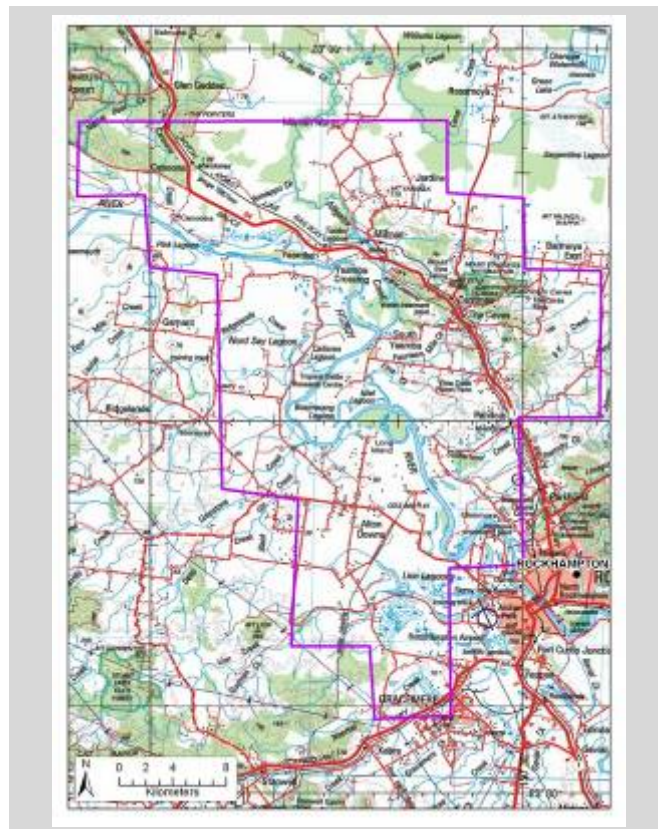


Upper Fitzroy River

MAINLAND ISLAND CHARACTERISTICS

Jurisdiction	Queensland
NRM Region	Fitzroy
LGA	Rockhampton Regional
Size	85, 000 hectares
Dominant Type	Cleared, non-native vegetation, buildings
Land Tenure	Agriculture
Surrounding Issues	Lack of native vegetation 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 UPPER FITZROY RIVER

- 24 threatened species
- 3 threatened communities
- 11 migratory species
- Very high richness
- Very high endemism
- 1 nationally important aquatic ecosystem
- Native vegetation present
- Vertebrate pest species present

CONSERVATION VALUE

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

THREAT STATUS

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

Feral water buffalo <i>Crocodylus porosus</i>		Wild dog <i>Merops ornatus</i>	<i>Rheodytes leukops</i>
Cane toad <i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i> <i>Denisonia maculata</i>	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	European red fox <i>Erythrorhynchus radiatus</i> <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i> <i>Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda</i>	<i>Numenius minutus</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i> <i>Rostratula australis</i> <i>Turnix melanogaster</i>
Feral cat <i>Apus pacificus</i> <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> <i>Monarcha melanopsis</i> <i>Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda</i> Brigalow (<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co-dominant)	<i>Paradelma orientalis</i> <i>Rheodytes leukops</i> <i>Turnix melanogaster</i>	Feral pig <i>Rheodytes leukops</i>	<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>
		European wild rabbit <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</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

Impacts on *Rheodytes leukops*

Other threatening processes



CRITICAL SYNOPSIS OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT REGIME

Need for vertebrate pest management	The Upper Fitzroy River mainland island is known to contain a number of threatened and migratory animal and plant species protected under the Queensland <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> (NC Act) and the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i> . The Queensland Environment Protection Authority and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service are legally obliged to protect threatened species and manage pests under the <i>Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002</i> and the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> .
Planning instruments	<p>The Upper Fitzroy River mainland island area is covered by the Capricorn Pest Management Group Regional Pest Management Strategy 2004-2009.</p> <p>Mt Etna Caves National Park management plan was approved in 1998, however, the plan no longer has standing as the area of protection of the Park was extended in 2000.</p> <p>Rockhampton Regional Council has recently formed via the amalgamation of four smaller councils. The new (draft) Corporate Plan identifies pest management and control as a key council strategy and outcome. The Corporate Plan also identifies the need to review and adopt a new pest management plan for the Rockhampton Region.</p>
Management actions	<p>Capricorn Pest Management Group undertakes the following pest management activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information, knowledge and research regarding pest issues • Provides a framework for collaboration between stakeholders • Assists with sourcing funds for pest management and developing property pest management plans <p>Additional management actions are likely to be outlined in the future Rockhampton Regional Council pest management plan.</p>
Monitoring regimes	<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>
Management responsibility	<p>Rockhampton Region Council</p> <p>Queensland Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p>Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service</p>
Cost-benefit analysis	Capricorn Pest Management Group coordinates the most cost effective expenditure of effort and resources across stakeholders.
Special features	<p>An extensive cave system in the area supports populations of threatened bat species including the Little Bentwing (<i>Miniopterus australis</i>) and Ghost (<i>Macroderma gigas</i>) bats.</p> <p>The cave system was subject to extensive limestone mining between 1974 and 2004.</p>
Summary / comments	New management plans should be available for national park and pest issues in the near future.

References:

Capricorn Pest Management Group (2004) Regional Pest Management Strategy 2004-2009.

[http://www.cpmg.org.au/Documents/CPMG%20Pest%20Management%20Strategy\(Final\).pdf](http://www.cpmg.org.au/Documents/CPMG%20Pest%20Management%20Strategy(Final).pdf)

Queensland Government (2001) *Masterplan for Queensland's Parks System*. State of Queensland. Environment Protection Authority.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (2003) *Pest Management Plan. Areas managed by Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service 2003- 2008*. State of Queensland.

http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/publications/p01364aa.pdf/Pest_management_plan_Areas_managed_by_Queensland_Parks_and_Wildlife_Service_July_2003__July_2008.pdf

Rockhampton Region Council (2009) Draft Corporate Plan.

http://www.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au/Uploads/15643/15643-170209-022947-FINAL_Corporate_Plan.pdf

