

Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park was formally gazetted as Fleays Wildlife Park Conservation Park in 1995.

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

Park size	7.5ha
Bioregion	South East Queensland
Local government area	City of Gold Coast
State electorate	Burleigh
QPWS region	South East
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park has been assessed as having a very high priority for management. The Wildlife Park is a highly modified and environment which has been managed to create wildlife enclosures that endeavour to reflect the habitat of the exhibited species. The park will be managed according to this priority rating.

Park management will be based on the best available local knowledge, professional judgement, high level resource information and significant expert input. The very high level means that it will receive weekly routine management inspections with frequent planned visits to deliver comprehensive work programs and respond to issues. The focus of management is to deliver education and visitor management experiences associated with a contemporary commercial wildlife centre, involving a proactive management effort at a very high level.

Indigenous cultural and European heritage values will be managed proactively to protect those values known to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, (QPWS). The Park is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register in recognition of the historic representation of wildlife exhibits and the work of leading conservation Dr David Fleay. Engagement, consultation, collaboration and relationship development with Fleay Family and Indigenous stakeholders will continue to be undertaken.

This park currently has very high levels of visitor use and provides a contemporary, commercial wildlife experience for visitors. The Gateway Visitor Centre provides visitors with inspirational and educational information about national parks and their role in protecting wildlife and conserving habitats. Visitors are able to have a guided ranger tour and experience. A very high level of necessary infrastructure is provided. High quality on-site visitor information displays are installed. Information on the park and visitor centre is available on the Departmental website.

Public consultation on park management will be guided by the recommendations in the Directions Paper for the David Fleay Wildlife Park Concept Master Plan. A significant volunteer program enhances park management.

Park assets are functional and robust and require a very high level of maintenance to ensure public safety, the health of the exhibited wildlife and to enhance management efficiency.

The Wildlife Park is a highly modified and environment which has been managed to create wildlife enclosures that endeavour to reflect the habitat of the exhibited species. Additionally there is significant park administration and management infrastructure.

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

Aside from the built and modified environment, Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park protects four regional ecosystems of which one has endangered biodiversity status and one is of concern, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include two plant and eight animal species, some of which are captive, 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. Cultural records on physical artefacts and sites of spiritual significance are 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*.

Components of the Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park are listed on the State Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.

Marine protected areas

Fleays Wildlife Park Regional Park adjoins the Tallebudgera Creek declared Fish Habitat Area (FHA) management B area, which may constrain development activities. This declaration under the *Fisheries Act 1994* requires that activities on the regional park must consider potential impacts on the adjoining FHA.

Priorities for park management

The park is a wildlife park with a visitor centre and therefore has additional management priorities such as public education, tourism and wildlife interaction.

The two regional ecosystems, two plant and eight animal species of conservation significance, some of which are captive, are the main natural values of this park. The priorities for park management will be to mitigate any threats to these values 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 the regional ecosystems through the application of planned burn guidelines and a strategy
- 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, plant and animal species of conservation significance
- consideration of the neighbouring FHA is undertaken during fire or pest management activities on the park.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
12.1.1	<i>Casuarina glauca</i> woodland on margins of marine clay plains	Endangered
12.3.5a	Palustrine wetland (e.g. vegetated swamp). <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> , <i>Casuarina glauca</i> +/- <i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> open forest. Occurs on lowest river terraces of Quaternary alluvial plains in coastal areas.	Of concern

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
Plants				
<i>Endiandra hayesii</i>	velvet laurel	-	Vulnerable	-
<i>Macadamia integrifolia</i>	bush nut	-	Vulnerable	-
Animals				
<i>Adelotus brevis</i>	tusked frog	Vulnerable		Medium
<i>Elusor macrurus</i>	Mary River turtle	Endangered	Endangered	Critical
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> ¹	white bellied sea eagle	Special least concern		Low
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> ³	white-throated needletail	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Ornithoptera richmindia</i>	Richmond birdwing butterfly	Vulnerable	-	High
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	koala	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	-
<i>Pandion cristatus</i> ²	osprey	Special least concern		Low
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey-headed flying-fox	-	Vulnerable	Critical

¹Bonn: Bonn Convention³JAMBA: Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement²CAMBA: China-Australia Migratory Agreement⁴ROKAMBA: Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement