1. Tourism on Queensland’s protected areas is an important contributor to Queensland’s economy. Providing a system of management that enables the development of a sustainable nature-based tourism industry and ensures minimal impact on the unique natural values of our protected areas are fundamental objectives of the Tourism in Protected Areas policy.
2. This policy also creates a more secure and business-focussed environment for commercial tour operators through extending the duration of access, reducing administration requirements and ensuring that commercial access is able to be fully utilised within sustainable levels.
3. Queensland’s high demand tourism protected area sites have unique and often internationally renowned conservation values. It is important that minimal impact is a key objective. With a view to this objective, commercial tour operators at high profile tourism sites in protected areas will be required to be eco-accredited to conduct tours on these areas.
4. Cabinet approved the policy framework to be implemented in a staged process at high profile tourism protected areas sites.
5. *Attachments*
* Nil.