

Bowling Green Bay Regional Park Management Statement

Park purpose

Bowling Green Bay Regional Park was formally gazetted as a conservation park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* in 2000.

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

Park size	3380ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt
Local government area	Townsville City Council Burdekin Shire Council
State electorate	Burdekin
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, Bowling Green 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.

This park currently has relatively low levels of visitor use and provides a few relatively undeveloped 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. A moderate level of infrastructure is provided to support safe and sustainable use by predominantly self-reliant visitors. General park information is provided off-site, primarily through the Departmental website.

Public consultation on park management will be undertaken through ongoing local consultations with community stakeholders to support broad continuing management programs.

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

General park values, uses and management

Regional ecosystems

The park protects 20 regional ecosystems of which seven have of concern biodiversity status, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include 22 bird species, 21 of these are listed in international agreements, 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*.

The lighthouse located in the park on Cape Cleveland is listed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

Marine protected areas

Bowling Green Bay Regional Park adjoins a general use zone of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park. A general use zone provides for conservation whilst still allowing reasonable use of the area to occur. Any person wishing to conduct activities in this zone must comply with the *Marine Parks Act 2004*.

Bowling Green Bay Regional Park is partially within and adjoins the Cleveland Bay declared Fish Habitat Area (FHA) management A area, which significantly constrains development activities. This declaration under the *Fisheries Act 1994* requires that activities on the regional park must consider potential 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.

Bowling Green Bay Regional Park is within the Bowling Green Bay Ramsar site.

Priorities for park management

The seven of concern regional ecosystems and 22 bird species of conservation significance, along with the built heritage are the main values of this park. The priorities for park management will be 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 and protection of the built heritage 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
11.3.4	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> and/or <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp. woodland on alluvial plains	Of concern
11.3.7	<i>Corymbia</i> spp. woodland on alluvial plains	Of concern
11.3.25b	Riverine wetland or fringing riverine wetland. Often occurs on coarse sand spits and levees within larger river channels.	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
11.3.27x1b	Palustrine wetland (e.g. vegetated swamp). Sedgeland to grasslands on Quaternary deposits. Trees and large shrubs are generally absent. Occurs on broad drainage depressions situated on old alluvial plains.	Of concern

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
11.3.31	<i>Ophiuros exaltatus</i> , <i>Dichanthium</i> spp. grassland on alluvial plains	Of concern
11.12.14	<i>Lophostemon</i> spp. woodland on igneous rocks. Coastal hills	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>Ardea ibis</i> ²³	cattle egret	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Ardea modesta</i> ²³	eastern great egret	Special least concern	-	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> ¹²³⁴	white-winged black-tern	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	beach stone-curlew	Vulnerable	-	High
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> ²	white-bellied sea-eagle	Special least concern	-	Low
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> ²³⁴	white-throated needletail	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>Merops ornatus</i> ³	rainbow bee-eater	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 squatarola</i> ¹²³⁴	grey plover	Special least concern	-	Low

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Scientific name	Common name	Nature Conservation Act 1992 status	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 status	Back on Track status
<i>Sternula albifrons</i> ¹²³⁴	little tern	Special least concern	-	High
<i>Symposiarchus trivirgatus</i> ¹	spectacled monarch	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