

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
Name of the proposal	<i>Forestry and Other Legislation (Revocation of Forest Reserves) Amendment Regulation 2025</i>
Submission type	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> <i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2019</i> <i>Forestry Act 1959</i> <i>Forestry Regulation 2024</i> <i>Forestry (State Forests) Regulation 1987</i> <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Forest Reserves) Regulation 2000</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Plants) Regulation 2020</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i> <i>Recreation Areas Management Act 2006</i> <i>Recreation Areas Management Regulation 2024</i>
Date of issue	August 2025

Proposal type	Details
Minor and machinery in nature	<p>The <i>Forestry and Other Legislation (Revocation of Forest Reserves) Amendment Regulation 2025</i> (amendment regulation) proposes to redescribe one timber reserve, two State forests, 20 forest reserves and one national park to improve plan accuracy, revoke all remaining forest reserves (23) to allow the areas to be added to national park, conservation park or set apart and declared as part of State forest, make additions to ten State forests, 17 national parks and one conservation park and dedicate one new conservation park, resulting in relevant schedules of the <i>Forestry (State Forests) Regulation 1987</i> and the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i> to be updated accordingly.</p> <p>All areas that are proposed to be dedicated as national park or conservation park under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> (NC Act) are currently unallocated state land owned by the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI) or are forest reserve areas. All areas that are proposed to be set apart and declared as part of State forests under the <i>Forestry Act 1959</i> (Forestry Act) are forest reserve areas.</p> <p>This amendment regulation also proposes to repeal the <i>Nature Conservation (Forest Reserves) Regulation 2000</i> in its entirety when the 23 forest reserve</p>

	<p>areas are changed to another tenure. It will also make consequential amendments to remove redundant references to forest reserves from subordinate legislation administered by DETSI under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>, the <i>Forestry Act</i>, the <i>NC Act</i> and the <i>Recreation Areas Management Act 2006</i>. This process is necessary due to the upcoming expiry of Part 4A Forest reserves of the <i>NC Act</i> on 31 December 2025, as per section 70R of the <i>NC Act</i>.</p> <p>The regulatory amendment proposals are both consequential and machinery in nature. They are consistent with regulatory best practice principles and the objectives of the above legislation and do not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy or new impacts on business, government, or the community. Where third party interests were present over land areas affected by the tenure changes, DETSI has corresponded with relevant stakeholders regarding relevant changes to ensure interests were managed appropriately prior to any tenure changes. In accordance with the relevant legislation, existing interests will be able to continue post tenure change if required.</p> <p>Beekeeping is currently permitted on nine apiary sites within three forest reserve areas that are proposed to be dedicated as national park. Consistent with section 36A of the <i>NC Act</i>, the use of land for beekeeping may continue when such land is dedicated as national park. Beekeeping in forest reserves is authorised by permits granted under the <i>Forestry Act</i>, however when the land tenure changes to national park, the areas where beekeeping may occur (the apiary areas), and the corresponding number of apiary sites must be prescribed in Schedule 5 of the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024</i> to allow permits to be issued under the <i>NC Act</i> to allow the use of the land for beekeeping on national parks.</p> <p>This proposal is minor in its impacts as there are no or negligible costs, so no Regulatory Impact Assessment is required.</p>
--	---

*Refer to *The Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy* for regulatory proposals not requiring regulatory impact analysis (for example, public sector management, changes to existing criminal laws, taxation).

Patricia O'Callaghan
Director-General
Department of the Environment, Tourism
Science and Innovation

Date: 26.10.25

Andrew Powell MP
Minister for the Environment and Tourism
Minister for Science and Innovation

Date: 06.11.2025