



3. Regional landscape

Desired regional outcome 3

The key environmental, economic, social and cultural resources of the regional landscape are identified and secured to meet community needs and achieve ecological sustainability.



The regional landscape is managed for a range of functions and values, including rural production, water quality, nature conservation, scenic amenity, ecosystem services, landscape heritage and outdoor recreation.

To ensure that the regional landscape is planned for and managed effectively, state agencies, local government, regional natural resource management bodies, industry and community groups must collaborate.

The regional landscape planning framework recognises that landscape values occur across the entire region and that the values are planned for and managed according to the regional land use category.

In the Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area, regional landscape values are managed to support rural communities and regional landscape outcomes. In the Urban Footprint, these values are managed to support urban communities.

The Queensland Government has committed in *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* to preserve open space through regional planning processes and has set a target to protect 50 per cent more land for public recreation by 2020.





3.1 Regional landscape planning framework

Principle

Sustain the multiple values of the regional landscape and acknowledge the contribution of these values to the region’s liveability, health, lifestyle and economy.

Policies

3.1.1 Protect significant regional landscape values from development impacts by ensuring effective coordination of state and local government planning and development assessment processes.

Programs

3.1.2 Manage and monitor regional landscape values through state and local government programs, natural resource management plans, industry codes of practice and community programs.

3.1.3 Implement the regional landscape planning framework by engaging state agencies, local government, regional natural resource management bodies, local communities, landholders, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in collaborative partnerships.

3.1.4 Integrate and align federal, state and local institutional arrangements and programs addressing natural resource management and regional landscape planning to better deliver whole-of-landscape outcomes.

3.1.5 Use the common SEQ ecosystem services framework to identify and evaluate the multiple benefits provided to regional communities by the regional landscape.

3.1.6 Investigate planning tools, incentives and other mechanisms to address the critically fragmented lands of the region’s peri-urban area.

Notes

The regional landscape planning framework identifies and integrates the key regional landscape values, management areas, stakeholders, collaborative institutional arrangements and regional policies. It directs the integrated management of regional landscape values to achieve the desired outcomes.

Recent research confirms that the fragmentation of the region’s peri-urban areas is a major threat to their natural resources and regional landscape values. This fragmentation includes existing subdivisions, different forms of tenure, ownership, uses and land management regimes.



3.2 Regional landscape management areas

Principle

Coordinate planning and management of regional landscape management areas to achieve multiple community benefits.

Policies

- 3.2.1 Identify regional landscape corridors capable of sustaining multiple regional landscape values and functions, and target program resources towards improved land management designed to maintain and enhance corridor functions.
- 3.2.2 Protect inter-urban breaks from incompatible land uses and activities, and maintain and enhance their functions in separating and framing major urban areas and towns, defining the character of regional communities and providing a potential source of accessible regional open space.
- 3.2.3 Rural, nature-based and ecotourism locations are designed and used to optimise appreciation and protection of regional landscape values and functions.

Programs

- 3.2.4 Identify regional landscape areas suitable for investment and rehabilitation to balance the cumulative impacts of development and infrastructure on regional landscape values.

Notes

In keeping with a whole-of-landscape approach, regional landscape management areas support specific functions and provide multiple outcomes or benefits. Key regional landscape management areas are identified in Table 1 to inform integrated planning for multiple regional landscape values in selected locations, empowering the involvement of landholders and agencies. Regional landscape values include nature conservation, rural production, scenic amenity, outdoor recreation and landscape heritage.

Table 1. Regional landscape management areas

Regional landscape corridors

Function: Co-locate compatible corridor uses to link people, places, infrastructure and wildlife

Benefits: Increased land use efficiency, connectivity, resilience, and the sustainability of multiple regional landscape values.

Examples include:

- the Flinders Peak–Greenbank–Karawatha Corridor linking the Scenic Rim, Ipswich, Logan and Brisbane
- the Mountains to Mangroves Corridor linking Brisbane Forest Park to Moreton Bay
- the Brisbane River Corridor
- the Darlington Range–Pimpama River Corridor linking the Gold Coast Hinterland to the coast.

Inter-urban breaks

Function: Separate and frame major urban areas and towns

Benefits: Enhanced community identity and sense of place, regional open space close to population centres, landscape corridors that connect the hinterland to the coastline

Multi-value development offset areas

Function: Secure multiple offsets for major development, regional infrastructure and greenhouse gas emissions

Benefits: Mitigated impacts and consolidated offsets in strategic locations that help expand the regional open space network

Regional open space network

Function: Provide accessible outdoor recreation settings that meet regional needs, e.g. parks and trails, green space, waterways, national parks, state forests and urban open space

Benefits: Improved community health and wellbeing through physical activity, direct experience with landscape, nature and social interaction, an enhanced natural environment, increased employment and increased liveability

Rural, nature-based and ecotourism destinations

Function: Provide commercial tourism facilities compatible with the protection and presentation of the regional landscape's attractive components

Benefits: Economic development, education and landscape protection

Coastal waters and foreshores

Function: Support coastal zone values and processes

Benefits: Recreation opportunities, transport, fishing, extractive industry, tourism, scenic amenity and resilience to natural hazards and climate change

Waterways, wetlands, water sources and catchments

Function: Provide water for human, agricultural and environmental uses

Benefits: Safer drinking water, enhanced water supply, reduced treatment costs, and healthy receiving waters in waterways, wetlands and Moreton Bay