

# Meingan Creek Regional Park Management Statement

## Park purpose

Meingan Creek Regional Park was formally gazetted as an environmental park on 9 March 1974. In 1994 it was gazetted as a conservation park.

No park specific purpose was identified as part of the gazettal.

The park is situated in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. Management must take account of the World Heritage Convention and appropriate legislation and policies relating to this designation.

Park size	82.86ha
Bioregion	Wet Tropics
Local government area	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
State electorate	Hinchinbrook
QPWS region	Northern
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

## Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Meingan Creek Regional Park has been assessed as having a basic level of priority for management and will be managed according to this priority rating.

Park management will be based on the best available local knowledge, professional judgement and anecdotal information. The basic level priority means it will receive annual routine inspections with occasional planned visits where issues have been identified. The focus is largely expected to be on natural resource management involving proactive management to understand and protect known natural values.

Cultural values will be managed proactively to protect those values known to Queensland Park Parks Service, (QPWS). Informal ad-hoc local consultation, collaboration and relationships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous stakeholders will be undertaken as required to progress specific issues and programs.

This park currently has low levels of infrequent visitor use and provides a few relatively undeveloped visitor sites. Visitors are unlikely to encounter a ranger on site during their visit. Current and future recreational opportunities will require that visitors have a high level of self-sufficiency and are primarily responsible for their own personal safety.

Informal ad-hoc consultation with community stakeholders will be undertaken on specific issues of park management.

Park assets will consist of minimal robust infrastructure which is required for the protection of natural and cultural values and self-reliant use by the public.

## General park values, uses and management

### World Heritage

The park is protected and managed under the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* and the *Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998*.

### Regional ecosystems

Meingan Creek Regional Park protects one regional ecosystem which has endangered biodiversity status, Table 1.

### Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this park include the spectacled flying-fox *Pteropus conspicillatus*, Table 2.

## Cultural heritage

All protected areas are recognised as cultural landscapes and Aboriginal people see themselves as inextricably linked to country both spiritually and physically. Although cultural records on physical artefacts and sites of spiritual significance are not well documented for this area, all proposed activities need to meet duty of care requirements under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. Non-indigenous historic places will be managed in accordance with the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

## Priorities for park management

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the World Heritage Area, as adopted by the World Heritage Committee, will be the key reference for the future effective protection and management of the Area as identified in paragraph 51 of Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention 2013. Being part of the World Heritage Area, this park will be managed in a manner consistent with the protection of the Area's Outstanding Universal Value and its integrity.

Other than being an integral component of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, the endangered regional ecosystem and vulnerable animal species are the main values of this park. The priorities for park management will be fire and pest management. Management actions will be undertaken which aim to ensure:

- life and property on and adjacent to the park is protected
- fire is managed to conserve or maintain the condition of the regional ecosystem through the application of planned burn guidelines
- the impacts of existing pest species on neighbouring land uses are mitigated
- pest threats are managed to conserve or maintain the condition of regional ecosystem and animal species.

## Appendix 1

### Conservation values inventory

**Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems**

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
7.8.1a	Complex mesophyll vine forest. Lowlands and foothills on basalt, of the very wet and wet rainfall zone.	Endangered

**Table 2: Species of conservation significance**

Scientific name	Common name	Nature Conservation Act 1992 status	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 status	Back on Track status
Animals				
<i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i>	spectacled flying-fox	Least concern	Vulnerable	High