

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI)
Name of the proposal	Forestry (State Forests) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 3) 2025 (Amendment Regulation)
Submission type	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Forestry Act 1959</i> <i>Forestry (State Forests) Regulation 1987</i> <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i>
Date of issue	November 2025

Proposal type	Details
Minor and machinery in nature	All proposed actions in the Amendment Regulation are 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>. The Amendment Regulation proposes to dedicate a revoked area of one State forest and other additional land areas as a new national park (scientific), dedicate new additions to two national parks, revoke one whole national park and parts of four national parks, revoke part of one conservation park, declare an addition to one nature refuge and subsequently redescribe the whole nature refuge and also declare three new nature refuges. The Amendment Regulation will achieve these actions by updating schedules in the <i>Forestry (State Forests) Regulation 1987</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. All areas that are proposed to be dedicated or declared as protected areas are either unallocated State land owned by DETSI or State forest tenure. 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. Redescription actions are necessary to update protected area plans and descriptions, to better define the boundaries and improve accuracy. Revocation proposals are carefully considered against departmental policy and appropriate compensation is negotiated with the proponent requesting the revocation. Revocations are only supported when the impacts upon the protected area estate are considered negligible and provide significant conservation, cultural or management benefit for the protected area estate.

	Revocations in the Amendment Regulation provide significant estate management benefits and conservation outcomes, and all are considered in the public interest. Under sections 30 and 32 of the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>, the revocation proposals in this amendment regulation were Tabled in the Legislative Assembly of Queensland on 27 August 2025 and a resolution in support of the proposal was passed on 19 November 2025. The revocations will only be progressed upon receiving a resolution from the Legislative Assembly. Specific details of the proposed tenure actions are as follows: • dedicate the revoked area of Powrunna State Forest, described as lot 13 on SP352347, containing an area of about 2,737 hectares, and unallocated State land areas described as lot 8 on plan MAR842554 and lot 100 on SP340628, containing an area of about 1,476.8 hectares, as the new <u>Dhuny Yumba (Home of the Wombat) National Park (scientific)</u>, about 43 kilometres north-west of St George. The entirety of the revoked Powrunna State Forest and also two adjacent acquisition properties are being dedicated as the new national park (scientific) to support establishment of the area as the third recovery site for the critically endangered northern hairy-nosed wombat; • revoke the entirety of <u>Black Mountain National Park</u>, described as lot 1 on SP309118, containing an area of 2.977 hectares, for road purposes, about 20 kilometres south of Cooktown. Part of the Mulligan Highway and Black Mountain lookout are within the national park and the revocation is part of the process to realign the surveyed road corridor to match the current physical constructed road footprint. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains existing infrastructure and has been disturbed for many years; • revoke the dedication of part of <u>Burru Coast National Park</u>, described as part of lot 25 on plan NPW642 (to be described as lot 26 on SP355148), containing an area of 9.329 hectares, about 19 kilometres south of Bundaberg, and subsequently, correct an administrative error of about 5.3 hectares for the previous area description. The land contains an existing formed track and the revocation will help to formalise existing access to mining tenements on the adjoining unallocated State land parcel. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains an existing vehicle track and has been disturbed for many years; • revoke the dedication of part of <u>Main Range National Park</u>, described as part of lot 1 on AP23636 (to be described as lot 2 on SP353107), containing an area of about 0.0615 hectares, about 37 kilometres north-east of Warwick. The revocation area contains an existing access track and the proposal will help formalise historical access to the adjacent tourism facility on private property. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains an existing vehicle track and has been disturbed for many years; • dedicate an area of unallocated State land, described as lot 7 on SP350216, containing an area of 1,976 hectares, as part of the existing <u>Narrien Range National Park</u>, about 70 kilometres north-west of Emerald. The land was acquired for addition to Narrien
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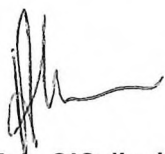
	Range National Park, to protect the unique ecology associated with the Narrien Range land formation and springs; • revoke the dedication of part of <u>Ngalba Bulal National Park</u>, described as lot 21 on SP154458, containing an area of 3.139 hectares, for road purposes, about 24 kilometres south of Cooktown. The revocation area contains the constructed footprint of Mount Amos Road, which has been in use for many years and is the only constructed access for 11 properties. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains existing infrastructure and has been disturbed for many years; • revoke the dedication of part of <u>Tewantin National Park</u>, described as part of lot 7 on AP23639 (to be described as lot 517 on SP346210), containing an area of 1.002 hectares, about four kilometres west of Tewantin. The proposal will support the transfer of the land containing Black Mountain Rural Fire Station to the Queensland Fire Department as freehold tenure, to allowed continued operation and maintenance of the site for public purposes. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains existing infrastructure and has been disturbed for many years; • dedicate an area of unallocated State land, described as lot 1 on SP353311, containing an area of 2,844 hectares, as part of the existing <u>The Lakes National Park</u>, about 210 kilometres west of Charters Towers. The land parcel was acquired for addition to The Lakes National Park, to enhance protection and management of the area's ecological and cultural values; • revoke the dedication of part of <u>Eumundi Conservation Park</u>, described as part of lot 351 on plan NPW791 (to be described as lot 1 on SP339677), containing an area of 0.7358 hectares, about 10 kilometres south-west of Noosa. The revocation area contains an existing vehicle track and the proposal is to resolve a historic encroachment on the estate by the adjacent private freehold property. The revocation is expected to present negligible impacts upon the values of the national park as the area already contains an existing vehicle track and has been disturbed for many years; • declare an area described as part of lot 427 on plan SW805054 and part of lot 2547 on SP255326, containing a total area of about 2,010.97 hectares, as part of the existing <u>Ballara Nature Refuge</u>, and subsequently, redescribe the entirety of the nature refuge as the part of lot 427 on plan SW805054 and part of lot 2547 on SP255326, containing an area of about 176,926.97 hectares, shown on plan PA1173, about 19 kilometres south-west of Cloncurry. The addition will further enhance the nature refuge containing known habitat for the endangered ghost bat, a complex mosaic of vegetation types described across 41 regional ecosystems, and non-indigenous cultural heritage sites including the former townships of Ballara, Hightville and Marrabah; • declare an area described as part of lot 12 on SP161397, containing an area of about 43.62 hectares, as the new <u>Konminda Nature Refuge</u>, shown on plan PA1190, about 20 kilometres north-east of Atherton. The area adjoins Danbulla National Park and is known habitat for the southern cassowary and spectacled flying-fox; • declare an area described as part of lot 1522 on SP272352, containing an area of about 32,876.57 hectares, as the new <u>Urannah Nature Refuge</u>, shown on plan PA1207, about
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	80 kilometres north-west of Mackay. The area provides significant landscape connectivity to many other conservation areas and is suitable habitat for several threatened species; • declare an area described as part of lot 1 on SP346735, containing an area of about 57,282.97 hectares, as the new <u>Watson River Nature Refuge</u>, shown on plan PA1212, about 140 kilometres south-east of Weipa. The area provides significant landscape connectivity to many other conservation areas, is suitable habitat for several threatened species and also supports catchment protection for the Watson River floodplain.
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Impact assessment

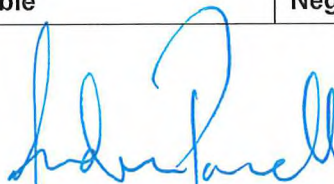
All proposals – complete

	First full year	First 10 years**
Direct costs – <i>Compliance costs*</i>	Negligible	Negligible
Direct costs – <i>Government costs</i>	Negligible	Negligible



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

Date: 28.11.2025



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

Date: 01.12.2025