



Lindeman Great Barrier Reef Resort Project – Indigenous Heritage Fact Sheet

Indigenous Heritage Fact Sheet

The Whitsunday Islands and other central coastal Queensland Islands were originally occupied by the Ngaro people around 9,000 years ago with settlements concentrated at Nara Inlet on Hook Island (Barker, 2004). One (1) Aboriginal cultural heritage site is recorded on the DATSIP database on Lindeman Island, but outside the site and two (2) other recorded sites are on nearby islands. Based on the desk top review the objects/sites potentially present within the site are likely to include stone artefacts as isolated finds or within scatters and Shell Middens - featuring surface and/or subsurface deposits of marine shell and often including other material such as the remains of fish, crustaceans and marine mammals and stone artefacts. Lindeman Island has been identified as part of the Ngaro People's traditional country (Barker, 2004, p. 29) and has been part of areas claimed by a number of native title groups, most recently the Yuibera People. There is currently no native title determination application over the island. The proponent has been advised that Native Title has been extinguished over the perpetual lease and term lease areas by the grant of a valid *Previous Exclusive Possession Act*.

Preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan in accordance with the requirements of Part 7 of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* commenced in June 2016, with meetings to be held with the Aboriginal Parties. The Cultural Heritage Management Plan will address the following:

- Approaches that will manage avoidance of harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage, or if harm cannot reasonably be avoided, to minimise harm;
- Arrangements for notification about project activities and work programmes, including project area access;
- The reasonable requirements and methodologies for carrying out cultural heritage surveys and preparing cultural heritage survey reports;
- Processes to achieve acceptable protection, management or mitigation of potential harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage during both the construction and operational phases of the development will be included;
- Arrangements to ensure workplace health and safety requirements are observed during cultural heritage surveys and management or mitigation work programmes;
- A dispute resolution process;
- A new finds process will cover procedures for managing incidental finds; and
- A cultural heritage induction for project staff, to be incorporated into the contractor/employee manual and induction manual. Cultural awareness training will train people involved in the project in avoidance and protection of known cultural heritage sites, what cultural heritage may reasonably be in the landscape, and what to do in the event of a find of cultural heritage.