Queensland Fire & Biodiversity Consortium Membership Prospectus

2026–27



a program of
Healthy Land & Water

Acknowledgement of Country

Healthy Land & Water is deeply committed to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We acknowledge that the place we now live in has been nurtured by Australia's First Peoples for tens of thousands of years.

We believe the spiritual, cultural and physical consciousness gained through this custodianship is vital to maintaining the future of our region.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as having the oldest living cultures in the world and pay our respects to Elders both past, present and emerging.



Queensland Fire & Biodiversity Consortium Membership Prospectus 2026-27

Building capability, connection and resilience across Queensland's fire-prone landscapes



Photo: Attendees at QFBC Member Forum #3
Host organisation: Logan City Council.

About QFBC

The Queensland Fire & Biodiversity Consortium (QFBC), delivered by Healthy Land & Water, plays a critical role in strengthening fire management capability, preparedness and resilience across Queensland's landscapes and communities.

Established in 1998, QFBC brings together local and state governments, utilities, land managers, Traditional Owners, researchers, industry and community partners to support practical, evidence-based approaches to bushfire preparedness and ecological fire management.

Through this collaborative network, members connect science, policy and on-ground practice, creating opportunities for shared learning, stronger relationships and coordinated action across the fire management sector.

Our impact in 2025–26

A strong year of delivery, connection and practical fire management outcomes.

In FY2025–26, QFBC continued to strengthen fire management capability, preparedness and resilience across Queensland by connecting members through shared learning, supporting First Nations participation and partnerships, translating knowledge into practical guidance, and helping shape research, innovation and sector practice.

Over 40 workshops
Practical fire knowledge translated into local action.

4 member forums
Stronger peer learning, sector connection and shared problem-solving.

100+ property-level fire management plans
More landholders, land managers and practitioners building capability.

9 webinars 375+ attendees
Broader access to contemporary fire science and practical case studies.

600+ participants
More landholders, land managers and practitioners building capability.

3 resources created or updated
Clearer priorities for reducing risk and managing fire on-ground.

4 First Nations member organisations
Stronger pathways for culturally informed fire management conversations.

2 conference representations
Shared QFBC knowledge and strengthened sector visibility beyond the membership network.

+1 LGA member
Demonstrated continued local government confidence in QFBC and expanded the network's reach.

Partnership
Natural Hazards Research Australia

Successful concept: *Roads, bushfire and landslides: how to mitigate potential compounding natural hazards* — linking member needs to national applied research and future fire management solutions.

Together, this work strengthened local preparedness, built capability for better fire management, connected members through shared learning, supported stronger First Nations participation, turned knowledge into practical guidance and contributed to applied research, innovation and sector practice.

Building on a proven program of delivery, connection and refinement

QFBC supports members and partners through practical workshops, webinars, forums, resources and project opportunities that build capability for better fire management across Queensland. It provides members with a coordinated pathway to build capability, access shared expertise and contribute to practical fire management solutions across Queensland.

As a long-standing community of practice, QFBC provides a trusted platform for connecting members through shared learning and linking science, policy and on-ground practice, supporting members to translate contemporary fire ecology and preparedness knowledge into practical, locally relevant guidance.

Members do not simply access individual activities or resources; they invest in a coordinated program, established relationships and collective capability that grows in value over time.

Through membership, organisations gain access to trusted expertise, practical training, peer learning, applied research opportunities and collaboration pathways that strengthen local preparedness, ecological fire management capability, First Nations participation and organisational confidence.

This shared investment supports fire management and preparedness solutions that deliver environmental, social and economic returns for members, communities and landscapes.

What this means for your organisation

For members, QFBC provides a practical mechanism for staying connected, informed and better equipped to respond to changing fire management challenges. The annual program supports immediate operational needs while contributing to longer-term capability, resilience and shared fire management outcomes across landscapes and communities.



Why QFBC membership matters

Fire management is increasingly complex, requiring coordinated action across land tenure, agencies, communities and sectors. QFBC membership gives organisations a practical way to build local capability while contributing to a stronger, more connected fire management sector.

Members benefit from trusted expertise, applied research, tailored workshops, knowledge-sharing opportunities and collaboration pathways that support better outcomes for biodiversity, cultural landscapes, agricultural productivity, community safety and disaster resilience.

The program helps landholders, land managers and practitioners use fire more effectively as both a risk mitigation and land management tool, balancing preparedness, production and environmental outcomes.

Membership supports fire management and preparedness solutions that deliver environmental, social and economic returns.



Why partner with QFBC

QFBC combines long-standing sector relationships with practical delivery experience, helping members translate fire science and policy into locally relevant action.



Queensland's longest-running fire engagement program, with established networks across government, industry, research, community and land management sectors.



Science-backed training, facilitation and resources tailored to Queensland's diverse landscapes and fire management challenges.



Practical support for landholder and practitioner capacity building, from introductory preparedness sessions to property-level fire management planning.



Trusted advice and collaboration opportunities that connect policy, research and on-ground practice.

QFBC gives members the tools, support and connections they need to strengthen fire preparedness and resilience.



Backed by specialist fire, ecology and engagement expertise

QFBC draws on a multidisciplinary team with expertise across the fire management industry This capability enables members to access practical, place-based support that individual organisations may not be able to deliver alone.

Capability areas

- Fire ecology.
- Research and reporting.
- Facilitation and training.
- Operational fire management and on-ground works.
- Fire planning and frameworks.
- Cultural competency and First Nations empowerment.
- Resilience planning.

Core Healthy Land & Water team behind the QFBC



Jaime Kruusmaa

TEAM LEADER

Program coordinator, state coordinator and workshop facilitator.



Dr Diana Virkki

PRINCIPAL PROJECT MANAGER

First Nations coordinator and workshop facilitator.



Wayne Taylor

NORTHERN LGA COORDINATOR AND WORKSHOP FACILITATOR



Ying Barr

SOUTHERN LGA COORDINATOR AND WORKSHOP FACILITATOR



Meg Bowden

EVENTS COORDINATOR

Your 2026–27 membership package

In FY2026–27, QFBC will build on the momentum of a strong delivery year by providing a coordinated annual membership program that strengthens member value, builds capability for better fire management, connects members through shared learning, supports First Nations participation and partnerships, turns knowledge into practical guidance, and helps shape research, innovation and sector practice.

Build local landholder and practitioner capability for better fire management through tailored workshops and resources.

Access contemporary fire science, applied expertise and practical guidance that can be used in local planning, engagement and delivery.

Connect with peers across government, First Nations organisations, industry, research and community sectors through shared learning.

Contribute to shared research priorities, innovation, project concepts and sector-wide collaboration.

Photo: Backing Onto Bush workshop held in Burnam Range in partnership with Logan City Council.



What to expect this year

Across the financial year, members are supported through a coordinated program of workshops, webinars, member forums, resources, communications and reporting designed to build capability, strengthen shared learning, support First Nations participation and partnerships, translate research and technical knowledge into practice, and contribute to shared fire management outcomes.

Membership component	Timing	Member value and impact
Membership commencement	Start of financial year	Establishes a clear annual program and coordination pathway so members can plan engagement, nominate contacts and align QFBC activities with local priorities.
Workshop selection	By 31 August	Enables early planning and tailoring of workshops to local risks, audiences and capability needs, including the new *Fire Ecology for Land Managers* workshop option where relevant.
Workshop delivery	During the financial year	Builds practical capability by translating fire ecology and preparedness principles into locally relevant actions for land managers, practitioners, landholders and partner organisations.
Member forums	Across the year	Creates regular opportunities for members to connect with subject-matter experts, share experience across regions and organisations, and explore emerging fire management priorities.
Webinars	Across the year	Provides accessible professional development for staff across member organisations, supporting engagement with emerging science, practical case studies and cross-sector perspectives.
Resources	Across the year	Turns technical fire ecology and preparedness knowledge into practical guidance that can be used by members, facilitators, land managers and landholders.
Flames e-news	Bi-monthly (every second month)	Keeps members connected to current research, member achievements, project opportunities and sector activity, supporting connection and shared learning across the network.
End-of-year report	End of financial year	Provides a clear, consolidated picture of member activity, engagement and outcomes, helping members understand and communicate their contribution to broader QFBC impact.

Membership investment

Your annual QFBC membership supports a coordinated program of workshops, webinars, resources, forums, member support and shared learning opportunities across the year. Membership fees vary depending on organisation type, scale of participation and agreed service requirements, with details confirmed through the annual member agreement process.

How membership works

Membership is confirmed at the start of each financial year through a simple annual member agreement. This helps set up the year well by confirming key contacts, preferred workshop options, timing and any local priorities that can shape delivery.

Shared roles and responsibilities

QFBC works in partnership with members to make delivery practical, locally relevant and well-coordinated. The table below outlines how we work together across the year, followed by the key planning steps that help workshops and member activities run smoothly.

QFBC provides	Members contribute
Annual program coordination, member support and communication.	Confirmation of membership, key contacts and local priorities.
Workshop facilitation, tailored content, practical resources and delivery support.	Workshop selection, preferred dates and local context to shape delivery.
Coordination support to align workshop scope, timing and resources with member needs.	Venue, catering, local logistics and participant promotion, unless otherwise agreed.
Webinars, member forums, e-news updates, resources and collaboration opportunities.	Sharing relevant opportunities internally and nominating staff or partners to participate.
End-of-year reporting that summarises member activity, engagement and outcomes.	Attendance information, feedback or other simple inputs where needed for reporting.
Practical rescheduling support where delivery is affected by weather, venue availability or other operational factors.	Working with QFBC to reschedule activities where circumstances change.

Planning ahead: To help with forward planning, members are asked to nominate their preferred workshop dates by 31 August and allow at least 8 weeks for planning before each workshop.

Local delivery support: Members usually coordinate the venue, catering and local promotion, while QFBC provides facilitation, workshop materials and coordination support aligned to the chosen workshop type.

Flexibility: If weather, venue availability or partner needs affect delivery, QFBC will work with the member to reschedule within the financial year where possible.

Photos and feedback: QFBC may request a sign-in sheet, short participant feedback and/or photos for reporting and communication purposes, with participants able to opt out.

To confirm membership

- **Confirm your organisation's QFBC membership** for the financial year.
- **Nominate a primary and secondary contact** for scheduling and logistics.
- **Choose your workshop option:** either *How to Plan a Burn*, or two workshops from the QFBC offering list.
- **Provide preferred workshop dates** by **31 August** so planning can begin early.

Photo: Adam Nicholas, City of Moreton Bay.
QFBC Member Forum #2. Host: City of Moreton Bay.



Your 2026–27 membership milestones and impact

QFBC membership turns a statewide program into practical milestones for each member: workshops delivered locally, staff connected through shared learning, resources put into practice, and member priorities informing research and sector conversations.

The milestones below show what members can expect across the year, and the impact those activities are designed to create for local preparedness, ecological fire management capability and stronger sector connection.



Building capability for better fire management

Each member has access to locally delivered workshop support that builds practical fire management capability for landholders, land managers, practitioners and partner organisations.

Member milestone

One How to Plan a Burn workshop, or two workshops selected from the QFBC offering list.

Delivery options

Backing onto Bush, Fire Information Session, Fire Management Information Session – Rural Fire Brigades, Property Fire Management Planning, and the new *Fire Ecology for Land Managers* workshop model.

Impact

Local audiences gain practical knowledge, clearer fire management priorities and greater confidence to plan, prepare and act.

To support effective delivery, members help coordinate local logistics, venue, catering and promotion. Additional Healthy Land & Water support for logistics or mapping can be negotiated where needed, noting this may affect the workshop allocation.



Photo: Rural Fire Brigade Fire Management Night. Host: City of Gold Coast.

Connecting members through shared learning

Members stay connected throughout the year through webinars, forums and regular communications that share knowledge, streng then relationships and reduce duplication across organisations.

Member milestones

Access to nine fire-focused webinars, four QFBC member forums and bi-monthly *Flames* e-news updates.

- **2 September 2026** – Online.
- **25 November 2026** – In person, with field component.
- **17 February 2027** – In person, with field component.
- **9 May 2027** – Online.

Impact

Members have regular touchpoints to share experience, access contemporary fire science, learn from peers and stay connected to sector activity.

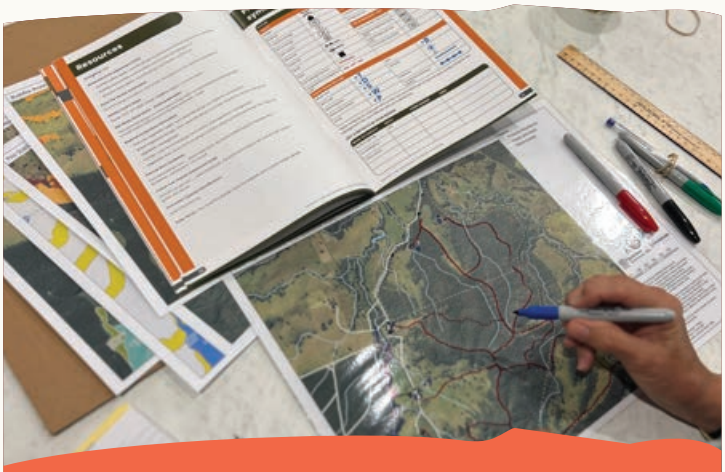


Photo: Property Fire Management Planning workshop resources. Delivered in partnership with Gympie Regional Council.

Turning knowledge into practical guidance

QFBC turns technical fire ecology and preparedness knowledge into resources that members can use in local engagement, planning and on-ground conversations.

Member milestone

The creation or review of two practical resources each year.

2026–27 focus

One landholder-focused resource and one land-manager-focused resource, with indicative priorities including review and update of the *Fire and Biodiversity Monitoring Manual*.

Impact

Members have current, practical guidance that supports consistent messaging, stronger engagement and more confident local decision-making.



Shaping research, innovation and sector practice

Members help shape applied research, innovation and project opportunities by contributing practical insights, local priorities and operational knowledge.

Member milestone

Practitioner-led input into the Fire Science Reference Group and shared research priorities.

Collaboration milestone

Facilitated input into grant applications, co-designed project concepts and future funding proposals aligned with member needs.

Impact

Research and innovation are better connected to real-world fire management challenges, supporting practical outcomes for members and the broader sector.



Demonstrating shared impact

Member milestones

An end-of-year report summarising member activity, engagement and state-level outcomes.

Impact

Members receive a clear record of what was delivered, what participation looked like, and how their investment contributed to broader QFBC outcomes across Queensland.



Workshop options and outcomes

What to expect this year

Workshop timing and format can be tailored to member and community needs, including mid-week delivery where preferred, with typical delivery arrangements outlined below.

Our four main workshop types are outlined below.

Workshop & duration	Audience	Typical delivery format	Purpose	Outcome
Fire information session: Community **3 hours**	General public and landholders of any property size.	Usually mid-week/ evening; can be tailored to local needs.	• Provide practical advice on reducing bushfire risk. • Connect participants with local councils, Rural Fire Services and land managers.	• Improved understanding of bushfire and fire preparedness. • Can support follow-up Property Fire Management Planning workshops.
Fire management session: Rural Fire Brigades **3 hours**	Rural Fire Brigade members and government land managers.	Usually mid-week/evening.	• Build knowledge of fire ecology and land management strategies. • Support discussion with local government and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS). • Identify opportunities for collaboration.	• Stronger connections with local land managers. • Improved understanding of fire in the landscape. • Greater confidence in annual mitigation planning.
Backing Onto Bush **4 hours**	Peri-urban, small rural residential and suburban landholders living near bushland.	Usually Saturday; includes an interactive bushwalk.	• Introduce fire ecology and landscape health concepts. • Discuss safety and preparedness in bushland-adjacent areas. • Use an interactive bushwalk to apply key concepts.	• Better understanding of fire's role in the landscape. • Improved awareness of bushfire risk. • Practical advice on bushfire preparation.

Workshop & duration	Audience	Typical delivery format	Purpose	Outcome
Property Fire Management Planning **5 hours**	Medium–large property landholders (3 ha+) with bushland on their property.	Usually Saturday; planning-based workshop.	• Help landholders reduce wildfire threats to life and assets. • Support biodiversity, production and cultural values. • Develop practical property-level fire planning skills.	• A tailored AO fire management map and action plan. • Improved understanding of property risk and preparedness. • Clearer priorities for future management actions.
How to Plan a Burn **5 hours**	Medium–large property landholders (3 ha+) with bushland on their property.	Usually Saturday; outdoor walk-and-talk format.	• Support landholders interested in using fire as a management tool. • Demonstrate concepts through an interactive outdoor walk-and-talk. • Promote collaboration with local Rural Fire Brigades.	• Understand the decision-making process for selecting a burn area. • Learn about permits, preparation, weather, slope, vegetation and weeds. • Build awareness of fuel hazards, safety protocols and landholder responsibilities.
New in 2026–27: The *Fire Ecology for Land Managers* workshop model is being developed to support practitioners and partner organisations to better understand how fire interacts with landscapes, biodiversity values, fuel hazards, planning decisions and operational roles. This workshop provides a practical pathway for strengthening community and land manager knowledge, improving capacity to assess fire management issues and supporting disaster risk reduction and landscape resilience outcomes.				
Fire Ecology for Land Managers (working title) **3 hours**	Rural Fire Brigades; land managers and stakeholders involved in fire planning and delivery.	Usually mid-week/evening.	• Build practical understanding of how fire interacts with landscapes. • Explore how fire intersects with professional roles and planning decisions. • Reframe fire as both a manageable risk and a legitimate land management tool.	• Greater ability to consider fire's influence on landscape outcomes. • Clearer understanding of how roles, decisions and planning processes intersect with fire. • Increased confidence to engage with fire as a proactive mitigation and land management tool.

Contact us
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Learn more about Healthy Land & Water
www.hlw.org.au

QUEENSLAND FIRE & BIODIVERSITY CONSORTIUM

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Healthy Land & Water