

Keppel Sands Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Keppel Sands Regional Park was formally gazetted as Keppel Sands Environmental Park in 1975, under the *Land Act 1962*. At that time there was a Trustee Agreement with Livingstone Shire Council. In 1994 the environmental park was gazetted to Keppel Sands Conservation Park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

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

Park size	48.9ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Livingstone Shire Council
State electorate	Keppel
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, Keppel Sands 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 Service, (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 relatively low levels of visitor use and has no developed 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.

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.

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

The park protects two regional ecosystems, both of which have a biodiversity status of no concern at present.

Species of conservation significance

There are currently no records of species of conservation significance on Queensland Government wildlife databases for this park.

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 cultural heritage will be managed in accordance with the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

Priorities for park management

The priorities for park management will be fire and pest management.

Management actions will be undertaken which aim to ensure:

- life and property on and adjacent to the park protected
- fire is managed to conserve or maintain the condition of 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 regional ecosystems.