



Service task spread

The ability of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service to meet its responsibilities state-wide is being enhanced.

New major Service centres have been opened at Moreton Island and Charleville, new offices are opening at Gladstone and Taroom, and work is to start on facilities at Lawn Hill Gorge, north of Mt Isa.

The National Parks Minister, Mr McKechnie, opened the Moreton Bay Ranger Base between Cowan and Tangalooma on the island's west coast on 9 May.

The base — two houses, an extensive workshop, fuel store, generator shed and pump shed — cost \$300,000.

Five staff plus two island residents are working from the base.

Mr McKechnie said the base was a tangible example of the State Government's long-term promise to make most of Moreton Island national park.

Some Moreton Island mining leases had been relinquished after complex negotiations recently.

He hoped that by the end of the year at least 90 percent of the island would be gazetted national park.

The Primary Industries Minister, Mr Turner, opened the Service's South West District Office at Charleville on 1 June.

The \$470,000 centre comprises a modern office block, ranger's residence, workshop, chiller, cages and animal pens.

A zoologist and an assistant, and a wildlife ranger and an assistant are working from the centre.

Mr Turner told 80 guests one of the officers' major functions would be supervision of kangaroo culling.

The Service Director, Dr Graham Saunders, said the nearest national parks were a long way from Charleville.

An extensive study of mulga lands was in progress to find those areas of greatest diversity for flora and habitat.

He asked guests to think now that when their grandchildren asked in the future what the mulga lands were like, there would be an area of national park not far from Charleville to show them exactly what mulga was.

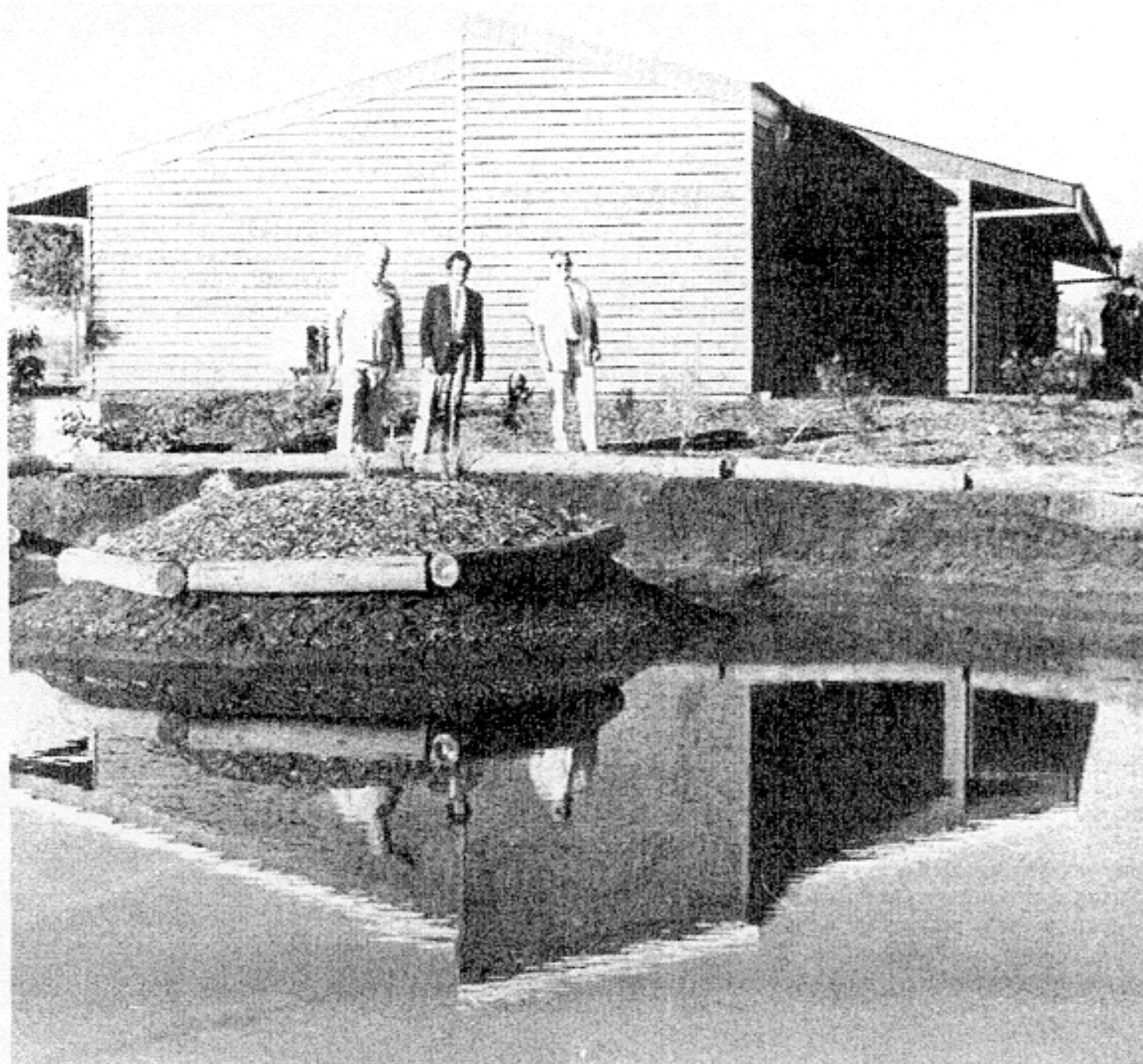
A start is imminent on facilities to prepare for a visitor influx to the proposed Lawn Hill Gorge National Park in north-west Queensland.

Mr McKechnie recently approved initial payments from a \$250,000 Budget allocation to go to the Burke Shire Council as constructing authority.

From last month, a Service officer is available at the Taroom Shire Council offices on Friday mornings to discuss area park matters.

Approval has been given for a Service office to open in Gladstone to give better service to boating people visiting the Capricornia section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Pause to reflect



Principals of builders T. T. Constructions Pty Ltd pausing to consider the work they put into this landscaping pool near the main building of the Charleville complex.

They were among 80 guests at the opening ceremony.

The pool level is maintained by rainwater run-off.

Two residences forming part of the Moreton Bay Ranger Base (below) opened recently by the National Parks Minister, Mr McKechnie.

Moreton Island staff work out of the office in the house in the foreground only 200 metres from the western beach.

Warnings on fauna

Severe penalties will be sought for anyone caught trapping native birds.

This assurance has been given by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service Director, Dr Graham Saunders.

Several warnings about fauna have been made recently.

Dr Saunders' warning followed reports to the Service of trapping of scaly-breasted lorikeets in the Hervey Bay area.

He said not only were native birds protected but the Hervey Bay area was a fauna sanctuary.

The Fauna Conservation Act provided for penalties of from \$100 to \$1000 for taking fauna in a sanctuary.

A person found guilty could forfeit traps and a vehicle and faced penalties of double prescribed royalties for each animal or bird taken.

The National Parks Minister, Mr McKechnie, said no leniency would be shown to people using protected fauna like possums to 'blood' greyhounds.

He said using de-clawed possums was seen by the community as one of the sickest acts of cruelty.

Necessary laws existed for police and wildlife rangers to prosecute unscrupulous people seeking any way to use wildlife to make an illegal quick dollar.

Under the Fauna Conservation Act, most native fauna is totally protected.

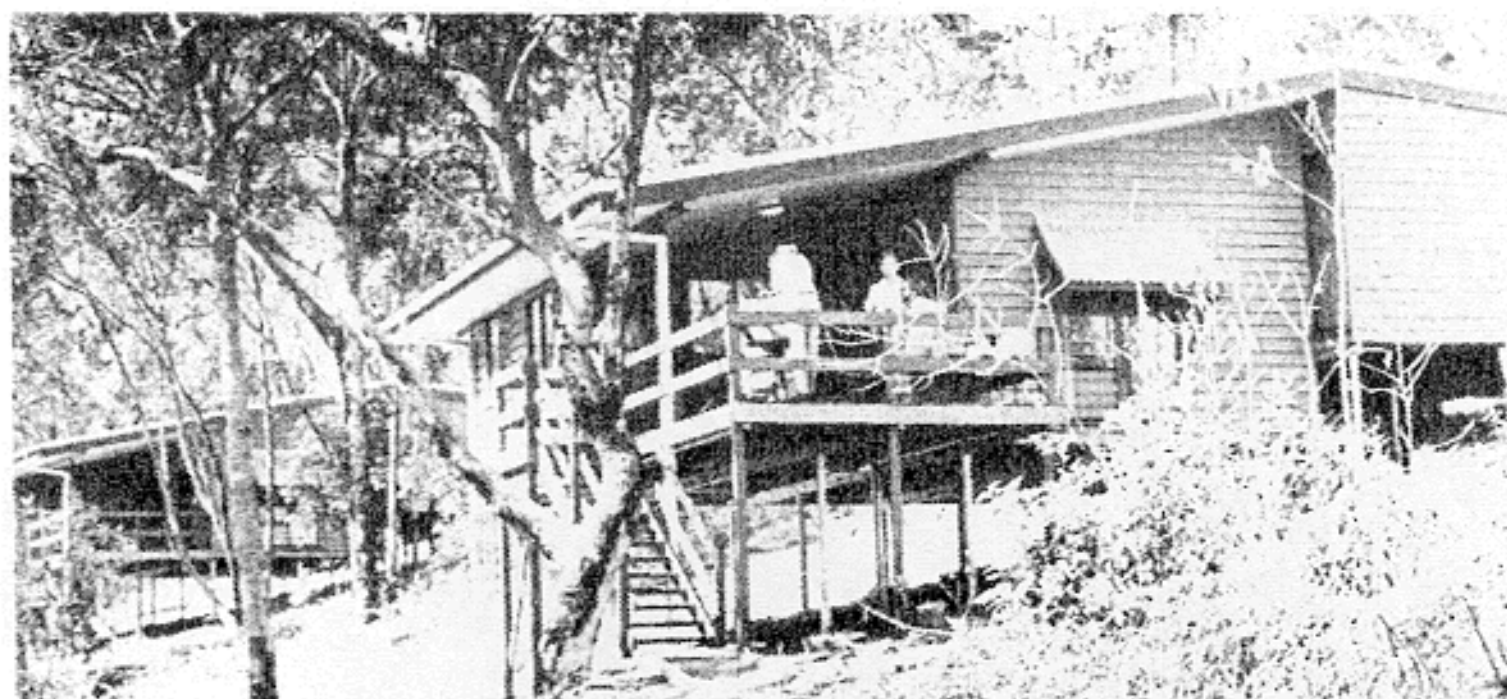
The keeping, buying, selling and moving of protected fauna requires permits.

Gazetted aviary birds, mostly exotics like canaries but also coloured mutated types of native budgerigars, may be kept, bought, sold and moved within the State without restriction.

As general policy, the keeping of kangaroos, wallabies and other native mammals as household pets is not permitted.

Injured fauna may be kept without a permit provided a wildlife ranger is notified immediately the animal or bird comes into a person's possession.

A permit to keep costs \$12 a year and may be obtained from the nearest Q.NPWS wildlife office.



To foster harmony between man and his environment, thereby facilitating the well-being of man, and safeguarding the integrity of nature.

Q.NPWS objective

Watch out for whales

After more than 30 years, a natural phenomenon of the Queensland coast is undergoing a resurgence.

In the next few weeks, the giants of the animal kingdom may be seen from prominent points along the coastline.

These include Point Danger, Point Lookout, Cape Moreton and Double Island Point.

Almost certainly, the object to be seen is the humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), for years hunted almost to the point of extinction.

In recent years, scientists and other observers along the coast have accumulated sufficient data to indicate numbers are now reaching levels where the population is 'safe'.

The humpback, along with several other species of whale, has an annual migration which takes it up the coast to warmer waters of the Great Barrier Reef to calve.

Here they are recorded by Q.NPWS staff on surveillance flights over the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Capricornia zone.

In September-October, the whales return to the south in a more haphazard and leisurely fashion.

At Cape Moreton, a small but dedicated group will be continuing to monitor this migration in much the same way as did the whalers from Tangalooma in the 1950s.

They will be attempting to record accurately the species and numbers, and in some cases, the individual animals according to body markings.

Life for them is not easy. They live in tents and are on the job in all hours of daylight in all weathers for the month or more that the task demands.

The eye cast to sea needs not only to be observant but to be trained as often passing whales give little evidence of their movement.

Occasionally the ardent whale watcher is rewarded when a north-bound group of whales stops to cavort. Then they may dally a while about the surface and produce the spectacular leaps and tail fluke 'waving' that have made the whale such a fascinating creature.

For such moments the whale watcher lives.

That commercial whaling reduced whale numbers severely is unquestioned. The drop in numbers caused the industry to fail.

Today, there can be a new commercial industry centred on the whale.

In some parts of the world like California and New Mexico, tourists venture to see such migrations.

In Queensland, a similar challenge and opportunity exists.

The spectacle of a mature whale surfacing to blow at close hand can be unforgettable.

The creature's sheer size, gracefulness, and even its encrusting barnacles at close quarters is one of the wonders of the sea.

Normally, a humpback whale will breach three to four times in a breathing cycle.

On the first, water will be expelled from the blow hole as the whale exhales. In subsequent breaches, air will be taken in.

On the final breach, the whale will dive deep exposing its huge tail flukes in an almost symbolic wave to the fascinated onlooker.

The sequence is repeated after a few minutes, or as long as 28 minutes.

Trained whale watchers pride themselves on predicting when and where the next breach will occur.

The way in which numbers are increasing gives hope that one day soon even the untrained tourist visitor may be able to see these giants of the deep in their migration.

Parks swept by storm



Wind-swept western beach of Moreton Island photographed by district ranger Vic Bushing shortly after the peak of a near-cyclonic blow on 8, 9 and 10 April. Service rangers were praised for their help to boat owners whose craft were swept ashore or sunk. Vic and Cec Hais rescued Mr and Mrs Vic Gamble from their trimaran Tropic Bird.



Bridge above Natural Arch damaged in the strong winds which swept Numinbah Valley in the same storm.



Sappers from the Army's Land Warfare Centre, Canungra, used chainsaws and slashers to assist Service staff clear fallen trees from the national parks on Tamborine Mountain after the storm.

Hundreds of trees were brought down on Springbrook, Natural Arch, Lamington, Tamborine and Scenic Rim national parks blocking popular walking tracks.

A major effort was raised to clear most tracks in time for the busy Easter period which followed.

The Army answered a request for help at Tamborine where trees and fallen limbs made many picnic areas unuseable.

Several teams of sappers came fully equipped and put in many hours of work.

Other staff worked over the intervening weekend.

Some damage to tracks was more extensive and work had to be put off until after the following holiday periods.

By the tail...

Brisbane Forest Park is offering a wide range of workshops, camps, day and night activities and lectures in its Go Bush — Winter program.

An introduction to the park's vegetation and spotlighting of possums are two involving national parks within the park.

Full details are in the BFP newspaper Bush Telegraph.

Phone enquiries to 30 4855, the BFP headquarters at Mt Nebo Road, The Gap, on the left just past Enoggera Reservoir.

Natureglides are offering a range of natural wilderness experiences, many in our national parks.

Weekend trips include Girraween, Lamington, Cooloola and Noosa. Holiday trips include Carnarvon, Blackdown Tableland, Great Sandy and the Whitsundays and several parks in north Queensland.

Phone (07) 370 7428 or (071) 48 7699 for details.

Telephone users in five Queensland regional districts have some distinctive covers on their new phone books. The Service provided a selection of flora, fauna and landscape pictures.

A framed series was presented to the Service recently by the Brisbane manager of Telecom's directories branch Mr Ron Warnock.

Travellers to Cape York Peninsula should double check their routes before they leave.

Some roads marked on popular maps are privately owned and the owners are taking steps to make sure others stay out.

The Townsville City Council has honoured the Service and the Townsville Town Common Natural History Association for contributions to the council's 'Entertainment in Parks' program.

The Service conducted guided walks at Mt Elliot and Magnetic Island. The NHA arranged guided tours of the Common each first Sunday of the month.

Pleased to record that the relatively new Rochedale State High School is prospering under its House scheme named after national parks — Lamington, Girraween, Manorina and Cooloola. Excursions to the parks are planned.

Have you wondered why so many national park features seem to have a fixation on 'blue' — Blue Pool (Lamington), Blue Lake (Stradbroke Island) and Blue Lagoon (Moreton Island)? In winter, that's your colour when you come out of them.

Keep watching the State Affairs current affairs show. Coming up are items involving Service studies on turtles and on coral trout.

Changes within the Service continue. The map in this issue marks the sub-regional boundaries in south-east Queensland. This should help readers direct their inquiries to the respective office.

Many journalists and camera crews will be out to collect several prizes of \$5000 offered for presentations of the Whitsundays area.

How many will mention that more than 90 percent of the Whitsundays is national park?

If speleology and archaeology are your things, then Probe scientific expeditions this year are for you.

Safari company Austrek and the Burke Shire have created Probe as a scientific support unit for volunteers to take part in research on Lawn Hill between Mt Isa and Burketown in Queensland's north-west.

The 15-day cave exploration trip sets out on 8 September, and the archaeological trip on 29 September.

Enquire now at Austrek's Brisbane agent Adventure World Pty Ltd, 26 Wharf Street, Brisbane (07) 31 1277.

Heath areas home to many wildflowers

Promise of spectacle

The showy mass of golden wattle, the white flowering stalk of a grass tree, and diverse patterns of pinks, mauves, golds and whites can transform the usual tones of our vegetation into a great spectacle.

Wildflowers hold great appeal to many more people than would usually be interested in the landscape, and add an extra delight to those who wish to know an area through all its changes.

The common names given to some wildflowers — poorman's gold, queen of the bush, and wedding bush — indicate some of the feeling associated with wildflowers, as do the many artworks inspired by them.

Although floral displays occur throughout Australia in most vegetation types — flowering trees, wattles, orchids in the rainforests, the rare blooming of the desert following rain and the summer flowering of the alpine herbfields all being spectacular — the heath areas provide the most regular and easily accessible wildflower displays.

The features of heathlands, being made up of shrubs and smaller growth forms and having a large number of species per unit area, allow for a large number of visible plants.

Heaths occur on areas of soil low in nitrogen and phosphorus and sometimes other plant nutrients, and are unable to support taller growth.

These soils may be derived from low nutrient parent materials — sandstone, granites and sands — or heavily leached soils, or soils where waterlogging limits the availability of nutrients.

As these conditions can occur either as extensive areas or isolated outcrops, so do heaths sometimes

cover large areas, as in the case of the coastal lowlands. Or they may be restricted to mountain tops like Mt Maroon, Glasshouse Mountains or outcrops of sandstone areas in the Great Dividing Range such as Carnarvon, Blackdown Tableland, Robinson Gorge and others.

Sandy areas within brigalow like Alton National Park, or mulga areas also allow for heath vegetation among other vegetation types.

Heath can also occur as an understory in forest where nutrients are too low to support the more usual grasses and herbs.

The low nutrient status of the soil not only affects the structure of the vegetation but also the species which occur.

The golds and yellows which predominate are the main colors of the fabaceae or pea-flowers and the mimosaceae or wattles.

Many of these plants have nitrogen fixing nodules associated with their roots.

The banksias, grevilleas and hakeas — all part of the familiar wildflower scene — are members of the family proteaceae and possess root systems which are able to finely divide to form a very effective and massive root system capable of absorbing high amounts of nutrients.

Leptospermums, baeckneas, melaleucas and eucalyptus all in the family myrtaceae, and also the families epacridaceae — the heaths — and rutaceae — boronias and wax-flowers — have mycorrhizal

(fungal) associations in their roots to allow more efficient uptake of the scarce nutrients.

The plants also need to be able to cope with fire for this vegetation type is quite flammable.

The plants regenerate at different rates so that what species are present in an area is affected by the time since fire, which in turn means that flowering is influenced by how long since the area was burnt.

Fire also seems to stimulate flowering in some plants and the Christmas bell displays, ground orchids, the flowering spikes of grass trees and the lomaria flower are all associated with the years following burning.

Time of year also greatly affects what will be flowering in an area.

Some species will carry a few flowers most of the year and have one or two peaks in flowering.

Others such as the wattle and peas have a flush of flowering in late winter and spring. In the coastal lands, it is this flush of acacias and peas which provide much of the spring flush.

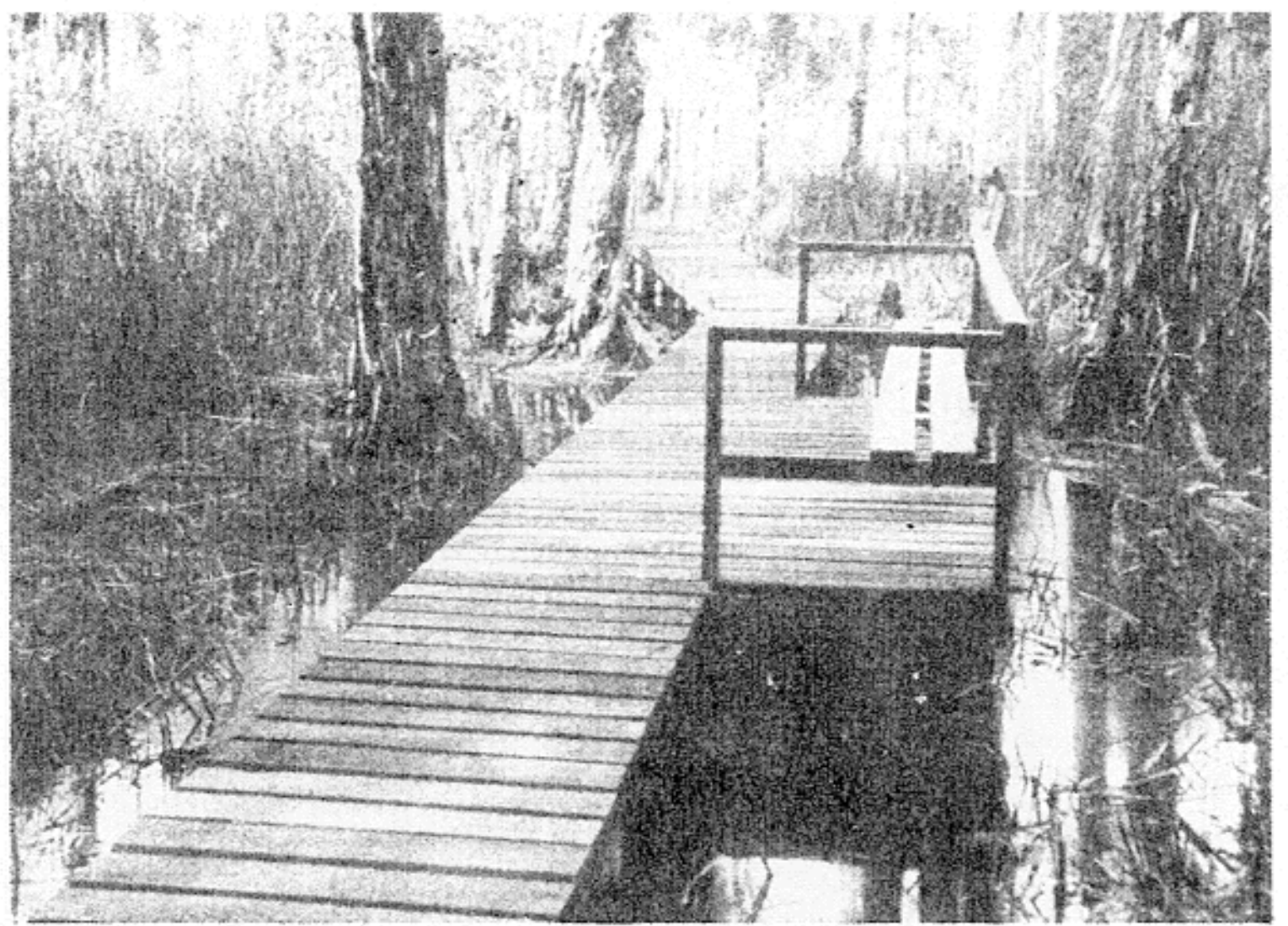
The timing of the peak seems to be determined by the temperature with a mild winter allowing earlier flowering.

Picking of flowers cannot be tolerated. In some areas harvesting of Christmas bells has led to their disappearance. Collection of blossoms reduces reproductive capacity, and also detracts from the spectacle for other viewers.

Heath plants do not transfer well and also heavy fines are imposed on those who interfere with the vegetation.

Some places where wildflowers are most likely to be seen are: Coastal heaths — Pine Ridge EP, Moreton Island, Cooloola and Noosa National Parks, Woodgate, the Sunshine Coast and Fraser Island. Heath granite — Girraween National Park. Heath sandstone — Helidon area. Mallee heath — Binna Burra (Daves Creek circuit), Mt Maroon NP. Sandstone ridges along the Great Dividing Range such as Mt Moffatt section of Carnarvon NP, Blackdown Tableland, Isla Gorge NP, Robinson Gorge, and Barakula State Forest, north of Chinchilla.

— Jenny Curnow,
Service botanist



Section of the new boardwalk in Woodgate National Park which will give access to wildflower areas not far from Woodgate township.

The 200m long 1m wide boardwalk, through a melaleuca swamp, took four men 23 days to build.

The boardwalk provides alternative access to the 6km banksia walking track in the park.

Elderly people now will be able to take advantage of a much shorter 2km walking track and boardwalk circuit.

The observation platform with seating is ideal for boardwalkers wanting to stop to watch birds or to appreciate the swamp environment.

Picnic at the boardwalk entrance.

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.

Plea to farmers

Co-operation between farmers and Q.NPWS Service officers could minimise problems about land drainage in north Queensland.

This is the view of the National Parks Minister, Mr McKechnie.

He said land was being drained illegally on to some coastal national parks in the Cairns area and further south.

'In some situations, the existence of national parks is causing legitimate drainage problems for farmers. The reverse can also apply. Some national parks gazetted to preserve unique swamp habitats in the wet tropics are in jeopardy because of activities by adjacent farmers.'

Mr McKechnie said he had asked Service officers to look at how legitimate requests concerning drainage could be met where there were no alternatives.

At the same time, the security of important remaining swamp habitats was to be increased.

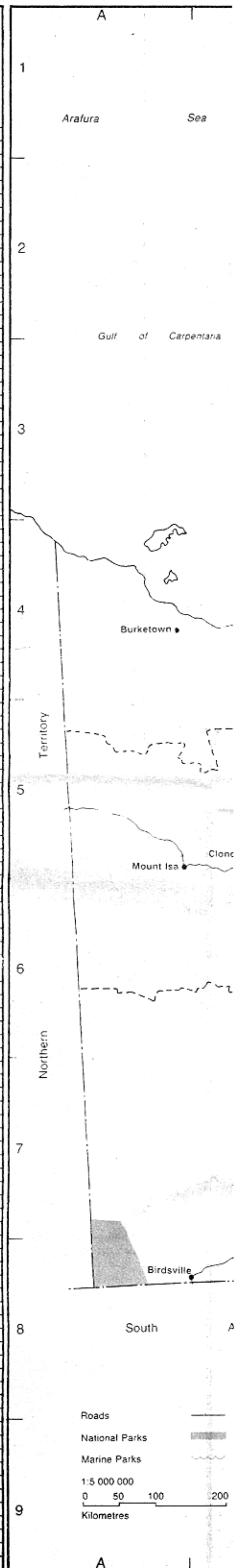
Boundaries of parks between Cairns and Tully would be examined from the air. Any new drains on to national park land would be removed.

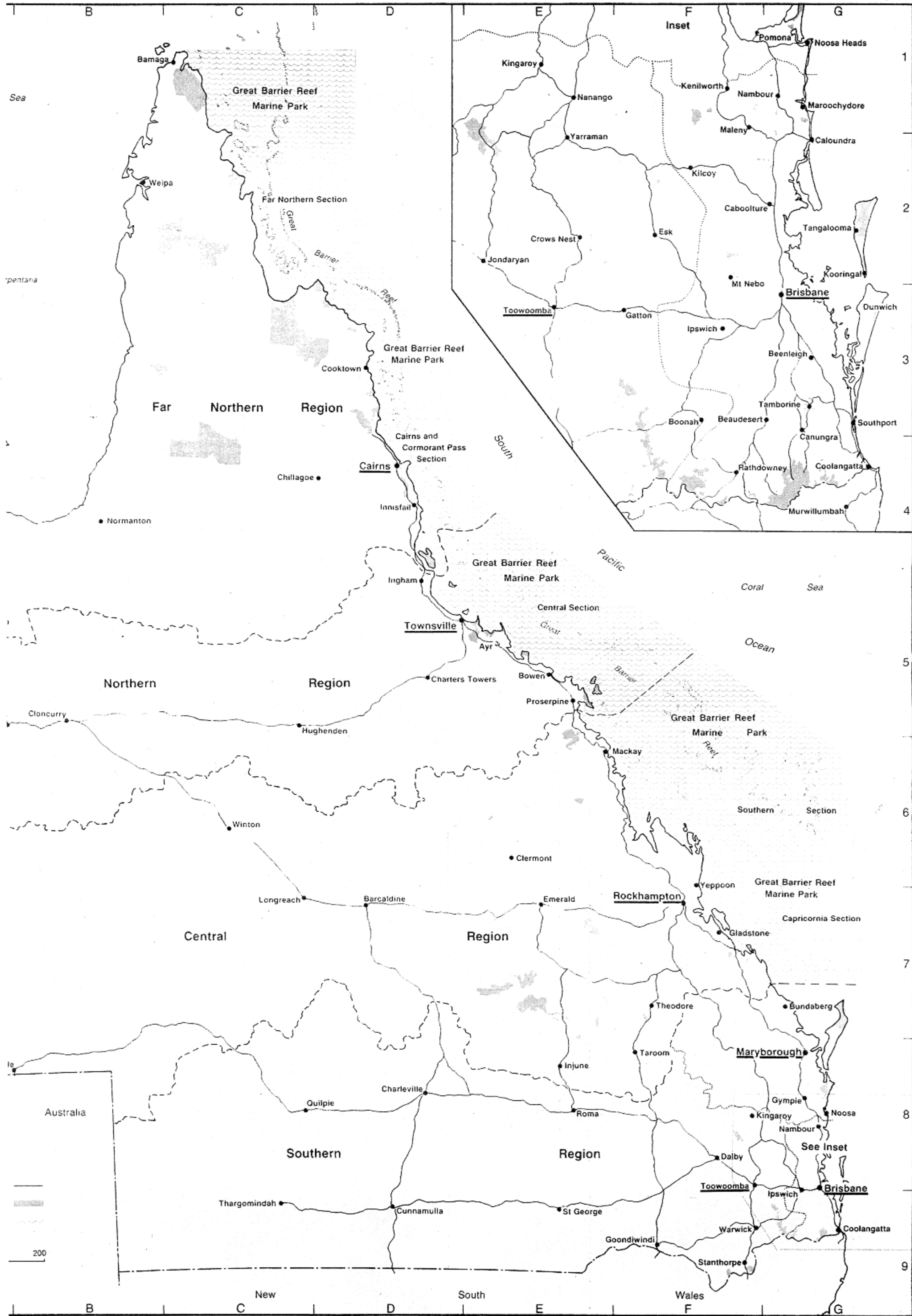
He appealed to farmers who felt they had a significant drainage problem created by a national park not to take their own action, but to contact Service regional directors in Cairns or Townsville.

Popular parks

	Map index	Published map	Brochure	Day visitor toilets etc	Water available	Access category	Developed walking track	Ranger staff	Provisions, fuel etc	Accommodation nearby	Developed camping walk in	Campsite without facilities	Bushwalking camping	Booking information	Notes
Southern Region															
Brisbane Forest Pk (national parks)	F2	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Brisbane Forest Pk BFP fee Manorina campsite
Moreton Island	G2	●	●	●	●	BU	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill Development under way
Blue Lake (Stradbroke Island)	G3	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill
Tamborine Mountain	G3	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Tamborine Cedar Creek closed
St Helena Island	G2	●	●	●	●	B	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill Historic area - Restricted access
Burleigh Head	G4	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Burleigh
Springbrook	G4	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Springbrook Developed campsite Purlingbrook
Natural Arch	G4	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Natural Arch
Lamington Binna Burra	G4	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Binna Burra
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	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Bunya Mountains
Crows Nest Falls	E2	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Crows Nest
Ravensbourne	E2	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Toowoomba
Conondale	F1	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill Primitive area. State Forest camp near
Glasshouse Mountains	G2	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill
Kondalilla	F1	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill
Mapleton Falls	F1	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Moggill
Noosa	G1	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gympie
Cooloola Kinaba (Harry Springs)	G1	●	●	●	●	BU	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gympie
Freshwater	G8	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gympie
Double Island Pt	G8	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gympie Access via beach
Great Sandy (Fraser Island)	G7	●	●	●	●	BU	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Maryborough Restricted camping on eastern beach
Woodgate	G7	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Woodgate
Mon Repos	G7	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Maryborough
Auburn River	F7	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Maryborough
Cania Gorge	F7	●	●	●	●	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Maryborough
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	●	●	●	●	CU	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	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 school holidays
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 Camping area closed
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
Lakefield	C3	●	●	●	●	CU	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cairns Carry extra fuel, water
Iron Range	C2	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cairns Carry extra fuel, water
Archer-Rokeby-Croll Creek	C2	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cairns Carry extra fuel, water
Jardine River	C1	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cairns Carry extra fuel, water
Staaten River	C4	●	●	●	●	U	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cairns Carry extra fuel, water

C Conventional drive vehicle
U Unsealed road
B Boat
F Flight
W Walking
P Private





Guide to national parks

Maiala (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 (285m), 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.

Blue Lake (501ha)

This lake is a water table window in a sand dune about 10km east of Dunwich accessible by four-wheel drive vehicle only from the main coast road followed by a short walk. Eucalypt woodland surrounds the lake which is popular for day visits. Access via vehicular ferries from Redland Bay and Cleveland.

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 (241ha)

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 (20200ha)

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 French (63ha)

This 468m peak near Boonah has a road to the top to picnic areas, walking tracks and lookouts. Several rock faces are used to learn and test climbing techniques.

Mt Barney (11400ha)

This landmark double peak (1350m) with nearby Mt Lindesay (1191m) and Mt Maroon (965m) 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 (11400ha)

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.

Kondalilla (75ha)

A waterfall dropping more than 100m is a feature of this rainforest park off the Maleny-Mapleton road. Tracks lead from a popular picnic area to the top and bottom of the falls and a swimming hole.

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 Perseverence 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 (11700ha)

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 snorkeling. Access by charter boat from Bundaberg or Gladstone.

Carnarvon (217 000ha)

A combination of four areas, Carnarvon Gorge, Mt Moffatt, Salvator 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.

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 Seaforth road.

Isla Gorge (7800ha)

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.

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.

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 Airline 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 Miriwni.

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. Camp at Noah's Beach.

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. A walking track leads to the peak where Captain Cook stood to seek a passage through the outer Barrier Reef. An unusually large variety of plant and animal species.

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 (291 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.



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Natural Arch
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Moreton Island
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Moreton Island, Qld 4004
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Cunningham Highway
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MS 394
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Granite Belt District Office
Girraween
Wyberba
via Ballandean, Qld 4382
(076) 84 5157

Lake Broadwater
PO Box 401
Dalby, Qld 4405
(074) 63 3562
Crows Nest
c/- 33 South Street
Crows Nest, Qld 4355

Sundown
via Glenlyon Dam Road
via Stanthorpe, Qld 4380
(067) 37 5235

Boonah
Mt French Road
Boonah
MS 161
Boonah, Qld 4310
(075) 63 1579 (after 6pm)

South-west District Office
Park Street
Charleville
PO Box 149
Charleville, Qld 4470
(074) 54 1279

Maryborough Sub-Regional
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cnr Wharf and Richmond Sts
Maryborough
PO Box 101
Maryborough, Qld 4650
(071) 22 2455

Gympie District Office
Lands Office Building
27 Shannon Street
Gympie
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Gympie, Qld, 4570
(071) 82 4189

Woodgate
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Woodgate, Qld 4660
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Noosa
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Noosa Heads, Qld 4567
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Sir Thomas Hiley
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Q NPWS Box
Boreen Point, Qld 4568
(071) 49 7364

Bunya Mountains
MS501
via Dalby, Qld 4405
(074) 68 3127
Mon Repos
c/- Turtle Sands Caravan Park
Mon Repos Beach
Bargara, Qld 4670

Central Region
Central Regional Centre
Royal Bank Building
194 Quay Street
Rockhampton
PO Box 1362
Rockhampton, Qld 4700
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Cape Hillsborough
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Seaford, Qld, 4741
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Carnarvon
Carnarvon Gorge
via Rolleston, Qld 4702
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via Mitchell Qld 4465

Central Highlands District
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PO Box 906
Emerald, Qld 4720
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Eungella
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Dalrymple Heights, Qld 4740
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Keppel Islands-
Capricorn Coast
Rosslyn Bay Centre
Matthew Flinders Drive
Rosslyn Bay Harbour
PO Box 770
Yeppoon, Qld 4703
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Miriam Vale
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Miriam Vale, Qld 4677

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Ingham District Office
20 Lyn Street
Ingham, Qld, 4850
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Crystal Creek-Mt Spec
c/- Post Office
Paluma
via Rollingstone, Qld 4816

Proserpine District Office
Conway
PO Box 332
Airlie Beach, Qld 4741
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Bowling Green Bay — Mt
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PO Box 1954
Townsville, Qld 4810

Magnetic Island
c/- Post Office
Picnic Bay, Qld 4816
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Barkly District Office
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Mt Isa
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Mt Isa, Qld, 4825
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Chillagoe 13

Lake Eacham District Office
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Yungaburra, Qld 4872
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Lakefield
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Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870
Lakeland 4D

Josephine Falls/Palmerston
PO Box 800
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Garners Beach Road
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Tully District Office
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PO Box 74
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Rokeby
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Lawn Hill Gorge
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MS 1463
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Holiday campers enjoying a late breakfast at one of the redeveloped camping areas at Girraween National Park, south of Stanthorpe. The main Bald Rock Creek campground was re-opened recently after work costing more than \$50,000. The project included forming 33 campsites, and a large open area for group camping, painting toilets, replacing barbecues, installing new tables, improving drainage and extending tap water. Another \$40,000 has been spent on track work from the camping ground to the Pyramids.