

K'gari (Fraser Island) Conditions Report

Everything is protected – plants, animals, natural and cultural features

Updated 18 January 2023

www.parks.des.qld.gov.au



Be dingo-safe!

- NEVER feed dingoes.
- Always stay within arm's reach of children, even small teenagers.
- Walk in groups and carry a stick.
- Do not run. Running or jogging can trigger a negative dingo interaction.
- Camp in fenced areas where possible.
- Lock up your food stores and iceboxes (even on a boat).
- Never store food or food containers in tents.
- Secure all rubbish, fish and bait.

Follow dingo safety advice provided with permits and on signs throughout the island.

Speed limits

- Unless otherwise signposted:
- 30km/h – inland roads
 - 40km/h – beach pedestrian areas
 - 80km/h – beach
 - 50km/h – Hook Point inland road

TIDE TIMES JANUARY

| | Time | m |
|---------|---------|------|
| 18 | 0511 | 1.84 |
| | 1138 | 0.87 |
| | WE 1642 | 1.36 |
| | 2247 | 0.50 |
| 19 | 0557 | 2.01 |
| | 1234 | 0.74 |
| | TH 1743 | 1.36 |
| | 2340 | 0.44 |
| 20 | 0642 | 2.18 |
| | 1324 | 0.62 |
| | FR 1840 | 1.40 |
| | 21 | 0033 |
| 0729 | | 2.33 |
| SA 1412 | | 0.51 |
| 1937 | | 1.46 |
| 22 | 0125 | 0.32 |
| | 0818 | 2.41 |
| | SU 1458 | 0.44 |
| | ● 2032 | 1.52 |
| 23 | 0216 | 0.33 |
| | 0909 | 2.42 |
| | MO 1545 | 0.43 |
| | 2126 | 1.55 |
| 24 | 0307 | 0.39 |
| | 0959 | 2.34 |
| | TU 1632 | 0.47 |
| | 2219 | 1.55 |
| 25 | 0356 | 0.52 |
| | 1047 | 2.20 |
| | WE 1718 | 0.55 |
| | 2312 | 1.54 |
| 26 | 0447 | 0.69 |
| | 1134 | 2.01 |
| | TH 1805 | 0.63 |
| | 27 | 0010 |
| 0543 | | 0.87 |
| FR 1219 | | 1.81 |
| 1852 | | 0.70 |
| 28 | 0120 | 1.55 |
| | 0654 | 1.02 |
| | SA 1306 | 1.62 |
| | 1942 | 0.74 |
| 29 | 0243 | 1.61 |
| | 0836 | 1.12 |
| | SU 1401 | 1.46 |
| | ● 2037 | 0.77 |
| 30 | 0359 | 1.70 |
| | 1025 | 1.11 |
| | MO 1512 | 1.34 |
| | 2133 | 0.78 |
| 31 | 0457 | 1.79 |
| | 1150 | 1.04 |
| | TU 1628 | 1.27 |
| | 2224 | 0.77 |

FEBRUARY

| | | |
|---|---------|------|
| 1 | 0543 | 1.88 |
| | 1238 | 0.96 |
| | WE 1740 | 1.27 |
| | 2311 | 0.74 |



Caution: Moon Point to Towoi Creek—soft boggy sand and deep creek crossings; potentially dangerous.

Caution: Eastern beach may be impassable during higher than normal tides combined with large ocean swell.

Caution: Deep wash-outs at mouth of Eli Creek. Beach passable 2 hours either side of low tide.

Caution: Beach is only passable at low tide.

Caution: Look and listen for aircraft landing and taking off on the eastern beach.

Mobile phone reception is limited. Contact your mobile network provider for service coverage.

Campfires are prohibited on QPWS managed areas of Fraser Island (except in fire rings at Dundubara and Waddy Point camping areas)

Marine wildlife including sharks and marine stingers are present in the waters off Fraser Island. Swimming is not recommended.

Legend

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Recreation area | Central Lakes scenic drive | Ranger station |
| 4WD track | Southern Lakes scenic drive | Camping |
| Walking track | Lake Garawongera scenic drive | Barge landing |
| No vehicle zone—hazardous beach | Northern Forests scenic drive | Police station |
| Great Walk | Beach camping area | Ambulance |

Mar 2016, Oct 2016

While this information was prepared with care and based on the best available information at the time it is indicative only. Visitors are reminded that conditions change constantly due to climatic fluctuations and other factors. No liability is accepted by the Queensland Government for any decisions or actions taken on the basis of this information.



GENERAL ALERTS

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) continues to monitor and receive guidance from the Government in relation to COVID-19 health and safety information. All visitors should practice social distancing, and hygiene protocols.

- **Fire Prohibition:** Open fires must not be lit on QPWS managed areas of K'gari, except in fire rings at Dundubara and Waddy Point camping areas where visitors must supply their own clean, untreated milled timber for firewood. Bring fuel or gas stoves for cooking.
- **Swimming:** Swimming in the ocean off K'gari is not recommended and is undertaken at own risk. The beaches of K'gari are unpatrolled with strong ocean currents – drownings have occurred. Take care around all lakes and creeks and at rocky shores with unpredictable waves, depth can be unpredictable, avoid submerged vegetation. Even a great swimmer can get into trouble - **always swim with a buddy.**
- **Marine stingers:** Marine stingers and other dangerous marine life are present, especially during the summer months, in the waters off K'gari and the Great Sandy Strait. Marine stingers can cause serious injury or death. Swimming is not recommended.
- **Beach driving – low tide only:** Exposed beaches on K'gari are experiencing very large tides with some sections of the beach impassable within 2 hours either side of high tide. Motorists should always exercise caution, and plan to travel only at low tide if safe to do so. Driving over vegetated sand dunes is dangerous and prohibited.
- **Stay safe at Lake Wabby:** DANGER –Running, jumping, boarding, sliding down the dunes or diving into the lake can cause serious injury or death. Serious spinal injuries have occurred, as a result of these activities.
- **Sandy Cape Turtle Season vehicle restriction:** Vehicles are prohibited on the beach between South Ngkala Rocks and Sandy Cape Lighthouse between the hours of 6pm to 6am, from 15 November 2022 to 31 March 2023.

TRACK AND BEACH CONDITIONS

Remember: Sand tracks are only suitable for high clearance four-wheel drive vehicles with low-range capacity. All-wheel drive vehicles, low-clearance trailers and caravans are not recommended. Heavy and prolonged rain can potentially cause localised washouts and minor flooding on the inland roads. Take extra caution on the inland roads and account for longer estimated travel times in your trips. Always drive to the conditions [Driving on sand safety guide \(PDF, 2MB\)](#)

- **Ngkala and Browns rocks:** due to changing conditions; both may be impassable - please exercise caution and travel only 1 hour each side of low tide.
- **Northern Scenic Road:** partial closure from the junction of Bullock link Road and Northern Road, and Woralie Road and Northern Road. A detour is in place via Bullock link Road and Woralie Road.
- **Eastern and Western beaches:** conditions change daily with the tides. Exposed coffee rock, eroded beaches, logs, beach debris and wash outs are common hazards.
- **Ungowa boat ramp is closed to all traffic:** access via boat to facilities is currently unsafe.
- **Cornwells Road (between Wabby scenic Rd and Northern Rd):** will be closed to heavy traffic from 31st July until further notice for maintenance and repairs.
- **Middle Rocks access ramp:** Maintenance works have been scheduled for the access ramp to Champagne Pools, the ramp will be closely monitored and minor repairs undertaken until works commence.

WALKING TRACK CONDITIONS

- **Tukkee Wurro (Indian Head) walking track:** Access to Tukkee Wurro (Indian Head) walking track is closed until further notice.
- **Northern Scenic Walking Track:** Access to the Northern Forests walking track is closed until further notice.
- **K'gari Great Walk Seasonal Advanced Bookings Restriction:** As a result of high fire danger conditions typically experienced on K'gari over the warmer months, a seasonal restriction on bookings is implemented yearly from **1 November to 28 February**. Conditions will be monitored and when favourable bookings will be made available in two-week blocks to reduce any impact on visitors if walking tracks are closed at short notice. High fire danger conditions pose an

unacceptable risk to the safety of walkers in remote areas and other walking tracks may be closed at short notice.

For your safety, please do not enter closed areas and observe all signage and directions from Rangers.

View <http://www.des.qld.gov.au/parks/fraser/> for further updates.

WONGARI (DINGO) WARNINGS: BE DINGO-SAFE!

Give wongari (dingoes) space, K'gari is their place. View wongari from at least 20 metres away. **It is illegal to disturb or feed wongari, which includes attracting them with food or food waste. On K'gari, increased maximum fines of \$11,500 and on-the-spot fines of \$2,300 are now in place for people who break the law and engage in this dangerous behaviour.**

Feeding wongari is wrong. Due to a few people feeding or behaving inappropriately some wongari have become habituated. These wongari are less likely to learn essential survival skills and are more likely to be struck by vehicles or show aggression towards people. [Wongari \(Dingo\) Safety Guide](#)

An increase in dingo-human interactions is expected during the summer holiday season. This is a particularly important time for juvenile wongari (dingoes) to test their strength, learn essential survival skills and to avoid habituation towards people. Juveniles will quickly learn bad habits such as stealing food around camp sites instead of learning natural hunting skills.

Summer means:

- Juvenile wongari (dingoes) are learning pack rules through play and showing aggressive behaviour to gain dominance.
- Young wongari (dingoes) may try to dominate people, especially children.

Remember Give dingoes space, K'gari is their place! **Let young dingoes grow up wild - not reliant on handouts. Do not feed dingoes or leave food available. Every time a dingo receives food from people, its chance of survival is reduced.**

Visitors, tour operators and residents are advised to be dingo-safe! on K'gari. It is recommended that families with young children camp in fenced QPWS camping areas at Lake Boomanjin, Central Station, Cornwells, Eli, One Tree, Wongai, Dundubara and Waddy Point, or at fenced private camping areas at Dilli Village or Cathedral Beach.

- **Never feed dingoes.**
- **Always stay close (within arm's reach) of children and young teenagers.**
- **Always walk in groups and carry a stick.**
- **Camp in fenced areas where possible.**
- **Do not run. Running or jogging can trigger a negative wongari interaction.**
- **Lock up food stores and iceboxes (even on a boat).**
- **Never store food or food containers in tents.**
- **Secure all rubbish, fish, and bait.**
- **No food to lakeshores.**

Areas of concern – Hook Point barge landing, Eli Creek, Maheno, Waddy Point beachfront, Orchid Beach, Wathumba and Sandy Cape. Due to increased human-wongari interactions, extra vigilance is required in these areas.

If you feel threatened by a wongari – STAY CALM; maintain eye contact, remain standing and do not turn your back on the wongari; alert other people; back away to a safe area, preferably a vehicle or fenced area.

Report wongari interactions or people feeding wongari – Photos and videos may assist us; take note of location, ear-tag colour, number, and which ear. Email dingo.ranger@des.qld.gov.au, tell a ranger, or phone (07) 4127 9150. For emergencies requiring urgent medical assistance, call 000 immediately.

TEMPORARY CLOSURES CAMPING AND DAY-USE AREAS

- **McKenzies Jetty:** Due to management activities McKenzies Jetty and access roads to the jetty, will be closed until further notice.