

# Impact Analysis Statement

## Summary IAS

### Details

<b>Lead department</b>	Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
<b>Name of the proposal</b>	<i>Forestry and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2026</i>
<b>Submission type</b>	Summary IAS
<b>Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument</b>	<i>Forestry Act 1959</i> <i>Forestry Regulation 2024</i> <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i>
<b>Date of issue</b>	6 January 2026

<b>Proposal type</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Minor and machinery in nature</b>	<p>The <i>Forestry and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2026</i> (Amendment Regulation) proposes to revoke one timber reserve to be transferred to traditional owners as freehold, make additions to one national park (scientific) and three national parks, redescribe one national park (scientific) and one national park to improve plan accuracy, make additions to two conservation parks, dedicate one new conservation park, declare one new special wildlife reserve, declare two new nature refuges, redescribe one nature refuge and revoke one nature refuge.</p> <p>All areas that are proposed to be dedicated as national park (scientific), national park and conservation park are currently unallocated state land owned by the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI).</p> <p>The regulatory amendment proposal is machinery in nature, consistent with regulatory best practice principles and the objectives of the <i>Forestry Act 1959</i> and the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>.</p> <p>The Amendment Regulation will achieve these actions by updating schedules in the <i>Forestry Regulation 2024</i> and the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i> and does not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy or new impacts on business, government, or the community.</p> <p>The core aim of dedicating or amending existing protected areas is to permanently preserve, to the greatest extent possible, the area's natural condition, to protect the area's cultural resources and values and provide for ecologically sustainable activities and ecotourism.</p> <p>Redescription actions are necessary to update administrative or protected area plans and descriptions, to better define the boundaries and improve accuracy.</p> <p>Revocations from the park and forest estate are carefully considered against departmental policy and appropriate compensation is negotiated with the proponent requesting the revocation. The proposed timber reserve</p>

revocation in the regulation amendment is supported as it is considered to provide significant cultural benefit to the traditional owners – the Gaangalu Nation People – and management benefit for the forestry estate.

Details of the proposed actions are as follows:

- revoke the entirety of Callide Timber Reserve, containing an area of 9,600.47 hectares, about 83 kilometres south-west of St Gladstone, to allow for the transfer of the area to Gaangalu Nation People as freehold;
- dedicate about 29.4 hectares of unallocated State land as part of Dhuny Yumba (Home of the Wombat) National Park (scientific), about 43 kilometres north-west of St George. The area is part of a recovery plan for the 'endangered' northern hairy-nosed wombat;
- redescribe the entirety of Raine Island National Park (scientific), containing a total area of about 34.85 hectares (a decrease of about 3.75 hectares), using contemporary survey and mapping technology and standards, about 460 kilometres north of Cooktown;
- dedicate about 21,900 hectares of unallocated State land, as part of Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park, about 246 kilometres north-west of Mount Isa. The area is part of the Thornton Wetland Aggregation, listed in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia;
- dedicate a total area of about 16.86 hectares of unallocated State land as part of Curtis Island National Park, about 10 kilometres north of Gladstone. The additions will consolidate the national park boundary and improve management effectiveness;
- dedicate a total area of about 17,216.0354 hectares of unallocated State land as part of Mariala National Park, about 125 kilometres north-west of Charleville. The area contains significant natural values with six 'of concern' regional ecosystems and habitat supporting a range of rare and threatened species;
- redescribe the entirety of Molle Islands National Park containing a total area of about 1,778.8173 hectares (an increase of about 4.6313 hectares), using contemporary survey and mapping technology and standards, about 30 kilometres north-east of Proserpine;
- dedicate a total area of about 4,114.70 hectares of unallocated State land as part of Broad Sound Islands Conservation Park, about 147 kilometres north-west of Rockhampton. The area, known as Long Island, includes large areas of significant coastal wetlands and a known rookery for the vulnerable Flatback turtle;
- dedicate about 1,408.20 hectares of unallocated State land as part of Curtis Island Conservation Park, about 7 kilometres north-east of Gladstone. The area supports lowland vine forest on parabolic dunes with small patches of an 'endangered' regional ecosystem blue-gum woodland;
- dedicate about 153.2 hectares of unallocated State land as the new Doonan Creek Conservation Park, about 10 kilometres south-west of Noosa Heads. The area contains large stands of endangered blackbutt open forest and is known habitat for the endangered glossy black-cockatoo and vulnerable wallum froglet;
- declare an area of about 228,657.25 hectares as the new Pilungah Special Wildlife Reserve, about 300 kilometres south-west of Mount Isa. The area holds exceptional cultural significance for the Wangkamahdla People and protects endemic and range restricted

	<p>flora and fauna species, and exceptional proportions of three regional ecosystems;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• revoke the entirety of Cravens Peak Nature Refuge, containing an area of about 230,000 hectares, about 300 kilometres south-west of Mount Isa, to allow for most of the area to be declared as the new Pilungah Special Wildlife Reserve;</li> <li>• declare a total area of about 100.4885 hectares as the new Ironstone Nature Refuge, shown on plan PA1200, about 11 kilometres west of Cooroy. The area has known habitat for the endangered koala and several other threatened species;</li> <li>• declare an area of about 22.05 hectares as part of Misty Mountain Nature Refuge and subsequently redescribe the entirety of the nature refuge, containing a total of about 112.41 hectares, about 5 kilometres west of Millaa Millaa. The area provides highland refugia for threatened and endemic flora and fauna species and connectivity with Herberton Range National Park;</li> <li>• declare a total area of about 109.09 hectares as the new Seven Hills Nature Refuge, shown on plan PA1222, about 6 kilometres west of Conondale. The area provides known and suitable habitat for several threatened species, including the critically endangered scrub turpentine and native guava and connectivity with Conondale National Park.</li> </ul>
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\*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).



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Date: 23.2.2026



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

Date: 26.02.2026