

Beelbi 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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Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Park overview	2
3. Resource information	3
3.1 Butchulla People	3
3.2 Key value information	3
3.3 Ecosystems and biodiversity	3
3.3.1 Eucalypt open forest	3
3.3.2 Eucalypt fringing woodland	3
3.3.3 Eucalypt woodland	4
3.4 Species	4
3.4.1 Native animals	4
3.4.2 Native plants	4
3.5 Geophysical features	4
3.6 Ecotourism	4
3.6.1 Tourism and visitor opportunities	4
3.7 Partnerships	5
3.7.1 Friends of Vernon Conservation Park	5
3.8 Fire	5
3.9 Pests	5
3.9.1 Pest plants	5
3.9.2 Pest animals	5
4. Bibliography	6
5. Appendices	7
Appendix A. Policy and management commitments	7
Appendix B. Regional ecosystems of significance	7
Appendix C. Pests	7

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 Beelbi Creek Conservation Park included in this resource information document, including its locality, legislative framework and applicable plans/agreements.

Beelbi Creek Conservation Park is located 6 kilometres north-east of the town of Torbanlea, 25 kilometres north of the city of Maryborough, 35 kilometres east of the town of Childers and 22 kilometres west of the city of Hervey Bay. The park is accessible from Old Toogoom Road and Toogoom Road.

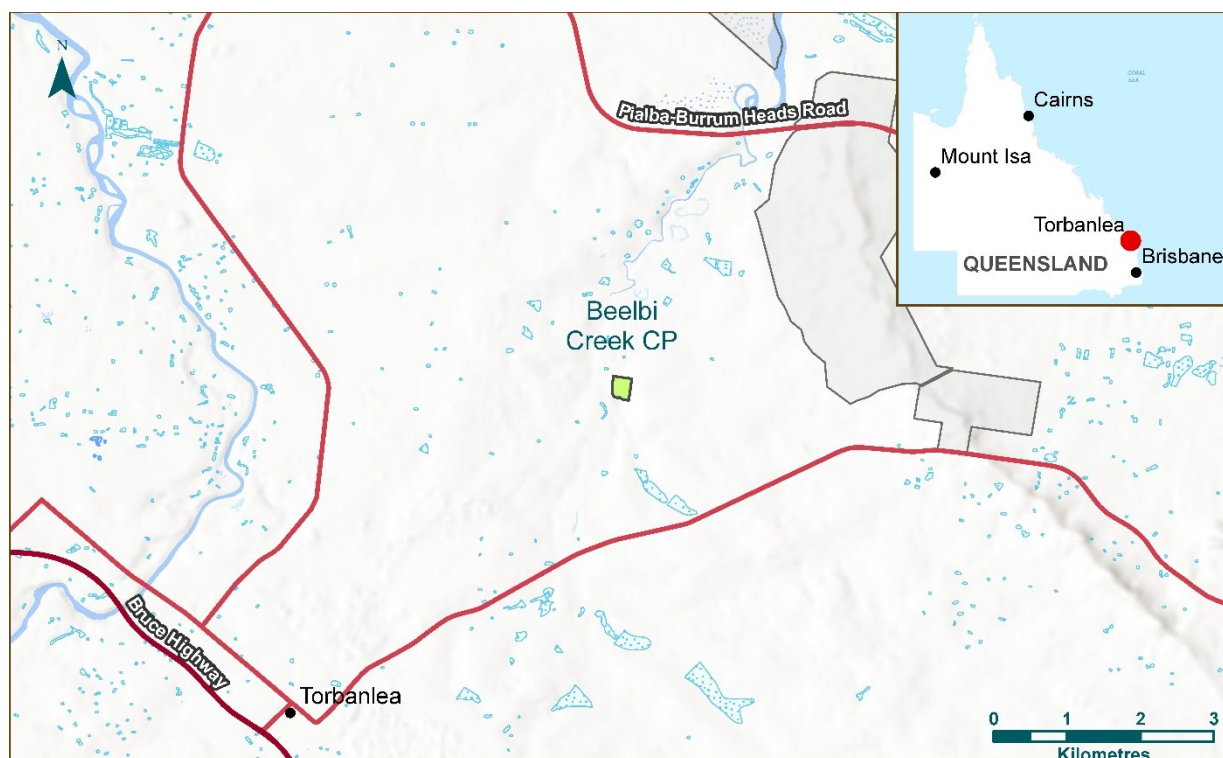


Figure 1. Locality of Beelbi Creek Conservation Park

Table 1. Overview of Beelbi Creek Conservation Park

Park size	Beelbi Creek Conservation Park	8.0 ha
Bioregion	South Eastern Queensland	
QPWS region	South East Queensland	
Local government area	Fraser Coast Regional Council	
State electorate	Maryborough	
Relevant legislation	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	
	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth) (EPBC)</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	<i>National Recovery Plan for the Spotted-tailed Quoll</i> <i>Dasyurus maculatus</i> 2016	
	<i>National Recovery Plan for the White-throated Snapping Turtle (Elseya albagula)</i> 2020	

3. Resource information

3.1 Butchulla People

Beelbi Creek Conservation Park sits within the registered native title determination Butchulla Land and Sea Claim #2 17/12/2019 (QCD2019/008).

The Butchulla People are the Traditional Owners of K'gari and the adjacent mainland, extending from Double Island Point in the south to the Burrum River mouth in the north and west to Bauple Mountain (State of Queensland 2025). It is a diverse and culturally significant region encompassing land, sea and sky Country.

There are no Indigenous Land Use Agreements in place over the park.

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 Beelbi Creek Conservation Park 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 Ecosystems and biodiversity

Three regional ecosystems (REs) are present within the park, with approximately 78% mapped as eucalypt open forest (RE 12.3.11). All REs are wetland-associated, classified as either 'Riverine' or 'Contains palustrine', reflecting the proximity of Beelbi Creek along the western boundary.

The park protects areas of State biodiversity significance, and rates very highly for tract size, condition, habitat for endangered, vulnerable, and near threatened (EVNT) taxa, context and connection. However, the park rates significantly at the bioregional and subregional ecosystem size.

3.3.1 Eucalypt open forest

The majority of the park (78%) is mapped as open forest (RE 12.3.11 - *Eucalyptus tereticornis* +/- *Eucalyptus siderophloia*, *Corymbia intermedia* open forest on alluvial plains usually near coast). This RE has a biodiversity status of 'of concern' and a wetland code of 'Contains palustrine'. Palustrine wetlands are generally non-tidal areas (e.g. swamps, marshes) dominated by vegetation (>30% cover) (State of Queensland 2024).

3.3.2 Eucalypt fringing woodland

The vegetation along the western boundary adjacent to Beelbi Creek comprises eucalypt fringing woodland (RE 12.3.7 – *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, *Casuarina cunninghamiana* subsp. *cunninghamiana* +/- *Melaleuca* spp. fringing woodland). This RE has a biodiversity status of 'of concern' and a wetland code of 'Riverine', defined as a riverine wetland or fringing riverine wetland with an open, non-vegetated channel (State of Queensland 2024).

This ecosystem provides habitat for an extensive range of aquatic flora and fauna. While its overall distribution and extent do not appear to have changed significantly since European settlement, its

condition has declined due to the invasion of weeds, changes in land use and flood impacts. It is particularly susceptible to invasion by weeds such as Chinese elm *Celtis sinensis*, broad-leaved pepper tree *Schinus terebinthifolius*, lantana *Lantana camara* and cat's claw creeper *Macfadyena unguis-cati* (Healthy Land and Water 2023).

3.3.3 Eucalypt woodland

The north-west corner of the park comprises eucalypt woodland (RE 12.5.4 – *Eucalyptus latisinensis* +/- *Corymbia intermedia*, *C. trachyphloia* subsp. *trachyphloia*, *Angophora leiocarpa*, *Eucalyptus exserta* woodland on complex of remnant Tertiary surfaces and Cainozoic and Mesozoic sediments). This RE has a biodiversity status of 'no concern at present' and a wetland code of 'Contains palustrine' (State of Queensland 2024). RE 12.5.4 provides habitat for the near threatened flora species Burrum paperbark *Melaleuca cheelii*.

3.4 Species

3.4.1 Native animals

Seven conservation significant fauna species were recorded on the WetlandInfo database. This includes the white-throated snapping turtle *Elseya albagula*, listed as critically endangered under both the NCA and the EPBC. There is a National Recovery Plan for the White-throated Snapping Turtle, which lists major threats such as predation from feral and native species, trampling at nesting sites from cattle, in-stream barriers obstructing movement and degradation of habitat and water quality (Commonwealth of Australia 2020).

Other notable species include the spotted-tailed quoll (southern subspecies) *Dasyurus maculatus maculatus* and southern greater glider *Petauroides volans volans*, both listed as endangered under the NCA and the EPBC Act. There is a National Recovery Plan for the Spotted-tailed Quoll *Dasyurus maculatus*, which includes the southern subspecies (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2016).

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

3.4.2 Native plants

Four conservation significant flora species were recorded on the WetlandInfo database. This includes tiny wattle *Acacia baueri* subsp. *baueri*, listed as vulnerable under the NCA, and Burrum paperbark *Melaleuca cheelii*, listed as near threatened under the NCA and associated with RE 12.5.4 in the north-west corner of the park. Two additional species listed as special least concern under the NCA were also recorded: swamp grasstree *Xanthorrhoea fulva* and *Lobelia browniana*.

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

3.5 Geophysical features

The park is underlain by alluvial deposits, with the dominant rock type comprising a stratified unit (including volcanic and metamorphic materials). The lithology consists of clay, silt, sand and gravel associated with floodplain alluvium, and Rudosol soils are mapped across the entire park.

3.6 Ecotourism

3.6.1 Tourism and visitor opportunities

The park provides limited opportunities for tourism and visitors. Visitor opportunities are provided in the nearby Vernon State Forest to the east.

3.7 Partnerships

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

3.7.1 Friends of Vernon Conservation Park

A local volunteer conservation group, Friends of Vernon Conservation Park, undertakes weeding activities and flora and fauna surveys in the nearby Vernon Conservation Park. There is interest in expanding to Beelbi Creek Conservation Park to undertake the same activities.

3.8 Fire

Fire management is core business for QPWS to protect life and property, mitigate wildfires and maintain natural diversity in accordance with the NCA and the *Fire Services Act 1990* for the control and prevention of fires.

3.9 Pests

3.9.1 Pest plants

Lantana *Lantana camara* is known to the park. Giant rat's tail grass *Sporobolus pyramidalis* and *S. natalensis* may be present along edges and disturbed areas such as roadsides.

3.9.2 Pest animals

The fox *Vulpes vulpes* and the feral cat *Felis catus* are both known to occur on the park. Extent and population density are unknown. Both pest species may directly predate upon and compete for food with spotted-tailed quoll (southern subspecies) *Dasyurus maculatus maculatus* present in the park.

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5. Appendices

Appendix A. Policy and management commitments

Gazettal details

The park was formally gazetted as Beelbi Creek Environmental Park in 1975 under the *Land Act 1962*. In 1994, the environmental park was gazetted to Beelbi Creek Conservation Park under the NCA.

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

Management obligations

- Fire management
- Pest management

Recovery plans and guides

- National Recovery Plan for the Spotted-tailed Quoll *Dasyurus maculatus* 2016
- National Recovery Plan for the White-throated Snapping Turtle (*Elseya albagula*) 2020

Appendix B. Regional ecosystems of significance

Regional ecosystem	Description	Regional ecosystem class*	Biodiversity status**
12.3.11	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> +/- <i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> , <i>Corymbia intermedia</i> open forest on alluvial plains usually near coast	Of concern	Of concern
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)

Appendix C. Pests

Scientific name	Common name	Biosecurity Act 2014 status	Notes
Plants			
<i>Lantana camara</i>	lantana	Category 3 Restricted Invasive	Park-wide impacts: • Forms dense thickets that smother native vegetation • Reduces visitors' appreciation of amenities