



Terms of Reference

Background

K'gari lies just off the east coast of Australia. At 122 km long, it is the largest sand island in the world. Majestic remnants of tall rainforest growing on sand and half the world's perched freshwater dune lakes are found inland from the beach. The combination of shifting sand-dunes, tropical rainforests and lakes make it an exceptional place. In 1992, meeting three criteria (vii, viii & ix) of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), K'gari was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

The *Fraser Island Natural Integrity Alliance (FINIA)* was founded after a Weed and Pest Workshop held on K'gari in late 2005. Alliance members agreed to collaborate on issues that threaten the future sustainability of K'gari's natural and cultural values.

The Alliance name was changed to *FINIA – the Natural Integrity Alliance for K'gari (FINIA)* in August 2021. The name change acknowledged our respect for the Butchulla community (the island's traditional owners and Native Title holders). It also recognised the island's original Butchulla name, K'gari.

The Alliance brings stakeholders together to implement common goals with respect to often differing organisational objectives in a proactive and respectful manner.

Not for Profit

The Alliance is a not-for-profit organisation. All income and assets will be applied in pursuit of the FINIA purpose. In the event of winding up, any assets must be distributed to organisations that share FINIA's purpose.

Vision

To protect K'gari's natural and cultural integrity, ecological assets and unique beauty through collaborative management, community education, and targeted rehabilitation work.

Purpose

To collaboratively address issues threatening the future sustainability of K'gari's natural and cultural values, systems and processes.

Functions

- Facilitate the collaboration of stakeholders to address threats to K'gari's future sustainability.
- Implement management programs to combat invasive weeds, pests and diseases.
- Implement programs that assist the wellbeing of the native flora and fauna on K'gari.
- Provide public education on the threats to K'gari and support the delivery of best management practices.

Obligations

- To use a landscape (whole of island) approach to plan and deliver strategic management programs.
- Participate in on-ground works in controlling a variety of invasive species.
- Provide better collaboration between government agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs).
- To use the skills of Alliance members to achieve the best outcomes for K'gari (aligning with the Butchulla first lore – *What's good for the land must come first*).

Membership of the Alliance

Membership of the Alliance is available to organisations committed to supporting FINIA in the pursuit of its purpose. Prospective member applications must be approved by a majority of FINIA members at a meeting.

Individuals (not affiliated with a member organisation) are also welcome to attend FINIA meetings or activities but are not recognised as Alliance members.

Members may elect an individual as Chair or office-bearers for FINIA in an independent capacity.

There are no fees associated with FINIA membership, and operating as a not-for-profit group, no benefits are payable to any member. For insurance purposes, FINIA is auspiced through Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWaLC) by Lower Mary River Land and Catchment Care Group Inc.

Roles of Alliance Members

- To support FINIA's purpose while acknowledging any differing views held by members.
- To provide a range of individual and collective input and advice to the Alliance where possible.
- To work collaboratively to identify and overcome barriers to achieve positive outcomes for the natural integrity of K'gari.
- To investigate, propose, host or provide support to Alliance projects and report back to the Alliance on activities and outcomes.
- To attend Alliance meetings, workshops and field days.
- To contribute to communication tools including the Alliance (FINIA) website, Facebook page and quarterly newsletters.

Responsibilities of Alliance members

When participating in Alliance activities (such as field trips, workshops and meetings), members will act openly, honestly, and respectfully in accordance with an agreed agenda to ensure effective communication between all members.

To protect the ongoing role and reputation of the Alliance, members should not misrepresent FINIA. If there is a difference of views between Alliance members, these should be attributed to the respective member organisation(s). Where consensus cannot be reached, this will be recorded in the minutes.

Meetings

- The Alliance meets quarterly in February, May, August and November. Ideally, one of these meetings is held on K'gari in conjunction with the FINIA Field Trip.
- The Chair will ensure that an agenda is distributed before each meeting.
- The Chair will ensure that all relevant documents, including minutes and correspondence, are distributed before the meeting, preferably leaving a week for members to read, consider and prepare questions.

Minutes of FINIA Meetings

- A copy of the FINIA minutes will be forwarded to meeting attendees and Alliance members, preferably within two weeks of the meeting taking place.

Outcomes to be Achieved

- To implement effective projects.
- To have all feral weeds and pests on K'gari eliminated, contained or under control.
- To provide better education and awareness to the public through communication tools (including online).

February 2022

Appendix 1: Current Membership of FINIA

Membership is open to all that are committed to supporting FINIA's purpose.

- The Butchulla people (the traditional owners of Fraser Island)
- Burnett Mary Regional Group (BMRG)
- Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA)
- Cooloola Coastcare Association Incorporated (CCAI)
- Department of Environment and Science (DES), including Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service & Partnerships (QPWS&P)
- Department of Resources (DR)
- ECollaboration
- Eurong Community Association Inc. (ECA)
- Fauna and Flora International (FFI)
- Fraser Coast Regional Council (FCRC)
- Fraser Island Defenders Organisation (FIDO)
- Fraser Island Association (FIA)
- Happy Valley Community Association (HVCA)
- Lower Mary River Land and Catchment Care Group (LMRLCCG)
- National Parks Association of Queensland (NPAQ)
- Orchid Beach Progress Association (OBPA).
- Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
- Sandy Cape Lighthouse Conservation Association (SCLCA)
- University of the Sunshine Coast (USC)
- Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council Inc. (WBBEC)