



Noosa Biosphere® Reserve Foundation Ltd

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday, 9 April 2018

### **Hinterland trail upgrade a big idea for Noosa Biosphere Reserve**

A plan to upgrade and maximise recreational use of a network of eight hinterland trails has been approved as a big idea for the Noosa Biosphere Reserve.

The Noosa Trail Network Master Plan is one of nine projects to receive funding from the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation grants scheme.

Tourism Noosa will receive under \$20,000 for a trails consultant to develop a detailed action and implementation plan based on feedback from key Noosa stakeholders who know and use the trails regularly.

Deputy Chair of the NBRF, Clare Cartwright says the Noosa Trail Network has the potential to unlock many benefits for hinterland communities.

“The network includes eight hinterland trails passing through diverse areas including national park, state forest, private property, council parks and road reserves,” Ms Cartwright said.

“The purpose of the management plan is to identify ways we can raise the profile of our biosphere reserve and enhance the experience for bushwalkers and mountain bikers.”

The plan also aims to improve biodiversity management within the trail areas.

“A key priority of the trail master plan will be to support and manage the sustainable use of the network and its surrounding areas,” Ms Cartwright said.

“The plan will address ways to prevent misuse of environmental assets through improving trails, infrastructure requirements as well as addressing issues such as erosion and revegetation.

“It will also identify economic benefits for the community such as funding models, sustainable jobs, tourism, trail markings and educational information.”

Tourism Noosa will lead the project in consultation with project partners.

Tourism Noosa CEO Damien Massingham said, “we are appreciative of the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation in entrusting Tourism Noosa to lead this important project for the Noosa Trail Master Plan”.

“We thank other key partners, including Noosa Council’s Economic Development Department and Noosa and District Landcare and are excited about working with these organisations as well as other key stakeholders in delivering this innovative project.”

Stakeholder engagement has already commenced with bike clubs, commercial operators, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, community groups and Noosa Council.

For more information, visit [www.noosabiosphere.org.au](http://www.noosabiosphere.org.au).

### **About Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation**



The Noosa Shire as a region is distinct from other, more developed urban areas on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland and elsewhere in Australia, and has achieved global recognition for the high values of its natural environment. In 2007, this exceptionalism was internationally recognised with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) consenting to the designation of our Shire as the Noosa Biosphere Reserve under its Man and the Biosphere program (MaB). The Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation is entrusted by UNESCO and Noosa Council to protect our global status as a biosphere reserve. [www.noosabiosphere.org.au](http://www.noosabiosphere.org.au).