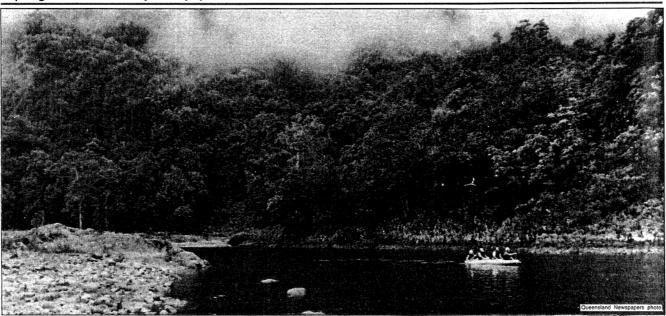
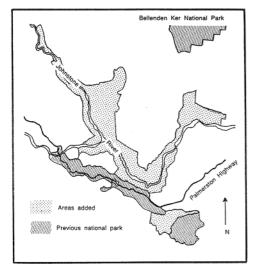


Ringtail Parks AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Spring issue Quarterly newspaper of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service September 1986



Paddlers enjoying the scenery along the Johnstone River in the newly gazetted extension to Palmerston National Park included the Premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, and National Parks Minister, Peter McKechnie.



Map locates the park extensions in relation to the previous national park areas.

Gorge diverse

Recent national park gazettal of 10 698 hectares along the Johnstone River, north Queensland, involved two areas proposed more than 20 years ago.

By addition, and amalgamation of McNamee Creek National Park, Palmerston National Park has been extended and recalculated at 14 200 hectares.

Land centred on Cooroo Peak west of Innisfail was one of 20 lowland rainforest areas proposed by Dr Len Webb. This consists of an anomalous complex mesophyll vineforest on rocky basaltic soils dominated by Johnstone River hardwood, Backhousea bancroftii.

This is a cyclone disturbed type which provides an unusual example of succession leading to a dense understorey.

The proposal for most of the remainder — former state forest and timber reserve — originated from the North Queensland Land Classification Committee report, investigated subsequently by Forestry Department and Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service officers.

Incorporation of areas below 300m and the linking to the McNamee Creek area ensures a continuity of habitat up to 700m.

The park's vegetation diversity is enhanced and now includes many types previously conserved inadequately in national parks.

As well as significant areas of lowland rainforest on basalt below 100m, hardwood forests also occur with modified rainforest types. Thus there is a wide range of tropical rainforest species, some believed to be confined here.

Thus the park supports many species of fauna, especially some species of birds which normally occur at higher altitudes in this latitude.

Above the gorge, the terrain consists of plateaus and terraces — residuals of the old overlying basalt flows.

The area's scenic values were not lost on the original investigators. One wrote in 1964:

'There are few remaining places where a stream of this magnitude flows through long, unbroken stretches of dense jungle.

'The gorge itself is an impressive example of nature's handiwork. A fascinating richness of flora has evolved exhibiting a variety of colour, form, texture and bloom in season.

'In this setting, the perennial charm of flowing water rushing over rock falls and rapids or rippling in quieter reaches is doubly enhanced.'

Message from the Minister

A 12 per cent increase for the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service in the recent State Budget will allow the Service to continue and develop important conservation initiatives in 1986-87.

Given Australia's difficult economic climate, the allocation of \$28.5 million is pleasing.

A total of \$2,050,000 will be allocated to capital works projects while \$920,000 will be spent on new development and redevelopment projects.

A further \$300,000 is provided for

grants to local authorities for access roads to national parks.

An allocation of \$300,000 has been made towards costs of new programs and initiatives such as information centres at Cardwell and Gympie.

The Fauna Squad's budget has been increased, funds have been allocated to operate computer systems installed last year, and staff development and park operating budgets have been boosted.

Other initiatives include:

upgrading the Service's radio communications.

upgrading the Service's vehicle

- provision of urgently needed equipment for fire management, administration and park maintenance.
- funding for more crocodile management work and research, and
- funding for control of feral animals and noxious weeds.

Peter McKechnie

Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and The Arts



Mr McKechnie

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

Q.NPWS goal

Go survey New alternative at koalas

Koalas in Queensland, beware! You are about to be spotted.

The Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service is co-ordinating a state-wide koala survey as part of a national survey by the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service with financial support of American Express International Inc.

Organizers hope between now and the new year volunteers in the field will complete forms to provide accurate assessments of the location and abundance of wild koala populations, preferred habitats, status of habitats, and a basic measure of the incidence of disease.

The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, the Queensland Conservation Council, the Australian Koala Association and the Koala Preservation Society of Queensland are co-operating.

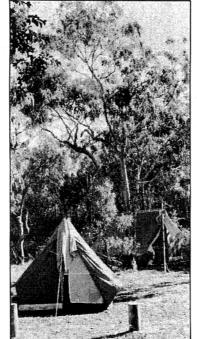
But any individual or interest group may take part. The forms have instructions and advice for even inexperienced observers. The forms are designed for computer entry but are quite

This month the Education Department is distributing forms including a supplementary form for Queensland to schools.

Searches for koalas are best carried out on foot during the day.

Direct queries to koala project officer Ross Patterson, PO Box 42, Kenmore, Qld 4069, or phone him at the Southern Regional Centre, Moggill, 202 0200.

More koalas live in the wild in Queensland than any other state. The more observers offering to help the greater the area surveyed.



One of the many level, grassy campsites set in natural bushland of the Service's new Waddy Point campground. The campground cost \$42,000 and the ranger base, water supply and equipment \$115,000.

Fraser Is.

A new campground at Waddy Point opened last month is another Q.NPWS initiative to have visitors to the northern end of Fraser Island expand their horizons.

With the Great Sandy National Park headquarters of Dundubara, the camparound offers a sheltered bush camping area with amenities.

The campground is an attractive alternative to staying along the island's famous eastern beach where prevailing winds can turn a pleasant holiday into a great sandy experience.

Opening the campground, National Parks Minister Peter McKechnie stressed there was no move to ban beach camping.

But word of the quality of the Waddy Point campground with its 80 individual sites set among natural bushland, showers and toilets, lighting and picnic areas, ranger base and office just a minute's drive up from the beach would spread quickly around

Mr McKechnie revealed that in the five months of the Fraser Island Recreation Board's control to

30 June, almost 50 000 people had visited Fraser Island.

While visitor numbers had declined this year, in the long term the Government's decision to take greater control of Fraser would benefit not only the island's environment but be a great boost for tourism

Fishermen were among the first to move into the campground after its opening. Some sites are suitable for large tents and trailer boats

Camping permits are required. Site booking is recommended for school holidays and other busy

A new track leads to the campground from the main track north of Indian Head and is a shortcut to Waddy Point beach.

In recent weeks, the Rainbow Beach office has been issuing 100 Fraser Island permits a day, more at weekends.

the tail...

The new landscape series of posters produced by the Service has been acclaimed as 'the best'

1986 Desert to Reef calendar.

Like most other Service posters, they may be bought only at major Service offices for \$2 each or \$10 for the set plus \$2 packing and postage for up to six posters, or \$3 for seven or more.

Postal orders are handled only through PO Box 190, North Quay.

The price of \$2 is an introductory one and a price increase is likely after

* * *
Are you looking for a gift for that person who has everything? Look no

The Wilderness Walk opened recently in Brisbane, has provided the solution. Taped bird calls in glorious stereo playing non-stop indoors seem to have caught the fancy of many visitors.

The tapes are recorded and marketed by a remarkable West Australian, John Hutchinson. He sells four tapes present offering an Australia-wide range of calls for the discerning ear.

Each comes with a script — details of recording, date, time, temperature, wind velocity and even cloud cover.

Details of background sounds and bird behaviour during calling are noted also

Join the BBC and CSIRO in using John's work by offering your next quests a melodious duet and a tinkling

What about the spangled drongo and the brush cuckoo for those who do not want to leave!

Kings Music, Billabong Bookshop and the Queensland Museum, Brisbane, sell the tapes for around \$11. They are also sold in Townsville and Cairns

Veterinarian Tony Wood returned recently from inspecting three zoos in Japan where Queensland koalas have been or will be gifted through the Service.

All seven animals are in excellent condition with two females now pregnant.

Hirakawa Zoo at Kagoshima and Saitama Children's Zoo in Queensland's sister state have reported double previous attendances.

Saitama, 250 000 saw two male koalas in the first month after

Construction of a multi-million dollar koala facility for the last gift — to Yokohama's Kanazawa Zoo — is

Elebana Falls (Lamington), Lower Tchupala (Palmerston) and Blencoe feature in a new book Waterfalls of

Fortitude Press, PO Box 97, Fortitude Valley, has reprinted an Aboriginal epic about the Bunya Mountains in the last century

The Feast of the Bunya, by Cornelius Moynihan, was published in 1901. The reprint costs \$4.95.

number of Brisbane Forest Park's Go Bush Spring activities start in national

Details in the BFPs Bush Telegraph newspaper or phone 300 4855 * * *

Almost 200 venturers are at the halfway point of their north Queensland expeditions as part of Operation

Data and findings from at least six projects will keep Service staff busy for a long time.

Deen Brothers bulldozers preparing a building site at Fairfield, Brisbane, carefully avoided a nesting plover

Visitors have remarked favourably on the return of scrub turkeys and swamp wallabies to the Freshwater campground, Cooloola National Park, now crossbred dogs have been

The Service extends its information and education activity to a new area with a large display on rural nature conservation at Westech, Barcaldine, on 23-24 September.

Some areas of the Great Barrier Reef are zoned 'reef appreciation areas where fishing by any means or collecting of any marine product is not permitted.

Soon these important conservation zones will be marked - just off the reef edge by yellow buoys and on the shore by yellow sentinal-type posts.

Information on boundaries will be on each marker, plus the do's and don'ts. Look out for them or look out for the Ranger as these areas are protected

Australian Volunteer Coast Guard. Cairns, is \$5000 closer to the cost of its new headquarters near the Marlin Jetty and a popular boat ramp

In turn, the Service will be offered space to create and maintain an eye-catching Marine Parks display.

More than one commercial tour operator to national parks should review their

The Service is not aware of national parks named Kakamundi, Salvatore Rosa, Daintree River, Arakun and

What are the tree planting days in

Officially, 1 September is Wattle Day.

Legally, schools are required to observe Arbor Day in May or September but only on the third or last Friday.

An Education Office Gazette notice soon

will confirm details for teachers.

* * *
Responses to the calling by the Service for expressions of interest into the development and operation of campgrounds at Kooringal and Bulwer on Moreton Island are being considered by senior management staff

Discussions with interested parties about details are to follow.

Talks between Service officers and Noosa Shire Council have followed consideration of a number of proposals from commercial bodies to develop and operate a tea room/kiosk complex at Laguna Lookout, Noosa National Park. * * *

Visitors to the Moogerah Peaks and Main Range national parks should be aware of The Land of the Green Ginger, a modern, comfortable country questhouse near Mt Greville

This is considered an ideal base for the mountaineer, bushwalker, naturalist, photographer and water sportsman.

Meals for non-residents are available on request.

Phone Rosemary and Michael Barrett on (075) 63 5650 (preferably evenings).

Eleven Americans will join an Earthwatch expedition to survey yellowfoot rock wallabies in southern Queensland this month.

Wallabies will be fitted with radio transmitter collars in an attempt to locate their normal habitats and feeding

Since its official opening in May, more than 5000 people have visited the Service's Cardwell Information Centre

Most have spent up to 30 minutes looking at displays including 'Norm', and 'Herbie', the talking possum.

The (artificial) rainforest diorama is so real people ask the secret of our success and the local paper says it is 'growing in the building'

* * *

Displays at the Heron Island Information Centre were completed recently

The next challenge for staff will be displays at the Gympie Information Centre opening soon.

* *

A special 12-page edition of Ringtail was produced for the Brisbane Show and 20 000 copies distributed.

This edition has an increased print run of 30 000. All park offices have copies. Readers are reminded Ringtail is not available on a regular mailing basis.

See the park from the white water

if you dare

Visitors to Barron Gorge National Park near Cairns may now experience the park in a new way inflatable rubber raft.

White water rafting is a minimum impact pastime popular in a number of overseas national parks.

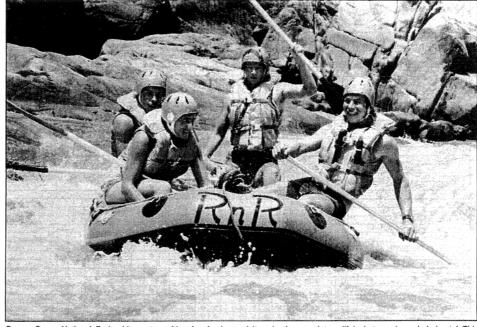
While private paddlers have been able (and will still be able) to use their own craft on suitable streams in national parks, this is the first time the Service has granted permits for commercial

The permits are subject to conditions to protect the park and to benefit its management.

The course is about 5km, shorter and less demanding than the usual rafting venture, but as exciting and scenic.

A three-hour excursion out of Cairns is expected to be very popular with tourists when river levels are normal

Dry weather this year for example has prevented daily trips down the Barron Gorge, even with small rafts.



Barron Gorge National Park white water rafting fun for keen visitors in the mandatory lifejackets and crash helmets! This group was on a trip conducted by the rafting company Raft 'n' Rainforest

See St Helena Survey finds young on 28 Sept. A survey of Brisbane area residents indicates

In opening St Helena Island National Park to the public on Sunday, 28 September, the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service has two aims

One is to give people the opportunity of sharing their meniories of the island and, if desirable, recording them.

The other is to show how Queensland's first national park declared an historic area is being managed in 1986.

Because St Helena has had a role in settlement since the 1830s, many people are believed to have pictures, documents, diaries and other relics associated with its history.

Some people may have had relatives or may themselves been linked with the island.

People visiting the island on 28 September will have the surroundings, displays and talks to help jog memories.

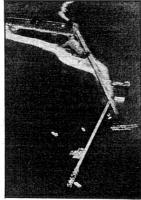
They will be invited to complete forms giving brief details for possible further action by Q.NPWS staff. Material is not required on the open day.

For all visitors, displays and staff will explain how and why the Service is tackling the problems of managing the historic area in cooperation with other Queenaland Government organizations and other authorities

They will be able to move from feature to feature in groups to hear what rangers have to say and to ask questions.

The island is open from 9am to 4pm. A ferry service will run from Manly boat harbour jetty.

The Mingela will cruise from the Golden Mile ferry terminal, Creek Street, Brisbane, at 9.30am stopping at Mowbray Park and



Latest air view of the new jetty projecting north-west from the auseway at the island's

Hamilton. Telephone 399 5054 for details and bookings.

Private craft are welcome Commercial boats will have preference at the new jetty (see

Light refreshments will be on sale Toilets and water will be provided. Bring gas barbecues for picnics.

There is limited shelter from rain. Insect repellent may be handy Access for disabled people is difficult at present.

Some sections of ruins are unstablé or hazardous. Some will be flagged. Parents should supervise children

Only extremely windy or rainy weather will force a postponement. The Service can take no responsibility for any arrangements made by vessel operators in connection with the open day.

Phone the Southern Regional Centre, 202 0200, for further

changing community attitudes towards nature

Two-thirds viewed 'nature conservation' as the most important role of national parks, an opinion held by a high 80 per cent of people 18

This fell to 69 per cent of people 45-59 and to under 40 per cent for those 60 and

The survey indicates many young Brisbane residents have environmental issues in schools, in newspapers and on television in recent years.

The survey was initiated by the Service to gauge the public's understanding and use of national parks

A private consultant included

know role

Service-worded questions in a regular 'omnibus' survey

Trained interviewers asked the questions at 300 households selected randomly in the Brisbane statistical division (Redcliffe and Caboolture south to Logan City and west to (pswich.)

The survey method ensures consistency of results through the precision of its research design and a high standard of fieldwork procedures.

The survey showed that about half of Brisbane households have at least one member who has visited a national park in the last year. The average number visited in the same time is just over two.

Education — to help people

was seen as the most important role of national parks by a significantly higher proportion of non-park visitors

When residents were asked to name the national parks visited, the understanding of the term varied considerably.

Just under one-third were able to name the parks. One in 20 gave unrelated answers.

The survey revealed that national park visitors are likely to be: aged 18 to 29, young couples, people with tertiary education, people whose jobs are 'upper white collar' and people from households with income greater than \$30,000 a

Fish guaranteed almost

Fishermen are being asked to participate in a unique experiment to measure the vulnerability of Great Barrier Reef fish to hook and line.

Results will have far-reaching application in reef fish stocks management.

The experiment will be conducted by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service's maritime estate staff around Boult Reef, 100km east of Gladstone in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Capricornia Section.

Boult will be re-opened to fishing on 1 December after being closed for almost threeand-a-half years to allow fish stocks to replenish.

fish will be caught, tagged and released in the area in a project funded partly by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Fishermen wetting a line at Boult Reef after 1 December will be asked to record their catches and fishing times in a 'fishing log' to see how many fish are recaptured in the first few weeks.

A Marine Parks vessel will be at the reef for at least two weeks to supervise.

The experiment's purpose is to determine what fraction of a fish population is caught by rod and line each year.

Scientists have very little understanding of how populations of major reef species such as coral trout are affected by the ever increasing fishing pressure in the Great Barrier Reef Marine

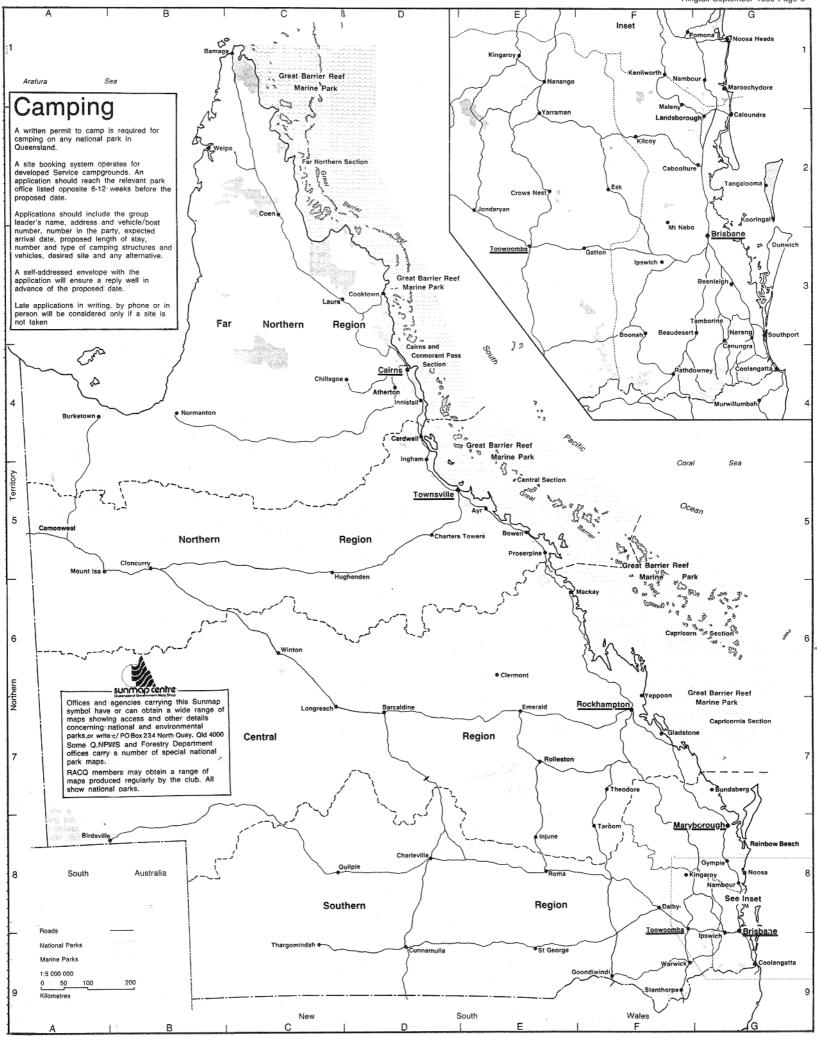
Prizes are being offered to fishermen participating.

Charles Alvey and Sons has offered a \$420 Reef Queen deck fishing winch to the catcher of the lucky fish tag

and O Resorts has offered a three-day luxury stay on Heron Island for two for the prizewinner from all participants.

Commercial and amateur fishermen and boat operators willing to help should contact Service offices in Gladstone or Rockhampton.

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Parks for the people

Malala (1140ha)
This popular park on the D'Aguillar Range is manage da spart 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 varied forest communities.

Moreton Island (15 400ha)

Moreton island (15 auuna) MT Tempest (285m) crowns this large island composed almost entirely of sand. Park areas now cover 89 per cent of the island and include wind-blown sand, heath, swamp and forests. A management centre and camp areas with facilities are provided. Access is via vehicular ferries for off-road vehicles, fast passenger boat or light aircraft.

Blue Lake (501ha)
This lake is a water table window in a sand dune about 10km east of Dunwich accessible from the main coast road by a short walk. Popular for day visits.

rine Mountain (total 594ha)

Tamborine Mountain (total 594ha)
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 forest and waterfalls. All are interesting and popular with day visitors.

teresting and popular with day visitors.

St Helena Island (74ha)
An historic area off the Brisbane River mouth with restricted access. Much of the Island functioned 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. Schools must contact the Darling Point Special Education Centre.

Burleigh Head (24ha)
This complex of vegetation types including rainforest, open eucalypt forest, tussock grassland and
pandanus in a landmark aréa in the sweep of the
highly urbanised Gold Coset. Walking tracks lead to
lookouts and pleasant places of retreat.

Springbrook (total 2084ha)

springbrook (total 2084ha)
Four parks comprise a green mountain backdrop to the Gold Coast. Warrie offers extensive walks past waterfalls and through forests to lookouts. Gwongorella has tall sucalypts with rainforest guilles. Windburra, an area of wet eticalypt forest, and Mt Cougal are undeveloped areas 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 visite sees glow-worms in the cave under the arch.

Lamington (20 100ha)
Rainforest, eucalypt forest and heathland, magnificent (views and waterfalls are features of this majorpark some 100km south of Brisbane. Extensive
walking tracks and plcnic facilities are provided in
areas but other are reached only on bushwalking
excursions. Access is via Binna Burra in the northwest, Green Mountains — O'Reilly's in the northwest, and several roads and tracks in the west and
south.

Pine Ridge (109ha)
An environmental park, the last major area of natural costal lowlands on the Gold Coast. Vegetation of heath, swamp and woodland 8km north of Southport. Boardwalked track suitable for

N., Barney (11 400ha)

This landmark peak (1360m) 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

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

Main Range (11443ha)
This park includes the main western part of the Scenic Rim system: At Cunningham's Gap, walking tracks pass through eucalypt forest and rainforest. Popular area for pichics and camping, Spicer's Gap to the south has an interesting history. Bushwalkers revel in many areas in this diverse nark.

Queen Mary Falls (339ha)

This waterfall in tall open eucalpypt woodland with rainforest gullies is not large but is a pleasant spot for families 10km east of Killarney. A second part includes Blackfellow Knob to the north.

part includes Blackrellow knob to the north.

Girraween (11 400ha)

Massive granite fors 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 particularly to see birds and wildflowers in
season. At elevations about 1000m, temperatures
are often much lower than expected.

Sundown (6680ha)
Rugged gorges leading to the Severn River are a feature of this park reached via Stanthorpe or via Ballandean. Dense forests or cypress pine and eucalypts cover hill slopes.

Lake Broadwater (1220ha)
An environmental park near Dalby important as a waterfowl habitat and as an example of natural Darking Downs country. Popular recreation spot.

Bunya Mountains (11 700ha)

An expanse of conflerous rainforest and grassy balds on the Great Dividing Range crest between Dalby and Kingaroy. This popular area has two developed campgrounds and a network of tracks.
Winter nights at about 1000m elevation can be cold.

Crows Nest Falls (949ha)

The waterfall in the north tumbles into a steep granite gorge with interesting mixed vegetation. A picnic area and swimming holes make the park ideal for day trips.

Ravensbourne (100ha)
This park off the Hampton-Esk road preserves a remnant of the wet sclerophyll and rainforest vegetation which once covered the surrounding countryside. Ideal for a picnic and a walk.

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

Glasshouse Mountains
- Hemnant volcanic plugs of rhyolite and trachyte with
forest and health vegetation, Mt Coonoowrin
(Crookneck) (113ha) at 525m is for climbers, Mt
Beerwah (245ha) 556m, Mt Tibrogargan (291ha)
393m and Mt Ngungun (49ha) 236m are suitable for
bushwalkers and families taking care.

Kondalilla (128ha)
Kondalilla Falls is a feature of this rainforest part off
the Maleny-Mapleton road. Tracks lead from the pic-nic area to the falls and swimming hole.

Mapleton Falls (26ha) A small park off the Mapleton-Kenilworth road offer-ing scenic views, a waterfall, rainforest and eyealypt forest walks.

A popular scenic coastal park, preserving dune vegetation heath and rainforest. Walking tracks and picnic areas.

Dictine areas.

Cooloola (39 400ha)
A coastal sand park featuring ocean beaches, freshwater lakes, coloured sands and vegetation from healthland to rainforest. Access by boat from Tewantin and Boreen Point, four-wheel-drive from Rainbow Beach and Nosa or by conventional vehicle from Rainbow Beach. Camping areas at Double Island Point, freshwater and along Nosa River.

Great Sandy (Fraser Island) (52.400ha)
The park preserves most of the northern end of it argest sand island in the world. Included are eucalypt woodland, heath and swamp vegetation. Two developed campsites. Access by boat, four-wheel-drive and barge from Urangan or Rainbow Beach and by light aircraft.

Woodgate (5490ha)
Pleasant beach scenery backed by sand dunes and coastal vegetation make this park an attractive holiday spot. Wallum health wildflower displays in season. Access via Goodwood:

This small environmental park preserves a turtle rookery on the coast 14km east of Bundaberg. At night from November to January loggerhead turtle nest here. Occassionally flatback and green turtles are seen. From January to March turtle hatchlings

Auburn River (389ha)
The scenic Auburn River Gorge is the main attraction of this park. Road access Mundubbera via Hakwood road (27km).

Cania Gorge (1020ha)
The sandstone gorge, its luch vegetation and dripping water are features of this popular park. Road access Monto via Moonford road (26km).

Morth Keppel Island (580ha)
Most popular of a group of continental island parks
off Yeppoon. Open eucalypt forest, pandanus along
the coast and tussock grassland on exposed windward sides. Popular for fishing and camping

Heron Island (Capricorn Group) (12ha) Greater part of this corcal cay is national park with total protection for animal and plant life marine and terrestrial. Rookery for turtles and nesting area for

rrorth West Island (Capricorn Group) (94ha)
Typical coral cay with pisonia, pandanus and
casuarina Vegetation. Seabird nesting site and turtle
rookery. Popular camping spot for self-sufficient
groups. Minimum facilities. Reached by charter
boat.

Lady Musgrave Island (Bunker Group) (20ha) True Coral cay with a large surrounding reef.

Popular safe anchorage with camping, Ideal for diving and snorkeling. Access by charter boat, day tour fast catamaran and amphibian aircraft.

Carnarvon (223 000ha)

Carnarvon (223 uruna)
A combination of four areas, Carnarvon Gorge, Mt
Moffatt, Salvator Rôsa and Ka Ka Mundi, in the
Central Highlands sandstone belt. Features include
a variety of vegetation, spectacular escarpments
and gorges, and relies of Aboriginal culture. Gorge
camporound is very popular. Wilderness experience
offered in may other parts.

Double Head and Bluff Point (107ha) are coastal features for day picnickers 8km south of Yeppoon.

Eurimbula (7830ha)

A biologically important area where tropical and sub-tropical environents overlap. Rainforest and swamps on deep sand backed by grassy eucalypopen forest.

Blackdown Tableland (23 800ha)

Sandstone plateau at the junction of three ranges near Dingo. Height above the surrounding plains, vegetation, waterfalls and walking tracks makes the park a popular day plionic and camping spot.

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

Simpson Desert (555 000ha)

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. For the well-

Lark Quarry (374ha)

Environmental park south-west of Winton preserving evidence of a dinosaur stampede 100 million years

Cape Hillsborough (816ha)
Coastal park of hoop pine rainforest and open eucalyst forest with fringing mangrove areas.
Popular for nature study and recreation.

Eungella (49 610ha)
Large area of tropical reinforest with some grassy eucalypt woodland west of Mackay. Most is inaccessible except to experienced bushwalkers. Tracks at Broken River and Finch Hatton Gorge 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.

Conway (23 800ha)
This park of tall lowland rainforest, tall eucalypt This park of tell lowland reimforest, tail eucurapy, to 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. Fr-inging reets, rocky outcrops and rainforest make the Hook (5180ha) are also popular. Access is by launch from Shute Harbour.

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 camp-ing and picnic area from the Bruce Highway 25km south of Townsville.

Magnetic Island (2709ha) a major part of this continental island off Towns autional park. It features boulder strewn hillsic with hoop pine and eucalypt forest with 22km of valking track. Habitat for koalas. No camping.

Townsville Town Common (3272ha) An outstanding environmental park adjacent to a large city featuring coastal wetland habitat. Popular day visit area.

Crystal Creek — Mt Spec (7224ha)
This park along part of the Paluma Range near
This park along part of the Paluma Range near
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 in land from Ingham. Wallaman (278m) is the largest single drop waterfall in Australia. Popular camping and pionte area.

Porcupine Gorge (2938ha)

Relatively inaccessible area north-east of Hughenden challenging the adventurous.

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 eucabyte forest. Launches from Cardwell and Lucinda Point.

cumuno Kennedy (8200ha)
Explorer Edmund Kennedy traversed this area on his ill-fated 1948 expedition. Mangroves, dense rain-forest, tea-free — 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.

Dunk Island (730ha)
Most of this island named by Captain Cook is national park. A holiday resort immortalized by author EJ, Banfield, Access by launch and plane. Suitable for day visits.

Bellenden Ker (31 000ha)

Bellenden Ker (31 000ha)
Undeveloped park covering the eastern slopes of
the Bellenden Ker Range and including
Queensland's highest mountain, Mt Bartle Frere
(1857m). Numerous waterfalls and streams flow
through dense upland rainforest, the habitat of
many mammals, including the tree kangaroo, bird
and reptiles endemic to Queensland. Josephine
Falls in the south is a popular day picnic spot.

Eubenangee Swamp (1520ha)
A long boardwalk helps visitors see this last natural coastal swamp area between Townsville and Cairns.

Barron Gorge (2784ha)
The Barron River drops 260m into the rainforest covered gorge seen by travelling on the Cairns-Kuranda railway. Most water is held for irrigation or diverted for power generation before the falls.

Michaelmas Cay (3ha)
With nearby Upolo Cay, one of Queensland's most important seabird nesting areas.

Palmerston (14 200ha)
Walking tracks from the Palmerston Highway between Innisfail and Ravenshoe lead to many water falls set in luxuriant rainforest on the Johnstone River. Suitable for camping and picnics.

Davies Creek (468ha)

Davies creek (woons)
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,

Mt Whitfield (292ha)

Scenic rainforest and open forest area on the northern outskirts of Cairns with tracks, shelter sheds and views over city, sea and countryside.

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 Tributation (16 965ha)
A vehicle ferry at the Daintree River crossing provides access to this important area of coastal

Cedar Bay (5650ha)
Northern extremity of the wet tropical rainforest region south of Cooktown still relatively inaccessible. Green Island (7ha) Most of this coral cay and surrounding reef is na-tional park with total protection of all features. A walking track passes through rainforest. Launches make regular trips from Cairns. Overnight accom-

Milistream 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

Mt Hypipamee (The Crater) (364ha)
Geological curiosity similar to a volcanic crater and
while soldlifed volcanic ash is present, the sides are
of granite. a rock not directly associated with eruprive volcanic activity. Rainforest and eucalpyt forest
too. By the Kennedy Highway between Atherton and
Bauenchion.

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.

Lake Eacham (490ha)
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.

Chillagoe-Mungana Caves A series of reserves for limestone caves. Regular guided walks are offered through Royal Arch and Donna. Donna Cave is lit to highlight cave Lizard Island (1012ha)
This continental island almost surrounded by fringing reefs is north-north-east of Cooktown. A walking track leads to the peak where Captain Cook stood to seek a passage through the outer Barrier Reef.

Lakefleld (537 000ha)
Extensive example of peninsula country with vegetation ranging from fringing rainforest, stringsbybark
forest and paperback woodland to mangroves, forest and paperpack woodland to mangroves, mudflats and open grassy plains and swamps. Natural habitat for many species of birds and also freshwater and estuarine crocodiles.

Iron Range (34 600he)
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 waterflowl. Freshwater crocodiles are common in the river.

Rokeby (291 000ha)

Rokeby (291 000ha)
An extensive area stretching from the Mcliwraith
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 (253 000ha)

varume river (253 000ha)
This park covers most catchments of the largest perennial stream in Queensland, a true wilderner with a variety of vegetation types including rainforest, open forest, heath and shrubland with a cresponding variety of fauna not fully recorded. For the adventurous in the Dry.

Lawn Hill (12 200ha)

Remote casis-like area between Burketown and Camooweal in the far north-west. Permanent waters of Lawn Hill Creek are contained by rich red sandstone walls forming a gorge which protects remnant rainforest species, some endemic.

declarations

A new national park, extensions to five others, three new environmental parks, a fauna reserve and two fauna sanctuaries have been declared in Government Gazettes recently.

The new park is Nicoll Scrub, a 23.8ha remnant of sub-tropical rainforest in the Currumbin Valley in the Gold Coast hinterland.

The Queensland Government paid \$150,000 for the land which has a much higher market value in an area under intense development pressure.

The block, 9km south-west of Currumbin Post Office and fronting Tomewin Road, comprises high hilly rainforest country with complex vineforest on volcanic

On lower slopes, emergent rainforest species merge into vine and piccabeen palm forest.

Palmerston National Park was extended greatly (see report, picture page one).

further 943ha in three lots was added to Main Range National Park along the Scenic Rim.

More than 689ha was bought for more than \$100,000 to add to the park at the headwaters of the

Mt Neilson is the prominent feature of 249ha block 25km south-west of Boonah added also.

Another 5.1ha block added lies just east of Cunningham's Gap.

A 2.4ha former road reserve has been added to Queen Mary Falls National Park near Killarney, and this name will also now apply to what was Blackfellow Knob National Park 2km north.

This area was enlarged by 28.3ha of undisturbed eucalypt forest with a frontage to the Condamine River.

A 456ha block of open forest with bloodwoods, bluegums and livistona palms with melaleucas in damp areas is now part of Eurimbula National Park

The land, accessible through the existing national park off the Seventeen Seventy road from Miriam Vale, became available with the surrender of a sand

Hasties Swamp, a small wetland national park south of Atherton, was enlarged by 8.7ha to give a definite boundary to the swamp's eastern edge.

Boat Mountain, a 38,3ha former scenic reserve north-west of Goomeri and north-east of Murgon, is now environmental park.

Murgon Shire has plans to build an access road to the park boundary this financial year

Two parts of Turkey Island in Great Sandy Strait totalling 69.6ha are now environmental park.

This area of mangroves and open eucalypt forest on sandy ridges is an undisturbed habitat for birds.

Another block of land given to the Service by benefactor Mr Edward Corbould for a nominal \$1 has been gazetted environmental park.

The 175ha block is 10km southeast of Bundamba and features largely undisturbed eucalypt and acacia woodland.

At the request of the Atkinson family of Minnamoolka Holding, via Ravenshoe, an outstanding waterbird habitat of 980ha on the property has been declared fauna refuge.

The declaration puts restrictions on stocking, cultivation, fencing and drainage to further conserve the habitat noted by naturalist John Gilbert in 1845

The owners of Collingvale, Proserpine, and Tolivar, Canungra, have had their wishes for fauna sanctuary status gazetted

New nature Wilderness trail a park first More remote areas of Cooloola National Park are now accessible to

A wilderness trail opened last month is the first of its kind in a Queensland national park.

keener visitors.

The trail is as the name implies — not a graded track but a path that should be fairly easy to follow.

The trail starts at the Mullen car park off the Gympie-Rainbow Beach road and ends 44.6km later at Elanda Point, Lake Cootharaba.

Much of it passes through the Noosa River western catchment, added to the park

For the next couple of months, users should be treated to a display of wildflowers. But there will be attractions about the walk at most times of the year.

The trail's concept caught the local community's attention two years ago and volunteers did much of the work with Q.NPWS and CEP staff help.

The country traversed is generally level and includes low open heath, open woodland, rocky hills with views of wet heath swamps and sand patches, then rainforest and flooded gum forest along Kin Kin Creek with areas of open grassland on the Elanda plains.

There are four walk-in camping areas including two waterholes - Neebs and Wandi.

Required permits to camp may be obtained from park offices These are necessary to record visitors' intentions when bushfires threaten

The trail may be started from either end or individual sections walked.

The trail generally follows the way believed to be taken by shipwreck survivor Mrs Eliza Fraser before she was

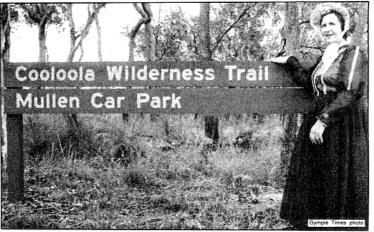
rescued from Aboriginals on the northern shore of Lake Cootharaba in 1836.

The opening by the Q.NPWS Director, Dr Graham Saunders. on 16 August was part of celebrations commemorating the 150th anniversary of the

Dr Saunders said national parks in Queensland were declared for their scenic, scientific or historic interest.

The area traversed by the trail had outstanding attributes of all three criteria.

While Eliza Fraser may have despaired at looking from East Mullen mountain for an easy way to Brisbane, people today could be pleased to realize that the landscape she saw remained natural after 150 years and would remain so in national park.



Cr Olive Macklin, of Noosa Shire, in period costume to represent Eliza Fraser at the official opening of the Cooloola Wilderness Trail last month.

Junior Ranger column

There's a frog in my bathroom

This is all about Fred the bathroom frog. Fred is a 'tree

Many who live in the city will say 'ugh!'. Those who live in the country will not be so fussed for I suspect many of you have had frogs in the house, usually in the bathroom

How did Fred get into my toilet? I live on a small hectarage and I think Fred crawled up the overflow pipe through the septic tank and then up the pipe into the toilet.

It was too cool and dry to have climbed in from outside. Besides, the bathroom is in a high set house which was closed.

After my first surprise, I got used to Fred and even looked for it (not him, for all I know it might be a

Fred disappeared in the dry weather but reappeared after some

I called it Fred after the frog in the book for older children, Shadows among the Leaves, by Bill Scott, I read recently.

I know Fred is a 'tree frog' because its toes have suction disks so it can climb. But it is not green. It has yellow-orange webs between the toes on its feet and is grey-brown with darker brown-black blotches.

I think it might be a Peron's tree frog but it is a bit quick for me to catch to make sure.

I am very fond of Fred which eats large numbers of spiders, silverfish, cockroaches and insects which fly into my house.

See if you can change a toad into a frog in 10 words.

- a buden you carry a type of soil
- another word for froth or suds
- a baby horse
- what people who are silly are you have two attached to your
- --- to rub, especially in tanning
- a Dutch housewife
- what the toad is now

dictionary!), frow and frog. Answers: toad, load, loam, foam, foam, foal, foot (see Make your own jumping frog. You will need a piece of paper 5cm by

1. Fold the right corner over till it meets the left side of the paper. Crease and unfold. Now fold the

left corner so it meets the right side, crease and unfold.

Fold down the top edge to form a crease through the X formed by the first folds. Unfold.

2. Push the top edge down. The two side folds should meet under the centre.

3. Fold the left and right flaps created in two so their edges meet at the top point. Crease the folds. Divide the flaps in half by folding it away from the point (back on itself). This creates the frog's head and frost less and front legs.

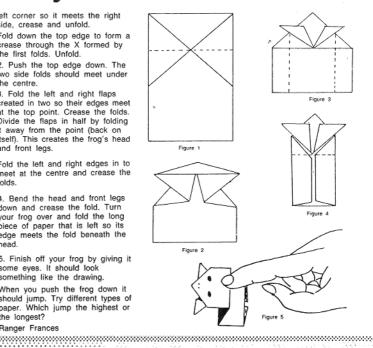
Fold the left and right edges in to meet at the centre and crease the

4. Bend the head and front legs down and crease the fold. Turn your frog over and fold the long piece of paper that is left so its edge meets the fold beneath the

5. Finish off your frog by giving it some eyes. It should look something like the drawing

When you push the frog down it should jump. Try different types of paper. Which jump the highest or the longest?

Ranger Frances





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202 0212 (narks) Moreton Sub-Regional Office see Regional Centre

Eastern Scenic Rim District g/ District Ranger see Regional Centre

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Fleay's Fauna Centre Kabool Street West Burleigh, Qld 4219 (075) 56 2194

Pine Ridge 103 Pine Ridge Road Coombabah, Old 4216

via Mudgeeraba, Qld 4215 (075) 33 5147

Natural Arch via Nerang, Old 4211 (075) 33 6156

Central Scenic Rim District Office see Regional Centre

Tamborine Mountain North Tamborine Old 4272 Lamington National Park

Binna Burra section Beechmont via Nerang, Qld 4211 (075) 33 3584 Green Mountains section via Canungra, Qld 4275 (075) 45 1734

Mt French Road Boonah, Qld 4310 (075) 63 1579 (after 6nm)

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c/ District Ranger

Charleville, Old 4470

Maryborough, Old 4650

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Woodgate, Old 4660

Bundaberg, Qld 4670

Great Sandy District Office

Rainbow Beach Road PO Box 30 Rainbow Beach, Old 4570 (071) 86 3160

Fraser Island Base

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Freshwater Base

c/ Park Overseer

c/ Park Overseer Dundubara, Qld 4570

Fraser Island Recreation Board

Bundaberg District

Woodoate

c/ Post Office

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(071) 79 2628

c/ Q.NPWS

Mon Repos PO Box 1735

via Dalby. Old 4405

Crows Nest Old 4355

South West District Office

Wide Bay-Burnett Sub-Regional

onr Wherf and Richmond Streets

Crows Nest Falls/Bavensbourne

Glass House Mountains Office Roys Road

Beerwah, Old 4519 (071) 94 6630 Mt Glorious c/ Post Office Mt Nebo Old 4520

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Girraween via Ballandean, Old 4382 (076) 84 5157

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



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c/ Park Overseer Springsure, Old 4722

PO Box 175 Taroom, Qld 4420

Blackdown Tableland

Aackay District Office 84 Victoria Street PO Box 623 Mackay, Old 4740 (079) 57 6292

Cape Hillsborough MS 895 Seaforth, Qld 4741 (079) 59 0410

c/ Post Office Dalrymple Heights, Old 4740 (079) 58 4552

Northern Region Northern Regional Centre Marlow Street PO Box 5391 Townsville Mail Centre, Old 4810 Mossman, Old 4873

Gympia District Office Lands Office Building 27 Channon Street Proserpine District Office PO Box 350 Conway PO Box 332 Gympie, Qid 4570 (071) 82 4189 Airlie Beach, Old 4802 (079) 48 9430

Sir Thomas Hiley Centre Q.NPWS Box via Tewantin, Old 4565 (071) 49 7364

Noosa Heads, Old 4567 (071) 47 3243

Kondalitla/Manleton Falls 3 Kondalilla Falls Road Flaxton via Nambour, Qld 4560 (071) 45 7301 (noon and 4pm)

Hinchinbrook District Office PO Box 1293 Ingham, Old 4850 (077) 76 1700

Jourama Falls PO Box 1293 Ingham, Qld 4850 (077) 77 3112 Mt Spec-Crystal Creek Main Street CMB 16 Paluma, Old 4816 Paluma 2G

Cardwell Office PO Boy 74 Cardwell, Old 4816

Edmund Kennedy PO Box 74 Cardwell, Old 4816 (070) 66 8850

2nd floor Mt Isa House onr Camooweal and Mary Streets PO Boy 2316

Far Northern Region 41 Esplanade PO Box 2066 Cairns, Qld 4870 (070) 51 9811

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

Lawn Hill PMR 12 Mt isa, Old 4825

Northern Einsleigh District Office PO Box 38 Chillagoe, Old 4871 Chillagoe 13

Trinity District Centre

Mission Beach Office PO Box 89 Mission Beach, Old 4854

Josephine Falls PO Box 93 Miriwinni Old 4971

PO Box 800 Innisfail, Qld 4860 (070) 64 5115

Daintree District Office see Regional Centre

PMB 10

(070) 60 2162

PMB 30

Cape York District see Regional Centre Lakefield National Park PMB 29 Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870

Burdekin District Office see Regional Centre

Mannetic Island Picnic Bay, Old 4816 (077) 78 5378

Bowling Green Bay _ Mt Elliot Townsville, Qld 4810 (077) 78 8203

Charters Towers PO Box 187 Charters Towers, Old 4820 New Laura PMB 79 (070) 60 2160

Cairns Mail Centre, Old 4870

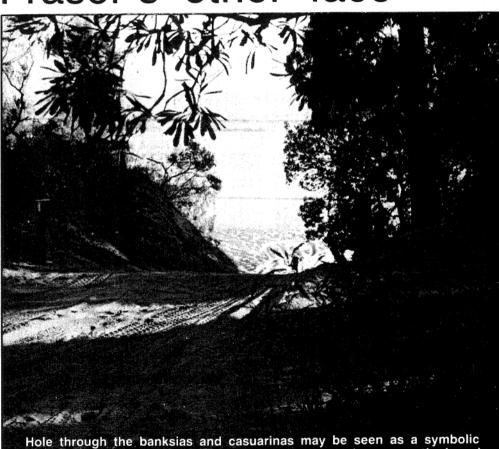
PMB 28 Cairns Mail Centre Old 4870

Heathlands Cairns Mail Centre, Qld 4870

Ringtail @



Fraser's other face



new link between Fraser Island's famous beach and ocean outlook and its rewarding, diverse inland landscape. Through this passes a boarded track for four-wheel-drives leading to the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service's new Waddy Point campground a few metres away. Turn to page two for a campground report and another picture.

