

FIDO's Action Plan for Fraser Island lakes

December, 2008

Because of the degradation of Fraser Island's lakes FIDO believes that a five point action plan be immediately implemented to minimize further damage and eventually repair them.

1. Introduce monthly monitoring of the water quality on the nine (9) most popular Fraser Island lakes as well as an unvisited lake that should be monitored for comparison purposes. These are:

- * Lake Boomanjin
- * Lake Benaroon
- * Lake Birrabeen
- * Basin Lake (Tahwan)
- * Lake McKenzie (Boorangoora)
- * Wabby Lakes (*There may be a difference in the water quality of the two lakes*)
- * Lake Garawongera
- * Hidden Lake – (*The least visited and most studied lake to be the control*)
- * Lake Allom
- * Ocean Lake

The lakes need to be monitored monthly for turbidity, pH, E Coli, pH, and chemical properties and action taken if and when any anomalies are detected resulting from the sampling.

2. Closing the road to down Lake Allom at the top of the hill and making people walk into Lake Allom in an attempt to stop the road acting as a catchment for what should be a perched dune lake. Apart from the sediments the fact that these lakes are given an expanded catchment is affecting the natural water level within the lakes.

3. Immediate sandbagging at Lake Mackenzie and Lake Allom to slow water run-off, into the lakes to prevent any more sediments flowing into these lakes and into the swale behind Lake McKenzie's lunette. While the flow of water is unnatural the sediments carry the pollutants and a continuing build up will lead to the premature death of these lakes.

4. Defining alternate access to Lake McKenzie that within 6 months that would ensure that no further road run-off ends up in the lake or in the swale behind it.

5. Funding of a feasibility study for light rail from Kingfisher to Eurong that will facilitate future sustainable access to Lake McKenzie the most popular iconic feature of the Fraser Island World Heritage Area.