

Sandringham Bay Conservation Park

Management Statement 2015

Extended May 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 Sandringham Bay Conservation Park 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	Sandringham Bay Conservation Park	591ha
Bioregion	Central Mackay Coast	
QPWS region	Central	
Local government area	Mackay Regional	
State electorate	Mirani	
Relevant legislation	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)</i>	
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	
	<i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i>	
Plans and agreements	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)	
	China—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement	
	Japan—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement	
	Republic of Korea—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement	

Park purpose

Sandringham Bay Regional Park (now Sandringham Bay Conservation Park) was formally gazetted as Sandringham Bay Conservation Park in 2003 under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and covered 534.5ha. In 2007 the area of the park was increased to 591ha.

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

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Sandringham Bay Conservation 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 First Nations people and 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 low level of infrastructure is provided to support safe and sustainable use by predominantly self-reliant visitors.

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 12 regional ecosystems, five of which have endangered biodiversity status and six are of concern, Table 1.

Species of conservation significance

Species of conservation significance that are recorded from this park include the water mouse *Xeromys myoides*, whimbrel *Numenius Phaeopus* and pacific golden plover *Pluvialis fulva*, 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*.

Priorities for park management

The endangered and of concern regional ecosystems and three animal species of conservation significance are the main values of this park. The priorities for park 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 park 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 and animal species of conservation significance.

Appendix

Conservation values management

Table 1: Endangered and of concern regional ecosystems

Regional ecosystem number	Description	Biodiversity status
8.1.2	Samphire open forland on salt pans and plains adjacent to mangroves.	Of concern
8.1.3	<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i> tussock grassland on marine sediments.	Of concern
8.1.4	<i>Schoenoplectus subulatus</i> and/or <i>Eleocharis dulcis</i> sedgeland or <i>Paspalum vaginatum</i> tussock grassland.	Endangered
8.1.5	<i>Melaleuca</i> spp. and/or <i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> and/or <i>Corymbia tessellaris</i> woodland with a ground stratum of salt tolerant grasses and sedges, usually in a narrow zone adjoining tidal ecosystems.	Endangered
8.3.12	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> and/or <i>Sorghum nitidum forma aristatum</i> and/or <i>Ischaemum australe</i> tussock grassland on alluvial and old marine plains	Endangered
8.3.13a	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> and/or <i>Corymbia tessellaris</i> and/or <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. woodland on alluvial and marine plains, often adjacent to estuarine areas	Of concern
8.3.13c	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> and/or <i>Corymbia tessellaris</i> and/or <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. woodland on alluvial and marine plains, often adjacent to estuarine areas	Of concern
8.3.1b	Semi-deciduous to evergreen notophyll to mesophyll vine forest, +/- sclerophyll emergents, fringing or in the vicinity of watercourses	Of concern
8.3.2	<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i> woodland on seasonally inundated alluvial plains with impeded drainage.	Endangered
8.3.3a	<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i> and/or <i>M. fluviatilis</i> and/or <i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i> +/- <i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i> open forest on creek banks	Of concern
8.3.5	<i>Eucalyptus platyphylla</i> and/or <i>Lophostemon suaveolens</i> and/or <i>Corymbia clarksoniana</i> woodland on alluvial plains.	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
Animals			
<i>Xeromys myoides</i>	water mouse	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	whimbrel	Special Least Concern	
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific golden plover	Special Least Concern	

Table 3: Species listed in international agreements

Scientific name	Common name	CMS	CAMBA	JAMBA	ROKAMBA
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	whimbrel	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific golden plover	✓	✓	✓	✓

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)

China—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA)

Japan—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA)

Republic of Korea—Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA)