

Herberton Range Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Herberton Range Regional Park was formally gazetted as Herberton Range Forest Reserve in 2003 under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. In 2008 the forest reserve was gazetted as Herberton Range Conservation Park.

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

The park is situated within 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	1160ha
Bioregion	Wet Tropics
Local government area	Tablelands Regional Council
State electorate	Dalrymple
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, Herberton Range Regional Park has been assessed as having a medium 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 medium level means that it will receive a minimum of quarterly routine inspections with occasional planned visits where issues have been identified. The focus is largely expected to be on natural resource management involving a proactive management effort at a moderate level to understand or protect known natural values.

Cultural values will be managed proactively to protect those values known to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, (QPWS). Ongoing consultation, collaboration and relationships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous stakeholders will be undertaken as required to support broader continuing park management programs.

This park currently has moderate levels of 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. A moderate level of infrastructure is provided to support safe and sustainable use by predominantly self-reliant visitors. General park information is provided off-site, primarily through the Departmental website.

Public consultation on park management will be undertaken through ongoing local consultations with community stakeholders to support broad continuing management programs.

Park assets are functional and robust and require limited maintenance to protect the natural and cultural values and management capacity. The existing road network is used by mountain bikers and horse riders. Three 22kV and one 66kV Ergon power-lines in three corridors transect the park.

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

The park protects ten regional ecosystems, of which three have endangered biodiversity status and three are of concern, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this park include one plant and three bird 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 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 six regional ecosystems, one plant and three animal species of conservation significance are the main 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
- 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 species of conservation significance.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
7.12.21a	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> tall open forest and woodland. Granites and rhyolites	Endangered
7.12.21b	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> tall open forest and woodland with a well-developed vine forest understorey. Granites and rhyolites.	Endangered
7.12.22a	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> , <i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i> , <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> , <i>Eucalyptus cloeziana</i> , <i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i> tall open forest to tall woodland with <i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i> and <i>Callitris macleayana</i> . Uplands and highlands of the moist rainfall zone.	Endangered
7.12.37a	Complex of open to closed shrublands, low to medium woodlands and forests and grasslands. Mountain rock pavements. Main component: scrub (<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i> , <i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i> , <i>Lophostemon confertus</i>), shrubland (<i>Banksia aquilonia</i> , <i>Leptospermum</i> sp.) and heath (<i>Xanthorrhoea johnsonii</i> , <i>Gahnia</i> spp., <i>Dicranopteris linearis</i>). Mountainous eastern fall. Granite and rhyolite.	Of concern

7.12.52	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> , <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> , <i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i> , <i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i> , <i>E. drepanophylla</i> ± <i>E. reducta</i> woodland on granite and rhyolite in the dry to moist rainfall zone.	Of concern
7.12.61a	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> open forest to tall open forest and woodland. Includes communities ranging from those dominated by <i>E. tereticornis</i> to mixtures of that species with <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> , <i>E. drepanophylla</i> , <i>Lophostemon suaveolens</i> and <i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i> . Foothills and uplands on granite and rhyolite, of the moist and dry rainfall zones.	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>Calochlaena villosa</i>	-	Near threatened	-	Low
Animals				
<i>Casuaris casuaris johnsonii</i> (southern population)	southern cassowary (southern population)	Endangered	Endangered	Critical
<i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma macleayana</i>	Macleay's fig-parrot	Vulnerable	-	Low
<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i> ¹	rufous fantail	Special least concern	-	Low

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