerald and Biloela with 6 participants respectively.
- Three workshops integration farm forestry into NRM [18 people]

Management plans prepared

- Forest Management plan completed for Belmont Station
- Forest Harvest plan completed for Belmont Station

Extension

- In excess of 86 extension enquires have been handled throughout Central Queensland
- In excess of 30 property visits have been undertaken
- A draft extension pack has been developed for enquiries from Mackay [requires updating]
- In excess of 16 extension handouts have been produced and are available use as extension aids.

Future activity

Further activity will be undertaken over the next year as described above. There will also be significant new activity in the area of upper Fitzroy in the establishment and demonstration of forest thinning practices. A plot of 20ha will be established as a demonstration site.

1.4 Removal or mediation of statutory impediments to investment in private forestry

Draft Planning schemes for local government authorities

CQFA reviewed relevant draft planning scheme and made comments for Livingstone Shire Council which was lacking with respect to forestry. Comments have been noted re current planning scheme.

Forestry in watercourses

Participated with Agforce, the managers of Belmont Station and Ross Miller DPI+F, and made representation to DNR+M to support an application for Riverine Permit. This was the first successful permit granted in Queensland and sets a precedent for other applications.

Submissions to Government

- Submission to DNR+M and ongoing participation and representation of landholders regarding the development of the Native Forest Code of Practice
- Submission to State Government regarding “Blue Print for the Bush”
- Submission to State Government regarding sovereign harvest rights, potential for carbon trading

Goal 2 Enhanced sustainable forest industry and associated regional economies, in order to maximize the commercial potential for existing and potential forest resources in the region
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2.1 Promote investment through regional marketing strategy

Prepared and submitted a project brief to the Rockhampton Regional Development for Capricorn Coast Feasibility Study. The response to this will be delayed due to staff changes at Rockhampton Regional Development

2.2 Investigate options for forestry development synergies with other industries

- Investigated the potential for EMS Program Funding under Pathways to Industry EMS Program via DAFF
- Reviewed RIDAC projects opportunity and processes
- Reviewed and activated access to Fitzroy Basin Association and MWNRMG funding under the Regional Investment Strategy
- Developed position with the Central Queensland a New Millenium Committee re carbon trading. There has been some engagement of the energy sector in this process.

2.3 Resource Assessment

In conjunction with Livingstone Shire Council, DPI&F and DNR+M, worked on the development of maps of native forest timber resources within the Fitzroy Basin, based on the Regional Ecosystem (RE) mapping, grouping REs with the same timber species to produce area estimates by key timber species

Mapping of timber resource distribution has been completed in the Fitzroy Basin

Land capability mapping for forestry completed for the Mackay region.

2.4 Market and Business Development

The Central Queensland Forest Cooperative presented a vision for the future to the CQFA Management Committee. There is currently little activity with this group despite support for its establishment over many years by CQFA. The balance of funds [net \$5,000] committed by CQFA to establish the Cooperative has been paid out.

There are some major impediments in market and business development until a significant resource and process to access this sustainably is identified.

2.5 Assist Growers in Gaining Access to High Value Markets

CQFA was active in the circulation to members of three industry enquires re supply of timber for export and local markets.

2.6 Facilitate regional investment

Regional Investment Workshop and post conference tour organised for 1-2nd March 2005 in Mackay. 91 people booked and 80 attended and. 38 people attended the post conference tour. As a result of the Workshop, enquiries were received from a number of landowners with an area of 800ha forwarded to plantation forestry developers for consideration.

With PFNQ, part sponsor of the Australian Cane Farmers Association “Innovation in the Sugar Industry” workshop held in Townsville 27th October and participated in the innovation display associated with the workshop

The Chairman and EO attended national PFDC meeting in Canberra 9-10 November.

The Plantations of Australia 2020 vision, is to increase the plantation estate from 5,393 ha to 16,179 ha in Central Queensland [excluding Miriam Vale] [470ha per annum]. The area of plantation establishment has already increased by 966 ha per year over the past 8 years. This means the area of plantation estate has already reached 81% of the 2020 target.

2.7 Indigenous Forestry Strategy

CQFA convened a meetings at the recent National PFDC conference to discuss a joint PFDC process to participate in the implementation of the strategy.

Further meetings and development have occurred with Fitzroy Basin Elders and DEWR at the local level.

Collaborative approach is stalled until it is clear what the Indigenous Strategy actually is.

Envirofund Projects

Sponsored Envirofund for round one 2004. The application with the Mackay Whitsunday Master TreeGrower group for additional species trials, native forest trials and workshops for \$23,470 was successful and has been extended for completion this December.

Goal 3 Enhanced research and development effort to support.

3.1 Identify and communicate research priorities

CQFA has contributed to local newsletters and magazines, including the Australian Forest Growers magazine and Agroforestry news. We provide regular updates on activities to the newsletters of the catchment groups within the region, and contribute to annual reports as required.

CQFA provided an article for inclusion in the DPI&F forest industry publication.

3.2 Build partnerships with R&D organisations

CQFA has submitted annual, quarterly and monthly reports as required by the funding bodies. The Executive Officer and Chairman attended the National PFDC meeting in Canberra in November 2004.

3.3 Facilitate cooperative market development

Central Queensland Forestry Co-operative

There has been limited activity from the Co-op during the year. However, CQFA facilitated a business planning session for the Co-op in August, and it is hoped that there will be renewed enthusiasm this year and some progress. CQFA remains supportive of the Co-op and has provided funds to assist with the administrative processes required at startup, and will continue to provide business planning assistance.

3.4 Promote adoptions of a “whole value chain” approach to market development

There has been little progress on market development this year. It is recognized that market development and supply of product are very closely related in this region, and regular supply of product is probably the main thing holding back market development. This area needs some focus during 2005-2006.

Goal 4 Develop well established networks of relevant stakeholders in support of private forestry development, including landholders, all tiers of government and industry.

4.1 Develop a communication strategy

A communication and marketing strategy has been developed and is being implemented.

1. *Publicity*

- Target a media article related to project delivery in Mackay every 2 months
- In collaboration with Qld PFDC's promote CQFA via workshop/sponsorships

2. *Branding*

- Staff to have business cards, membership forms
- Emails signatures to reflect core organizational interest
- Staff to wear corporate blue shirts at events, field days and meetings
- CQFA logo to be placed on magnetic logo on cars
- Management committee to promote via membership forms, EO business card,

3. *Membership Promotion*

- Use of and further development of the CQFA forestry extension package

4. *New communication processes for target stakeholders*

- Develop a simpler process to communicate with Members [email and mail] and define what is sent to them.
- Develop a communication process to engage industry and link them in an advisory or other capacity to the Management Committee
- Develop an appropriate profile for information for dissemination to Management Committee, Members, CQFA advisors, staff, funding agencies and stakeholders

4.2 Build partnerships with government

- Met with Andrew Dunne and toured DPI+F plantations at Byfield.
- Met with Paul Kahnutt EO, and Sub –region Rockhampton Regional Consultative Committee. Investigated proposal to handle tops from plantation at Byfield.
- Attended Regional Investment workshop in Tasmania, made presentation on developments in CQ and the impact of the Mackay Workshop 28-29th April, 2005.
- Chairman and EO attended national PFDC meeting in Canberra 9-10 November 2004
- 12-16th September attended PFDC Meeting with Ted Jago Committee Member in Katanning WA.

4.3 Build partnerships with the conservation sector

- Attended stakeholder meetings of both Fitzroy Basin Association 24th June and Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group 30th June , and presented reports.]
- Queensland Landcare Conference, Barcaldine 4-7th August. Participated in workshops on Forest Thicketing, Regulation and Legislation relating to Vegetation Management Regulations

- Executive Officer and members of the management committee attended many of the stakeholder and public meetings of the Fitzroy Basin Association, Mackay Whitsunday NRM Group.
- Robyn Bell is attended the PICMA AGM and is now a sitting member of the PICMA Management Committee

4.3 Build partnerships with the Mining and Industry Sector

- EO is a member of the and has participated in meetings of the Rockhampton City Mining Sector Project.
- EO participated in “Smart Technology in the Coal Mining Industry:” workshop
- EO is collaborating with Kelly Madden, Ergon Energy

4.5 Build partnerships with the Local Government Sector

- Increased partnership development

4.6 Build partnerships with industry and community groups

- Submitted article to Australian Cane Farmers Association magazine on the potential for forestry on spare and marginal land
- Article written and submitted to Mr. Gaven Ferguson for publication in the Australian Timber Magazine
- Conference paper revised and submitted to Prof. Stephen Harrison for publication in the NQ FID Proceedings
- AGM held in Mackay 13th October followed by dinner with Adam Gleeson of Ausgum as the speaker.
- Attended AGM of AFG branches at Mackay and Capricorn Coast
- Developing collaborative partnerships with Integrated Tree Cropping and DFI&F Forestry and formalising this through involvement as advisors to CQFA.

4.7 Foster grower networks

There has been engagement with the AFG groups in both Mackay and Capricorn Coast. Both CQFA and AFG are promoted as important organizations representing forestry at field days, meeting and functions.

Participated and presented at the Australian Cane Farmers Association to promote the demonstration project on cane land in Mackay and seek grower interest.

Worked with Central Queensland Cooperative to assist with development of the organization.

4.8 Community education

Participated in “GoAgro Rockhampton School Program” and provided information to teachers from around Rockhampton on forestry and forest management.

Participated and presented at the Ecoliving Expo, Livingston Shire Council.

Goal 5 A national inventory of private planted forests to inform policy and planning decisions

5.1 Support development of farm forestry resource inventory

Monitoring of 8 envirofund species trials on the Capricorn Coast has been undertaken. This will be analysed and will be written up for members to access on the website.

Other resource inventory processes are undertaken for funding bodies as part of contract reporting and as requested.

5.3 The Association is operating within the Rules of the Association and government policy and legislation

A review of operating procedures was undertaken from January 2005 and is ongoing.

In this process staff were moved from contract arrangement to salaried positions. This has required adoption of HR administrative processes relating to payroll, leave and superannuation.

The Management Committee has also developed and adopted the following over the past year:-

- Briefing papers introduced to fast track decision making
- Conflict of interest register established
- Assets register established
- Change of Association Rules re Management Committee quorum
- A successful application for professional indemnity was lodged as a community NRM group.

5.4 The Association is abreast of forestry developments at State, National and International levels

Conferences and workshops attended

Date	Conference	Location	Attendees
Nov 2004	National PFDC meeting	Canberra, ACT	Executive Officer/Ted Jago - Chairman
Feb 2005	Qld PFDC meeting	Mackay Qld	Executive officers and Chairs of PFDC's Qld.
Mar 2005	Regional Investment Workshop	Mackay Qld	Executive Officer and Gayle DeCosta
Apr 2005	Regional Investment Workshop	Hobart, Tas	Executive Officer
May 2005	Australian Cane Farmer Association	Mackay Qld	Executive Officer
Aug 2005	Queensland Landcare Conference	Barcaldine, Qld	Executive Officer
Sep 2005	National PFDC meeting	Katanning, WA	Executive Officer/Ted Jago

The association continues to sponsor local groups to send representatives to conferences and workshops pertinent to the development of private forestry, to build the capacity of these groups. CQFA provided \$500 funding to the MWAFG and Capricorn Coast AFG branches to attend the recent AFG Policy Meeting in Melbourne.

The Association has received significant benefits from the above conference attendances which has been useful in the development of the business plan for the coming period.

6. Externally funded projects

The following table provides a summary of current externally funded projects

Project Title	Period	Amount	Funding Body	Status
Integrating farm forestry into sugar and beef production properties/ landscapes	06/04 to 12/05	\$23,470	Envirofund	Underway – sponsor for MW Master TreeGrower group
Increasing adoption of farm forestry within the Fitzroy Basin	02/05 to 02/06	\$90,000	National Landcare Program Community Support Grant	Underway
Increasing the uptake of sustainable farm forestry practices in the upper Fitzroy Basin	06/05 to 10/06	\$90,787	National Landcare Program Community Support Grant	Underway
Increasing the uptake of sustainable farm forestry practices in the Mackay Whitsunday Region	06/05 to 10/06	\$83,700	National Landcare Program Community Support Grant	Underway

7. Acronyms

AFG	Australian Forest Growers
CQFA	Central Queensland Forest Association
DPI+F	Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
DNR+M	Department of Natural Resources, Mines
PFDC	Private Forest Development Committee
PFSQ	Private Forestry South Queensland
PFNQ	Private Forestry North Queensland
MWNRMG	Mackay Whitsunday Natural Resource Management Group
MWREDC	Mackay Whitsunday Regional Economic Development Corporation
FBA	Fitzroy Basin Association
DAFF	Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry
PICMA	Pioneer Integrated Catchment Management Association
WCL	Whitsunday Catchment Landcare [formally WRICMA]
SLCMA	Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association

Attachments

Attachment 1 Audited Financial Statements

Central Queensland Forest Association Inc.

**Audited Financial Statements
for the period ended 30 June 2005**