

# Expedition Regional Park Management Statement

## Park purpose

Expedition was formerly gazetted as Expedition Resources Reserve in 1992 under the *Lands Act 1962*. In 1994 it was gazetted to Expedition Resources Reserve under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

The park purpose identified as part of the gazettal was to enable access to mineral resources while protecting the area's natural values. This regional park is declared as a resource use area to enable access to mineral resources to continue.

Park size	2930ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Banana Shire Council
State electorate	Callide
QPWS region	South West
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

## Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Expedition Regional Park has been assessed as having a basic level of 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 basic level priority means that it will receive annual routine inspections with occasional planned visits where issues have been identified. The focus is largely expected to be on natural and mineral resource management involving a proactive management 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). 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 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 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 six regional ecosystems, one of which has endangered biodiversity status and two are of concern, Table 1.

### Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this park includes one 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*.

## Resource Use

The resources identified from the area include petroleum. Two petroleum leases include components of this regional park (PL 232 and PL 100). Grazing is currently approved to be undertaken on Expedition Regional Park and there is a current lease (SL36/25613).

## Priorities for park management

The three regional ecosystems, the bird species of conservation significance and mineral resources 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 these regional ecosystems and species of conservation significance
- access to mineral resources continues.

## 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
11.9.4a	Semi-evergreen vine thicket, generally dominated by a low tree layer (5-10m high) which is floristically diverse and variable. Vines are frequent. The ground layer is very sparse, and is most frequently composed of <i>Ancistrachne uncinulata</i> and <i>Eragrostis megalosperma</i> . Occurs on steep upper and middle slopes where heavy clay soils have formed from sediments.	Endangered

**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>Merops ornatus</i> <sup>3</sup>	rainbow bee-eater	Special least concern	-	Low

<sup>1</sup>Bonn: Bonn Convention

<sup>3</sup>JAMBA: Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

<sup>2</sup>CAMBA: China-Australia Migratory Agreement

<sup>4</sup>ROKAMBA: Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement