

Calliope Conservation Park

Resource Information

2026



Queensland
Government

This document is a compendium of park information and a supporting document for the associated management instrument (management plan or management statement). Management instruments are prepared under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and include management direction for tenure which QPWS has management responsibility.

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1. Introduction

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), within the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI), applies a contemporary management process that is based on international best practice and targets management towards the most important features of each park: their key values.

The Values-Based Management Framework (VBMF) is an adaptive management cycle that incorporates planning, prioritising, doing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting into all areas of our business. This enables the agency to be more flexible and proactive and to improve management effectiveness over time.

This document is a compendium of park information and a supporting document for key values and level of service assessment reports or management plans and management statements. It contains background information about a park's purpose, values, resources and legal and administrative framework.

2. Park overview

The following figure and table (Figure 1, Table 1) provide an overview of information related to the Calliope Conservation Park included in this resource information document, including its locality, legislative framework and applicable plans/agreements.

Calliope Conservation Park is bounded to the north and south by Mount Stowe State Forest. Calliope Conservation Park lies approximately 22 kilometres west of the city of Gladstone via Hanson Road/State Route 58, and 23 kilometres south-east of Mount Larcom via Gladstone Mount Larcom Road/State Route 58. The park has limited access opportunities.

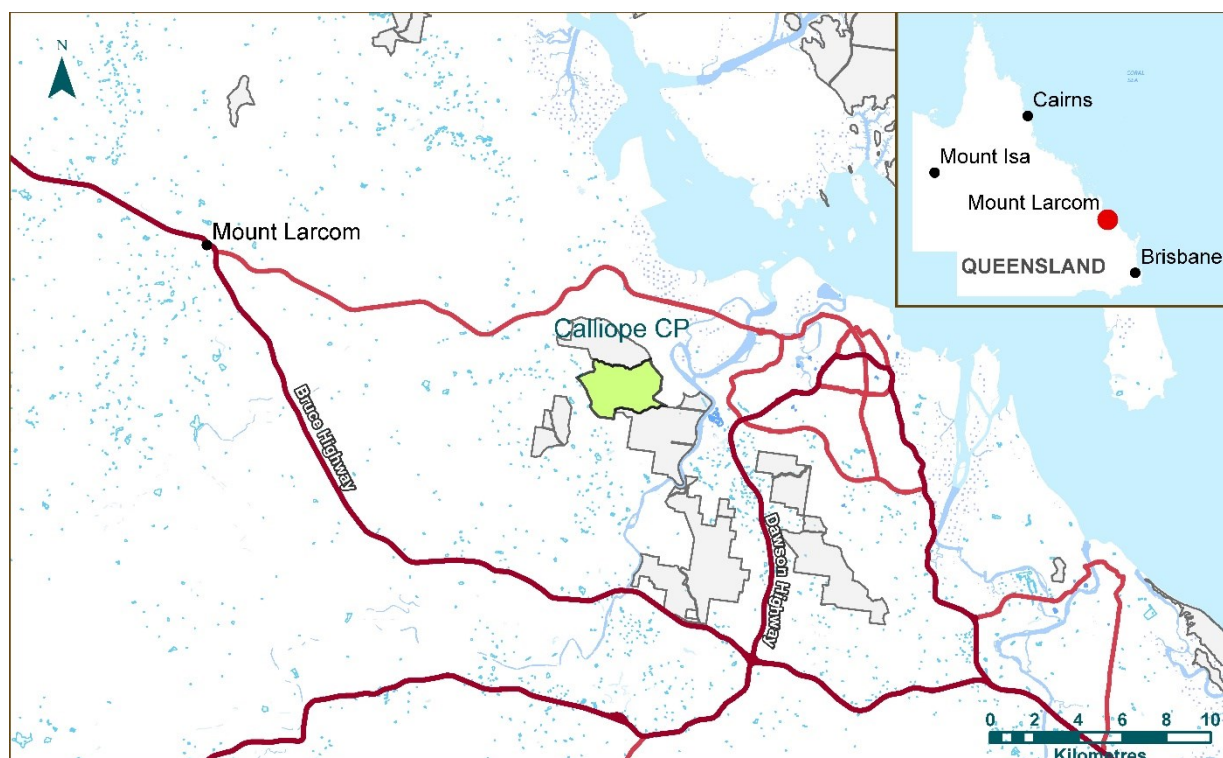


Figure 1. Locality of Calliope Conservation Park

Table 1. Overview of Calliope Conservation Park

Park size	Calliope Conservation Park	700.4 ha
Bioregion	South Eastern Queensland (90.6%); Brigalow Belt South (9.4%)	
QPWS region	Central	
Local government area	Gladstone Regional Council	
State electorate	Gladstone	
Relevant legislation	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	
	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i>	
	<i>Fire Services Act 1990</i>	
	<i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)</i>	
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NCA)</i>	
	<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>	
Plans and agreements	Planned Burn Guidelines Southeast Queensland Bioregion of Queensland 2012	
	Planned Burn Guidelines Brigalow Belt Bioregion of Queensland 2013	

3. Resource information

3.1 Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda Peoples

A registered native title determination exists over Calliope Conservation Park (QCD2017/010 – Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People).

Four Indigenous Land Use Agreements (QI2010/017, QI2012/092, QI2016/045 and QI2017/014) are in place over the park. These agreements relate to pipelines, petroleum and gas, and access and co-management.

3.2 Key value information

All parks, forest and reserves contain a range of natural, cultural, social and economic values that contribute to Queensland's protected area and forest estate. The VBMF provides a framework for identifying and protecting the most important of these—referred to as *key values*.

Based on an evaluation, the values of Calliope Conservation Park's do not reach the thresholds required to be considered a key value. The park, however, continues to contribute to the state's comprehensive and representative reserve system, providing protection for biodiversity, ecosystem services and connectivity within the landscape.

Park management will focus on sustaining the natural, cultural, social and economic values that support its importance as a protected area, ensuring that management aligns with the legislative and custodial obligations in relation to these values.

3.3 Other values

3.3.1 Eucalypt open forest

The Regional Ecosystem (RE) 12.11.17 (*Eucalyptus acmenoides* or *E. portuensis* open forest on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics) is a *Vegetation Management Act 1999* listed of concern RE and is present only in five protected areas and is generally poorly represented in Queensland's protected area and forest estate. Over 95% of this RE exists on privately owned land. It is estimated that less than 5,000 hectares of this RE remains, which is less than half of its original extent before clearing.

This RE is known potential habitat for several NCA listed flora species and is known to provide suitable habitat for koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*.

More information can be found in Section 3.6.2 below.

3.4 Ecosystems and biodiversity

Calliope Conservation Park consists of seven REs, including mixed REs, of which three are listed as of concern, and one is listed as endangered..

Small patches of non-remnant vegetation are present throughout the park, mostly in relation to high voltage (66 kV and 11 kV) power lines that cross the park and three 275 kV structures.

3.4.1 Woodland

Approximately 87% of Calliope Conservation Park is made up of a mixed RE:

- 12.11.6 – *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, *Eucalyptus crebra* woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics
- 12.11.14 – *Eucalyptus crebra*, *E. tereticornis*, *Corymbia intermedia* woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics.

The mixed RE 12.11.6/12.11.14 is 12.11.6 dominant (95/5). The dominant RE is listed as least concern under the VMA and is known potential habitat for threatened flora species including *Cycas megacarpa* and *Macrozamia parcifolia*. This ecosystem is known to provide suitable habitat for koalas *Phascolarctos cinereus*.

Two additional REs (11.3.4 – *Eucalyptus tereticornis* and/or *Eucalyptus* spp. woodland on alluvial plains; 12.3.3 – *Eucalyptus tereticornis* woodland on Quaternary alluvium) are present on the western and eastern boundaries of the park, respectively. Under the VMA, RE 11.3.4 is listed as of concern while RE 12.3.3 is endangered.

3.4.2 Open forest

The open forest of Calliope Conservation Park is limited to the western fringe of the park and comprises two mixed REs:

- 12.11.17/12.11.6/11.11.4a
 - 12.11.17 – *Eucalyptus acmenoides* or *E. portuensis* open forest on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics
 - 12.11.6 – *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, *Eucalyptus crebra* woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics
 - 11.11.4a – *Eucalyptus tereticornis* dominated woodland. Other tree species (*E. crebra*, *Corymbia citriodora*, *E. tereticornis*, *C. tessellaris*, *Lophostemon suaveolens*, *E. moluccana*) may occur as sub or co-dominant species. On undulating hills and low rises of metasediments. Not a Wetland
- 12.5.1/12.11.6
 - 12.5.1 – Open forest complex with *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata* on subcoastal remnant Tertiary surfaces. Usually deep red soils
 - 12.11.6 – *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, *Eucalyptus crebra* woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics.

The mixed RE 12.11.17/12.11.6/11.11.4a is 12.11.17 dominant (85/10/5). The dominant RE is listed as of concern under the VMA and has a biodiversity status listed as of concern. The dominant RE is known potential habitat for NCA listed species *Macrozamia parcifolia*, *Phebalium distans* and *Pomaderris clivicola*. This ecosystem is known to provide suitable habitat for koalas *Phascolarctos cinereus*.

The mixed RE 12.5.1/12.11.6 is 12.5.1 dominant (90/10). The dominant RE is listed as least concern under the VMA and has a biodiversity status of no concern at present. The dominant RE is known potential habitat for NCA listed species: *Bertya pedicellata*, *Caustis blakei* subsp. *macrantha*, *Eucalyptus taurina*, *Grevillea quadricauda*, *Lasiopetalum* sp. (Proston J.A.Baker 17), *Melaleuca formosa*, *Paspalidium grandispiculatum* and *Pomaderris clivicola*. This ecosystem is known to provide suitable habitat for koalas *Phascolarctos cinereus*.

3.5 Species

3.5.1 Native animals

The short-beaked echidna *Tachyglossus aculeatus* is listed as special least concern under the NCA and is on WetlandInfo as present in the park, with the most recent visual confirmation occurring in 2023.

3.5.2 Native plants

The NCA listed special least concern plant, *Macrozamia miquelii* and *Xanthorrhoea latifolia* subsp. *latifolia* are listed in the species records for the park in the department's WildNet Database and Wetland/Info Database respectively.

3.6 Geophysical features

Calliope Conservation Park sits in the Doonside Formation, categorised by chert, jasper, mudstone, siltstone, lithic sandstone, limestone and altered basalt. The dominant rock is arenite-mudrock.

3.7 Partnerships

QPWS works with community stakeholders to support broad continuing management programs.

3.7.1 Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink Queensland owns and manages transmission lines across Queensland, including the Gladstone region. Powerlink Queensland is responsible for maintaining the powerline easement, which includes activities such as slashing and mowing vegetation within the easement. High-voltage transmission lines cross the park from south-west to north-east.

3.8 Fire

Fire management is core responsibility of QPWS, focused on protecting life and property, reducing bushfire risks and maintaining natural diversity in accordance with the NCA and the *Fire Services Act 1990*.

3.8.1 Planned Burn Guidelines

Calliope Conservation Park straddles the ecotone of two bioregions, the South Eastern Queensland Bioregion on the eastern side of the park and the Brigalow Belt Bioregion on a small western portion of the park.

These bioregions are split along the two dominant REs of the park:

- 12.11.6 (*Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, *Eucalyptus crebra* woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics) to the centre and east, characterised by a 'woodland' structure; and
- 12.11.17 (*Eucalyptus acmenoides* or *E. portuensis* open forest on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics) to the west, characterised by an 'Open Forest' structure.

For the portion of Calliope Conservation Park falling within the South Eastern Queensland Bioregion, the Planned Burn Guidelines for eucalypt woodlands to open forests should be followed. Major fire management considerations in this group include loss of native grass cover, invasion by woody weeds and exotic grasses, and an overabundance of tree saplings in the mid-layer.

The Planned Burn Guidelines for the Brigalow Belt Bioregion for eucalypt forest and woodland should be followed for the western portion of the park. Key threats to this community include overabundant saplings in the mid-layer and exotic species such as rubber vine *Cryptostegia grandiflora* and invasive grasses.

3.8.2 Westowe Rural Fire Brigade

QPWS may undertake controlled burns with Westowe Rural Fire Brigade.

3.9 Pests

3.9.1 Pest plants

Lantana *Lantana camara* is known to be within the park. This pest plant forms dense thickets that prevent the movement of native fauna and increase fuel loads, potentially leading to more intense bushfires.

3.9.2 Pest animals

Evidence for feral pests such as pigs *Sus scrofa*, cats *Felis catus* and European foxes *Vulpes vulpes* has been found in Calliope Conservation Park, with recent sightings in 2023.

4. Bibliography

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5. Appendices

Appendix A. Policy and management commitments

Gazettal details

Originally gazetted as Calliope Forest Reserve in 2000, the park was gazetted as Calliope Conservation Park under the NCA in 2006.

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

Appendix B. Regional ecosystems of significance

Regional ecosystem	Description	Regional ecosystem class*	Biodiversity status**
11.3.4	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> and/or <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp. woodland on alluvial plains	Of concern	Of concern
12.3.3	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> woodland on Quaternary alluvium	Endangered	Endangered
12.11.14	<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i> , <i>E. tereticornis</i> , <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics	Of concern	Of concern
12.11.17	<i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i> or <i>E. portuensis</i> open forest on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics	Of concern	Of concern

* Vegetation Management Regional Ecosystem Description Database (VM REDD)

** Queensland Herbarium, Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD)

Appendix C. Species of conservation significance

Scientific name	Common name	NC Act status	EPBC Act status
Plants			
<i>Macrozamia miquelii</i>		Special least concern	-

Appendix D. Pests

Scientific name	Common name	Biosecurity Act 2014 status	Notes
Plants			
<i>Lantana camara</i>	lantana	Category 3 Restricted Invasive	Impacts: Forms dense thickets that smother native vegetation
Animals			
<i>Felis catus</i>	cat	Category 3, 4 and 6 Restricted Invasive	Impacts: - Preys upon wide range of native fauna - Competes for prey with native predators - Can carry toxoplasmosis that may be harmful to marsupials
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	pig	Category 3, 4 and 6 Restricted Invasive	Impacts: - Degrades wetlands resulting in reduced water quality, wetland extent and the abundance of endemic species - Direct predation of ground-nesting birds and small mammals
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	European fox	Category 3, 4, 5 and 6 Restricted Invasive	Impacts: - Direct predation of ground-nesting birds, turtles and small mammals - Significant threat to long-term survival of many small marsupial species - Competes with native predators