

Carello Palm Swamp Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Carello Palm Swamp Regional Park was formally gazetted as an environmental park in 1992 and then as a conservation park in 1994.

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

Park size	8.9ha
Bioregion	Wet Tropics
Local government area	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
State electorate	Mulgrave
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, Carello Palm Swamp 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 will 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.

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

Regional ecosystems

Carello Palm Swamp Regional Park protects three regional ecosystems, of which two have endangered biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this park include two animal species, 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 two endangered regional ecosystems and two animal species of conservation significance 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 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 regional ecosystems and animal species of conservation significance.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
7.3.5a	Palustrine wetland (e.g. vegetated swamp). <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> open forest, woodland and shrubland on poorly drained alluvial plains	Endangered
7.3.10a	Mesophyll vine forest on moderately to poorly-drained alluvial plains of moderate fertility	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>Casuarus casuarius johnsonii</i>	southern cassowary (southern population)	Endangered	Endangered	Critical
<i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i>	spectacled flying-fox	Least concern	Vulnerable	High