



## **Plan and Strategy Updates**

With many new projects commencing in late 2013 and now well underway, DCQ is in the process of updating a number of its plans and strategies. The first two cabs off the rank are the DCQ NRM Plan and the DCQ Indigenous Engagement Strategy. These documents play a very important role in ensuring future natural resource management projects in the region are based on community priorities and act as the guiding documents to support future funding applications for these projects.

Community views and input is being gathered to incorporate into the next version of the NRM plan. At a recent meeting of the Georgina Diamantina Cooper Aboriginal Group (GDCAG) the updated NRM plan was discussed and input and feedback was gathered. The plan is being revised and updated by DCQ's Planning Officer, Andrew Burrows, who said it was a great opportunity to canvass the views of the Indigenous community.

At the same meeting DCQ consulted with GDCAG regarding an updated Indigenous Engagement Strategy. The group reinforced the need for strategies which are aimed at increasing indigenous grass roots and volunteer participation in natural resource management activities. There will be a number of opportunities for indigenous participation in upcoming activities including workshops, training sessions and field days. These activities will relate to DCQ's current projects which are aimed at reducing threats to high-value ecological sites through innovative weed control activities and through feral animal control. Information and invitations will be sent out as these are occurring. DCQ encourages and welcomes the indigenous community to attend these events.

The DCQ Indigenous Engagement Strategy is available for viewing on the DCQ website. A draft of the revised NRM plan will be completed by July 2014; it will then go out for wider community consultation until the end of 2015. The plan will remain open for comment, primarily through the DCQ web page; it will also be discussed at future DCQ field days.

If you would like further information on the NRM plan, or the planning process, please contact Andrew Burrows on (07) 4652 7826 or via email at [andrew.burrows@dcq.org.au](mailto:andrew.burrows@dcq.org.au).