1. In December 2008, the Government released the Wenlock Basin Wild River Declaration Proposal. The Wenlock River exhibits water flows, water quality, sediments transport processes and ecosystems in near-pristine condition.
2. A wild river declaration details the criteria new development proposals must meet to ensure the protection of the river’s natural values. The declaration details the extent of the wild river area, the location of nominated waterways and the management areas for those waterways. It details when the Wild Rivers Code or other development assessment codes apply as well as any other wild river requirements that may apply to specific new development activities. Existing developments and rights in wild river areas, including Native Title rights, are not affected.
3. A comprehensive consultation program was undertaken in the Wenlock Basin following the release of the declaration proposal. Meetings were held with Traditional Owners ‘on-country’ to discuss their interests and a submission period was open to the public until May 2009 with 3,926 submissions received. All issues raised during consultation were considered in preparing the draft Wenlock Basin Wild River Declaration.
4. Many of the concerns raised by stakeholders and how government has considered these are detailed in the Wenlock Wild River Area Declaration Consultation Report.
5. Cabinet noted that the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade intended to submit the Wenlock Basin Wild River Declaration for Governor in Council for approval.
6. *Attachments*
* [Wenlock Basin Wild River Declaration 2010](Attachments/wenlock-wr-declaration%5B1%5D.pdf)
* [Wenlock Basin Wild River Declaration Consultation Report](Attachments/wenlock-consult-report%5B1%5D.pdf)