

Stones Country Resources Reserve

Management Statement 2015

Extended March 2026



**Queensland
Government**

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

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All due diligence and care has been taken in the preparation of this document based on the information in the 2015 management statement. The department holds no responsibility for any errors or omissions within this document. Any decisions made by other parties based on this document are solely the responsibility of those parties.

The Stones Country Resources Reserve Management Statement 2015 has been extended in 2026, in line with the Queensland *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (s120F). Minor amendments have been made. There has been no change to the statement's original management intent and direction.

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Park overview

Park size	Stones Country Resources Reserve	259.7ha
Bioregion	Brigalow Belt South	
QPWS region	South West	
Local government area	Western Downs Regional Council	
State electorate	Callide	
Relevant legislation	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)</i>	
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	
	<i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i>	

Park purpose

Stones Country Resources Reserve was formally gazetted as Stones Country Resources Reserve on 24 February 1990.

The reserve purpose was identified as part of the gazettal as enabling access to coal and coal seam gas reserves while providing protection for the Fitzroy River catchment.

This resources reserve is declared as a resource use area to enable access to mineral resources to continue. Under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the reserve is managed by joint trustees, the Chief Executive of the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation and the Chief Executive of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development.

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Stones Country Resources Reserve has been assessed as having a basic level of priority for management and will be managed according to this priority rating.

Reserve 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 is largely expected to be on natural and mineral 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 First Nations people and stakeholders will be undertaken as required to progress specific issues and programs.

This resources reserve currently has low levels of infrequent 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 and are primarily responsible for their own personal safety.

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

Resources reserve 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

Stones Country Resources Reserve protects seven regional ecosystems, one of which has endangered biodiversity status and one is of concern, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance recorded from this reserve include three plant species, Table 2.

Cultural heritage

All protected areas are recognised as cultural landscapes and First Nations 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*.

Resource Use

The resource interest in this parcel is based on coal, coal seam gas and petroleum exploration. Bentonite occurs in the area and may occur on the reserve.

Priorities for park management

The two regional ecosystems and three plant species of conservation significance are the main values of this reserve, as well as access to mineral resources. The priorities for reserve 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 reserve is protected
- fire is managed to conserve or maintain the condition of the regional ecosystems 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, plant and animal species of conservation significance.

Appendix

Conservation values management

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
11.7.1	<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> and/or <i>Casuarina cristata</i> and <i>Eucalyptus thozetiana</i> or <i>E. microcarpa</i> woodland on lower scarp slopes on Cainozoic lateritic duricrust	Of concern
11.9.4a	Semi-evergreen vine thicket or <i>Acacia harpophylla</i> with a semi-evergreen vine thicket understorey on fine-grained sedimentary rocks	Endangered

Table 2: Species of conservation significance

Scientific name	Common name	Nature Conservation Act 1992 status	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth) status
Plants			
<i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i>		Special Least Concern	
<i>Brachychiton rupestris</i>		Special Least Concern	
<i>Cadellia pentastylis</i>	ooline	Vulnerable	Vulnerable