



## **Position Statement: Referendum on an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice**

The National Parks Association of Queensland (NPAQ) is pleased to formally voice its support for the upcoming Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice Referendum, which is set to take place in late 2023.

The NPAQ believes that the creation of this voice supports our position statement on Traditional Owners and National Parks. It is an important step in supporting a co-stewardship approach with Traditional Owners for the management of Queensland's national parks i.e.: to protect and enhance natural, biodiversity and cultural values and reinforce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first custodians of the Protected Area Estate, and the importance of their intrinsic connection to ancestral lands and country.

The NPAQ believes that the referendum will be an important opportunity for Indigenous Australians to have their voices heard and recognised in the Australian Constitution.