



Lamington National Park ranger Mr Bob Schultz notes the severe damage on and around the top of the Coomera Circuit track at Lamington National Park caused by the fierce storm. Full sunlight is falling on the forest floor here in an area once shaded by rainforest.

## Lamington storm sets clean-up task

A storm over Lamington National Park has set the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service a major clean-up task.

Highly scenic areas were devastated by a tornado-like blast which swept parts of the park on the night of 8 September.

The storm brought down hundreds of large rainforest trees across the walking tracks used by many thousands of visitors each year.

Latest reports from park officers indicate that damage is worse than first thought, and is so severe in parts that some tracks may not be repaired until early next year.

The first estimate of the cost of repairs to the track system is \$60,000.

The Tourism and National Parks Minister, Mr Tony Elliott, said he regretted that the freak storm had affected the holiday plans of many tourists out walking in one of the most popular national parks in Queensland.

He had been assured that the Service was making every effort to re-open all tracks to the public as soon as possible.

Lamington National Park ranger Mr Bob Schultz said the storm had come in from the north-west, and was obviously more intense than a cyclone when the occasional tree was blown over in the dense rainforest.

Up to 10 men were on the job four days a week weather permitting clearing the tracks.

Six on the Binna Burra side of Lamington had a 90-minute 9km walk to and from work each day.

They were using chain saws, axes and wedges to cut a gap 2m wide through a tangle of branches, trunks, roots and fallen leaves.

The storm had cut a swathe only several hundred metres wide up the Coomera Valley towards Mt Hobwee and damage was severe around Mt Merino, both peaks of more than 1100m on the Queensland-New South Wales border.

A brown mass of stripped and dying trees on Mt Hobwee could be seen from Beechmont.

Four men were working on the O'Reilly's side where most damage had occurred along West Canungra Creek and along the main border track.

The storm was more scattered in this area and trees were blown onto several tracks.

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service Director, Dr Graham Saunders, said a Service botanist would be assigned to assess damage to the park rainforest area generally.

'Preliminary reports indicate that damage is so severe that full sunlight is reaching what was the darkened forest floor.

'A major change to the ecology appears certain.

'Even the Antarctic beech trees established on Mt Hobwee for 2000 years have been damaged badly and their recovery could be in doubt.

'The rainforest will take many years to recover or it may never be the same,' he said.

## Sea Eagle for Whitsundays

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service has a new workhorse — a 10m catamaran-style power boat.

The Sea Eagle was named and launched officially at Main Beach, Southport on 31 August by Mrs Esme Saunders, wife of the Service Director, Dr Graham Saunders, in the presence of the National Parks Minister Mr Tony Elliott.

The \$85,000 new craft is a Power Cat 328 made on the Gold Coast by Power Cat Sales and Service.

The Service craft includes modifications from the commercial and cruiser versions of the popular fibreglass boat.

The boat will be in service from Shute Harbour to cover the Whitsundays from

Gloucester Island near Bowen in the north to Shaw Island in the south.

While there are some 90 islands gazetted individually as national parks, the Whitsunday area is managed as one national park area.

The Sea Eagle replaces the Curlew II which is to be based at Seaforth.

A short, sharp chop and long periods of fresh winds in the Whitsundays have severely restricted island operations by Service officers.

Two men will man the Sea Eagle on patrol for two and three days including weekends.



Sea Eagle in a demonstration run on the Broadwater at Southport after its launch by Mrs Esme Saunders at Main Beach.

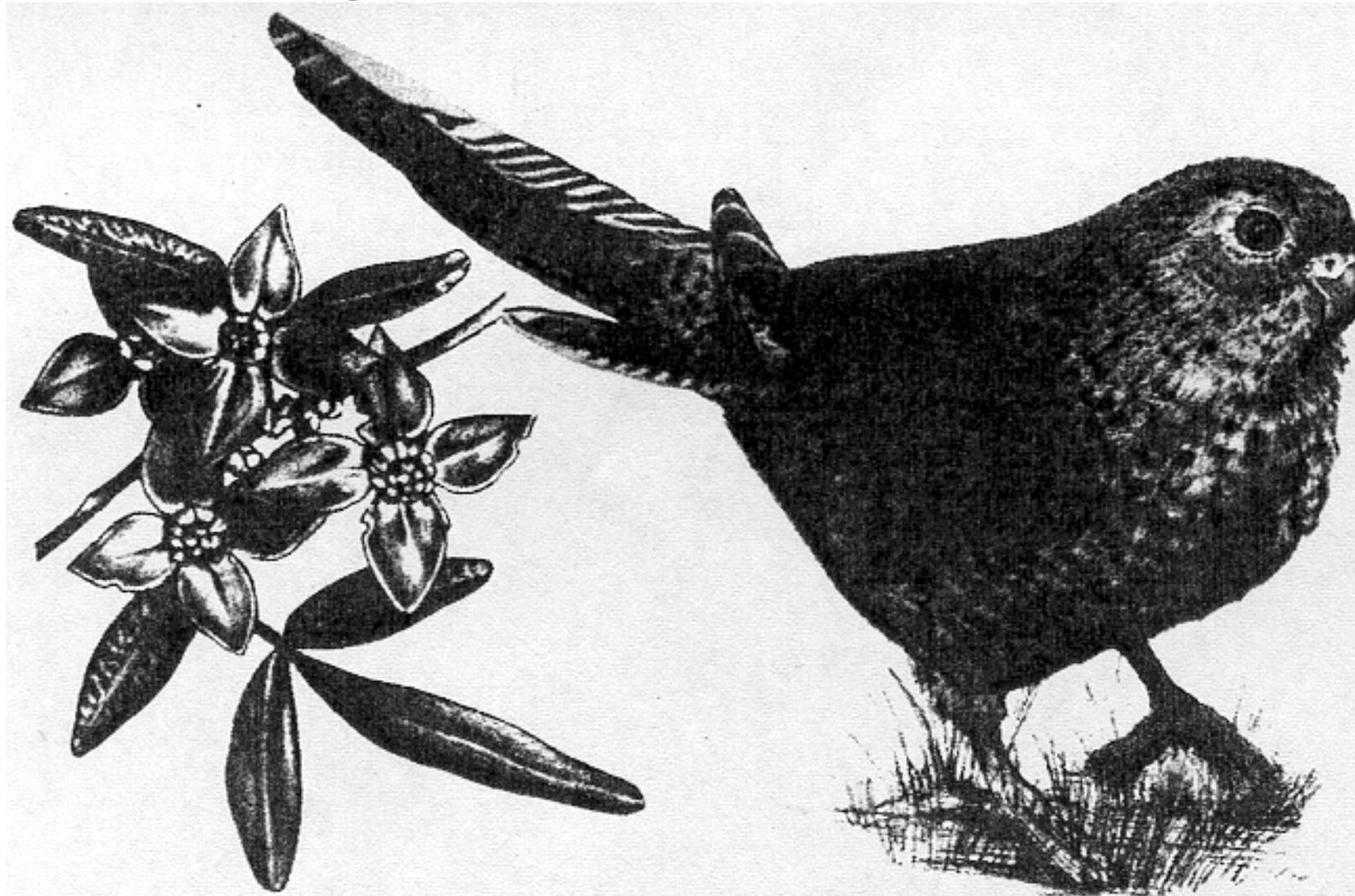
While fitted out for some comfort in all weathers, the craft will be a workboat to carry staff, materials and fuel to island national parks and bring rubbish back to the mainland.

The Sea Eagle is fitted with twin

inboard-outboard drive Volvo diesel motors giving it a cruising speed of 25 knots.

The vessel is in survey with all safety equipment, two-way radio depth sounder and radar.





Drawings of the ground parrot and Boronia keysii by Service artist Julie Burnett

# Cooloola habitats extended

The habitats of a bird and a plant considered rare are preserved in major extensions to Cooloola National Park gazetted recently.

Eight extensions ranging from 6.8ha to 16 800ha were announced by the National Parks Minister, Mr Tony Elliott.

Cooloola National Park is a vast sandy area encompassing vegetation types ranging from heathland to rainforest lying between Tewantin and Rainbow Beach north of the Sunshine Coast and east of Gympie.

The extensions totalling more than 17 822ha confirm Cooloola National Park as a major biogeographic reserve with a recalculated area of 39 400ha.

Mr Elliott said: 'To be effective, areas set aside as reserves for nature need to be relatively large. While recreation is allowed on national parks, their prime function is as a haven for nature.'

For this reason, Cooloola was one of the more important national parks for it contained one of the last two major remaining tracts of wallum-heath country which was once such an extensive land type in south-east Queensland.

Mr Elliott said that of the extensions, the western catchment of the upper Noosa River covering some 16 800ha was the most outstanding.

Some idea of the area's importance was that it contained 100 species of flowering plants and ferns not recorded from the existing park.

It also contained several plant communities represented poorly or not at all in other national parks.

This Womalah landscape was considered an integral part of the Cooloola land system and any disturbance here would affect the general hydrology of the area such as the quality of the water in the Noosa River.

The land was also the habitat of the ground parrot, a bird not often seen and which was limited in its distribution.

Research indicated this bird preferred land burnt naturally by fire every few years such as occurred in the western catchment.

Mr Elliott said the western catchment was accessible on foot from the Cooloola Way, a dry weather only unsealed road between Kin Kin-Pomona and the Tin Can Bay-Rainbow Beach road.

The occurrence of a rare wildflower, Boronia keysii, is a reason for the addition of a 315ha block fronting Kin Kin Creek on the national park's south-western corner.

Another addition is Kinaba Island of 32.4ha at the northern end of Lake Cootharaba adjacent to the Service's unique overwater information centre.

Other new parkland comprises blocks of 471ha and 114ha of heathland near the coast north of Tewantin.

The existing park boundaries here enclose areas where access is impracticable and the blocks will provide areas for people to visit.

The other additions involve two relatively small blocks formerly State Forest and adjacent to the Rainbow Beach road.

## New Service structure

People coming into contact with the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service soon may recognise a new structure within the Service.

One of the aspects of the new structure is the establishment of four regions — Southern, Central, Northern and Far Northern.

The boundaries are shown in the map on Page 5 of this issue.

In the regionalization of the Service, the major centres of operations will be at Moggill (Brisbane), Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns.

Each such area will have a regional director passing more decision making on local issues to local officers rather than head office.

In the new structure, the Service will have a director, a deputy director and chief executive officer, two assistant directors, and directors of field operations, central services and organisational services.

Five branch managers will run research and planning, technical services, mainland estate management, wildlife management and rural nature conservation, and maritime estate management.

A number of positions have been advertised, and the changes will come about as appointments are made.

A review of Service clerical-administrative positions will follow.

The result will be greater and more effective communication between the Service and the public.

## By the tail...

Closures of national parks to the public are not undertaken lightly, and require extensive evidence that closure is in the best interests of nature conservation.

From 1 October to 31 January, two entrances to Johannsen's Cave at Fitzroy Caves National Park in central Queensland are gated to stop any interference with the breeding season of the scarce ghost bat. Bar spacings have been calculated to allow bats to pass.

Camping is forbidden on Lady Musgrave Island east of Gladstone between 1 October and 28 February to protect nesting birds.

Blue Lake National Park, Stradbroke Island, was closed on 19 September for development work (see report this issue).

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'From city to summit... living with nature'. That is the theme of an informative and colorful display at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens in Brisbane.

The display, designed and constructed jointly by the

Service and Brisbane Forest Park Authority, depicts the value of parkland in and near Brisbane for recreation and conservation.

The display may be seen in the Brisbane City Council administration building at the Gardens from 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday and from 9 to 12 on Saturday to 14 December.

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Going camping in a national park at Christmas-New Year holidays? Remember then you may make your site booking application right now — less than 12 weeks ahead.

Check the details for an application in this issue.

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A Brisbane newspaper suggested jokingly recently there might be votes in magpies.

If the writer knew the number of calls concerning magpies to the Service, talkback radio, politicians and police, he would eat his words.

Wildlife rangers are praying for spring to end quickly.

## Wildlife ranger ranges widely

When Peter Hensler is asked what territory he is expected to cover as Mt Isa wildlife ranger, he answers rather matter of factly.

He rattles off the shires of Burke and Carpentaria, Croydon, Richmond, McKinlay, Cloncurry, Winton and Boulia and of course Mt Isa City.

Only when a map is consulted does the realisation dawn that all this is more than 20 percent of the vast area that comprises Queensland.

Another way of looking at Peter's job is that he is into wearing out his third vehicle in a little more than four years such are the distances and types of country he has to cover.

And this is despite the fact that he tries to spend every second week in the Mt Isa wildlife office to be on hand to answer the public queries directly and on the phone, and to catch up on the necessary paperwork.

'There's a range of tasks including research, wildlife monitoring, studies and surveys.

'I can be checking on the Edward River crocodile project one day, monitoring kangaroo culling the next, removing a snake from an urban house the day after, and then taking to my boat doing a waterbirds survey after that,' he said.

Fortunately Mt Isa is rather central to the huge district. When he goes out Monday to Friday, he is never alone. His present assistant is Keith Smith who moved from the coast in June.

He moved to Mt Isa to set up the Service office in April 1979.

North-west Queensland poses particular problems both for its range of wildlife activities, and because it is the area where least scientific study has been carried out to determine the extent of all wildlife.

A fauna study by Peter and Keith of the seven major dams in the Mt Isa area recently was a first.

Wildlife is not static either. Peter has confirmed the existence of the hooded parrot at Lawn Hill even though the bird is not supposed to exist in Queensland.

Cane toads, buffalo, crocodiles, rock wallabies and feral cats are other problems on Peter's plate.

'There are surprises all the time. That's what makes it exciting for me. I've always had a liking for wild things,' he says.

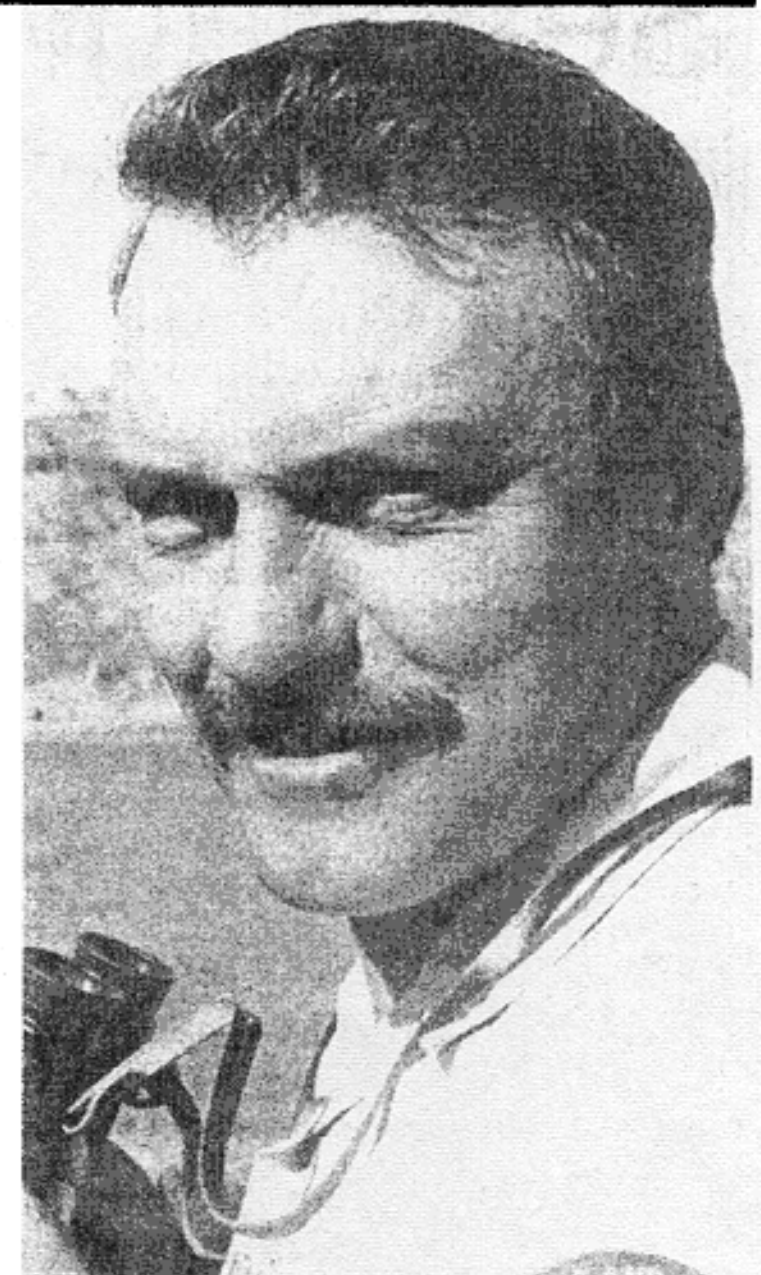
The co-operation of people in Mt Isa has been a surprise to Peter.

After all, the town with the most gun clubs and the highest sales of ammunition in the State might not be seen as conducive to effective wildlife management.

He has his problems with people wanting to take wild birds and shoot at anything that moves but has found generally that people are observing the laws and that weekend patrols around the Isa do not warrant the expense.

In his spare time at weekends, Peter can be found camping!

His two sons are keen on wildlife though his wife and hairdresser apprentice daughter prefer the comforts of home.



Peter Hensler on the job.



# 50 tasks benefit parks

Fifty projects are under way or ready to go to benefit Queensland national and environmental parks under wage pause funding programs.

The projects include sign manufacture, the construction of barracks, graded walking tracks and a boardwalk, cave restoration and the protection of Aboriginal art sites.

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service was allocated \$1 million by the State Government and \$600,000 through the Commonwealth to give temporary jobs particularly to young people.

In giving details of the projects, the National Parks Minister, Mr Tony Elliott, said that while the projects would be of some short-term benefit to unemployed people, the Service would gain long-term benefits.

The work was spread fairly evenly over the Service's regions and over many towns and shires.

The minimum work period was one month for one man in sand dune stabilisation.

Two people would have jobs for eight months in Townsville. The average task was for three or four months.

Mr Elliott said some benefits would be seen in parks almost immediately but contracts for some other jobs would not be completed until possibly early in the new year.

Typical of one project is a major signage task undertaken at Townsville.

Early this year, sign plans were prepared for all of the major parks in the region.

These covered 170 signs for six parks.

Now two staff have been given the job of routing and painting the signs.

When erected, they will not only be an aid for park visitors but will help protect the park environments as good signage should reduce inappropriate park use.

## Work by lake

Major redevelopment work is underway in Blue Lake National Park on North Stradbroke Island.

The work is to ensure the long-term preservation of the lake shores for the growing number of day visitors to Blue Lake.

The Service Director, Dr Graham Saunders, said the park had been closed to allow work to go ahead as quickly as possible.

Dr Saunders said the \$22,000 first stage would include protecting the sandy lake surrounds which had been damaged by visitors over the years.

## Chance to see parks

A new travel group will offer comprehensive visits of national parks in Queensland and northern New South Wales soon.

Natureglides is the name given to the group. The first tour starts on 12 November.

A maximum of 20 people will be taken on Brisbane-to-Brisbane tours of 16 days.

The northern 'glide' includes visits to Eungella, Cape Tribulation, Hinchinbrook Island, Conway and Cania Gorge National Parks.

A 'surf and forest glide' includes visits to Girraween, Angourie, Gibraltar Range, Warrumbungle, New England and Lamington National Parks.

Another 'glide' visits Fraser Island, Cania Gorge, Isla Gorge, Blackdown Tableland, Carnarvon and Bunya Mountains.

For further information contact Natureglides, c/ 36 Jones Street, Auchenflower, Brisbane, or 13 Currawong Street, Mudjimba.



Sand driving in a 4WD on Fraser Island beach.

# Fraser Island tops all year

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is preparing for a visitor influx on Fraser Island in the

Limits on tour operator numbers and the extreme difficulty in hiring four-wheel drive vehicles for island use recently are indicative of some of the problems to be faced.

'Queen Street' is the apt description of traffic along the ocean beach in this year's outstanding tailor fishing season.

But Fraser's reputation as an all-year-round place to visit is growing not only in south-east Queensland but interstate.

Pressures on the Service to handle some of this demand grow by the month and developments hopefully are in front of requirements.

While much of Fraser Island is under Forestry Department control, Great Sandy National Park's 52 400ha in the north is indicative of the island's vastness when compared say with Moreton or Stradbroke Islands further south.

The park headquarters Dundubara (pron. dun-da-burra) is more than an hour's drive from the barge landing area at Hook Point in the south.

To reach other spots like the Orchid Beach resort, Sandy Cape, Wathumba Creek (pron. wat-oom-ba) or Lake Bowarrady (pron. bow-arra-dee) is best measured in terms of time and tide rather than distance.

Conservation of the often fragile beach front land is being attempted by

extending the areas where camping is banned and by offering alternative sites with facilities.

Dundubara is one such place. Three very pleasant camping areas set among natural trees are but a couple of hundred metres drive over a boardwalk from the beach.

The trees, supplemented by plantings of casuarinas, banksias, melaleucas and pandanus from the Service nursery nearby, give much protection from the winds which seem to sweep Fraser Island beaches so regularly.

The modern toilet block is spotless and hot water is provided via a chip heater unit.

The Service generator provides light to the area in the early evening. Rotation of the site areas almost ensures relatively flat grassy sites will be available — a far cry from an exposed soft sandy spot along the beach.

Dundubara is also where you will find ranger Ron Walk for permits to camp and permits to traverse the national park. (Ask him about the fishing and for his smoked fish recipe!).

Seventeen kilometres across the island from Orchid Beach is Wathumba Creek, a popular haven for boaties.

A ranger's house and a 4ha campground is being built here. The first eight campsites and a toilet block should be completed before Christmas.

For a day's outing away from the beach, Ocean Lake north of Orchid Beach would be hard to beat.

The road across the island passes Wathumba Swamp and chances are you might see the hyacinth orchid after which the resort was named.

Great Sandy NP demands you are complete with food and fuel. Top up at the mainland access centres of Rainbow Beach or Urangan though certain supplies are available at Orchid Beach, Eurong and Happy Valley.

Bring gas for cooking and help preserve the natural vegetation in the park even as it rots. Consider bringing home all your rubbish and some of that of less considerate visitors.

The best advice anyone can give about Fraser Island is that it is four-wheel drive transport or none at all.

Get experience at sand driving and negotiating difficult crossings before you go to the island on holiday.

Inskip Point barge hours by the way are 7am to 4pm and the return charge is \$32. Bookings should not be necessary except at the most busy times.

Site pre-booking applies year round. Applications should go to the Q.NPWS office, Gympie.

## Guide to parks, camping

An up-to-date listing of the attractions and facilities of the most popular national parks and environmental parks is summarised on the following pages.

Features of many of the parks are outlined, the locations of the major parks are shown on the map, and details given about facilities and the offices concerned.

Addresses and telephone numbers are given on the back page.

These pages incorporate a guide to camping in the national park system.

A written permit to camp is required for camping on any national park in Queensland.

A site booking system operates to ensure the visitor a site is available before he travels to his destination.

An application for a site should reach the booking office listed not earlier than 12 weeks or less than six weeks before the proposed date of arrival.

The application in writing should include the group leader's name, address and vehicle registration number, the number in the party, the date of expected arrival and proposed duration of stay, the number and type

of camping structures and/or vehicles, the proposed camping area, whether the group is from a club or organisation and if so, which one, and whether an alternate date or area in the park would be acceptable.

You must include a self-addressed envelope for the notification of whether a campsite is available.

This will be sent at least four weeks before the visit.

Late applications for sites in writing, by telephone or in person will be considered only if a site is available within the camping area.

Visitors should be aware that the more popular national park camping areas like Freshwater and Double Island Point, Green Mountains, Bunya Mountains, Girraween and Carnarvon Gorge are often fully booked at peak holiday times.

Whether you book ahead or make a late application, you require a camping permit from the ranger on the park.

Where the park is unstaffed, your permit will be forwarded to you with your site notification.

If you change your plans or find you have double booked, please notify the booking office to allow reallocation of the site.

There is no fee for site booking or a camping permit.

If you reach a camping ground in the late afternoon or at night when no ranger is on duty, set up your camp in a vacant space.

Your booked space can be determined next day. If you have not booked a site, and all have been taken, be prepared to move on perhaps to another park.

Service rangers are praised often for their ingenuity in making arrangements satisfactory to all visitors.

Please appreciate that some national parks, because of their size, location use or environmental importance, are not available for camping.

In some areas, road access for vehicles is provided and facilities developed.

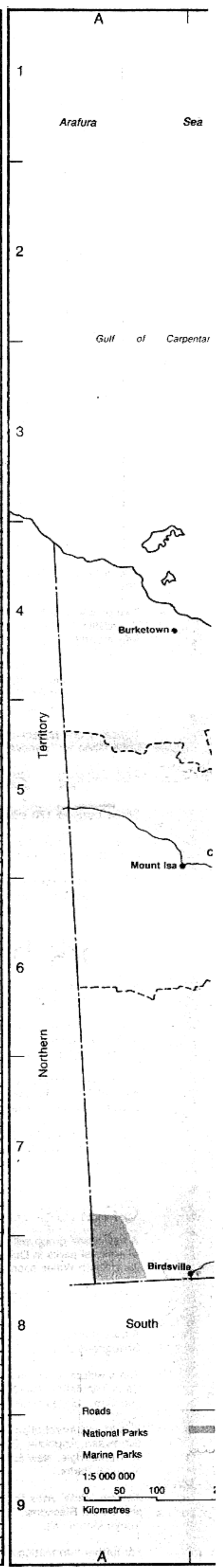
In others, the park has been left undeveloped to provide a more primitive camping experience.

Backpack camping is prohibited within 2km of developed camping grounds, graded tracks and roads.

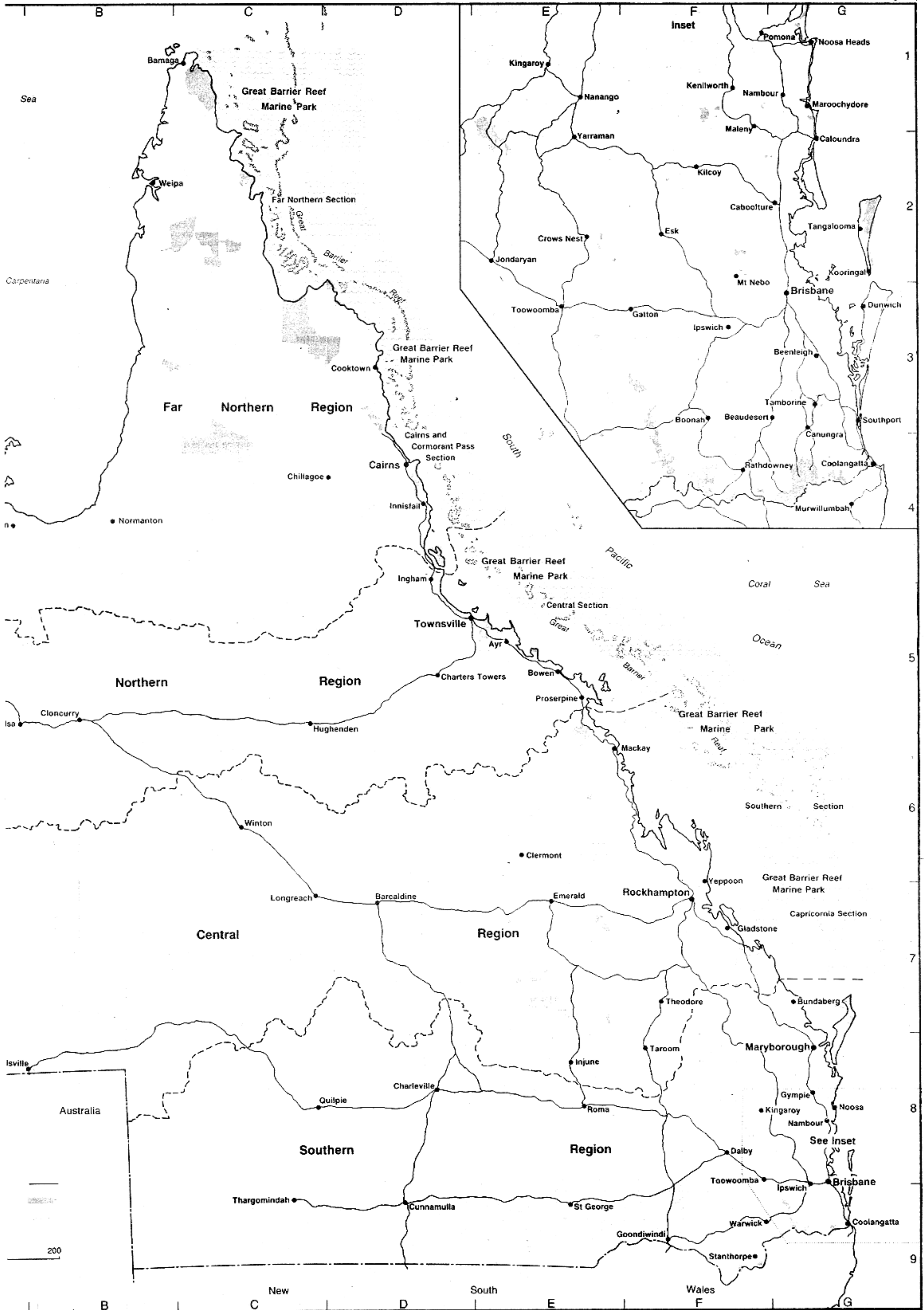
Park rangers have details of other conditions of the privilege to camp designed to protect the natural environment.



|   | Map index | Published map | Brochure | Day visitor toilets etc | Water available | Access category | Developed walking track | Provisions, fuel etc | Accommodation nearby | Developed camping nearby | Campsite without facilities | Bushwalking camping | Booking information | Notes              |  |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| C Conventional drive vehicle<br>U Unsealed road<br>B Boat<br>F Flight<br>W Walking<br>P Private |           |               |          |                         |                 |                 |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     |                    |  |
| Southern Region   |           |               |          |                         |                 |                 |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     |                    |  |
| Brisbane Forest Pk (national parks)   | F2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Brisbane Forest Pk | Developed campsite Manarina              |
| Moreton Island  | G2        |               |          |                         |                 | BU              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Moggill            | Development under way                    |
| Blue Lake (Stradbroke Island)   | G3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Moggill            | Development under way                    |
| Tamborine Mountain  | G3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Tamborine          |  |
| St Helena Island  | G2        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Moggill            | Historic area                            |
| Burleigh Head   | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Burleigh           |  |
| Springbrook   | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Moggill            | Development campsite Purlingbrook        |
| Natural Arch  | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Natural Arch       |  |
| Lamington Binna Burra   | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     | P                   | Green Mountains    |  |
| Green Mountains   | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Green Mountains    |  |
| Other areas   | G4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Green Mountains    | Queensland Recreation camp Christmas C   |
| Pine Ridge  | G3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Burleigh           |  |
| Mt Barney   | F4        |               |          |                         |                 | W               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Boonah             |  |
| Mt French   | F3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Boonah             |  |
| Main Range Cunningham's Gap   | F3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Main Range         |  |
| Queen Mary Falls  | F4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Main Range         |  |
| Girraween   | F9        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Girraween          |  |
| Sundown   | F9        |               |          |                         |                 | CU              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Sundown            | Rough access to Burrows Waterhole        |
| Lake Broadwater   | F8        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Lake Broadwater    |  |
| Bunya Mountains   | E1        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Crows Nest Falls  | E2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Ravensbourne  | E2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Conondale   | F1        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             | Primitive area. State Forest camp near   |
| Glasshouse Mountains  | G2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Kondalilla  | F1        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Mapleton Falls  | F1        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Noosa   | G1        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Cooloola Kinaba (Harry Springs)   | G1        |               |          |                         |                 | BU              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Freshwater  | G8        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Double Island Pt  | G8        |               |          |                         |                 | BU              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             | Access via beach                         |
| Great Sandy (Fraser Island)   | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             | No camping on eastern beach              |
| Woodgate  | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Mon Repos   | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Auburn River  | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Cania Gorge   | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Gympie             |  |
| Central Region  |           |               |          |                         |                 |                 |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     |                    |  |
| Keppel Group  | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Yeppoon            | Developed campsite Humpy Is              |
| Capricornia Heron Is  | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | BF              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| North-West Island   | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Lady Musgrave   | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Tryon Is  | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Other islands   | G7        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | No camping. Restricted zones             |
| Capricorn coast   | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Yeppoon            |  |
| Eurimbula   | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Blackdown Tableland   | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | Road unsuitable for vans                 |
| Isla Gorge  | F7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Robinson Gorge  | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | Last 3km 4WD only                        |
| Carnarvon Carnarvon Gorge   | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Carnarvon Gorge    | Rain closes road                         |
| Mt Moffatt  | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Mt Moffatt         | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Salvator Rosa   | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Ka Ka Mundi   | E7        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Simpson Desert  | A8        |               |          |                         |                 | U               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        | Remote area. Contact Q.NPWS first        |
| Lark Quarry   | C6        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Rockhampton        |  |
| Cape Hillsborough   | E6        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Mackay             | Developed camp Smalleys Beach            |
| Eungella Broken River   | E6        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Eungella           |  |
| Remainder   | E6        |               |          |                         |                 | CW              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Eungella           |  |
| Cumberland Gp Brampton Is   | F5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Mackay             |  |
| Other islands   | F5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Mackay             | Developed camp Goldsmith Is              |
| Northumberland Islands  | F6        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Mackay             |  |
| Northern Region   |           |               |          |                         |                 |                 |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     |                    |  |
| Whitsunday general  | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Conway  | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             | Developed camp Shute Harbour 4 day limit |
| Molle Group   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             | Developed camp North Molle Is            |
| Henning Is  | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Hook Island   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Repulse Group   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Whitsunday Island   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Thomas Is   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             |  |
| Gloucester  | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Conway             | Several islands                          |
| Bowling Green Bay general   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | BC              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Alligator Creek   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Magnetic Island   | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Townsville Town Common  | E5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         | No camping                               |
| Mt Spec   | D5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Jourama Falls   | D5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Wallaman Falls  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Porcupine Gorge   | C5        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Townsville         |  |
| Far Northern Region   |           |               |          |                         |                 |                 |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     |                    |  |
| Hinchinbrook  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cardwell           |  |
| Edmund Kennedy  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cardwell           |  |
| Dunk Island   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cardwell           | Limited camping sites 3 day limit        |
| Bellenden Ker general   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | W               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Josephine Falls   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Fishery Falls   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Eubenangee Swamp  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Frankland Islands   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Kurrimine   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Palmerston  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Davies Creek  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Daintree Mossman Gorge  | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Other areas   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | W               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Cape Tribulation Noah's Beach   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Cape area   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Other areas   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | WB              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Cedar Bay   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | WB              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             |  |
| Green Island  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | B               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | No camping                               |
| Millstream Falls  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Lake Eacham        |  |
| Mt Hypipamee  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Lake Eacham        |  |
| Lake Barrine  | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Lake Eacham        |  |
| Lake Eacham   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Lake Eacham        |  |
| Chillagoe-Mungana Caves   | D4        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Chillagoe          | See brochure for tour times              |
| Lizard Island Group   | D3        |               |          |                         |                 | BF              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Camping limit one week                   |
| Lakelfield  | C3        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Iron Range  | C2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Archer-Rokeby-Croll Creek   | C2        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Jardine River   | C1        |               |          |                         |                 | C               |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Carry extra fuel, water                  |
| Staaten River   | C4        |               |          |                         |                 | CU              |                         |                      |                      |                          |                             |                     |                     | Cairns             | Carry extra fuel, water                  |









# Guide to national parks

## Malala (1140ha)

This popular park on the D'Aguilar Range 42km north-west of Brisbane is managed as part of the 25,000ha Brisbane Forest Park. The park is ideal for day visits and picnicking, and offers scenic views of the coastal plain and walks through a variety of forest communities. Manorina (with overnight camping), Jolly's Lookout and Boom-bana are other national parks along the Mt Nebo - Mt Glorious road.

## Mt Tempest (Moreton Is) (9360ha)

Mt Tempest (265m), reputed to be the highest coastal sand dune in the world, crowns this large island composed almost entirely of sand. Park areas now cover 58 percent of the island and include wind-blown sand, heath, swamp and forests. A management centre and campgrounds with facilities are being developed. Access is via vehicular ferries, for off-road vehicles, a fast passenger ferry or light aircraft.

## St Helena Island (75ha)

An historic area off the Brisbane River mouth with restricted access. Much of the island functioned as a high security prison from 1867 to 1932. Prison labour was used for all activities including building, and some sections remain. Reached by special ferry from Manly.

## Tamborine Mountain

On and around this distinctive plateau 70km south of Brisbane are a series of relatively small national and environmental parks preserving some of the mountain's natural features of forest and waterfalls. All are popular with day visitors and most have facilities. Cedar Creek (230ha), Joalah (36ha), The Knoll (Henderson's Knob) (85ha), Witches Falls (131ha), Palm Grove (117ha), McDonald Park (12ha) and Macrozamia Grove (Franklin Park) (7ha) all have their own interesting features.

## Burleigh Head (24ha)

This complex of vegetation types including rainforest, open eucalypt forest, tussock grassland and pandanus is a landmark area in the sweep of the highly urbanised Gold Coast. Walking tracks lead to lookouts and pleasant places of retreat.

## Springbrook

A series of four parks help comprise a green mountain backdrop to the Gold Coast. Warrie (599ha) offers extensive walks past waterfalls and through forests to lookouts. Gwongorella (534ha) has tall eucalypts with rainforest gullies. Wunburra (140ha) is an area of wet eucalypt forest. Mt Cougal (788ha) is an undeveloped area for adventure bushwalking and spectacular views along the border.

## Natural Arch (212ha)

This interesting natural formation caused by cascading waters is set in an area of dense rainforest high in the Numinbah Valley. The park is popular for day visits but only the night time visitor sees glow-worms in the cave under the arch.

## Lamington (20 200ha)

Rainforest, eucalypt forest and heathland, magnificent views and series of waterfalls are features of this major park some 100km south of Brisbane. Extensive walking tracks and picnic facilities are provided in areas but others are reached only on bushwalking excursions. Access is via Binna Burra in the north-east, Green Mountains - O'Reilly's in the north-west, and several roads and tracks in the west and south.

## Mt Barney (11 400ha)

This landmark double peak (1360m) with nearby Mt Lindesay (1191m) and Mt Maroon (865m) are undeveloped areas of eucalypts and rainforest among a variety of natural features exciting bushwalkers and climbers. Reach the area via Rathdowney, 100km south of Brisbane.

## Cunningham's Gap

Part of the 10,500ha Main Range National Park with Mt Mitchell and Mt Cordeaux forming the sides of the gap through which runs the busy Cunningham Highway. Walking tracks pass through eucalypt forest and rainforest and there are several picnic areas and lookouts. Popular for day visits from Brisbane Ipswich and Warwick with overnight camping.

## Girraween (11 400ha)

Massive granite tors and outcrops tower over a diverse and often dense vegetation of eucalypts, flowering shrubs and herbs in this park 30km south of Stanthorpe. Camping facilities allow for long days walking to see birds and wildflowers in season, and swimming in creeks and holes in summer. At elevations about 1000m, temperatures are often much lower than expected. Bald Rock National Park in New South Wales adjoins.

## Sundown (6680ha)

Rugged gorges leading to the Severn River are a feature of this park reached via Stanthorpe or via Ballandean. Dense forests of cypress pine and eucalypts cover hill slopes. Facilities at campsites are being extended as the park's popularity grows.

## Conondale (2126ha)

This two-part park separated by state forest west of Conondale township preserves wet eucalypt forest and rainforest and associated fauna.

## Glasshouse Mountains

Remnant volcanic plugs of rhyolite and trachyte with forest and heath vegetation where soil has developed. Accessible from the Bruce Highway 70km north of Brisbane. Mt Coonoowrin (Crookneck) (113ha) at 523m is for climbers. Mt Beerwah (245ha) 556m, Mt Tibrogargan (291ha) 393m and Mt Ngungun (49ha) 236m are suitable for bushwalkers and families taking care.

## Mapleton Falls (26ha)

Scenic views, the falls and walks through rainforest and eucalypt forest make this another popular picnic spot 24km west of Nambour just off the Mapleton-Kenilworth road.

## Ravensbourne (100ha)

This park off the Hampton-Esk road north-east of Toowoomba preserves a remnant of the wet sclerophyll and rainforest vegetation which once covered the surrounding countryside. Ideal for a picnic and a walk.

## Crows Nest Falls (949ha)

A two-part park north and south of Persimence Creek Dam east of Crows Nest. The waterfall in the north tumbles into a steep granite gorge with mixed vegetation. A picnic area and swimming holes make the park ideal for day trips.

## Bunya Mountains (11 700ha)

An expanse of coniferous rainforest and grassy balds on the Great Dividing Range crest between Dalby and Kingaroy. Two developed campgrounds and a network of tracks make this a popular area to visit through winter nights at about 1000m elevation can be cold. Road access from Kingaroy, Maidenwell and Jondaryan.

## Noosa (382ha)

One of the most popular parks offering coastal scenery with mixed communities including dune vegetation, heath and rainforest growing on sand. Walking tracks and picnic areas. Adjacent to Noosa Heads township.

## Cooloola (39 400ha)

A vast sandy area encompassing a range of vegetation types from heathland to rainforest. Ocean beaches, freshwater lakes and coloured sands add to the variety. Access is by boat from Boreen Point, four-wheel drive vehicle on Tewantin ferry, by a special road for conventional vehicles to the Freshwater camp, and by four-wheel drive to the Double Island Point camp.

## Great Sandy (Fraser Is) (52 400ha)

The park preserves most of the northern end of the largest sand island in the world. Included are eucalypt woodland, heath and swamp vegetation which should be seen in conjunction with state forest reserves to the south. Two developed campsites. Access from Urangan and Rainbow Beach and by light aircraft.

## Woodgate (5498ha)

Pleasant beach scenery backed by a series of sand dunes and vegetation types make this park attractive for weekend visits and holidays. Wallum heath provides wildflower displays in season. Access via Goodwood.

## North Keppel Island (580ha)

Most popular of a group of continental island parks about 25km off Yeppoon. Open eucalypt forest with some pandanus along the coast with tussock grassland on exposed windward sides. Popular for fishing and camping holidays. Launch service from Rosslyn Bay.

## Heron Island (Capricorn Group) (12ha)

Greater part of this coral cay is national park with total protection for animal and plant life marine and terrestrial. Rookery for turtles and nesting area for seabirds. Access by helicopter or boat to the tourist resort and research station. No camping.

## North-West Island (Capricorn Group) (94ha)

Typical coral cay with pisonia, pandanus and casuarina vegetation about 75km north-east of Gladstone. Seabird nesting site and turtle rookery. Popular camping spot for self-sufficient groups. Minimum facilities. Reached by charter boat from Gladstone or Rosslyn Bay.

## Lady Musgrave Island (Bunker Group) (20ha)

True coral cay with a large surrounding reef 115km east of Gladstone. Popular safe anchorage with camping except bird nesting season 1 October to 28 February. Ideal for diving and snorkelling. Access by charter boat from Bundaberg or Gladstone.

## Carnarvon (217 000ha)

A combination of four areas, Carnarvon Gorge, Mt Moffatt, Salvador Rosa and Ka Ka Mundi, in the central highlands sandstone belt. Features include a variety of vegetation, spectacular escarpments and gorges, and relics of Aboriginal culture. Resort near the Gorge. Self-contained groups may explore extensive areas rarely visited by man.

## Blackdown Tableland (23 800ha)

Sandstone plateau at the junction of three ranges reached by road off the Capricorn Highway near Dingo. This park with waterfalls, a variety of vegetation and sandstone cliffs is run in conjunction with the Forestry Department. Popular camping and picnic spot distinctly cooler than the surrounding plains.

## Isla Gorge (4927ha)

This park preserves a deeply dissected sandstone range vegetated with eucalypts and wildflowers with heavy stands of softwood scrub and some brigalow on the lower flats. Suitable for self-contained bushwalking groups. By the Taroom-Theodore road.

## Simpson Desert (555 000ha)

The State's largest national park west of Birdsville complementary to an even larger conservation park in South Australia. Preserves dunefields and spinifex open-hummock grassland with some shrubs and a distinctive wildlife habitat. Suitable for the well-equipped, careful and adventurous.

## Cape Hillsborough (816ha)

Coastal park of hoop pine rainforest and open eucalypt forest with fringing mangrove areas. Popular for nature study and recreation 45km from Mackay via the Seaford road.

## Eungella (49 610ha)

Large area of tropical rainforest with some grassy eucalypt woodland west of Mackay. Most is inaccessible except to experienced bushwalkers. Tracks at Broken River pass through rainforest and lead to points of interest. Ideal for day picnics and limited camping.

## Brampton Island (464ha)

One of a group of scattered islands at the southern end of the Whitsunday-Cumberland chain. Tracks lead to viewpoints for densely vegetated islands nearby and fringing coral reefs. Tourist resort accommodation. Access by launch or air from Mackay.

## Conway (23 800ha)

This park of tall lowland rainforest, tall eucalypt forest and coastal scenery forms the mainland edge of Whitsunday Passage. Walking tracks are limited to the northern end around the camping area on the Airlie Beach-Shute Harbour road.

## Whitsunday Passage Islands

A large group of continental islands some of which are developed extensively for tourist activities. Fringing reefs, rocky outcrops and rainforest make many difficult even for bushwalkers. Whitsunday (10,930ha) is by far the largest. North Molle (259ha) and Hook (5180 ha) are also popular. Access is by launch from Shute Harbour and the resorts of Lindeman, Long and South Molle Islands, and by air.

## Bowling Green Bay (Mt Elliot) (55 300ha)

Area of extensive lowlands of relatively low rainfall. The upper slopes of Mt Elliot include the southern limit of the tropical rainforest belt. Reach the Alligator Creek camping and picnic area from the Bruce Highway 25km south of Townsville.

## Magnetic Island (2533ha)

A major part of this continental island off Townsville is national park. It features boulder strewn hillsides with hoop pine and eucalypt forest with 22km of walking track. Habitat for koalas. No camping. Regular ferry service.

## Crystal Creek - Mt Spec (7224ha)

This park along part of the Paluma Range near Townsville includes rainforest and eucalypt forest. Picnic areas and walking tracks are reached from the Bruce Highway.

## Jourama Falls (1070ha)

Series of cascades over salmon coloured granite amid lush greenery with eucalypt forest surrounds. Popular picnic area off the Bruce Highway 35km south of Ingham.

## Wallaman Falls (602ha)

One of a number of parks featuring gorge scenery and falls on the Herbert River and its tributaries inland from Ingham. Wallaman (278m) is the largest single drop waterfall in Australia. Popular camping and picnic area.

## Dunk Island (730ha)

Most of this island named by Captain Cook is national park. The rest is a holiday resort where an attempt is made to preserve the rainforest and open forest immortalised by author E. J. Banfield. Access by launch from Clump Point, via Tully, and by air. Dunk and nearby island national parks are suitable for day visits.

## Edmund Kennedy (Cardwell) (6200ha)

Explorer Edmund Kennedy traversed this area on his ill-fated 1848 expedition. Mangroves, dense rainforest, tea-tree - sedge associations, fan palm and sword grass swamps make up an outstanding park between the Bruce Highway and the coast. Suitable for picnics and camping.

## Hinchinbrook Island (39 350ha)

Largest of the island national parks separated from the mainland by a drowned river valley. Rugged rocky mountains, waterfalls, beaches, rainforest, mangroves and tall eucalypt forest make this a valuable part of the national park estate. Launches travel from Cardwell and Lucinda Point.

## Mt Hypipamee (The Crater) (364ha)

Geological curiosity similar to a volcanic crater and while solidified volcanic ash is present, the sides are of granite, a rock not directly associated with eruptive volcanic activity. Rainforest and eucalypt forest too. By the Kennedy Highway between Atherton and Ravenshoe.

## Bellenden Ker (31 000ha)

Undeveloped park covering the eastern slopes of the Bellenden Ker Range and including Queensland's highest mountain, Mt Bartle Frere (1657m). Numerous waterfalls and streams flow through dense upland rainforest, the habitat of many mammals, including the tree kangaroo, birds and reptiles endemic to Queensland. Josephine Falls in the south is a popular day picnic spot reached from the Bruce Highway south of Miriwinni.

## Palmerston (2556ha)

Walking tracks from the Palmerston Highway between Innisfail and Ravenshoe lead to many waterfalls set in luxuriant rainforest on the Johnstone River. Popular for picnics.

## Davies Creek (486ha)

This park preserves an area of eucalypt forest growing on granite soils. The creek tumbles over a 100m waterfall into a deep valley. Wildflowers in spring. Reached from the Kennedy Highway.

## Millstream Falls (372ha)

An open eucalypt area crossed by a bottlebrush bordered stream and featuring one of the widest falls in Australia (65m). A small camping area nearby. Reached 1km off the Ravenshoe-Mt Garnet road.

## Lake Eacham (490 ha)

This is a maar, a lake in the cone of an extinct volcano, surrounded by rainforest in which might be seen the musk rat kangaroo, carpet python, water dragon and Ulysses blue butterfly. For picnics, swimming and walking. Near Yungaburra.

## Lake Barrine (491ha)

Another crater lake just off the Gillies Highway 6km from Lake Eacham. A 5km track circles the lake giving excellent opportunities for nature study in the rainforest.

## Barron Gorge (2784ha)

River bed of the Barron River drops 260m into the rainforest covered gorge seen by travelling on the Cairns-Kuranda railway which winds up the gorge. Most water is held for irrigation or diverted for power generation before the falls.

## Chillagoe-Mungana Caves

A series of reserves for limestone caves, some of considerable size. Regular guided walks are offered through three, Royal Arch, Tower of London and Donna, and Ryan Imperial. Donna Cave is lit to highlight cave decorations. Reached by road from Mareeba.

## Green Island (7ha)

Most of this coral cay and surrounding reef is national park with total protection of all features. A walking track passes through varied vegetation. Launches make regular trips from Cairns. Overnight accommodation is available.

## Daintree (56 450ha)

Extensive undeveloped national park drained by many tributaries of the Daintree River. Variety of vegetation types but broad areas of tropical rainforest. For the self-sufficient bushwalker out of Mossman or Daintree.

## Cape Tribulation (17 100ha)

A vehicle ferry at the Daintree River crossing provides access to this important area of coastal rainforest. Camping areas at Noah's Beach and at Cape Tribulation are popular. The road ends at the Cape.

## Lizard Island (1012ha)

This continental island almost surrounded by fringing reefs is difficult of access some 120km north-north-east of Cooktown. An airstrip is used to service a tourist resort and a research station.

## Lakefield (528 000ha)

Extensive example of peninsula country with vegetation ranging from fringing rainforest, stringybark forest and paperbark woodland to mangroves, mudflats and open grassy plains and swamps. Natural habitat for many species of birds and also freshwater and estuarine crocodiles. Impassable in the wet.

## Iron Range (34 600ha)

True wilderness area of world significance containing the largest area of lowland rainforest remaining in Australia as well as mangroves, heathlands and open forest. The Janet and Tozer Ranges, coastal scenery and the variety of forest and wildlife impress visitors.

## Archer Bend (166 000ha)

The Archer River and tall vine forests which line it are features of this park on the western side of the peninsula. Swamps and lagoons are home to many ducks, pelicans and other waterfowl. Freshwater crocodiles are common in the river.

## Rokeyby-Croll Creek (250 000ha)

An extensive area stretching from the McIlwraith Range to the Archer River flood plain preserving a variety of peninsula vegetation types and hosting some rare and beautiful birdlife and freshwater crocodiles. Visit in the dry only.

## Jardine River (235 000ha)

This park covers most of the catchments of the largest perennial stream in Queensland, a true wilderness with a variety of vegetation types including rainforest, open forest, heath and shrubland with a corresponding variety of fauna not fully recorded. To be seen by the adventurous in the dry.



# Quarry posing problems

Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service and Queensland Museum officers hope for success in overcoming problems at Lark Quarry Environmental Park.

The problems illustrate the fragility of the environment even when experts are involved.

The dinosaur trackway at the park was revealed in careful digging in 1976-77, and the Service, the Museum and the Winton Shire Council combined to build a large roof and a walkway to protect the tracks made 100 million years ago.

The local euros found the spot ideal to shelter from the sun and the very occasional rain. Of course they left their marks!

A 2m high chain wire fence now surrounds the area.

Queensland Museum Conservator Dr Neville Agnew and staff have tackled a more demanding task — how to stop the fragile mudstone from cracking now that the protective layer of rock has been removed.

Silicone rubber is the choice for its resistance to ultra-violet light and heat, and its nominal 20-year life.

This material mixes well with the powdered rock and is applied by hand pressure gun after lengths of special form have been pressed into the bottoms of the cracks.

Lark Quarry is 110km south-west of Winton and is reached via an unsealed road.



Queensland Museum geologist with a gun of silicone rubber mixture being used at Lark Quarry.

# Surprises in survey on wildlife

Wildlife in the Brisbane region is alive and well — despite Man. This is the unwritten but inescapable conclusion of the Brisbane Wildlife Survey.

The report of the survey taken between April 1980 and October 1981 was released publicly only in August.

The report, in 93 close-typed pages plus 81 maps, is packed with detail interesting to anyone with the maintenance of wildlife in this area at heart.

The survey was a most ambitious project. The fact that fewer than 1000 responses were received to the 10 000 kits issued does not detract from the value of the survey findings.

No government or private group could hope to match the coverage or details it evoked.

The survey confirmed that Brisbane has the greatest number and range and birds and animals of any major city in Australia.

This was no surprise since the Brisbane statistical division on which the survey was based includes habitats as diverse as mangrove and rainforest.

Since the survey, the number of birds confirmed has topped 400 species. The survey found some 60 mammals including platypus and echidna.

But what might the survey have revealed had proper consideration been given to maintaining habitat over the years?

Nature is fairly resilient in the face of Man's so called development.

Otherwise how would a shy animal like the echidna been recorded from 34 suburbs including the inner suburbs of Bardon, Stafford, Chelmer, Corinda and Indooroopilly?

Or what of the reports of the rare painted snipe and grass owl at Eagle Farm?

Or platypus in 11 suburbs including Brookfield, Upper Brookfield, Kenmore and The Gap?

But how many more suburbs would be so fortunate if bulldozers had not flattened many areas for the ease of building houses?

Or gullies and so called drainage problem areas been piped and filled?

Or what if planners had over-ridden developers and insisted on leaving large tracts and corridors of natural bushland?

A repeat survey in say another 10 years might reveal substantial losses of wildlife unless local authorities and landholders work together now to preserve habitat and encourage revegetation of land changed by Man.

A strong case can be made for keeping tall trees, shrubs and even those wilderness backyards and overgrown gullies!

Benefits of the survey were many. As a low budget exercise, it brought many interesting people together to do a challenging job.

From a public view, many gained a greater awareness of nature and found that often the simple pleasures were the most lasting.

At the public meeting, Mr Ian Venables revealed that land off Collingwood Road, Birkdale, was perhaps the most rewarding for recording birds in the Brisbane region.

Some 120 species could be seen in just one hour, he claimed. Bird baths in backyards on top of a 1.5m pipe could do much to encourage local bird populations, and he had 32 species visiting his backyard regularly.

The Brisbane Wildlife Survey compiled by Wally Davies is available for \$10 posted from the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, 8 Clifton St, Petrie Terrace.

A book detailing many features of the survey finding is expected to be published soon.

## Gazettals

# Peak Range NP declared

The major additions to Coolool National Park detailed in this issue were the outstanding gazettals since the last edition of Ringtail.

But other changes are no less important.

For example, Peak Range National Park NP 108 was declared on 6 September. This preserves 784ha around Eastern Peak in central

Queensland, a distinctive landmark range east of Clermont.

A total of 27ha was added to Lamington National Park in the vicinity of the Binna Burra and O'Reilly's resorts.

Two gazettals concerned Tamborine land.

A block of just over 1ha of rainforest was added to Joalah National Park at its southern

end near where the main road reaches the plateau.

Another block of almost 82ha adjoining the northern boundary of Cedar Creek National Park became environmental park on 15 September.

Other new environmental parks are on 85.6ha block fronting Bottle Creek near Baffle Creek, north of Bundaberg, and a 12ha block fronting Tinana Creek south-east of Tiara, south of Maryborough.

## Junior Ranger corner

# What did you find?

Hello children

I thought this issue you might like to know what I found in my yard that answered the questions in the last Ringtail.

1. In my yard I found a fungus — actually I found gilled, bracket and puffball fungus. Some of you may have some fungus.

2. Introduced plants in my yard include roses, passionfruit vine, pear tree and mango tree. These are just the start.

3. I have lots of plants that provide food for animals. Insects feed on my broad-leaved pepperina, birds eat on my grevilleas 'Sandra Gordon', banksii, and pink pearl, my lemon-scented bottlebrush, weeping red bottlebrush and heath-leaved banksia.

4. Animals signs include welcome swallows next, mud wasps next, holes chewed by insects in the leaves of a swamp bloodwood, and droppings left by green tree frogs and the possum.

5. My animals homes include the welcome swallow and mud wasps nest, paper wasps nests and spiders webs.

6. Animals with six legs include silverfish, ants, mud wasps and beetles.

7. Now something that was purple was harder to find but the flowers or Melaleuca thymifolia (thyme honey myrtle) and native violets.

8. The animal with eight legs is a spider. I have lovely big huntsmen spiders sometimes.

9. Animals I located by sound include my geese, grey-growned babblers, noisy friarbirds, crows and green tree frogs.

10. In 10 minutes early in the morning I saw pied butcher birds, magpies, cattle egrets, crows, black-faced cuckoo-shrikes, blue-faced honeyeaters, my dog and the neighbours dog, the cow and my horses, my chickens, geese and ducks, a moth, several spiders and a whole tribe of welcome swallows.

Remember Eyes the ringtail possum? She got so large I had to give her to Brisbane Forest Park.

They built her a marvellous house and one day she'll be coming and going as she pleases.

Since she went to Brisbane Forest Park the house is both quiet and cleaner. She was on TV the other Sunday with Brad, the Chief Ranger.

I would be interested to hear of your experiences with native animals.

I would like to give a reminder to all interested children about Junior Rangers on Tamborine Mountain. They will be held Christmas holidays on Saturdays 17 and 24 December and 7, 14 and 21 January.

We will conduct a program on 31 December if enough children say they're coming. They will meet 10 to 11.30am at Cedar Creek National Park. Look for Ranger Liz, or me, Ranger Frances, and our sign.

## Publications

# Brochure guide to Reef

A guide to walking on the coral reef at Heron Island is among the latest Service publications.

The brochure features some detailed drawings by Service artist Julie Burnett, and a brief introduction to 'reefing'.

The display drawing shows 31 items which could be seen on even a brief walk at low tide at Heron.

The brochure was produced in consultation with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Authority publications recently have included an invitation to provide information to help prepare the zoning plan for the far northern

section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

This brochure includes a detailed map of the section which was gazetted by the Commonwealth on 1 September.

A colour poster of six types of coral trout caught on the reef will satisfy fishermen when they are not on the water.

Five titles have been added to the series of brochures on the Capricornia section.

These are Commercial Fishing, Diving, Spearfishing, Boating and Recreational Fishing.





## Lamington assault



Chainsaw attack by Michael Tytsel on branches of a large rainforest tree blocking the Mt Hobwee walking track at Lamington National Park. The tree was one of hundreds brought down during a tornado-like storm over the park on 8 September. While up to 10 men are working on clearing park tracks, all may not be re-opened until January. Turn the page for a storm report and another picture.

Read about and see the new Service workboat for the Whitsundays on Page 1. What does a wildlife ranger do? See Page 2. Also there are details about Cooloola National Park extensions, an outline of the new Service structure and By the Tail column. Page 3: Fraser Island, and work on parks. Read the guide to parks and camping before turning to pages 4, 5 and 6 for details. Page 7: Lark Quarry EP, wildlife survey surprises, Junior Ranger corner, gazettals and publications.





## QUEENSLAND NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# Where to find us

Minister for Tourism, National  
Parks, Sport and The Arts  
6th floor  
Comalco House  
cnr George and Ann Sts  
Brisbane  
PO Box 155  
North Quay, Qld 4000  
(07) 227 6181

Queensland National Parks  
and Wildlife Service  
5th, 6th and 7th floors  
MLC Centre  
239 George Street,  
Brisbane  
PO Box 190  
North Quay, Qld 4000  
(07) 224 0414

**Southern Region**  
Brisbane Regional Centre  
55 Priors Pocket Road  
Moggill  
PO Box 42  
Kenmore, Qld 4069  
(07) 202 7000

Burleigh Head  
6 Peggs Road  
Burleigh Heads, Qld 4220  
(075) 35 3183

Cunninghams Gap  
Cunningham Highway  
via Maryvale  
MS 394  
Warwick, Qld, 4370  
(076) 66 1133

Granite Belt District Office  
Girraween  
Wyberba  
via Ballandean, Qld 4382  
(076) 84 5157

Lake Broadwater  
PO Box 401  
Dalby, Qld 4405  
(074) 63 3562

Lamington  
Binna Burra  
Beechmont  
via Nerang, Qld 4211  
(075) 33 3584  
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via Stanthorpe, Qld 4380  
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c/- Post Office  
Tamborine North, Qld 4272  
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Scenic Rim  
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Boonah  
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via Warwick, Qld 4370  
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Toowoomba  
PO Box 407  
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cnr Wharf and Richmond Sts  
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(071) 22 2455

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(077) 43 2528

### Far Northern Region

Cairns Regional Centre  
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Cairns  
PO Box 2066  
Cairns, Qld 4870  
(070) 53 4533

Lakefield  
PMB 19  
via Cooktown, Qld 4871  
Laura 4D

Chillagoe District Office  
PO Box 26  
Chillagoe, Qld 4871  
Chillagoe 13

Lake Eacham District Office  
PO Box 21  
Yungaburra, Qld 4872  
(070) 95 3768

Josephine Falls/Palmerston  
PO Box 800  
Innisfail, Qld, 4860  
(070) 67 6304

Mission Beach  
Garners Beach Road  
Mission Beach  
PO Box 28  
Mission Beach, Qld 4885

Tully District Office  
Cardwell  
PO Box 74  
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(070) 66 8627

Rokeby  
PMB 19  
via Cooktown, Qld 4871

**Other organisations**  
Brisbane Forest Park  
Mt Nebo Road  
The Gap  
PO Box 118  
North Quay, Qld 4000  
(07) 30 4855

Great Barrier Reef Marine  
Park Authority  
Melton Place  
67-71 Denham Street  
Townsville  
PO Box 1379  
Townsville, Qld 4810  
(077) 71 2191

Queensland Department of  
Forestry  
13th floor  
Mineral House  
41 George Street  
Brisbane  
GPO Box 944  
Brisbane, Qld, 4001  
(07) 224 8369

New South Wales National  
Parks and Wildlife Service  
189-193 Kent Street  
Sydney  
PO Box N189  
Grosvenor Street Post Office  
Sydney, NSW, 2000  
(02) 237 6500

Australian National Parks and  
Wildlife Service  
PO Box 636,  
Canberra City, ACT 2601  
(062) 46 6211

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