

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 474**  
**Asked on 20 April 2023**

**MR D CRISAFULLI** ASKED MINISTER FOR TOURISM, INNOVATION AND SPORT AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER ON OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS SPORT AND ENGAGEMENT (HON S HINCHLIFFE)—

**QUESTION:**

With reference to previous advice provided at estimates last year that both the northern and southern components of the Wangetti Trail will be completed by late 2023—

Will the Minister advise when all Queensland Government approvals will need to be obtained in order to achieve this timeline?

**ANSWER:**

The Wangetti Trail project is set to be the most technically complex and longest trail development ever delivered in Queensland. The trail itself spans a World Heritage area, three national parks, two local government areas, three separate native title claims, and also freehold and reserves held in trust landholdings. Noting those complexities, we need to get this right and follow the relevant assessments before construction gets underway.

To ensure this project is a success, all geotechnical risks, agreements with Traditional Owners and State Environmental assessments must be resolved.

This project is a priority for both the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport as well as the Department of Environment and Science who have been working in close partnership. It should be noted that while each department is working to finalise these approvals and assessments, most of these assessments are broader than the Queensland Government.

The following approvals and assessments are currently being resolved in anticipation of a 2023 construction commencement for the Wangetti South Portion (Palm Cove to Wangetti):

- Cultural Heritage Management Agreement (*Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*) and Indigenous Land Use Agreements (*Native Title Act 1993*) with the newly formed Djabugay Nation Native Title Claim Group.
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Referral Wet Tropics permit under Part 4, Division 1, sections 34 and 35 of the *Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998*.
- Section 34 Authority of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.
- Section 57 of the *Land Act 1994* for Trustee leases with Douglas Shire and Cairns Regional Council.
- Development Applications under the *Planning Regulation 2017* and *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995* with Douglas Shire and Cairns Regional Councils.

Based on construction starting in 2023, construction will not be completed by 2023.