

# Baffle Creek Regional Park Management Statement

## Park purpose

Baffle Creek Regional Park was formally gazetted as Baffle Creek Environmental Park in 1992 under the *Land Act 1962*. At that time there was a Trustee Agreement with the Miriam Vale Shire Council. In 1994 the environmental park was gazetted to Baffle Creek Conservation Park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

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

Park size	19ha
Bioregion	South East Queensland
Local government area	Gladstone Regional Council
State electorate	Burnett
QPWS region	Sunshine and Fraser Coast
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

## Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Baffle Creek Regional Park has been assessed as having a basic level of priority for management. The park 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 Parks and Wildlife 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. There is no visitor infrastructure; however there is a network of park management tracks which may be suitable for four wheel driving.

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

Park assets are functional and robust and require limited maintenance to protect the natural and cultural values and management capacity.

## General park values, uses and management

### Regional ecosystems

The park protects four regional ecosystems, two of which have endangered biodiversity status, Table 1.

### Species of conservation significance

There are currently no records of species of conservation significance on Queensland Government wildlife databases for this park.

## 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 two endangered regional ecosystems are the main values of this park. The priorities for park management will be to mitigate any threats to these regional ecosystems through 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 these regional ecosystems 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 these regional ecosystem.

## Appendix 1

### Conservation values inventory

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

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
12.3.1	Gallery rainforest (notophyll vine forest) on alluvial plains.	Endangered
12.3.3	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> woodland on Quaternary alluvium.	Endangered