

## Advocacy & Liaison

The National Parks Association of Queensland Inc (NPAQ) is the longest established and one of the largest environmental organisations in Queensland. NPAQ has been around for nearly 80 years.

A main component of NPAQ is its advocacy role. NPAQ often facilitates the public's right to be heard in relation to protection issues. Having a large membership and an even larger support base, we are in a position to influence conservation outcomes.

Since NPAQ was established in 1930, at least 70 percent of all national parks in Queensland were either gazetted or extended following recommendations made to the State Government by us.

One such proud achievement of NPAQ was the original concept of Marine National Parks.

Our members have been actively involved in lobbying for national park acquisition and the protection of areas in Queensland which are of environmental significance. Many of the national parks in existence today, which are enjoyed by Queenslanders and visitors to the State, are a result of the persistence and tenacity of this Association and its members.

Advocacy today:

NPAQ is currently advocating for the Miara Properties to be declared as National Park. The Miara Properties is expansive area of land west of Bundaberg. This is in support of the campaign being undertaken by the Bundaberg branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland (WPSQ).

NPAQ has met with Terry Wall, the Director of the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Alan Feely, the Executive Director of the Parks Division of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS). This meeting aimed to inform Terry Wall and Alan Feely of our support for this campaign. NPAQ explained the reasons why the area should be declared as a National Park and discussed the fact that the EPA has many areas earmarked to become Protected Area Estate in the near future.

At this stage there has been no further decision about the future of the Miara Properties. NPAQ hopes to meet with Lindy Nelson-Carr, the Minister for the Environment and Multiculturalism in the near future to discuss the Miara Properties with her and seek her support for the campaign.

Check our site for further updates as they come to hand.

Liaison:

In order to ensure that the Minister for the Environment, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) are aware of our campaigns, we regularly meet with the key personnel for each department and the Minister to discuss our concerns and the areas we would like to see protected.

Check our 'news' page for information about our latest meetings.