

# Fitzroy River Mouth

## MAINLAND ISLAND CHARACTERISTICS

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	Queensland
<b>NRM Region</b>	Fitzroy
<b>LGAs</b>	Gladstone Regional Rockhampton Regional
<b>Size</b>	104, 000 hectares
<b>Dominant Type</b>	Mangroves
<b>Land Tenure</b>	Agriculture Crown land
<b>Surrounding Issues</b>	Land use Pest density Weed density



Overall Priority	Conservation Value	Threat Status
Very High	Very High	Very High

## Key Biodiversity Values

### Key biodiversity and conservation values of FITZROY RIVER MOUTH

- 34 threatened species
- 3 threatened communities
- 25 migratory species
- Very high species richness
- Very high endemism
- 4 nationally important aquatic ecosystems
- Native vegetation present
- Vertebrate pest species present

## CONSERVATION VALUE

Categories	Ranks/Scores
<b>1 Biodiversity values</b>	Very High (16)
<b>2 Uniqueness</b>	Very High (4)
<b>3 Representativeness</b>	Low (1)
<b>4 Adjacency</b>	Very High (4)
<b>5 Area to perimeter ratio</b>	High (3)

## THREAT STATUS

Categories	Ranks/Scores
<b>1 Density of pest species</b>	High (6)
<b>2 Pest impact level</b>	Very High (4)
<b>3 Invasion fronts/range boundaries</b>	High (3)
<b>4 Land use risk</b>	Very High (5)
<b>5 Weed density</b>	Very High (4)
<b>6 Area without statutory protection</b>	High (3)



# Key Threats and Impacts

## Pest Species Present or Potentially Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cane toad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral cat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral pig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rodents
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carp, European carp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feral deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feral water buffalo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tilapia, Mozambique Tilapia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European red fox	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral donkey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Indian Myna, Common Myna	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weather loach; Oriental weather loach
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	European wild rabbit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral goat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mosquito fish, Plague Minnow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wild dog
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feral camel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral horse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red-eared slider turtle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

## Potential impacts of pest species on matters of National Environmental Significance

<b>Feral water buffalo</b> <i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	<b>European red fox</b> <i>Caretta caretta</i> <i>Natator depressus</i> <i>Chelonia mydas</i> <i>Numenius minutus</i> <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i> <i>Erythrorhynchus radiatus</i> <i>Rostratula australis</i> <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> <i>Sterna albifrons</i> <i>Macronectes giganteus</i> <i>Xeromys myoides</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i>	
<b>Cane toad</b> <i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i> <i>Denisonia maculata</i>	<b>Feral goat</b> <i>Pterodroma neglecta neglecta</i>	
<b>Feral cat</b> <i>Apus pacificus</i> <i>Paradelma orientalis</i> <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> <i>Pterodroma neglecta</i> <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> <i>neglecta</i> <i>Macronectes giganteus</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i> <i>Monarcha melanopsis</i> <i>Xeromys myoides</i> Brigalow ( <i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co-dominant)	<b>Feral pig</b> <i>Chelonia mydas</i> <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> <i>Natator depressus</i> <i>Epthianura crocea macgregori</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i>	
<b>Wild dog</b> <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i> <i>Sterna albifrons</i> <i>Natator depressus</i>	<b>European wild rabbit</b> <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> <i>Macronectes giganteus</i> <i>Pterodroma neglecta neglecta</i>	

### Other threatening processes

- Situated on pest invasion front / range boundary
- High risk land use
- High density of Weeds of National Significance
- Lack of statutory protection

### Highest priority biodiversity issues

Pest impacts on *Rheodytes leukops*

Pest management actions listed in recovery plans for marine turtles and *Epthianura crocea macgregori*

Impacts of cats and foxes

Other threatening processes



## CRITICAL SYNOPSIS OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT REGIME

<b>Need for vertebrate pest management</b>	<p>The Upper Fitzroy River mainland island is known to contain a number of threatened and migratory animal and plant species protected under the Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992(NC Act) and the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999. The Queensland Environment Protection Authority and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service are legally obliged to protect threatened species and manage pests under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and the Nature Conservation Act 1992.</p> <p>Rundle State Forest occurs within this mainland island. Pest animals have the potential to impact on plantation productivity within Rundle State Forest, the natural environment and agricultural production in both State forest and adjoining lands by damaging crop trees and other vegetation, competing for food resources and directly preying on desired animal species.</p>
<b>Planning instruments</b>	<p>The following management strategies and policies provide details of the management of vertebrate pests within this area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capricorn Pest Management Group Regional Pest Management Strategy 2004-2009</li> <li>Rundle Range National Park and Rundle Range Resources Reserve Plan of Management (QPWS, 2000)</li> <li>Sustainable Forests Pest Management Strategy 2008 (FPQ, 2008)</li> <li>1992 National Forest Policy Statement</li> </ul>
<b>Management actions</b>	<p>Capricorn Pest Management Group undertakes the following pest management activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of information, knowledge and research regarding pest issues</li> <li>Provides a framework for collaboration between stakeholders</li> <li>Assists with sourcing funds for pest management and developing property pest management plans</li> </ul> <p>Additional management actions are likely to be outlined in the future Rockhampton and Gladstone Regional Councils pest management plans.</p> <p>Pest management requirements are addressed in the Queensland Sustainable Forests Pest Management Strategy (FPQ, 2008).</p> <p>QPWS identified that further surveys of pest animal abundance in Rundle Range National Park and Rundle Range Resources Reserve was required. Following determination of the pest species in the area, appropriate control measures would be developed and implemented (QPWS, 2000).</p>
<b>Monitoring regimes</b>	<p>Capricorn Pest Management Group maps and monitors pest infestations to determine high priority areas and the level of infestation.</p> <p>Additional monitoring actions are likely to be outlined in the future Rockhampton Regional Council pest management plan.</p> <p>The Sustainable Forests Pest Management Strategy 2008 (FPQ, 2008) states that operational staff will monitor the effectiveness of pest control programs according to agreed mechanisms and performance indicators.</p> <p>Pest animal occurrence within the Rundle Range National Park is monitored continually (QPWS, 2000). No reports are publicly available on the outcome of these surveys.</p>
<b>Management responsibility</b>	<p>Forestry Plantations Queensland</p> <p>Private Landholders</p> <p>Queensland Environment Protection Agency</p>
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b>	<p>Capricorn Pest Management Group coordinates the most cost effective expenditure of effort and resources across stakeholders.</p>
<b>Special features</b>	<p>Waters adjacent to this mainland island are designated Fish Habitat Areas declared under the Queensland Fisheries Act.</p>
<b>Summary / comments</b>	<p>New management plans should be available for regional Councils in the near future.</p>

**References:**

Forestry Plantations Queensland (2008) Forestry Plantations Queensland Sustainable Forest Management System Pest Management Strategy. Forestry Plantations Queensland.

<http://www.fpq.qld.gov.au/data/portal/00000005/content/18524001210060912011.pdf>

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (2000) Rundle Range National Park and Rundle Ranges Resource Reserve Plan of Management. State of Queensland.

[http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/publications/p02805aa.pdf/Rundle\\_National\\_Park\\_\\_Rundle\\_Range\\_Resources\\_Reserve.pdf](http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/publications/p02805aa.pdf/Rundle_National_Park__Rundle_Range_Resources_Reserve.pdf)

