

Combo Conservation Park 1

Management Statement 2015

Extended December 2025



Queensland
Government

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

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The Combo Conservation Park 1 Management Statement 2015 has been extended in 2025, 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	Combo Conservation Park 1	26.2ha
Bioregion	Mitchell Grass Downs	
QPWS region	Central	
Local government area	Winton Shire	
State electorate	Gregory	
Relevant legislation	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	
	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)</i>	
	<i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i>	
	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</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

Combo Conservation Park 1 was formally gazetted as Combo Conservation Park 1 on 8 December 1995 under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

The park specific purpose was declared due to the park's connection to the story of Waltzing Matilda and Banjo Patterson.

Strategic direction for park management

Based on an evaluation of its natural, cultural and presentation values, Combo Conservation Park 1 has been assessed as having a basic level of priority for management and 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 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 cultural management involving proactive management to understand and protect natural and cultural 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 park 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. General park information is mainly provided off-site through the Departmental website.

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

Park 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

Combo Conservation Park 1 protects three regional ecosystems, none of which has of concern biodiversity status.

Species of conservation significance

There is currently one record of species of conservation significance on Queensland Government wildlife databases for this park, Table 1.

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*.

Combo Waterhole is believed to be the setting for the story of Waltzing Matilda, or at least part of the inspiration for Banjo Patterson who visited the site in 1895 while travelling to Dagworth Station. The focus for management is to enable the public to connect with the Waltzing Matilda Story. The park is recognised as an important visitor site.

Priorities for park management

The cultural history and of concern regional ecosystem are the main values of this park. The priorities for park management will be to mitigate any threats to these 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 ecosystem 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 the cultural values and regional ecosystem.

Appendix 1

Conservation values management

Table 1: Species of conservation significance

Scientific name	Common name	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> status	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i> status
Animals			
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian painted-snipe	Endangered	Endangered

Table 2: Species listed in international agreements

Scientific name	Common name	CMS	CAMBA	JAMBA	ROKAMBA
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian painted-snipe	-	✓	-	-

CAMBA – China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement