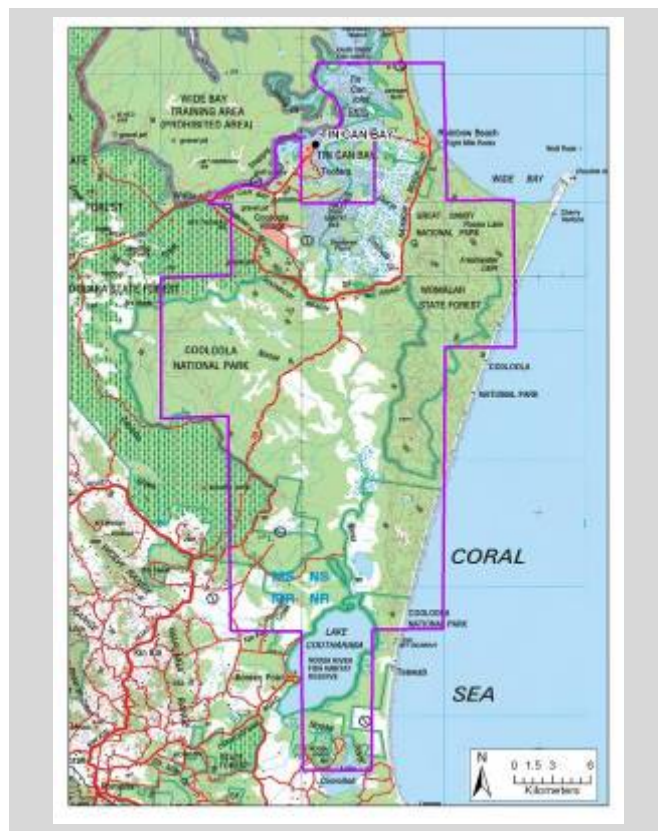


# Great Sandy National Park

## MAINLAND ISLAND CHARACTERISTICS

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	Queensland
<b>NRM Regions</b>	Burnett Mary South East Queensland
<b>LGAs</b>	Fraser Coast Regional Gympie Regional Sunshine coast Regional
<b>Size</b>	74, 000 hectares
<b>Dominant Type</b>	Eucalypt open forests
<b>Land Tenure</b>	National Park Ramsar wetland
<b>Surrounding Issues</b>	Land use Pest density Weed density



Overall Priority	Conservation Value	Threat Status
Very High	Very High	Medium

## Key Biodiversity Values

### Key biodiversity and conservation values of GREAT SANDY NATIONAL PARK

- 45 threatened species
- 37 migratory species
- Very high species richness
- Very high endemism
- Coolool-Great Sandy Region, Noosa NP and Lakes system, Coolool Section of Great Sandy NP and Wide Bay Military Reserve National/Commonwealth Heritage Places
- Great Sandy Straight (inc Great Sandy Straight, Tin Can Bay and Tin Can Inlet) Ramsar wetland
- 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>	High (3)
<b>3 Representativeness</b>	Medium (2)
<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>	Medium (4)
<b>2 Pest impact level</b>	Very High (8)
<b>3 Invasion fronts/range boundaries</b>	High (3)
<b>4 Land use risk</b>	Very High (5)
<b>5 Weed density</b>	High (3)
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Feral deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feral water buffalo	<input 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 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>Cane toad</b>		<b>European red fox</b>	
<i>Litoria longiburensis</i>	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	<i>Merops ornatus</i>
<b>Feral cat</b>		<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	<i>Natator depressus</i>
<i>Apus pacificus</i>	<i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	<i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	<i>Pterodroma neglecta neglecta</i>	<i>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</i>	<i>Rostratula australis</i>
<i>Macronectes halli</i>	<i>Xeromys myoides</i>	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>
<b>Wild dog</b>		<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	<i>Xeromys myoides</i>
<i>Merops ornatus</i>	<i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>	<b>Mosquito fish, Plague Minnow</b>	
<i>Natator depressus</i>	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	<i>Litoria longiburensis</i>	<i>Pseudomugil mellis</i>
<b>Feral pig</b>		<i>Nannoperca oxleyana</i>	
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	<i>Litoria longiburensis</i>	<b>European wild rabbit</b>	
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	<i>Natator depressus</i>	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	<i>Pterodroma neglecta neglecta</i>
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	<i>Phaius australis</i>	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	<i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>

### Other threatening processes

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

### Highest priority biodiversity issues

Pest management actions listed in recovery plans for marine turtles, *Litoria longiburensis*, *Nannoperca oxleyana* and *Xanthomyza phrygia*



## CRITICAL SYNOPSIS OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT REGIME

<b>Need for vertebrate pest management</b>	<p>Management of vertebrate pests is required in order to protect and conserve the ecological character of the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar site in order to meet Australia's international obligations as a signatory nation to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Management is further required to ensure Australian Ramsar management principles are met as prescribed under the <i>Environment Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999</i> (EBPC Act).</p> <p>The Queensland Environment Protection Authority has a legal obligation to control pest animal species under the <i>Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002</i>.</p>
<b>Planning instruments</b>	<p>The Great Sandy Region Management Plan 1994 – 2010 (EPA, 2005) details the management arrangements for the various land tenures within the Great Sandy National Park mainland island.</p>
<b>Management actions</b>	<p>The following management actions have been identified within the Great Sandy Region Management Plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feral horses will be removed from Cooloola.</li> <li>▪ Management effort to control feral cat, dog and pig numbers in the Great Sandy Region will be maintained at a very high level, consistent with a feral animal management strategy.</li> <li>▪ A feral animal management strategy will be developed and implemented for all declared (economic, social and environmental) pest species in the Region. Management strategies may also be required for specific management areas. The strategy will contain an inventory, control methods, control programs and action plans.</li> <li>▪ Postgraduate tertiary studies into the control of feral animals in the Great Sandy Region will be encouraged.</li> </ul> <p>The 2004 review of the Great Sandy Region Management Plan states that a comprehensive feral animal control action is not yet in place for the Region (EPA, 2005).</p>
<b>Monitoring regimes</b>	<p>Monitoring regimes have been identified in the Great Sandy Region Management Plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A survey will be undertaken to determine the extent and impact of feral animal populations in the Region.</li> <li>▪ The population of mosquito fish in the water bodies of the Great Sandy Region will be monitored and control strategies implemented as necessary.</li> </ul> <p>A number of local environmental groups undertake monitoring programs throughout the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar site (e.g. Queensland Wader Study Group).</p>
<b>Management responsibility</b>	<p>Queensland Environmental Protection Agency Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Private Landholders</p>
<b>Cost-benefit analysis</b>	<p>The Qld Pest Animal Strategy states that decisions regarding pest management must be made based on reliable information. The Strategy further indicates that part of the information gathering stage should include a cost/benefit analysis of various management options.</p>
<b>Special features</b>	<p>Land tenure within the Great Sandy Region is varied and includes national parks, conservation parks, resources reserves, state forests, nature reserves, freehold parcels, leased crown land, unallocated state land, reserves, marine park, fish habitat areas and unspecified marine areas (EPA, 2005).</p>
<b>Summary / comments</b>	<p>QPWS is responsible for the co-ordination and the monitoring of implementation of the Great Sandy Region Management Plan. This management arrangement represents an integrated approach to ensuring the conservation outcomes for each land tenure are met. Community involvement appears to be high.</p>

**References:**

Environmental Protection Agency (2005) Great Sandy Region Management Plan 1994 – 2010. The State of Queensland. Environmental Protection Agency, Brisbane Queensland.

[http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks\\_and\\_forests/managing\\_parks\\_and\\_forests/management\\_plans\\_and\\_strategies/great\\_sandy\\_region/](http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/managing_parks_and_forests/management_plans_and_strategies/great_sandy_region/)



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