



BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

APPENDIX B: RELEVANT LEGISLATION
AND PLANS TO THE BIODIVERSITY
STRATEGY 2015 - 2025



COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATION

LEGISLATION	RELEVANCE
The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999)	<p>The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) provides a legal framework for the protection of nationally and internationally important flora and fauna. The Act designates matters of national environmental significance and promotes conservation through assessment of actions deemed to have a significant impact on protected matters.</p> <p>Potential triggers for EPBC referral are indicated in Map 9</p>

STATE PLANS AND LEGISLATION

LEGISLATION	RELEVANCE
Sustainable Planning Act (2009)	Sustainable Planning Act 2009 (SPA) is 'an Act for a framework to integrate planning and development assessment so that development and its effects are managed in a way that is ecologically sustainable, and for related purposes' (Queensland Government, 2014).
State Planning Policy (2013)	The State Planning Policy (SPP) is a key component of Queensland's land use planning system. The policy aims to balance development and the environment while allowing communities to grow and prosper.
Local Government Act (2009)	The purpose of the Local Government Act is to provide a system of local government in Queensland that is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable. The Act governs the way in which a local government is constituted including the nature and extent of responsibilities and powers.

LEGISLATION	RELEVANCE
Environmental Protection Act (1994)	The object of the EP Act is 'to protect Queensland's environment while allowing for development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends (ecologically sustainable development)' (Queensland Government, 2014).
The Nature Conservation Act (1992)	The Nature Conservation Act (1992) (NCA) provides protection for flora and fauna in Queensland. This is provided through regulation regarding the "taking" including removal, lopping, destruction and degradation of native flora and fauna. Species listed under the Nature Conservation Act appear in Appendix D.
The Vegetation Management Act (1999) And Vegetation Management Framework Amendment Act (2013)	<p>Amendments to the Queensland Vegetation Management Framework, introduced by the Vegetation Management Framework Amendment Act 2013 (Qld) (VMFA Act) changed the assessment process for vegetation clearing as of 1 July 2013, with the introduction of the State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA). SARA coordinates the assessment of vegetation clearing applications which are considered against the State Development Assessment Provisions (SDAP).</p> <p>The SDAP includes Module 8: Native Vegetation Clearing, which repeals a range of Regional Vegetation Management Codes (RVMC) and Vegetation Management Policies.</p>
Biosecurity Act 2014	<p>The Act is designed with intent of delivering a single cohesive legislative framework for biosecurity in Queensland.</p> <p>The main function under this Act is to ensure that the biosecurity matters (invasive biosecurity matter for the local government's area) are managed within the local government's area in compliance with this Act. A local government is required to have a biosecurity plan for invasive biosecurity matters for its local government area.</p>
The Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act (2002)	The Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 provides a framework and powers for improved management of weeds, pest animals and the stock route network. This Act will be superseded by the Biosecurity Act.
Water Act 2000	<p>The Water Act (2000) allows for the allocation and use of water for the physical, economic and social wellbeing of the people of Queensland and Australia within limits that can be sustained indefinitely. It covers the management of watercourses, the operation of water resource plans, water licenses and in steam quarrying.</p> <p>A review of the Water Act is currently underway. Any changes to the regulation of watercourses that may impact on biodiversity outcomes will need to be considered.</p>
Environmental Offsets Act 2014	The purpose of the act is to counterbalance the significant impacts of activities on environmental matters through the use of environmental offsets. The act achieves this through establishing an offsets framework providing levels of protection for prescribed environmental matters. The act also provides a head of power for local governments to create an offsets policy for the purpose of matters of local environmental significance.

REGIONAL PLANS

PLAN	RELEVANCE
South East Queensland Regional Plan (2015-2041)	The SEQ Regional Plan is currently being renewed to reflect the State Government's policy and planning reform agenda with an increased focus on economic development. Biodiversity will be the key to providing the benefits required to facilitate this economic development.
South East Queensland Natural Resource Management Plan (2009 – 2031)	The SEQ NRM Plan 2009-2031 established a minimum level of outcomes that the region must achieve to maintain and enhance the ability of our natural assets to support the wellbeing and prosperity of the community.

SCENIC RIM REGIONAL COUNCIL

PLAN	RELEVANCE
Community Plan (2011 – 2026)	<p>The vision for the region is expressed in the Scenic Rim Community Plan. The plan was adopted by Council in 2011 following extensive community consultation. The Community Plan includes the following outcome for our biodiversity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic views and vistas are protected • Natural assets are cared for and degraded areas restored • Waste, energy and resources are sustainably managed • The region retains its landscape, open spaces and green corridors • Diverse rural industries continue to be healthy and productive • The services provided by our ecosystems are valued • Systems are resilient and have adapted to climate change • A growing population is accommodated within the limits of the region's capacity
Corporate Plan (2013 - 2018)	<p>The 2013-2018 Corporate Plan provides a strategic direction for council over the next five years in achieving the vision of the Community Plan. This Strategy will reflect the following goals of the Scenic Rim Regional Council Corporate Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise the region's unique natural environment and proactively work to preserve and enhance it in partnership with the community (Corporate Plan pg. 5) • Minimise the impact of pest species, improving degraded land and waterways, and protecting and enhancing environmental corridors (Corporate Plan pg. 5) • Ensure environmental considerations and sustainability principles are integrated into key decision making processes, policies and procedures including future land use planning, and infrastructure and organisational service delivery (Corporate Plan pg. 5) • Manage future growth opportunities and development to preserve our natural assets and to enhance our rural lifestyle (Corporate Plan pg. 11) • Work to improve the vibrancy of our towns and villages whilst recognising their heritage values and natural assets (Corporate Plan pg. 13) • Build and strengthen the social fabric of our growing region which is based on friendly, active and healthy communities and our natural environment (Corporate Plan pg. 17) • Develop a planning vision and supporting planning instruments for the region which promotes community aspirations and clearly articulates the unique qualities of our natural assets and the identity of our towns, villages and communities (Corporate Plan pg. 11) • Recognise and manage the impacts of climate change and peak oil (Corporate Plan pg. 5) • Engage and partner with key stakeholders in all sectors to progress prosperity and sustainability through coordinated decision making and regional ecosystem investment that duly recognises the significance of our environment and ecosystem services (Corporate Plan pg. 5) • Ensure we operate in a way that recognises and supports business needs and aspirations while protecting broader community and environmental interests (Corporate Plan pg. 7)
Draft Scenic Rim Regional Council Planning Scheme	<p>The Planning Scheme is currently in production and will reference maps from the Biodiversity Strategy. This will enable direct alignment between the Scheme as a land use planning instrument and the Strategy as a document that identifies key areas required for the achievement of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity values.</p>
Pest Management Plan (2010- 2015)	<p>Introduced Pests are a high priority for maintaining biodiversity, human health and the economy of the region. The Pest Management Plan targets Class 1 and 2 weeds that primarily have social and economic impacts. Action must be taken to avoid their introduction and spread. Class 3 weeds including Chinese Celtis and Madeira vine have major impacts on biodiversity but action is not legally required unless the land is adjacent to an environmentally significant area.</p> <p>A full list of declared pest plants appears in Appendix E.</p>



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