

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Database and Register



September 2015



Weave is a business integration framework for rapidly combining disparate information systems in an easy to use environment. It is based on open systems technology and it is independent from vendor-specific technologies and proprietary application programming interfaces

About Cohga

Cohga is a company with a focus on the development of systems integration products and the provision of associated professional services. Our philosophy is to use Open, State of the Art, and vendor independent technology to create products and solutions that meet and exceed client expectations.

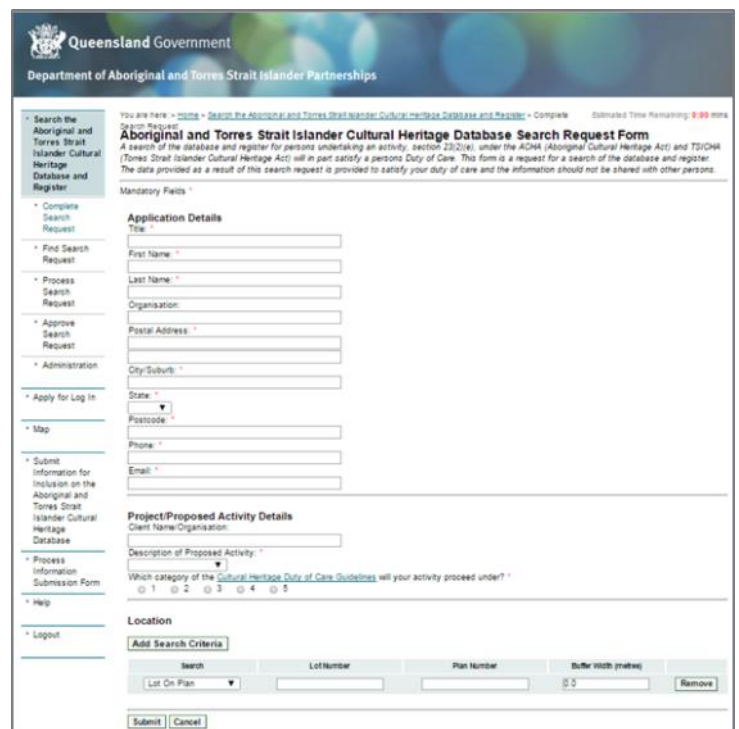
The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) has implemented a new operating platform for the Cultural Heritage database and register, providing an efficient and user-friendly access to cultural heritage information maintained in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 and the Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003.

The cultural heritage register holds information about cultural heritage areas subject of a cultural heritage management plan, cultural heritage bodies and details of statutory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) parties.

The register is available to the public as a repository of information for land-use planning (including local government planning schemes and regional planning strategies) and as a research and planning tool to help people in the consideration of the ATSI cultural heritage values of particular objects and areas.

The system combines a forms-based workflow and spatial system to provide DATSIP staff, key stakeholders and the public the ability to query, report and manage the cultural heritage information of Queensland in a single, easily accessible spatially-enabled environment.

The information required to be maintained for the data base and register was previously held in a range of analog and digital formats that made access and reporting very cumbersome, time consuming and error prone. More importantly, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parties, who are the recognised custodians of the cultural heritage, often lacked the systems and technical capacity to access and interrogate this information in a meaningful way.

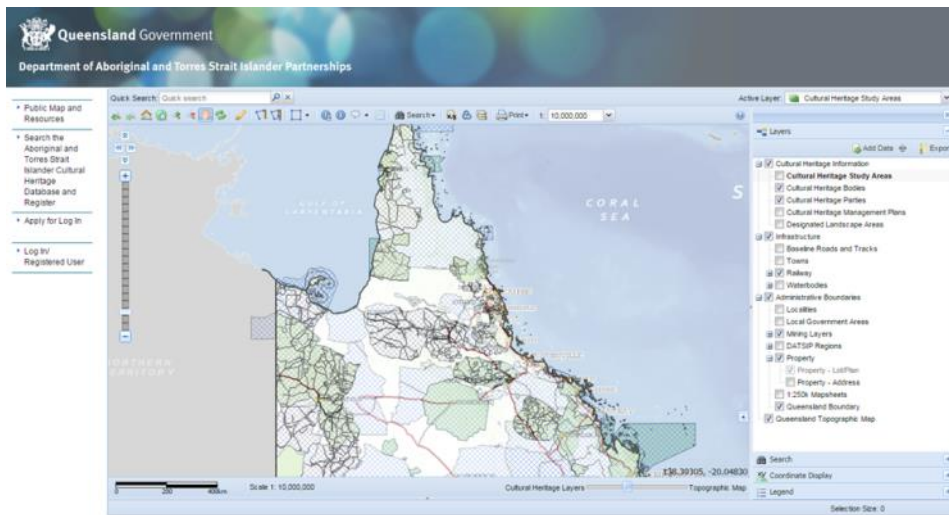


The screenshot shows a web form titled 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Database Search Request Form'. It includes sections for 'Application Details' (First Name, Last Name, Organisation, Postal Address, City/Suburb, State, Postcode, Phone, Email) and 'Project/Proposed Activity Details' (Client Name/Organisation, Description of Proposed Activity, and a dropdown for 'Which category of the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines will your activity proceed under?'). There is also a 'Location' section with a search bar and a 'Submit' button.

Forms-based workflow for information update

The new solution uses the Weave software platform in a cloud hosted environment that supports access by both internal and external clients. The new system now delivers many more benefits to many more clients.

DATSIP staff can now quickly and easily respond to enquiries from the public about cultural heritage through the



a very complex and convoluted process as there are many cultural assets owned and managed by many ATSI stakeholders, often with overlapping claims and responsibilities. Due to cultural sensitivities, it is vital that the cultural heritage of particular ATSI stakeholders is not accessible to other ATSI stakeholders. The new system achieves this using a roles based security system to confine stakeholders to their area and assets of responsibility, and the



underlying spatial technology allows this to be presented on an easy to read map.

This project is delivering an estimated \$2,000,000 saving in development as a result of partnership with the Victorian State Government and joint ownership of intellectual property behind this business system.



Cohga Pty Ltd

Ph: +61 (0)3 9036 3711
 info@cohga.com
 www.cohga.com



A graphical interface facilitates public information access

forms-based workflow and the graphical query and reporting tools.

Staff can also quickly and easily update and manage the data base and register, having greatly reduced the effort involved in the search and query process which in turn has enabled them to focus more on the critical tasks of

reporting process.

While access to the Cultural Heritage Database is restricted to registered users, an application to access the database can be lodged from the online portal, which is accessible to the public via the URL <https://culturalheritage.datsip.qld.gov.au/achris/public/home>



policy and cultural heritage management.

External land users, such as other government departments, property developers, mining companies, lawyers, and consultants are able to directly access the new system as registered users and conduct their own queries to satisfy their duty of care requirements. This has provided land users with



significant efficiencies and slashed the amount of effort and time involved in the search and

For the first time in the history of Queensland, the system has also provided Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parties with direct access to their cultural heritage information in a spatially-enabled environment. This is resulting in a much more engaged process that better ensures the protection and management of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage.

Traditional Owners are now managing the data themselves to ensure their cultural heritage interests are clearly identified for external stakeholders that want to utilise the land.

Cultural heritage management is