

Goomborian National Park and Goomborian National Park (Recovery)

Management Statement

2013



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

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The Goomboorian National Park and Goomboorian National Park (Recovery) 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:	1,828ha (NP) 5ha (NP Recovery)
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>Land Protection (Stock Route and Management) Act 2002</i>
✓	<i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)</i>
✓	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>

Plans and agreements

✓	Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
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Thematic strategies

✓	Level 2 Fire Management Strategy
✓	Level 2 Pest Management Strategy

Vision

Goomboorian National Park and Goomboorian National Park (Recovery) will be managed to protect their endangered and of concern regional ecosystems.

Conservation purpose

Both parks were gazetted in 2008 due to the area's high conservation values. The estate will be managed primarily to protect the significant regional ecosystems and their native plants and animals.

The national park covers an area of 1,828ha. The former Goomboorian Forest Reserve and Woondum Forest Reserve 2 were converted as part of the South East Queensland Forests Agreement to form the present Goomboorian National Park.

An area of 5ha in the park was gazetted national park (recovery) covering an existing management road running north to south within the park

Protecting and presenting the park's values

Landscape

Goomboorian National Park and Goomboorian National Park (Recovery) are located 15km east of Gympie, in the Gympie Regional Council area. The Gympie area is a scenic rural area with forested hills and mountain ranges in the higher parts of the Mary River catchment.

The national park is split into two sections, separated by 500m of freehold land and connected by Tristram Bath Road.

Regional ecosystems

Six regional ecosystems are represented on the two parks with two listed as endangered and two of concern (Table 1). The parks contain riparian corridors of vegetation which have regional biodiversity significance.

Native plants and animals

The two endangered and two of concern regional ecosystems contain several listed plant species, including the vulnerable quassia *Samadera bidwillii* and ball nut *Floydia praealta*. Around 50 per cent of the park is dominated by Gympie messmate *Eucalyptus cloeziana* forest, an endangered regional ecosystem (12.11.16). Gympie messmate was heavily logged in the past due to its valuable properties as a timber product.

Listed native animals include the endangered giant barred frog *Mixophyes iterates*; the vulnerable tussock frog *Adelotus brevis* and koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*; and the near threatened grey goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae* and black-necked stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* (Table 2).

Aboriginal culture

The parks are covered by a native title claim QC2013/003 on behalf of the Kabi Kabi First Nation. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) has no information on the extent of occupation and the degree of cultural significance of these parks to Traditional Owners. However the Sunshine and Fraser Coast area holds high importance to Aboriginal people and there are many sites of Aboriginal cultural importance across the region. Site records in the surrounding area include Aboriginal burials, middens and canoe trees.

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

Shared-history culture

The diverse and significant heritage associated with grazing, timber getting and the gold rush days of the Gympie area is still evident in many places often by structures located on protected areas. Two sites have been reported on Goomboorian National Park. These are High Hill fire tower (a four-pole timber fire tower) and Wolvi Forest Station site.

Tourism and visitor opportunities

Visitor use to the national park is currently low and tends to be predominantly local users, with 60–80 per cent of users being residents from the Gympie area and neighbours adjoining these reserves. The park provides bushwalking opportunities through the attractive forested hills. The management intent is to retain the natural

condition for the enjoyment of self-reliant visitors.

Recreational horse riding occurs in the park and is to be managed according to the South East Queensland Horse Riding Trail Network Management Plan 2011.

Unsuitable four-wheel-drive vehicle and trail bike use occurs at low levels throughout the park.

Education and science

Goomboorian National Park provides some educational and scientific opportunities related to its threatened species, high biodiversity and remnant status.

Partnerships

Cooperative partnerships are maintained with neighbours and rural fire authorities regarding shared issues such as fire, pest and infrastructure management.

Other key issues and responses

Eighteen apiary sites exist on the park; however historical use of them has been low.

Pest management

Regular baiting and monitoring of wild dogs occurs in the wider Gympie area. Feral pigs *Sus scrofa* have been reported in the area especially on nearby macadamia nut farms. Wild dogs *Canis familiaris*, red deer *Cervus elaphus*, feral cats *Felis catus* and foxes *Vulpes vulpes* are also known to be in the national park in low numbers. QPWS will continue to participate in the coordinated effort to mitigate the effects of wild dogs on the local animals and adjacent rural landholders. With an increased in residential development adjacent to protected areas, this issue will require continued management.

The impacts of pest plants are minimal in the parks. QPWS continually monitors the invasion of giant rats tail grass *Sporobolus pyramidalis* from neighbouring properties and infestations are sprayed when observed. Roadside spraying of lantana *Lantana camara* also occurs.

A current Level 2 Pest Management Strategy exists for Goomboorian National Park and is guiding management practices.

Fire management

A Level 2 Fire Management Strategy has been developed for Goomboorian National Park, which outlines suitable fire regimes for the estate. Current fire management strategies focus on reducing the fuel load, retaining floristic and structural diversity within the sclerophyll communities and protecting neighbouring properties.

Management directions

Desired outcomes	Actions and guidelines
<p>Landscape Catchment protection services are maintained.</p>	<p>Monitor changes in vegetation structure to identify potential erosion issues and mitigate impacts. Rationalise roads and firebreaks.</p>
<p>Native plants and animals Information on plant, animal and ecosystems is comprehensive and current.</p>	<p>Review currency of species records and conduct surveys where needed to inform management decisions. Review mapping of regional ecosystems and facilitate improvements to mapping refinements where needed.</p>
<p>Tourism and visitor opportunities The park is used and enjoyed by the public while retaining its natural character and values.</p>	<p>Monitor adverse impacts from illegal motorised use of parks and review options to prevent and mitigate the impacts. Monitor level of horse riding use.</p>
<p>Aboriginal culture Traditional Owners have meaningful involvement with park management planning and direction.</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>Shared-history culture Shared-history cultural values are identified and protected.</p>	<p>Encourage and support an assessment of the shared-history cultural values of the park.</p>
<p>Fire management Fire management practises conserve biodiversity values while protecting life and property.</p>	<p>Maintain positive relationships with neighbouring landholders to promote cooperative fire management.</p>
<p>Partnerships Impacts from cattle grazing on the park are managed effectively through cooperative relationships.</p>	<p>Work closely with neighbours to restrict encroachment of grazing stock on the park.</p>

Tables – Conservation values management

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
12.3.1	Gallery rainforest (notophyll vine forest) on alluvial plains	Endangered
12.11.16	Tall open forest with <i>Eucalyptus cloeziana</i> on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics	Endangered
12.3.2	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> tall open forest on alluvial plains	Of concern
12.3.11	<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> , <i>E. tereticornis</i> , <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> open forest on alluvial plains usually near coast	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>Floydia praealta</i>	ball nut	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Medium
<i>Fontainea rostrata</i>	Deep Creek fontainea	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Low
<i>Samadera bidwillii</i>	Quassia	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	-
<i>Senna acclinis</i>	rainforest senna	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Symplocos harroldii</i>	hairy hazelwood	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Symplocos stawellii</i> var. <i>montana</i>	-	Near threatened	-	Low
Animals				
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	grey goshawk	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Adelotus brevis</i>	tusked frog	Vulnerable	-	Medium
<i>Ehippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>	black-necked stork	Near threatened	-	Low
<i>Mixophyes iterates</i>	giant barred frog	Endangered	Endangered	Medium
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (South East Queensland bioregion)	koala	Vulnerable	-	-

Table 3: Species listed in international agreements

Scientific name	Common name	BONN	CAMBA	JAMBA	ROKAMBA
<i>Coracina tenuirostris</i>	cicadabird	-	-	✓	-

BONN (CMS) – Bonn Convention

CAMBA – China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

JAMBA – Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

ROKAMBA – Republic of Korea–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement