

Evelyn Creek Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Evelyn Creek Regional Park was formally gazetted as Evelyn Creek Conservation Park in 1999 under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

The park purpose is to preserve and protect a representative section of open forest at high altitude on the wet tropics ecotone.

Park size	620ha
Bioregion	Einasleigh Uplands
Local government area	Tablelands Regional Council
State electorate	Tablelands
QPWS region	Northern
Year prepared: 2015	Review date: 2025

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Evelyn Creek Regional Park has been assessed as having a basic level of priority for management and 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 basic level priority means it will receive annual routine inspections with occasional planned visits where issues have been identified. The focus will be on natural resource management involving proactive management to understand and protect known natural values.

Cultural values will be managed proactively to protect those values known to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, (QPWS). Informal ad-hoc local consultation, collaboration and relationships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous stakeholders will be undertaken as required to progress specific issues and programs. Evelyn Creek Regional Park is subject to a determination of native title for the Jirrbal People.

This park currently has low levels of infrequent visitor use and provides 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 and are primarily responsible for their own personal safety.

Informal ad-hoc consultation with community stakeholders will be undertaken on specific issues of park management.

Park assets will consist of minimal robust infrastructure which is required for the protection of natural and cultural values and self-reliant use by the public.

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

Evelyn Creek Regional Park protects five regional ecosystems, one of which has of concern biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

There are currently no records of species of conservation significance on Queensland Government wildlife databases for this park. Limited flora and fauna surveys have been conducted within 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. 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*.

Priorities for park management

The one of concern regional ecosystem, is the main value of this park. The priorities for park management will be to mitigate any threats to this value 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 this regional ecosystem.

Appendix 1

Conservation values inventory

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
9.3.15b	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> +/- <i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i> +/- <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. fringing woodland on channels and levees.	Of concern