

Townsville Town Common Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Townsville Town Common Regional Park was formally gazetted as Townsville Town Common Environmental Park in 1983. The parcel was then gazetted as Townsville Town Common Conservation Park in 1994.

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

Park size	3301ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Townsville City Council
State electorate	Townsville
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, Townsville Town Common Regional Park has been assessed as having a high 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 published information. The high level means that it will receive a minimum of monthly routine inspections with occasional planned visits to deliver prepared work programs and respond to issues. The focus is largely expected to be on natural resource and visitor management involving a proactive management effort at a high level to understand or protect known values.

Cultural values will be managed proactively to protect those values known to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, (QPWS). Continuing engagement, consultation, collaboration and relationships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous stakeholders will be undertaken.

This park currently has high levels of visitor use and provides a variety of visitor sites including a range of tracks for mountain bikes and walkers. A number of lookouts and bird hides are provided. The public may opportunistically have contact with rangers who are likely to be on site undertaking a range of protection and presentation tasks. A high level of necessary infrastructure is provided especially at established visitor sites to cater for existing levels and patterns of use. High quality on-site visitor information is provided at key sites and attractions. Information on the park is available on the Departmental website.

Public consultation on park management will be undertaken through continuing engagement and involvement in management with community stakeholders.

Infrastructure is provided especially for visitor access, the protection of natural and cultural values and to enhance management capacity. An 11 kV power line transects this regional park.

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

The park protects 17 regional ecosystems, of which five have of concern biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include 39 bird and one mammal 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. Cultural records on physical artefacts and sites of spiritual significance are 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*.

The Cape Pallarenda Quarantine Station is listed on the State Heritage Register.

Marine protected areas

The Townsville Town Common Regional Park adjoins a conservation park zone of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park. A conservation park zone aims to provide a high level of protection for marine landscapes therefore extractive uses and works are limited. Any person wishing to conduct activities in this zone must comply with the *Marine Parks Act 2004*.

The Townsville Town Common Regional Park is within and adjoining the Bohle River declared Fish Habitat Area (FHA) management B area, which may constrain development activities. This declaration under the *Fisheries Act 1994* requires that activities on the regional park must consider impacts on the FHA. Approval is required before development can commence, unless authorised under a self-assessable code. Development works may include on-park activities such as construction of boardwalks and bird hides.

Priorities for park management

The five regional ecosystems and 40 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 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 regional ecosystems and animal species of conservation significance
- consideration of the impacts on the declared FHA is undertaken when planning and conducting fire or pest management activities on the park in accordance with the FHA code of practice.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
11.2.2	Complex of <i>Spinifex sericeus</i> , <i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i> and <i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> grassland and herbland on fore dunes	Of concern
11.3.27x1a	Palustrine wetland (e.g. vegetated swamp). Sedgeland to grasslands on old marine planes. Trees and large shrubs are generally absent. Occurs in depressions on Quaternary estuarine deposits which are seasonally inundated with fresh water.	Of concern
11.3.31	<i>Ophiuros exaltatus</i> , <i>Dichanthium</i> spp. grassland on alluvial plains	Of concern
11.12.16	Mixed low woodland to shrubland on igneous rocks. Coastal hills	Of concern
11.12.16x1	Grassland with scattered shrubs to low very open scrub. Occurs on rhyolite or granite hills, headlands and islands.	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>Acrocephalus australis</i> ¹	Australian reed-warbler	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Apus pacificus</i> ²³⁴	fork-tailed swift	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Ardea ibis</i> ²³	cattle egret	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Ardea modesta</i> ²³	eastern great egret	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Calidris acuminata</i> ¹²³⁴	sharp-tailed sandpiper	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Calidris canutus</i> ¹²³⁴	red knot	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i> ¹²³⁴	curlew sandpiper	Special least concern	Critically endangered	Low
<i>Calidris ruficollis</i> ¹²³⁴	red-necked stint	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i> ¹²³⁴	great knot	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i> ²³⁴	white-winged black tern	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Coracina tenuirostris</i> ²	cicadabird	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Cuculus optatus</i> ²³⁴	oriental cuckoo	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Erythrotriochis radiatus</i>	red goshawk	Endangered	Vulnerable	High
<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	beach stone-curlew	Vulnerable	-	High
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> ¹²³⁴	Latham's snipe	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Grus antigone</i> ²	sarus crane	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> ²	white-bellied sea-eagle	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> ²³⁴	white-throated needle-tail	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> ²³	Caspian tern	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Limosa lapponica</i> ¹²³⁴	bar-tailed godwit	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Limosa limosa</i> ¹²³⁴	black-tailed godwit	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Merops ornatus</i> ³	rainbow bee-eater	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Monarcha melanopsis</i> ¹	black-faced monarch	Special least concern	-	Low

Scientific name	Common name	Nature Conservation Act 1992 status	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 status	Back on Track status
<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i> ¹	satin flycatcher	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i> ¹²³⁴	eastern curlew	Near threatened	Critically endangered	Low
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i> ¹²³⁴	whimbrel	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Pandion cristatus</i> ¹	eastern osprey	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> ¹²	glossy ibis	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i> ¹²³⁴	Pacific golden plover	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ¹²³⁴	grey plover	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian painted snipe	Vulnerable	Endangered	Medium
<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i> ¹	rufous fantail	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Sterna albifrons</i> ¹²³⁴	little tern	Special least concern	-	High
<i>Sterna hirundo</i> ²³⁴	common tern	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Symposiachrus trivirgatus</i> ¹	spectacled monarch	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	echidna	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Tringa brevipes</i> ¹²³⁴	grey-tailed tattler	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Tringa nebularia</i> ¹²³⁴	common greenshank	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> ¹²³⁴	marsh sandpiper	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Xenus cinereus</i> ¹²³⁴	terek sandpiper	Special least concern	-	Low

¹Bonn: Bonn Convention³JAMBA: Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement²CAMBA: China-Australia Migratory Agreement⁴ROKAMBA: Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement