

Currimundi Lake (Kathleen McArthur) Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Currimundi Lake (Kathleen McArthur) Regional Park was formally gazetted as Currimundi Lake Environmental Park in 1975 under the *Land Act 1962*. At that time there was a Trustee Agreement with Caloundra County Council. In 1994 the environmental park was gazetted to Currimundi Lake Conservation Park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

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

Park size	51ha
Bioregion	South East Queensland
Local government area	Sunshine Coast Regional Council
State electorate	Kawana
QPWS region	Sunshine and Fraser Coast
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Currimundi Lake (Kathleen McArthur) 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. The park is named after Kathleen McArthur, a local artist, conservationist and founding member of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland (1962). Kathleen was passionate about wallum heathlands and campaigned to have these plant communities protected in the Sunshine Coast region. The heathland wildflowers were a favourite subject for her botanical illustrations.

This park currently has relatively moderate levels of visitor use and is popular with local residents for informal recreation. Visitors are unlikely to encounter a ranger on site during their visit. A moderate level of infrastructure is provided. The Coastal Pathway linking Caloundra and Point Cartwright on the west and north boundaries of the park, provides a multi-use recreational trail where dogs on leads are also permitted under regulatory notice. Other tracks on the park also provide local beach access. General park information is provided off-site, primarily through the Departmental website with some on site interpretive panels provided.

Public consultation on park management will be undertaken through ongoing local consultations with community stakeholders to support broad continuing management programs. The park has significant importance for the local community who typically have provided active support park management through volunteering initiatives including a Friends of Currimundi Lake group (FOCL). Strong relationships with the local Council are maintained particularly relating to recreational opportunities in vicinity.

Park assets are functional and robust and require limited maintenance to protect the natural and cultural values and management capacity.

The park is identified as an area containing unexploded ordinance (UXO) from military training exercises around WWII and has signs to alert the walking public.

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

The park protects four regional ecosystems, one of which has of concern biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include four plant and three animal 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*.

Priorities for park management

The of concern regional ecosystem, four plant and three 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 ecosystem 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 ecosystem and species of conservation significance
- visitor access to vulnerable points on the banks of Currimundi Lake is managed.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
12.2.7	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> or rarely <i>M.dealbata</i> open forest on sand plains	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
Plants				
<i>Acacia baueri</i> subsp. <i>baueri</i>	tiny wattle	Vulnerable	-	Medium
<i>Allocasuarina emuina</i>	-	Endangered	Endangered	Low
<i>Blandfordia grandiflora</i>	Christmas bells	Endangered	-	High

Scientific name	Common name	Nature Conservation Act 1992 status	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 status	Back on Track status
<i>Lobelia membranacea</i>	-	Near threatened	-	-
Animals				
<i>Calyptrorhynchus lathamii</i>	glossy black-cockatoo	Vulnerable	-	-
<i>Ornithoptera richmondia</i>	Richmond birdwing butterfly	Vulnerable	-	Critical
<i>Pezoporus wallicus wallicus</i>	ground parrot	Vulnerable	-	High