

Dawson River Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Dawson River Regional Park was formally gazetted in 1974 as two separate environmental parks under the *Land Act 1962*. These were Dawson River (East) Environmental Park (40.873 ha) and Dawson River (West) Environmental Park (12.9 ha). At the time both environmental parks had Trustee Agreements with the Banana Shire Council. In 1994 these environmental parks were combined and gazetted to Dawson River Conservation Park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Park size	53.8ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Banana Shire Council
State electorate	Callide
QPWS region	Central
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

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

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Dawson River 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. There is no practical vehicle access to the park, which 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 no visitor infrastructure. 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

The park protects two regional ecosystems, both of which have of concern biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include the golden-tailed gecko *Strophurus taenicauda*, 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 of concern regional ecosystems and one 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 are protected
- fire is managed to conserve or maintain the condition of these regional ecosystems through the application of State-wide 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 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
11.3.2	<i>Eucalyptus populnea</i> woodland on alluvial plains.	Of concern
11.3.25	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> or <i>E. camaldulensis</i> woodland fringing drainage lines.	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
Animals				
<i>Strophurus taenicauda</i>	golden-tailed gecko	Near threatened	-	Medium