

Stringent 'checks' ensure quality

Developer employs methods to create 'sustainable estate'

THE Noosa on Weyba project has achieved independent and international certification for the proposed master-planned residential community's approach to sustainable precinct planning and design.

Noosa on Weyba, which is earmarked to develop only 19% of a 303 ha site, has been certified by EarthCheck under their global Precinct Planning and Design Standard.

The Noosa on Weyba master plan was reviewed and independently assessed by a third-party auditor as

meeting the key performance criteria required under the standard.

The EarthCheck Precinct Planning and Design Standard was originally developed by a team of researchers from the Co-operative Research Centre for Sustainable Tourism (STCRC) which was based in south-aEast Queensland.

The STCRC was made up of 17 universities from across Australia and became the largest research centre of its kind in the world specialising in



INDEPENDENT ADVICE: The proposed Noosa on Weyba development has received EarthCheck certification. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

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— STEVE MACRAE

sustainable tourism.

EarthCheck today provides benchmarking and certification services for over 32 sectors and now

operates in over 70 countries across the world.

Noosa on Weyba development director Steve

MacRae says that although many developers in Australia claim their projects are based on sustainable principles, many cannot substantiate their argument.

"We decided to involve EarthCheck at the very early stage of master planning this project to ensure that sustainable design criteria was factored

into our master planning process," Mr MacRae said.

"I am pleased to say that we have now achieved accreditation for Noosa on Weyba.

"True sustainability must include social, economic and environmental elements to ensure that the triple bottom line is properly assessed, not just one element," he said.