



ACN: 641 53 2 578

## “Changing Landscapes and New Horizons”

### 2025 National NRM Knowledge Conference

8 to 12 September 2025, Cairns and surrounds, Qld

#### Call for Abstracts – Open to 5<sup>th</sup> May

This year marks 25 years since the regional natural resource management model was agreed in Australia, and our September conference is a chance to share and celebrate everything we have learned - and to prepare for the next 25 years. Since 2008 we have held biennial Knowledge Conferences to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and to build national networks of organisations and practitioners. Our sector’s conference is for anyone working, participating or interested in natural resource management – to share, learn and inspire.

The 9th National NRM Knowledge Conference is co-hosted by North Queensland regional NRMs - Cape York Natural Resource Management, Gulf Savannah NRM, Terrain NRM, NQ Dry Tropics NRM & NRM Regions Queensland - with NRM Regions Australia.

This year’s conference theme ‘Changing Landscapes and New Horizons’ reflects both the challenges we face in caring for our changing environment, and the profound impact that integrated landscape management can have in restoring Australia’s unique natural places. It will also explore the innovation and ingenuity that the sector is embracing as we move to tackle the wicked problems of our times.

Abstracts are an intrinsic component of our conference program, and we encourage people to collaborate on abstract submissions!

We’d love you to be involved no matter where you come from and how you contribute to natural resource management – in your local bush group, on your tractor, crunching data, managing Indigenous lands, running grants programs... We all play diverse roles across the country.

### Concurrent sessions

Several concurrent sessions will be held of about 90 minutes duration. These may be run as panel sessions, with audience participation, or fewer longer presentations.

Presentations may be 3-5mins or 10-12mins.

### Poster display

We are seeking posters that not only summarise your work but display your aspirations about the longer-term impact of what you do or great new ideas. Let us know if you would like to submit a poster display and a brief description of the topic you will cover.

### Researchers panel

Universities and other Research and Development Organisations will have the opportunity to share with delegates the outcomes of their work and how this will impact on natural resource management. Short (5 minute) presentations will be made to the Conference followed by presenters leading table discussions where each will provide details of the work and delegates will have the opportunity to discuss the findings.

### NRM problem hackathon

A hackathon is a collaboration among peers to solve a problem quickly. We'd like to make an opportunity to do that too! Do you have a problem you'd like to propose for a small group of conference participants to work on?

### Workshops, side meetings and meeting space

Would you like to nominate your own topic for presentation and discussion? The Conference design allows for Side Meeting sessions where larger groups can gather to discuss issues and for two (2) Meeting Space sessions where individuals can meet with others to discuss matters of mutual interest.

### Video display

Videos are a great way of sharing your experiences with others, particularly for those that are unable to attend the conference. We plan to run a series of videos (2 to 3 minutes each) over the morning and afternoon tea and lunch break sessions.

### How to lodge your abstract

We are using linked software for our conference website, registrations, abstract management and mobile app. The abstract portal will open **24 March 2025**.

You can access the [abstract management portal on our website](#). You will see that we are looking for a 150-word abstract on your topic with a title and keywords.

**We will close the call for abstracts on 5 May** and provide feedback to submitters by **mid-June**.

Following your agreement to proceed, we will begin populating the conference website with presenters' names and topics from late June 2025.

**Note:** Presenters will still need to register to attend the conference.

We will ask you to nominate a theme and topic – see the table below for guidance.

The conference will follow an arc across the two days. Our **themes** are:

1. **Where we stand; seeing the landscape clearly.** Understanding our environmental, social and economic reality and the trajectory of our landscapes. What helps us to understand our current situation and the challenges we face?
2. **Rethinking the future; shifting the trajectory.** What is critical in shifting the trajectory of the nature and climate crises? Let's challenge conventional approaches and reimagine systems.
3. **Turning vision into action; catalysing investment, delivery and transformation.** How do we fund, scale and implement solutions through finance, innovation and partnerships? How are we innovating to make new opportunities and create change?

The **topics** will help us to group presentations into sessions while the themes reflect the arc and stages through the conference. We'll ask you to nominate when you submit your chosen topic and theme.

<b>NRM topics</b> throughout the conference sessions (across the top)  <b>Conference themes</b> reflect the arc of the conference (below)	Climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation	Natural capital, environmental markets and financing	Sustainable agriculture and soil health	Indigenous land and water management, leadership and knowledge	Biodiversity, threatened species and restoration	Biosecurity - weeds, ferals and disease	Integrated land management and landscape-scale	Healthy waterways and oceans	Developing resilient organisations and sustaining our people
Where we stand: <b>seeing the landscape clearly</b>			<i>e.g. A soil monitoring paper would select here</i>						
Rethinking the future: <b>shifting the trajectory</b>									
Turning vision into action: <b>catalysing investment, delivery and transformation</b>	<i>e.g. Nature-based solutions paper here</i>								