

SHOW SPECIAL

# Ringtail



QUEENSLAND  
NATIONAL PARKS  
AND WILDLIFE  
SERVICE

Quarterly newspaper of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service

## 'Working together for a more natural Queensland...'

Welcome!

'Queensland  
is our home,  
too...'



## Message from our friends

## Your new paper

Hello humans!

By now you have all had a chance to see us in our homes. And you are probably saying 'What strange tastes these animals have!'

We couldn't agree more but then we feel you humans have some rather strange tastes in homes also.

'What with those huge concrete towers you choose to live in — what do you call them — 'apartment blocks'? YUK!

But lately we are becoming more and more concerned that you humans don't realise that our homes are as important to us and our well-being as yours are to you.

In fact, when you come to think about it, our homes are more important.

Some of our homes have taken thousands of years to build. Yet you can build and rebuild yours in a matter of months.

You haven't thought about it? No wonder. Some of our homes could be in your own backyard yet they are often so hard to recognise that you might never see them.

**'We can't all live in a zoo!'**

Sure, you will see some of us in your city zoos. It's a good place to get a close look at what we are really like.

But what we really like is being in our 'country zoo' — the bush, the outdoors or whatever you humans like to call it.

The natural areas are best. We really appreciate national parks, environmental parks, sanctuaries and state forests. (Turn the page to see a map of the major national parks in Queensland and a guide to some of their facilities.)

**'How to succeed in nature conservation without really trying!'**

By now, we hope you're getting the message that if you want to live with us then you've got to look after our homes everywhere.

That puts the word on you landholders everywhere.

Leaving a patch of scrub untouched or planting a couple of hundred trees in a clump will be just fine.

Ask the human experts. They can tell you that you are helping preserve the land, even increasing its value and above all giving we creatures room to live and to move about the country as we choose.

**'You lose a lot when you lose a forest'.**

Bulldozing bare might give you a good view of the earth and the clear sky above.

But if you want to see us, best think again.

Without that bush, without that scrub and without that tree, in fact without the forest, alas, our future here is limited.

So, come on humans. Let's work together for a more natural Queensland.

This is a special show issue of the new Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service newspaper.

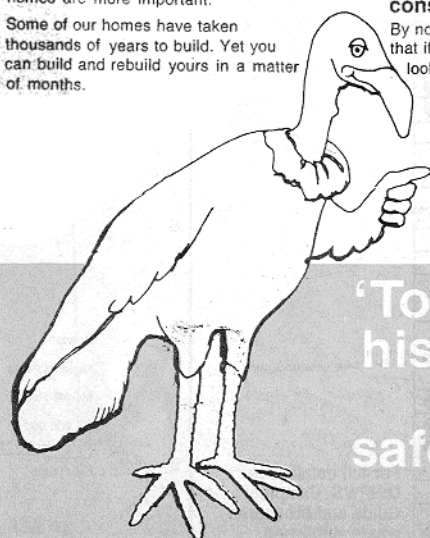
The normal paper is a quarterly publication and is designed to supply regular up to date information on nature conservation matters in this state.

The name 'Ringtail' comes from the creature illustrated on the Service symbol — the Herbert River ring-tailed possum — Herbie for short to Service staff.

The paper is available free at all QNPWS offices and at selected tourism outlets.

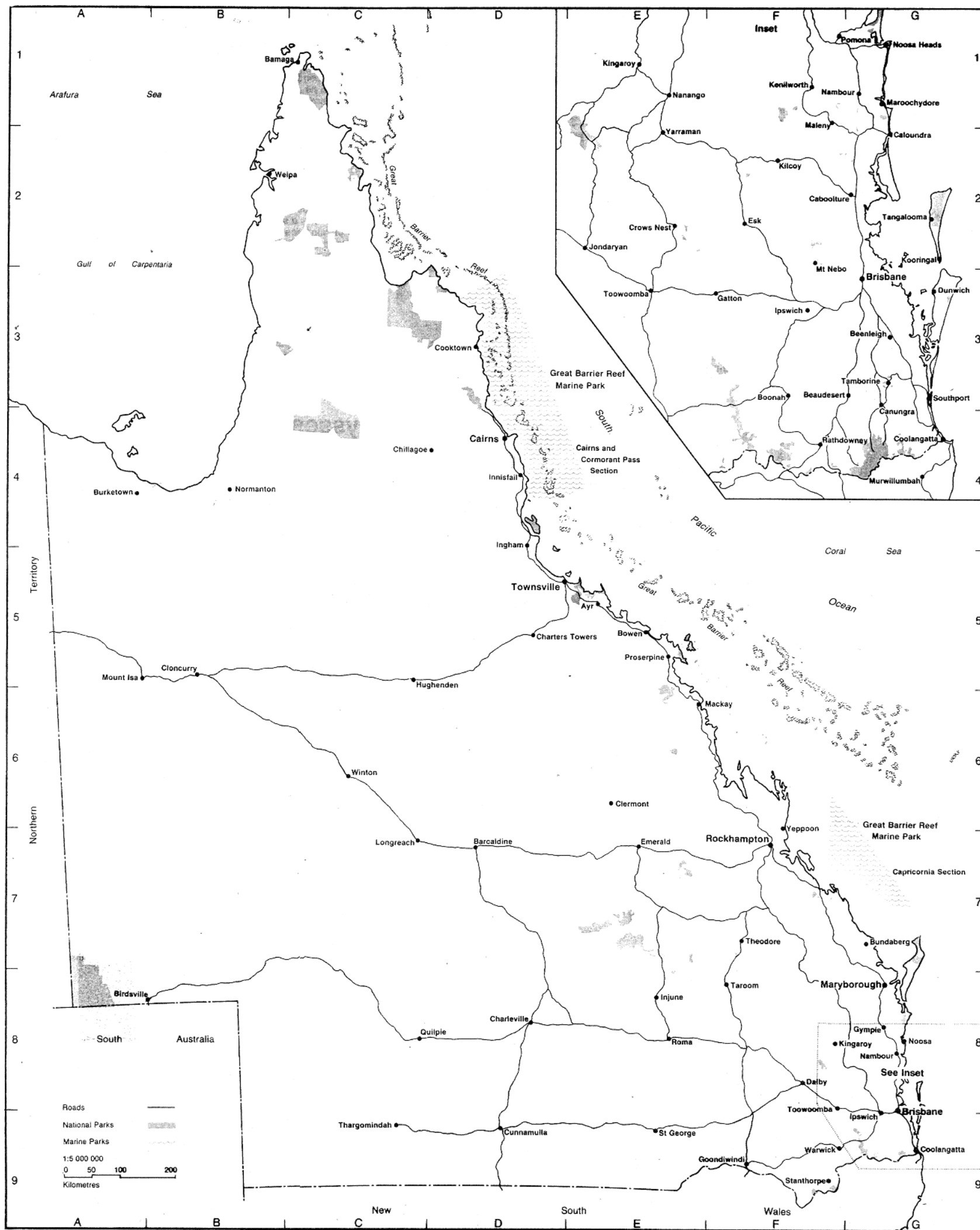
Remember, the Service can only act as a guiding light. Successful nature conservation is ultimately the responsibility of you.

Signed:



**'To foster harmony between man and his environment, thereby facilitating the well-being of man, and safeguarding the integrity of nature'.  
— Q.NPWS objective**

For full details see  
Q.NPWS Camping  
Guide and brochures  
where published.





## Amethystine python

In Australia this python is found only in the far north-eastern corner of Queensland. Here it lives in a variety of habitats from rainforest to open woodland, and even scrubby vegetation on coral cays.



## Regent bower-bird

The subtropical rainforests from Mackay to the New South Wales border and west to the Carnarvon Ranges are the preferred habitat of this colourful bird. It can be encountered at any point in these rainforests.



## Eclectus parrot

These brilliantly coloured parrots are birds of the rainforest roof and rarely will be seen any lower. They are limited in their Australian range to the rainforests of far north-eastern Cape York.



## Powerful owl

A shy bird, the powerful owl roosts by day in tall forest trees. By night it can be encountered throughout the forest and occasionally on the ground while feeding. It is found in south-east Queensland as far north as Rockhampton.



## Brush turkey

Brush turkeys are ground-living birds but fly into trees to roost and to escape danger. They are to be found in rainforest, scrubby creek edges and some dry scrubs of eastern Queensland.



## Golden whistler

A common bird in dense forests the golden whistler spends most of its time hopping from branch to branch in search of insects. Found in eastern Queensland from Cooktown to the New South Wales border.



## Short-nosed bandicoot

A nocturnal creature, bandicoot is most often encountered on the forest floor foraging for food. By day it shelters in a nest of ground litter. In Queensland it is found along the entire east coast in forest and grassland.



## Grey-headed flying fox

As many as 50 000 of these poorly understood animals have been counted in a single camp in the top of rainforest trees. In Queensland they are found along most of the east coast as far north as Townsville.



## Water rat

The presence of the water rat in rainforest streams is not generally known. They are, however, found throughout most of Queensland's waterways, including estuaries, inland waters and both fresh and brackish streams.



## Ulysses butterfly

In Australia this species is found only along the far north Queensland coast and prefers rainforest. Here it usually keeps high up although on very hot days it will settle low down on foliage overhanging water.



## Striped possum

This strikingly coloured possum inhabits the coastal scrubs and mountain rainforests of north-east Queensland. A nocturnal species, they keep to the upper levels of the rainforest and are rarely seen.



## Green tree frog

This very common frog is found in a wide variety of habitats throughout Queensland. During the day it often can be heard calling from hollow limbs and trunks of large trees.



## Your guide

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