



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

May 28, 2018

Exciting new eco-experience in the Whitsundays revealed!

An exciting new experience could be on the cards for the Whitsunday National Park after it was revealed that tenders have opened for a feasibility study into a new eco-experience.

Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef Leeanne Enoch has announced that the tender process is now open for a feasibility study into building a premium ecotourism experience on Whitsunday Island, the largest in the 74-island group.

Ms Enoch said the feasibility study would look at low-impact eco-accommodation, walking tracks throughout the island - to expand on the many existing tracks - and showcase iconic destinations such as Whitehaven Beach and Hill Inlet.

“Our Government is committed to delivering ecotourism experiences that are ecologically and environmentally sustainable, and that create employment for locals, and opportunities for traditional owners,” Ms Enoch said.

Tourism Whitsundays General Manager Tash Wheeler said it was a very exciting time in the Whitsundays, with so much happening and a lot of projects unfolding or coming to fruition.

“The announcement that the Queensland Government is putting an ecotourism experience out to tender for a feasibility study is very exciting news for the region and also for us as an organisation,” she said.

“Whitsunday Island is one of our most iconic islands, being home to world famous Whitehaven Beach and Hill Inlet, and to be able to share this with visitors in an eco-friendly and sustainable way is truly fantastic.

“Add to this the new Langford Island walk that opened in January, and the two new walking tracks planned for Border and Haslewood Islands, and it is a very exciting time indeed for our island experiences.

“We are also expecting construction on the upgrade and expansion of the Hill Inlet Lookout to start any day now, and we can also look forward to a new walking track opening quite soon on the southern end of Whitehaven Beach.

“As well, Daydream Island Resort is due to reopen later this year following a \$100 million redevelopment – which we cannot wait for! – and the much-loved Airlie Beach Hotel on the mainland is also due to reopen, in June, following an extensive refurbishment.

“All in all, it’s a fantastic time to think about booking a holiday in the Whitsundays this winter!”

For more information about the Whitsundays visit www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au

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FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES, CONTACT:

Deborah Friend

PR & Communications Specialist

Tourism Whitsundays

Ph: (07) 4948 5917 or 0417 765 736

Email: pr@tourismwhitsundays.com.au

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