

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

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

Proposal type	Details
Minor and machinery in nature	The <i>Nature Conservation Legislation (Cooktown Area) Amendment Regulation 2026</i> (Amendment Regulation) is machinery in nature and aims to amend and update parts of Schedules 2, 3, 3A, 4 and 5 of the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994</i> and consequentially, Schedules 3 and 5 of the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024</i>. 1. Change the class of two national parks to national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land). 2. Change the class of one resources reserve to national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land). 3. Dedicate Aboriginal land, subject to a condition that the land must become national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land) as national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land). 4. Change the class of one conservation park to national park. 5. Declare a nature refuge. 6. Update the protected area name of one listed permitted activity. 7. Insert one new prescribed place previously included under another name. <u>Objective</u> • In 2007 the Queensland Government passed the Cape York Peninsula Heritage Bill. The resulting legislation allowed in part for the creation of a new type of national park. The new park type, national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land) (NP (CYPAL)) is managed collaboratively between the State and the Traditional Custodians with an interest in the land. The Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program (the Program) dedicated the first NP (CYPAL) in 2007. Since

then, the Program has dedicated over 2.66 million hectares of existing national park and other State lands as new NP (CYPAL).

Implementing the Amendment Regulation will:

- Change the class and redescribe part of Endeavour River National Park and part of the Endeavour River Resources Reserve by dedicating the Waalmbaal Birri (Endeavour River) National Park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal Land) (CYPAL).
- Change the class and redescribe Mount Cook National Park (formerly National Park 142, County of Banks) and dedicate Aboriginal land, subject to a condition that the land must become national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land); to the protected areas estate as the Waymbuurr (Mount Cook) National Park (CYPAL).
- Change the class and redescribe Keatings Lagoon Conservation Park by dedicating the Keatings Lagoon National Park.
- Declare the new Gungaarr Nature Refuge.
- Update the name of the protected area from Mount Cook National Park (formerly National Park 142, County of Banks) to Waymbuurr (Mount Cook) National Park (CYPAL), for the existing permitted communication use, identified as 'Mt Cook QPS QAS SES' on administrative plan LPF/10739 as listed in schedule 3 of the *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024*.
- Add Waalmbaal Birri (Endeavour River) National Park (CYPAL), as a prescribed place, all parts in Schedule 5 of the *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024*. Noting part of Endeavour River National Park will remain a prescribed place.
- These actions are supported by an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) between the State and the Bubu Nubuun Aboriginal Corporation (ICN10139).
- Includes financial commitments. The Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation have funding to meet the State's financial commitments under the IMA and ILUA.

The Amendment Regulation will update schedules in the *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) Regulation 1994* as well as the *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2024* and does not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy or new impacts on business, government, or the community.



Patricia O'Callaghan
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Department of the Environment, Tourism
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Date: 1.6.2026



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

Date: 02.06.2026