

# Baffle Creek 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

Baffle Creek Conservation Park is 60 kilometres north-west of the regional town of Bundaberg. The small town of Rosedale is eight kilometres south-east. The park is surrounded by freehold properties and reserves. Tableland Road runs along the eastern side of the park and Baffle Creek runs along the southern boundary. Waroo National Park is 11 kilometres west of the park and Littabella Conservation Park is 12.5 kilometres to the south-east.

While many of the surrounding properties have been modified for agriculture (predominantly grazing), there are large areas of remnant and non-remnant vegetation in the broader landscape.

The following figure and table (Figure 1, Table 1) provide an overview of information related to the park, including locality, legislative framework and applicable plans/agreements.

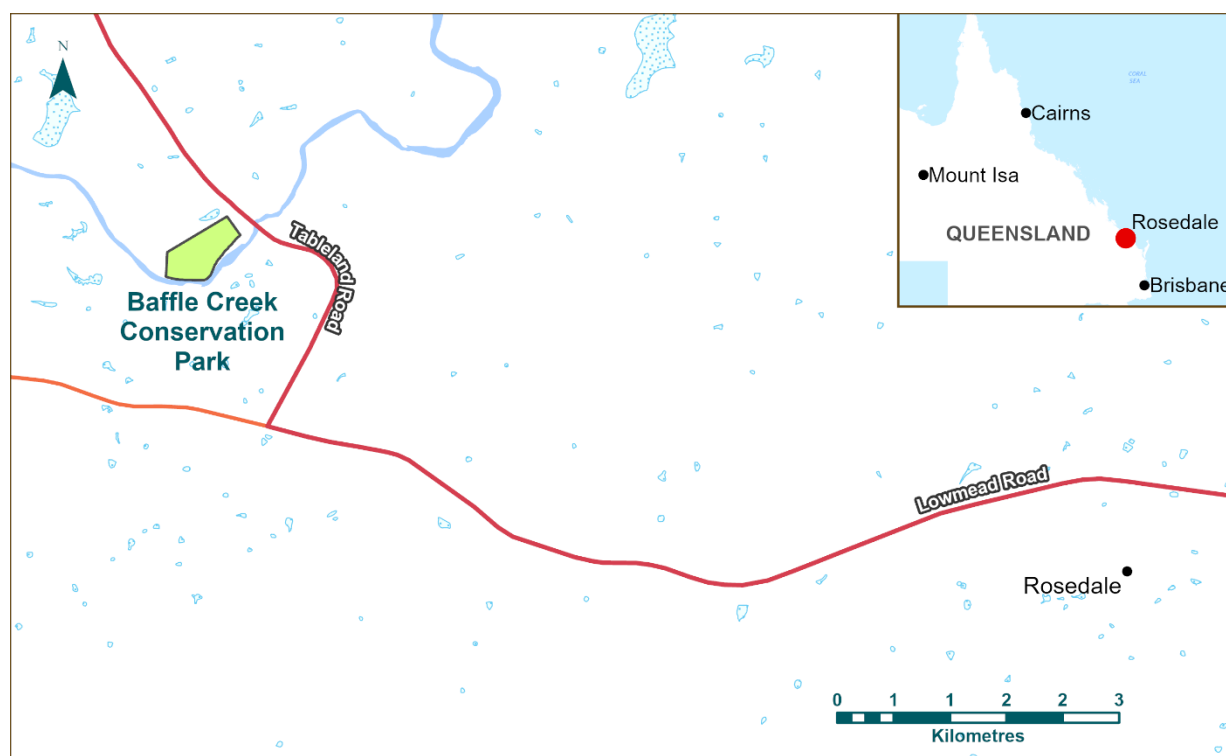


Figure 1. Locality of Baffle Creek Conservation Park

Table 1. Overview of Baffle Creek Conservation Park

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |       |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Park size</b>             | Baffle Creek Conservation Park                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 19 ha |
| <b>Bioregion</b>             | South Eastern Queensland                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |       |
| <b>QPWS region</b>           | South East Queensland                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |       |
| <b>Local government area</b> | Gladstone Regional Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |       |
| <b>State electorate</b>      | Burnett                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |       |
| <b>Relevant legislation</b>  | <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i><br><i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i><br><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i><br><i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)</i><br><i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> |       |

## 3. Resource information

### 3.1 Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People

A native title claim including the park and other areas between the Burnett River watershed north to the lower Fitzroy River and inland to the foothills of the Great Dividing Range was determined on 28 November 2017 (Tribunal Number QCD2017/010, Federal Court Number QUD6026/2001).

Native title is held by the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People described in the determination, with the registered native title body corporate (RNTBC) being the First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.

The Port Curtis Coral Coast Protected Areas Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA, QI2017/014) was registered on 3 May 2018 and includes the park. The ILUA includes multiple protected areas covering around 2048 square kilometres.

### 3.2 Key value information

#### 3.2.1 Vine forest

Vine forest extends across one third of the park and includes simple notophyll fringing forest and complex notophyll to microphyll forest. The two regional ecosystems that comprise the vine forest have endangered biodiversity status and are sensitive to fire. The main threats to the vine forest are bushfires and pest plants and animals.

### 3.3 Ecosystems and biodiversity

The park is part of the Burnett-Curtis Hills and Ranges subregion of the South Eastern Queensland Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion.

Riverine wetland comprises seven hectares of the park (38.8 per cent), which is located within the Baffle Creek subcatchment of the Baffle catchment. Baffle Creek runs along the southern boundary of the park. The Baffle Creek Fish Habitat Area is about 300 metres downstream of the park.

Most of the park is within a State Biodiversity Corridor. These corridors were identified to maintain and enhance ecological connectivity across the State.

#### 3.3.1 Regional ecosystems

The park has five regional ecosystems, three with endangered biodiversity status, one of concern (Appendix B) and one with no concern at present status. The endangered and of concern regional ecosystems comprise 85.7 per cent of the park. All but one of them (12.3.17) represent less than 0.5 per cent of that regional ecosystem remaining in Queensland or within the protected area estate.

Simple notophyll fringing forest usually dominated by *Waterhousea floribunda* (12.3.17) has endangered biodiversity status and covers 4.34 hectares (23.44 per cent) of the park — while this is less than one per cent of the regional ecosystem remaining in Queensland, it is 10.32 per cent of that within the protected area estate. This is the second highest representation in the 10 protected areas with the regional ecosystem. While the regional ecosystem is known to be important for fruit-eating birds, many of which migrate seasonally from upland to lowland rainforest, no species have been recorded from the park. The Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD) fire management guideline for this regional ecosystem is to not deliberately burn.

Complex notophyll to microphyll vine forest on alluvial plains (12.3.16) has endangered biodiversity status and covers 1.45 hectares (7.81 per cent) of the park. While this regional ecosystem is known to provide habitat for threatened plant species including *Xanthostemon oppositifolius*, *Fontainea rostrata*

and *Macadamia ternifolia*; threatened fauna species including *Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni* and *Ornithoptera richmondia*; and to be important for fruit-eating birds, many of which migrate seasonally from upland to lowland rainforest, no species have been recorded from the park. The REDD fire management guideline for this regional ecosystem is to not deliberately burn.

*Eucalyptus tereticornis* woodland on Quaternary alluvium (12.3.3) has endangered biodiversity status and covers 8.64 hectares (46.64 per cent) of the park. While this regional ecosystem is known to provide potential habitat for threatened plant species including *Rhaponticum australe* and suitable habitat for koalas *Phascolarctos cinereus*, no species have been recorded from the park. The REDD fire management guideline for this regional ecosystem is summer to spring burns after rain, with low intensity, at 3–6 year intervals, and burning 40–60 per cent of any given area.

*Eucalyptus tereticornis*, *Casuarina cunninghamiana* subsp. *cunninghamiana* +/- *Melaleuca* spp. fringing woodland (12.3.7) has of concern biodiversity status and covers 1.45 hectares (7.81 per cent) of the park. While this regional ecosystem is known to provide potential habitat for an extensive range of aquatic flora and fauna and suitable habitat for koalas *P. cinereus*, no species have been recorded from the park. The REDD fire management guideline for this regional ecosystem is to avoid intentionally burning this fringe vegetation.

*Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, *Eucalyptus crebra* woodland on Mesozoic to Proterozoic igneous rocks (12.12.5) has no concern at present biodiversity status and covers 2.16 hectares (11.66 per cent) of the park. While this regional ecosystem is known to provide potential habitat for threatened plant species including *Cycas megacarpa* and suitable habitat for koalas *P. cinereus*, no species have been recorded from the park. The REDD fire management guideline for this regional ecosystem is summer to late autumn burns, with low intensity, at 3–6 year intervals, and burning 40–60 per cent of any given area.

### 3.4 Species

There are no species records for the park in the department's WildNet Database.

### 3.5 Recreational opportunities

There are no visitor facilities within the park and camping is not permitted.

### 3.6 Post-contact cultural heritage

There are no known post-contact cultural heritage sites within the park.

### 3.7 Fire

Two of the regional ecosystems within the park (58.3 per cent) need fire to be healthy while the others require protection from fire.

### 3.8 Pests

While there are no pest records for the park in the department's WildNet Database, the invasive cat's claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati* is known to be present. A category 3 restricted invasive plant under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and a Weed of National Significance, cat's claw creeper is an aggressive climbing plant that can completely smother native vegetation.

## 4. Bibliography

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Queensland Herbarium, 2024, *Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD)*, Version 13.1 (May 2024) (DESI: Brisbane). Retrieved from <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/regional-ecosystems/> on 15 December 2025.

## 5. Appendices

### Appendix A. Policy and management commitments

#### Gazettal details

The park was originally gazetted as Baffle Creek Environmental Park on 26 June 1992 under the *Land Act 1962* and was managed under a trustee agreement by Miriam Vale Shire Council.

It was originally gazetted as Baffle Creek Conservation Park under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NCA) on 16 December 1994 and again on 1 July 2016.

There was a short period during 2014 to 2016 when certain classes of protected area under the NCA were removed, including conservation parks. During this time, the park was a regional park under the NCA, until legislative amendments in 2016 removed the 'regional park' class of protected area and it was reinstated as a conservation park.

### Appendix B. Regional ecosystems of significance

| Regional ecosystem | Description                                                                                                                               | Regional ecosystem class* | Biodiversity status** |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 12.3.16            | Complex notophyll to microphyll vine forest on alluvial plains                                                                            | Endangered                | Endangered            |
| 12.3.17            | Simple notophyll fringing forest usually dominated by <i>Waterhousea floribunda</i>                                                       | Of concern                | Endangered            |
| 12.3.3             | <i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> woodland on Quaternary alluvium                                                                            | Endangered                | Endangered            |
| 12.3.7             | <i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> , <i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i> subsp. <i>cunninghamiana</i> +/- <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. fringing woodland | Least concern             | Of concern            |

\* Vegetation Management Regional Ecosystem Description Database (VM REDD)

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