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## CCC – 2010 and Beyond

Michael McCabe – Coordinator

This is my first 'Topic of Capricorn' and the last for 2010 so I have reflected on the year's activities and considered the activities we need to focus on for the next year. I started as Coordinator with CCC in June to follow on with the excellent work of my predecessor, Janet Barrett.

Apart from the routine of running the Environment Centre, supporting the Committee and members, I have been getting myself across the plethora of industrial, mining and tourism projects which are proposed or underway in the Capricorn region. Janet had been tracking over 25 projects through the complex EIS stages, in particular the multiple Curtis Island /Gladstone Harbour Liquefied Natural Gas projects and the Great Keppel Island resort proposals. Two of the LNG and the related Gladstone Harbour projects have since received federal government approval with a 3<sup>rd</sup> project 'in the pipeline'.

At times we often express despair about the apparently insurmountable environmental challenges and the constant need to, write

### Inside This Issue

CCC - 2010 and Beyond	1
Mapping CCC campaigns 2011	1
Shoalwater Bay	2
Great Keppel Island	2
Turtles Threatened	2
Curtis Island - LNG -Plus	2
Waste Management Alternatives	2

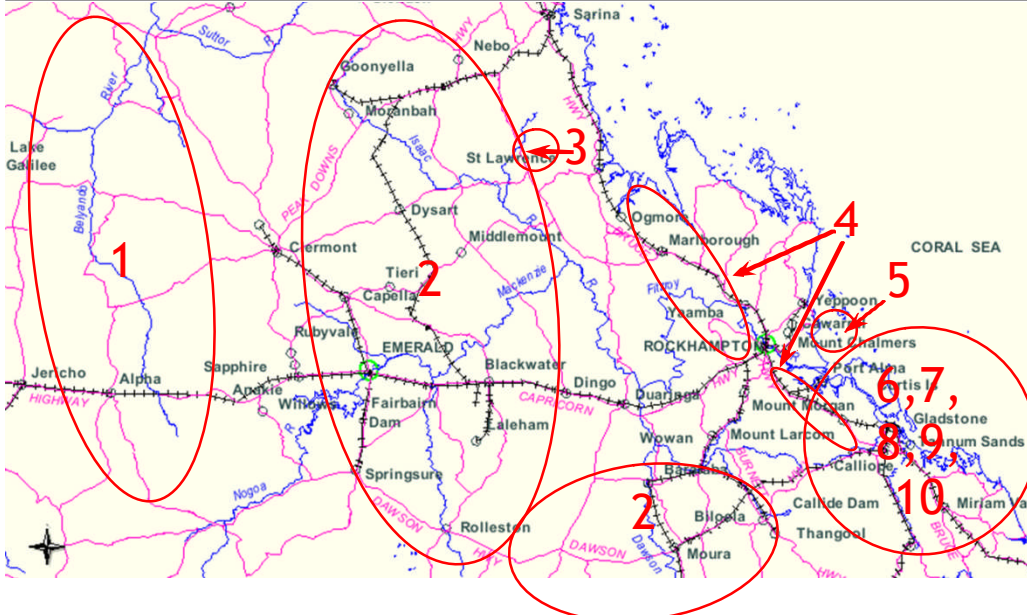
endlessly to Ministers, prepare EIS submissions, attend increasing numbers of reference groups, etc., quite often with few positive or tangible outcomes.

With the expansion of coal seam gas-LNG, more coal mines (e.g. opening up the Galilee Basin) the pressures on our landscape, our precious water resources and coastal areas, we must increase our role in engaging the public and raising the bar for companies and government agencies to comply with EIS requirements.

While pressuring political and business interests to responsible actions, to we must all consider how we can reduce our own 'carbon footprints' by adapting Mahatma Ghandi's mantra of:

*"live simply so others may simple live".*

## Mapping CCC campaigns for 2011



1. Galilee Basin Coal
2. Bowen Basin Coal
3. Connors River Dam
4. Coal Seam Gas Exp.
5. GKI Resort
6. Gladstone Harbour
7. Curtis Island
8. Shale Oil
9. Balaclava Is Coal Port
10. Industry and ports on North Curtis Island & Fitzroy Delta?

## CCC – Activities

### Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA)

The conservation sector is represented on the SWBTA Environmental Advisory Committee (Leise Childs). The increasing training demand is reducing the capacity for effective environmental management as required for this 'dual use' area. Vegetation condition and fauna monitoring, pest control, fire management regimes and partial closures for remediation are all being put under pressure. CCC has written to Mayor Carter urging moderation of statements seeking expanded use (incl. permanent bases) of SWBTA.



### **Great Keppel Island – Lot 21**

For 20 years CCC has been writing letters and submissions to lease holders, local and state governments, about the lack of land management on GKI. We are currently awaiting a response to our letter of 8 Nov to Stephen Robertson, Qld. Minister for Environment & Resource Management about the failure of the current lease holder to comply with pest management requirements, and the department's apparent unwillingness or inability to act.



### **Middle Island Observatory**

Similar to the Lot 21 campaign, CCC has been writing to GBRMPA and the permit holder, Tower Holdings, about the deteriorating condition of the Middle Island Observatory. Tower has not replied and GBRMPA have promised action following completion of an engineering survey. CCC is awaiting confirmation of effective action to protect this facility and the surrounding reef.

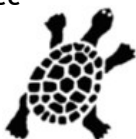


### **GKI Resort EIS**

Our responses to the draft Guidelines (Federal) and Terms of Reference (Qld) are being finalised this week to meet the 29 Dec deadline. The major work on the actual EIS will occupy much of early 2011.

#### CCC Management Committee 2010-2011

President	Alison Jones
Vice-President	Bruce Zimmer
Treasurer	Ian Herbert
Secretary	Pam Malyszczek
Committee	Mike Danaher
	Bruce Zimmer
	Bethlea Bell
CCC Coordinator	Michael McCabe



Jackie Dupavillon  
Stewart Dunlop

## Turtles Threatened

There are increasing reports\* of marine turtles with 'floating disorder' caused by ingestion of plastic debris & fishing line which may be mistaken for jellyfish & squid.\* ~2 per week in Capricorn Region; (one was sighted in Ross Creek last week).



*Plastic ingested by Marine Turtle*

*'UQ News' 12 July 2006*



### **Curtis Island–Gladstone Harbour–LNG**

CCC is working on a series of action plans to ensure compliance with the raft of conditions on the LNG Plants and Western Basin dredging. Our other concerns about broader threats from the possible coal port on Balaclava Island, Shale Oil (or gas) extraction alongside The Narrows and suggestions of heavy industry and a port on North Curtis will be monitored closely.



### **Waste Management – Hedlow Alternatives?**

RRC is due to complete their 'due diligence' review of waste management options in December. For more info go to:

<http://www.wasteandrecycling.rrc.qld.gov.au./common/Pages/Display/showarticle.aspx?id=13645>



### **Membership Renewals 2010–2011**

Thanks for the great response – it's not too late to renew and help our campaigns and projects!

CCC is supported by the  
Fitzroy Basin Association



FITZROY BASIN ASSOCIATION  
Federal Department of Environment & Heritage  
GVEHO Grant  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Conservation Grant  
&  
Member Donations