

Mount Pinbarren National Park

Management Statement

2013



Prepared by: **Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS), Department of Environment, Science and Innovation**

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The Mount Pinbarren National Park Management Statement 2013 has been extended in 2024 in line with the Queensland *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (s120G). Minor amendments have been made. There has been no change to the statement's original management intent and direction.

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Park size:	22.7ha
Bioregion:	South Eastern Queensland
QPWS region:	Sunshine and Fraser Coast
Local government estate/area:	Noosa Shire Council
State electorate:	Noosa

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

✓	Coxen's Fig-Parrot <i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma</i> Recovery Plan 2001–2005
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Vision

Mount Pinbarren National Park will be managed primarily to conserve the significant Araucarian complex microphyll vine forest and to maintain viable populations of noteworthy plant and animal species, including habitat for the endangered Coxen's fig parrot. The park will continue to be a prominent natural scenic backdrop to the surrounding modified landscape.

Conservation purpose

Mount Pinbarren National Park was originally declared in 1929 under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975*. The original reason for declaration is currently unknown. In 1994 the park was gazetted a national park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* in order to protect the of concern notophyll vine forest communities of the South East Queensland bioregion. The park conserves an island of natural vegetation containing hoop pine *Araucaria cunninghamii*. The Araucarian notophyll vine forest is unusual in the region, as many of the species are representative of dry rainforest. This small national park comprises the peak of Mount Pinbarren—a prominent feature rising above the surrounding landscape.

Protecting and presenting the park's values

Landscape

Mount Pinbarren is an isolated conical knoll of volcanic origin rising above a mostly flat, cleared landscape with a steep ascent consisting of loose rocks and boulders. The mountain is a small plug of basalt and much of it has a rocky substrate. Mount Pinbarren is a natural vegetated island surrounded by cleared lands of farms and acreage. The prominent outline of hoop pines stand tall above other species on the mountain and the peak represents a scenically important landmark for the area (Australian Heritage Places Inventory, 2012).

The current condition of landscape values of the park is uncertain. The levels of erosion and pest plants is unknown as access for management is limited due to the park being surrounded by private property and the steep terrain.

Regional ecosystems

The park contains one regional ecosystem that is of concern—12.8.13, araucarian complex microphyll vine forest on Cainozoic igneous rocks. The araucarian microphyll vine forest is unusual in the district as many of the species are representative of dry rainforest. Other noteworthy species present include *Olea paniculata*, *Ophioglossum pendulum*, *Hodgkinsonia oratiflora*, *Calophanoides hygrophiloides* and *Tragia novaehollandiae* (Australian Heritage Places Inventory, 2012).

Native plants and animals

No comprehensive plant surveys have been done for the park. However it is known that the vulnerable jointed baloghia *Baloghia marmorata* and the vulnerable ball nut *Floydia praealta* have been recorded on Mount Pinbarren. *F. praealta* is only recorded in four protected areas in Queensland and less than 20 sites in South East Queensland in total. Of these 20 sites, one-quarter had less than three individual trees when sites were surveyed in 1994 (Borsboom and Wang, 1999). The current number of trees in the park requires confirmation.

The endangered Coxen's fig-parrot *Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni* has been sighted in the park. Coxen's fig-parrot is one of Australia's rarest and least known birds. Coxen's fig-parrot is cryptic and extremely difficult to see in its habitat and may therefore be more common than the number of sightings suggest. Within its range, Coxen's fig-parrot occurs wherever fig trees are present in lowland and upland forest types, riparian corridors, farmland and urban environments. It feeds primarily on the seeds of figs. The taxon has declined due, at least in part, to the clearing of lowland subtropical rainforest in South East Queensland and north-east New South Wales. Remaining habitat is fragmented and seasonal food shortages may occur. Conserving areas of undisturbed habitat that are large enough to allow it refuge from threatening processes, and that provide connectivity between occupied areas is critical to its survival (Coxen's fig-parrot *Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni* Recovery Plan 2001–2005).

Species listed under international treaties recorded for the park include spectacled monarch *Symposiarchus trivirgatus* and rufous fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons* (CMS), and the cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris* (Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement).

The animal values of Mount Pinbarren National Park are threatened from isolation and lack of connectivity with other forested areas.

Aboriginal culture

The park is covered by a native title claim (QC2013/003) on behalf of the Kabi Kabi First Nation. The Sunshine

Coast area still holds high importance to Aboriginal people and there are many sites of Aboriginal cultural importance. Site records in the area include Aboriginal burials, middens and canoe trees in the surrounding area 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

The area was selectively logged; otherwise the history of the park is not well known.

Tourism and visitor opportunities

There is very limited visitor use of the park. Surrounding private property, steep topography and thick vegetation make the park inaccessible. There are currently no facilities and it is not intended to manage the park for recreational use due to its small size and inaccessibility.

Partnerships

Landcare work has been undertaken with landowners to achieve corridors from Mount Pinbarren to other areas of remnant bushland. Landcare have also implemented camphor laurel *Cinnamomum camphora* removal from the eastern slopes of the mountain.

Other key issues and responses

Pest management

There is currently no pest management strategy in place for this park, nor is there a comprehensive list of pest species. Access for management purposes is limited due to the steep terrain, thick vegetation and surrounding private properties.

Fire management

There is currently no fire management strategy in place for this park. The araucarian notophyll vine forest relies on broad-scale management of surrounding country with numerous small fires throughout the year so that wildfires will be very limited in extent. It is fire sensitive and not normally flammable.

References

Australian Heritage Places Inventory 2012 <http://www.heritage.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahpi/record.pl?RNE8790>

Borsboom, A. and Wang, J. 1999. *Floydii praealta* Species Management Profile, QPWS, Brisbane.

Management directions

Desired outcomes	Actions and guidelines
<p>Landscape</p> <p>Connectivity between the park and other areas of remnant vegetation is improved. Suitable habitats are linked to help native species move across the landscape and adapt to climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Identify suitable land parcels for acquisition or other protection options (e.g. designating as nature refuges) to improve connectivity between the park and other areas of remnant and natural vegetation.</p> <p>Provide support for identifying suitable habitat in the surrounding landscape and work in partnership with local and adjacent property owners in promoting extension and linkages of important habitats for climate change affected species.</p>
<p>Native plants and animals</p> <p>Significant species and their habitats are identified and conserved.</p>	<p>Undertake plant and animal surveys to identify key species for the park and to guide future management.</p> <p>Establish management programs for species of management concern, including Coxen's fig-parrot and <i>Floydia praealta</i>.</p> <p>Implement the Coxen's Fig-Parrot Recovery Plan 2005 and any other recovery plans for identified species of conservation significance.</p>
<p>Cultural heritage</p> <p>The cultural history values of the park are known and recorded.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Investigate and record any shared-history cultural heritage values.</p>
<p>Pest management</p> <p>Wildlife populations and habitats of conservation significance are protected from pest species.</p>	<p>Develop a level 2 pest management strategy for the park in consultation with neighbours and the Noosa Shire Council.</p> <p>Manage pests in accordance with the QPWS pest management system and the operational policy – Management of Pests on QPWS-managed Areas.</p>
<p>Fire management</p> <p>Fire is managed to protect life and property, conserve natural and cultural values and minimise associated impacts. Knowledge of the effects of fire frequency, season and intensity is increased and contributes to better park management.</p>	<p>Develop and implement a fire management strategy in accordance with the QPWS fire management system in particular to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect noteworthy species, including <i>Baloghia marmorata</i> and <i>Floydia praealta</i> • protect fire-sensitive vegetation communities, including their margins, from damage by fire. <p>Liaise with park neighbours in regards to fire safety around their properties.</p>

Tables – Conservation values management

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
12.8.13	Araucarian complex microphyll vine forest on Cainozoic igneous rocks.	Of concern

Table 2: Species of conservation significance

Scientific name	Common name	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> status	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> status	Back on Track status
Plants				
<i>Baloghia marmorata</i>	jointed baloghia	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Medium
<i>Floydia praealta</i>	ball nut	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Medium
Animals				
<i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni</i>	Coxen's fig-parrot	Endangered	Endangered	Critical

Table 3: Species listed in international agreements

Scientific name	Common name	CMS	JAMBA	CAMBA	ROKAMBA
<i>Coracina tenuirostris</i>	cicada bird	-	-	✓	-
<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	rufous fantail	✓	-	-	-
<i>Symposiarchus trivirgatus</i>	spectacled monarch	✓	-	-	-

BONN (CMS) – Bonn Convention

CAMBA – China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

JAMBA – Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

ROKAMBA – Republic of Korea–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement