

Ghungalu Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Ghungalu Regional Park was formally gazetted as Blackdown Tableland Forest Reserve on 10 November 2000 under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. In 2007 the forest reserve was gazetted to Ghungalu Conservation Park.

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

Park size	70ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Central Highlands Regional Council
State electorate	Gregory
QPWS region	Central
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Ghungalu 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 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). Ad-hoc local consultation, collaboration and relationships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous stakeholders will be undertaken as required to progress specific issues and programs. QPWS and the Ghungalu people have a signed memorandum of understanding to foster a co-ordinated and co-operative approach to the use of the park, including the cultural use by the Ghungalu people.

This park currently has low levels of infrequent visitor use and provides an undeveloped visitor site. 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

Ghungalu Regional Park protects one regional ecosystem which has a biodiversity status of no concern at present.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this park include the golden-tailed gecko *Strophurus taenicauda*, Table 1.

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 golden-tailed gecko is the main value of this park. The priorities for park management will be to mitigate any threats to the golden-tailed gecko 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 ecosystem 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 the golden-tailed gecko
- constructive relationships are maintained with the Ghungalu people.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Species of conservation significance

Scientific name	Common name	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> status	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> status	Back on Track status
Animals				
<i>Strophurus taenicauda</i>	golden-tailed gecko	Near threatened	-	Medium