

Amamoor National Park Management Statement 2013

Park size:	38ha
Bioregion:	South Eastern Queensland
QPWS region:	Sunshine and Fraser Coast
Local government estate/area:	Gympie Regional Council
State electorate:	Callide

Legislative framework

✓	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>
✓	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i>
✓	<i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)</i>
✓	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>

Plans and agreements

✓	Bonn Convention
✓	China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
✓	Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
✓	Republic of Korea–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
✓	Southern Macadamia species recovery plan

Thematic strategies

✓	Level 2 fire management strategy
✓	Level 2 pest management strategy

Vision

Amamoor National Park will be managed to conserve its high biodiversity values including threatened regional ecosystems, plants and animals. Management will maintain natural regeneration and biodiversity processes and offer low impact recreation activities that can be undertaken by self-reliant visitors.

Cultural heritage values will also be protected.

Conservation purpose

Originally Amamoor Forest Reserve, Amamoor National Park was gazetted on June 2006 as an outcome of South East Queensland Forests Agreement. The area was transferred to conserve significant stands of near threatened giant ironwood *Choricarpia subargentea*. The vulnerable macadamia nut trees *Macadamia integrifolia* have provided a point for research on the park in the past.

Protecting and presenting the park's values

Landscape

Amamoor National Park is part of the Mary River catchment and is essentially an isolated pocket of natural vegetation. Neighbours include State forest hoop pine plantation, managed by Forestry Plantations Queensland as well as grazing and small acreage farming. Part of the neighbouring State forest is also managed by Queensland Parks Wildlife Service (QPWS).

Selective harvesting occurred in the area during the 1900s, for timber such as hoop pine *Araucaria cunninghamii* and red cedar *Toona ciliata*. Numerous access tracks were established during this period, leaving the area quite

fragmented. To minimise erosion impacts from motorised vehicles in erosion prone areas, signs will direct visitors to tracks identified as more likely to withstand use. Amamoor National Park will be managed primarily for conservation values.

Most of the properties surrounding the national park have been cleared in the past, or are currently in the process of being cleared, predominantly through lantana *Lantana camara* control programs and forestry practices.

Regional ecosystems

Three regional ecosystems have been mapped on the estate which provide habitat for plant and animal species of conservation significance.

Eighty per cent of the park is covered by regional ecosystem 12.11.10/12.11.11—dense notophyll/ microphyll vine forest, with hoop pine *Araucaria cunninghamii*. The remainder consists of:

- 12.11.3a—an open-forest of brush box *Lophostemon confertus* +/- tallowwood *Eucalyptus microcorys*, small-fruited grey gum *E. propinqua*, white mahogany *E. carnea*, mountain grey gum *E. major* and ironbark *E. siderophloia*
- 12.11.3—open forest generally with *Eucalyptus siderophloia*, *E. propinqua* on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics.

These occur in gullies and exposed ridges of Palaeozoic and older moderately to strongly deformed and metamorphosed sediments and interbedded volcanics.

Native plants and animals

No detailed species list exists for the national park. Previous records have been collected for the adjoining State forest but future studies are required to ascertain accurate information. State forest records suggest 162 fauna and 60 flora species have occurred on the park, 16 of which are species of conservation significance (Table 2). A recovery plan exists for the macadamia nut tree *Macadamia integrifolia*.

Aboriginal culture

The extent of occupation and the degree of its cultural significance to Traditional Owners remains largely unknown to QPWS. The Sunshine Coast Burnett area still holds high importance to Aboriginal people and there are many sites of Aboriginal cultural importance across the region. Site records in the surrounding region include Aboriginal burials, middens and canoe trees but none have been recorded for the park as it has never been formally surveyed.

Opportunities exist to improve relationships with local Traditional Owner groups and involve them in park management.

Shared-history culture

Forestry practices played a major part in the previous land use of Amamoor National Park and the surrounding area. Impacts from the removal of timber on Amamoor National Park are quite low due to the topography and difficulty accessing the area. A research camp providing an area of study for the macadamia nut tree, once located on the park, has been removed.

Tourism and visitor opportunities

Visitor use of the national park is low. Steep terrain, vegetation and surrounding private properties limit access for recreational opportunities. The main recreational use is by four-wheel drive vehicles and trail bike enthusiasts who are attracted by the semi-remote ruggedness of the landscape, as well as walkers for the bushwalking opportunities. The management intent is to retain the natural condition for the use of self-reliant visitors. Existing tracks will be maintained for management purposes. Signs will be used to direct visitors to the most suitable tracks to minimise erosion impacts from motorised vehicles in areas which are erosion prone. The Gympie Music Muster is held annually in the Amamoor State Forest approximately six kilometres (km) from the national park.

Education and science

Three current scientific purpose permits exist, separately for plant and animal species including fungus, lichens and mosses. Further studies will close gaps in species lists, population and population trends.

Partnerships

Cooperative partnerships are maintained with Forestry Plantations Queensland Pty Ltd, Gympie Regional Council, neighbours and rural fire authorities regarding shared issues such as fire and pest management.

Other key issues and responses

Pest management

Lantana *lantana camara*, groundsel *Baccharis halimifolia*, silver leaf desmodium *Desmodium uncinatum*, weedy sporobolus grasses, mistflower *Ageratina riparia*, molasses grass *Melinis minutiflora*, castor oil plant *Ricinus communis*, cat's claw creeper *Macfadyena unguis-cati* and camphor laurel *Cinnamomum camphora* are present on the park but impacts are not significant. Feral pigs *Sus scrofa* have been spotted in the area but no recent sightings have been confirmed, wild dogs *Canis lupus familiaris*, red deer *Cervus elaphus*, feral cats *Felis catus* and foxes *Vulpes vulpes* known to be within the national park in relatively low numbers. A current Level 2 pest management strategy exists for Amamoor National Park and includes the State forest.

Fire management

Due to the fire-intolerant vine forest communities and the majority of the national park being fire sensitive, care must be taken to avoid fire management practices that put them at risk. Careful fire management, including prudent planned burning intervals and wild fire exclusion is required for this area. A Level 2 fire management strategy exists for Amamoor National Park.

Management directions

Desired outcomes	Actions and guidelines
Native plants and animals Ecosystem health and species diversity are identified and maintained.	A1. Survey areas where knowledge gaps exist or data is considered to be outdated.
Pest management Pest management improves the integrity of communities and species.	A2. Investigate the occurrence of pest plants and the extent of infestations and undertake management where possible and appropriate.
Fire management Fire is managed to protect habitats and ecosystem services.	A3. Identify wildfire exclusion strategies in consultation with neighbours and assess if additional measures are required.
Aboriginal culture Traditional Owners have meaningful involvement with park management planning and direction.	A4. Encourage Traditional Owners to identify and document values, sites, artefacts and places of cultural heritage significance so that management strategies and decisions relating to fire regimes, access and track maintenance minimise potential threats to these values.

Tables – Conservation values management

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
	None of endangered or of concern status identified.	

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
Plants				
<i>Choricarpia subargentea</i>	giant ironwood	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Macadamia integrifolia</i>	macadamia nut	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	-
Animals				
<i>Adelotus brevis</i>	tusked frog	Vulnerable	-	Medium
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	glossy black-cockatoo	Vulnerable	-	-
<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i>	spotted-tailed quoll (southern subspecies)	Vulnerable	Endangered	High
<i>Lewinia pectoralis</i>	Lewin's rail	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey-headed flying-fox	Least concern	Vulnerable	Critical
<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>	black-breasted button quail	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Critical

Table 3: Species listed in international agreements

Scientific name	Common name	Bonn	CAMBA	JAMBA	ROKAMBA
<i>Ardea ibis</i>	cattle egret	-	✓	✓	-
<i>Coracina tenuirostris</i>	cicadabird	-	-	✓	-
<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i>	monarch butterfly	✓	-	-	-
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	white-throated needletail	-	✓	✓	✓
<i>Merops ornatus</i>	rainbow bee-eater	-	-	✓	-
<i>Monarcha melanopsis</i>	black-faced monarch	✓	-	-	-
<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	rufous fantail	✓	-	-	-
<i>Symposiarchus trivirgatus</i>	spectacled monarch	✓	-	-	-

Bonn: Bonn Convention

CAMBA: China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

JAMBA: Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

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