



## C R O W S N E S T T R A I L S M A S T E R P L A N

The Crows Nest Shire in South East Queensland is situated immediately north of Toowoomba (with a population of 90,000+) and it is within 2 hours drive of Brisbane.

The Crows Nest Shire has a wide range of attractive and varied landscapes, and a great diversity in wildlife and vegetation. It has wild places (as found in the National Parks), and it has expansive views over the Darling Downs to the west and Brisbane River Valley to the east. It has large tracts of land still well covered in natural vegetation, it has many scenic rivers and creeks, it has forests where recreational activities are welcome and, importantly, the escarpment provides ideal opportunities for views out over the surrounding picturesque landscapes.



The level of visitation to the Crows Nest Shire is steadily increasing, and more attractions (and places to stay) are being progressively added. Population growth will continue, and Highfields is set to double its population over the next 25 years.

This Trails Master Plan sought to develop an inventory of existing trails, to determine what improvements and upgrading was necessary. The Plan also sought to deliver a program of new trail development, and associated trails projects (such as brochures and mapping) in order to appeal to the local residents, the nearby Toowoomba market and the millions living in SE Queensland.

The Trails Master Plan sought several key outcomes:

- Preparation of an inventory of existing recreational trails,
- Identification of existing and potential user groups,
- Determination of the needs of user groups in relation to trail location, use maintenance and design,
- Identification of future trail opportunities in particular regional links which are consistent with the existing trail and open space network and the broader transport network,
- Identification of minimum standards in relation to trail design, maintenance and signage,
- Ensuring that the trail network is consistent with proposed regional strategies and Council's Planning Scheme objectives,
- Preparation of maps of existing and proposed trails in the Shire to a scale of 1:50,000.
- Determination of a prioritised and staged series of trails in Crows Nest Shire.



*The Crows Nest Shire features exceptional scenery from numerous vantage points – this being a view over Perseverance Dam.*

Eight specific projects are recommended in this Trails Master Plan.