

A Unique and Special Place

The Great Sandy Biosphere region has internationally recognised areas of natural beauty. The region is incredibly biodiverse, spanning a sub-tropical to temperate 'transition' zone containing representative species from both climates.

Ecological highlights include:

- *The world's tallest and most complex rainforests growing on sand,*
- *Half of Australia's bird species,*
- *More marine fish diversity than the entire Great Barrier Reef,*
- *Over 7500 recorded species of fauna and flora, many which are rare or endangered,*
- *The largest and highest perched dune lakes in the world,*
- *World and National Heritage listed areas such as Fraser Island and the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar wetland*
- *The world's best observable example of ancient sand dunes.*



How can I be involved?

If you live in the Great Sandy Biosphere you already are involved! Sustainable living starts with everyday actions such as: reduce energy use, walk or ride your bike instead of drive, recycle and minimise your household waste and energy use.

If you want to take a more active role, please visit the Great Sandy Biosphere website:

www.greatsandybiosphere.org

or contact your local Council or the Burnett Mary Regional Group.

If you are visiting the region, please take the time to explore, enjoy, help care for and celebrate the Great Sandy Biosphere.



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The Great Sandy Man and the Biosphere



The Great Sandy Biosphere, designated under the UNESCO "Man and the Biosphere" program and coordinated by The Burnett Mary Regional Group, encourages balanced sustainable development across economic, cultural, social, educational and environmental spheres to enhance our economic and environmental future.



| AUSTRALIA

www.greatsandybiosphere.org

Great Sandy - Man and the Biosphere...

PEOPLE

The heart of the Great Sandy Biosphere is its people — the many individuals, families, groups and businesses committed to living and working together to make a difference.

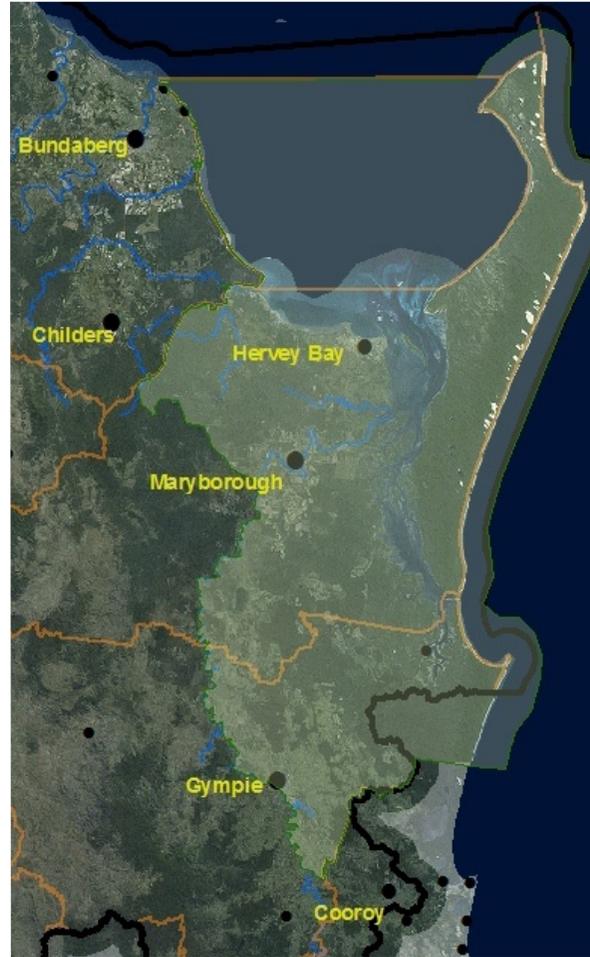
PLACE

The Great Sandy Biosphere region stretches westwards from the Noosa Biosphere Reserve to the Mary River and then north to the Burnett River. The boundary runs east to Sandy Cape on Fraser Island, then southward to include the Cooloola sandmass. It includes major centres such as Hervey Bay, Maryborough, Gympie, several coastal towns and Fraser Island.

COMMUNITIES

Sustainable futures are created by everyday efforts of people working together to make a difference.

The Great Sandy Biosphere is supported by a growing list of organisations, including schools, businesses, environmental groups, traditional owners and many more.



The Great Sandy - Man and the Biosphere Region

874,000 Ha of land and 542,000 Ha of marine area

A SHARED VISION

The awarding of UNESCO “Man and the Biosphere” status for the Great Sandy came about through the combined efforts and support of many individuals and groups.

The Burnett Mary Regional Group, a community based not-for-profit organisation, the Fraser Coast and Gympie Regional Councils, industry and community groups, universities, politicians, traditional owners and dedicated individuals continue to play a role in informing, involving and inspiring people to recognise that economic activities and conservation can coexist in harmony.

Providing guidance for sustainable economic development and population growth whilst preserving the natural beauty and diversity of our environment are the main aims of the Biosphere.



A place to keep special for future generations.

