



OPEN SPACE STRATEGY -

CLASSIFICATION AND SERVICE LEVEL GUIDE



Proposed Open Space Asset Hierarchy

Cassowary Coast Regional Council (CCRC) owns, operates and maintains over 500 hectares of Parks and Open Spaces across the region. These open spaces fall under a wide variety of categories with an equally diverse levels of embellishments. The proposed Park Hierarchy, Function and Embellishments will allow for future assignment of each of these spaces to a clearly defined category to:

- a. Create a uniform system to categorise open spaces;
- b. Create a uniform level of embellishment for each category; and
- c. Create a uniform level of service for each category.

This will address currently identified oversupply of open space and under supply of quality regional parks by providing clear guidance on management, future investment and replacement of ageing assets.

Level of Service categories are also defined, which once park hierarchy is established, will define servicing and maintenance requirements for each identified area.

Alignment is required with CCRC Local Government Infrastructure Plan 2019 (LGIP) for base trunk infrastructure supply (development conditions) and Recreation and Natural Areas Asset Management Plan (2019).

Description and proposed Classification Categories, Level of Service Criteria and Embellishments are listed on following pages.



1. Classification and Hierarchy

The proposed classification system establishes a hierarchy for the Open Space, Park, Sports Facilities and Bushland networks in the Cassowary Coast Region. The system identifies the varying park types, scale and role of open spaces, Sports Reserves, formal Parks and Bushland Reserves across the network. The proposed park classification will drive the level of future embellishments and align with Asset Management planning outcomes.

1.1 Park Function

Recreational or Sporting use are the two broad role classifications of potential park function that can be assigned in an assessment process. This is separate to building facilities, depots, or other land uses that are generally not publicly accessible, i.e. Depots, storage yards or treatment plants.

Depending on the park catchment it serves, some parks in the network may be required to service both roles however they will be classified in accordance with the major role they are intended to achieve. Bushland Reserves also meet both passive recreation and environmental protection roles. They can also serve an important role in biodiversity protection and often provide key linkage areas/corridors for adjoining protected estates.

1.2 Park Hierarchy

The proposed park hierarchy identifies the varying park types, scale and role of Open Spaces, Sports Reserves, Formal Parks and Bushland Reserves across the network.

Open Space – serves local neighbourhood as green “Open Space”, includes esplanades, and some foreshore and riverine reserves which provide frontage to Marine Open space. **

Local - serves a neighbourhood and is located within a close distance to most residents.

Village – serves a small township and is generally the only park in the area.

District - serves a number of neighbourhoods or smaller towns and provides a higher level of service for a greater number of people. Includes bathing reserves.*

Regional - serves the whole local government area and provides the highest level of service. *

Bushland Reserves - serves entire region, may be available for passive recreation, i.e. waterfalls, beach areas, or valuable for cultural, environmental or water quality values. Level One Bushland reserve includes destination areas, i.e. Waterfalls etc, with a higher level of service than remote or inaccessible reserve areas.

**District and regional parks also provide a local recreation function for their immediate catchment.*

*** Verges have been captured within open spaces. Actions on verges will be supported by future policy direction*

1.3 Park Function and Hierarchy

Recreational Parks

Park Function	Park Hierarchy	Role
Recreation Reserves		
Recreation	Open Space	<p>Passive Open space, generally linear and located along river or coastal frontages. Includes easements, undeveloped land roadside reserves and town approaches.</p> <p>Foreshore recreation spaces are located in coastal and riverine areas and provide direct access to marine open space. They are linear in nature and are some of the most popular destinations in the region. They vary significantly throughout the region and include a range of minor park infrastructure items. In some coastal communities they provide the main recreation opportunities in the local area and access to Marine Open Space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreshore management plans may apply to coastal frontage areas.
		<p>Serves a local neighbourhood and is located within walking distance for most users. Most have limited minor infrastructure and shade is provided by landscape design. Usage is generally short visits late afternoon or weekends. Local parks are generally not located in areas where suitable access is provided to higher park classification levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Park management plan developed to guide future investment
Recreation	Village Park	<p>Provide informal passive and active recreation and leisure opportunities to a village, appropriate to its setting and context. Located in accessible, prominent areas which promote active transport and provide for the recreational needs of a local community. Village recreation parks provide visual amenity, small areas for kick-about activities, playground, seating, picnic spaces and shade cover. In small communities may also fulfil sporting needs by having minor infrastructure such as half courts, skate parks or other sporting infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Park management plan developed to guide future investment
		<p>District recreation parks are large parks which provide an intermediate level of recreation opportunities and facilities to a district catchment. These parks are provided in a variety of settings and cater for large numbers of people. In addition to standard facilities and spaces, district recreation parks may have internal roads, off street parking, public amenities, facilities, and areas for community gathering and events. In small communities may also fulfil sporting needs by having minor infrastructure such as half courts, skate parks or other sporting infrastructure. This category includes bathing reserves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplan developed to guide future investment
Recreation	Regional Park	<p>A very large park with extensive facilities and settings to cater for varied recreation demands from the entire region.</p> <p>Provide a significant range of opportunities to cater for the whole community and should be capable of supporting large community event(s) and multiple activities undertaken simultaneously. People travel long distance to access and generally spend long periods (4 +hours in park).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplan developed to guide future investment

Bushland Reserves

Park Function	Park Hierarchy	Role
Bushland Reserves		
Bushland	Level 1	<p>Bushland reserves with features such as swimming holes, watercourse, beach access or significant environmental areas. These reserves have banner signage, minor visitor infrastructure such as car parking, bollards, and picnic spaces, and are used for nature-based recreation pursuits. They may contain walking tracks or viewing areas dependant on site and usage levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Reserve management plan including visitor infrastructure plan, Biosecurity, Rehabilitation or fire control programs in place
Bushland	Level 2	<p>Bushland reserve with no facilities, may have informal parking for access purposes only. Generally, these reserves are only signed for council managed areas and have no or limited supporting infrastructure. May contain significant cultural and environmental areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Biosecurity, Rehabilitation or fire control programs in place



Foreshore at Etty Bay - Photo courtesy of Tropical Tourism North Queensland

Sports Reserves

Park Function	Park Hierarchy	Role
Sports Reserves		
Sports	District sports	<p>District sports parks provide spaces and facilities for playing and practising formal, organised sporting activities. These parks are large and provide enough space for a variety of playing areas such as courts, playing fields and surfaces. They usually accommodate sports at a local and district function level. They may also provide necessary ancillary infrastructure such as court and field lighting, clubhouses, change rooms, toilets. In most locations they are multiuse and promote the shared use of facilities between a number of sporting clubs. Informal recreation opportunities may also be provided for visitors and local residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masterplan developed to guide future investment
Sports	Regional sports	<p>Regional sports parks provide the highest standard of playing surfaces and facilities for playing and practising formal, organised sporting activities. They are very large parks which can cater for high numbers of visitation, accommodating regional, district and local function sports. They accommodate a diverse range of formal sporting activities and infrastructure for the local community. They also cater for regional and inter regional sporting events. Multiuse in nature, a number of clubs and organisations share facilities, fields, courts and spaces. Some informal recreation spaces are provided to serve visitors and the local catchment.</p> <p>Contain large facilities that provides spaces and opportunities for playing multiple structured and organised sports. Normally accommodate several sporting associations that share facilities such as grandstands, function rooms, clubhouses, lighting and grounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masterplan developed to guide future investment



Service Standards

A level of service, or service standard is issued for reach park and the proposed “Service Rating” System will guide actual level of service. This will allow flexibility in service standards for areas deemed as open space (i.e. little or no embellishments) that are also important public areas for amenity of recreation purposes, i.e. riverine and coastal esplanades, town entrance features or open space areas adjacent to significant infrastructure or facilities, i.e. civic buildings and town libraries.

2.1 Service Rating (Level of Service)

Service Rating	Level of Service	Hierarchy
1	Basic maintenance, weeds and pathways kept clear of obstruction, vision and safety drivers for maintenance triggers	General under- utilised or infrequently visited “Open Space” areas, i.e. drainage lines easements etc
2	Minimal Maintenance to comply with standards	Mostly Open Space areas, i.e. coastal and riparian esplanades not adjacent to infrastructure
3	Medium standard of maintenance above minimum standards	Mostly Local and Village Parks, some Open space areas, i.e. Cemeteries
4	Proactive maintenance to ensure high standard of presentation and facility maintenance	Mostly District Parks and sports facilities (seasonal), town approaches and high amenity open space areas
5	High presentation and visitation areas requiring to ensure very high level of presentation and function at all times, weekend and public holiday servicing	Regional Park or Sports precincts (sports may be seasonal)

3. Embellishment Lists

Based on Classification of Open Space area the proposed embellishments support park usage by providing a range of activities, features or facilities to use while visiting park area. Identified potential improvements are in addition to the standard embellishments identified in LGIP for basic trunk infrastructure application.

Embellishments provide the key contribution to the active and passive use of the Open Space area.


Classification	Recreation	Sports
Open Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access control (location dependant) Seating (limited) Layby gravel parking area Connecting pathways for walking and Cycling Shade provided through landscaping Entrance signs and static features Memorials Interpretive signage linked to walking tracks/ footpaths and points of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise equipment if linked by pathways/walking tracks.
Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Park sign Access Control (bollards or Kerbing) Limited seating Minor play structures/nature play Open kick about area Gravel pathways for walking and Cycling Nature appreciation Shade provided through landscaping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise equipment if linked by pathways/walking tracks.
Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Park sign Access Control (bollards or Kerbing) Undercover seating areas Bin service BBQ facility Formal playground suited to lower age groups Toilet Gravel or hardstand parking areas Gravel pathways for walking and Cycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor informal sports facilities may be contained within village parks Halfcourt Exercise equipment
District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Park sign Access Control (bollards or Kerbing) Undercover seating areas Bin service Playground – lower age groups Skate Ramps, Pump Tracks, Climbing walls Formalised parking Gravel/Concrete pathways for walking and cycling Toilet Water Refill stations/drinking fountains Stinger net (coastal area) All access beach access point BBQ facilities Power for local markets and events Bike racks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilets/change room Small Park sign Access Control (bollards or Kerbing) Undercover seating areas Bin service Formalised parking Gravel/Concrete pathways for walking and cycling Water Refill stations/drinking fountains Bike racks Field Lighting Club House/Canteen/storage sheds

Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large entrance Signage • Directional signage • Pathway Lighting • Boundary Fencing (location dependent) • Bin Service • Playgrounds-all ages and abilities • Nature Play • Skate Ramps, Pump Tracks, Climbing walls • Formalised off street parking (sealed, kerbing) • Toilet and Showers/change rooms • Water Refill stations/drinking fountains • BBQ facilities (multiple) • Power for markets, • Pavilions/shelters for all weather community events, music stages • Concrete all access pathways and kerb ramps • Themed embellishments • Bike racks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Entrance signage • Field lighting • Pavilions/Grandstand • Toilets and change rooms • Lessees specific needs, i.e. Race tracks, Club Houses/ Canteens/storage sheds, field lighting, goal posts and courts tennis etc
Bushland Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner signage • Access control • Seating/shelters • Interpretive signs • Regulatory Signs • Layby gravel parking area • Bushwalking Tracks and viewing/access areas • Visitor infrastructure depending on demand 	
Bushland Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access control • Regulatory boundary signage. 	



SUMMARY PAGE

HIERARCHY	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE EMBELLISHMENTS
Regional Parks	A very large park with extensive facilities and settings to cater to varied recreation demands from the entire region. Provide a significant range of opportunities to cater to the whole community and should be capable of supporting large community event(s) and multiple activities are undertaken simultaneously.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large entrance signage • Directional signage • Pathway lighting • Boundary fencing (location dependent) • Bin service • Playgrounds-all ages and abilities • Nature play • Skate ramps, pump tracks, climbing walls • Formalised off-street parking (sealed, kerbing) • Toilet and showers/change rooms • Water refill stations/drinking fountains • BBQ facilities (multiple) • Power for markets, • Pavilions/shelters for all-weather community events, music stages • Concrete all access pathways and kerb ramps • Themed embellishments • Bike racks
District Parks	District recreation parks are large parks which provide an intermediate level of recreation opportunities and facilities to a district catchment. These parks are provided in a variety of settings and cater for large numbers of people. In addition to standard facilities and spaces, district recreation parks may have internal roads, off street parking, public amenities, facilities, and areas for community gathering and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small park sign • Access control (bollards or kerbing) • Undercover seating areas • Bin service • Playground – lower age groups • Skate ramps, pump tracks, climbing walls • Formalised parking • Pathways – concrete/gravel • Toilet • Water refill stations/drinking fountains • Stinger net (coastal area) • All access beach access point • BBQ facilities • Power for local markets and events • Bike racks
Village Parks	Provide informal passive and active recreation and leisure opportunities to a village, appropriate to its setting and context. Located in accessible, prominent areas which promote active transport and provide for the recreational needs of a local community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner signage • Access control • Seating/shelters • Interpretive signs • Regulatory signs • Layby gravel parking area • Bushwalking tracks and viewing/access areas • Visitor infrastructure depending on demand



Local Parks	Serves a local neighbourhood and is located within walking distance for most users. Most have limited minor infrastructure and shade is provided by landscape design. Usage is generally short visits late afternoon or on weekends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access control (bollards or kerbing) • Limited seating • Minor play structures/nature play • Open kick-about area • Gravel pathways for walking and cycling, nature appreciation • Shade provided through landscaping
Open Spaces	Passive open space, generally linear and located along river or coastal frontages. Includes easements, undeveloped land roadside reserves and town approaches. Foreshore recreation spaces are located in coastal and riverine areas and provide direct access to marine open space. They are linear in nature and are some of the most popular destinations in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access control (location dependent) • Seating (limited) • Layby gravel parking area • Connecting pathways for walking and cycling • Shade provided through landscaping. • Entrance signs and static features • Memorials • Interpretive signage linked to walking tracks/ footpaths and points of interest
Level 1 Bushland Reserves	Bushland reserves with features such as swimming holes, watercourses, beach access or significant environmental areas. They may contain walking tracks or viewing areas depending on the site and usage levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner signage • Access control • Seating/shelters • Interpretive signs • Regulatory signs • Layby gravel parking area • Bushwalking tracks and viewing/access areas • Visitor infrastructure depending on demand



REGIONAL PARK

Location	Name	Stars	Stars Level Definition
Cardwell	Cardwell Foreshore	5	Level 5 - High presentation and visitation areas requiring to ensure a very high level of presentation and function at all times, weekends, and public holiday servicing.
Innisfail	Warrina Lakes	5	
Wongaling Beach	Rotary and Lions Park	5	

DISTRICT PARK

Location	Name	Stars	Stars Level Definition
Innisfail	Fitzgerald Esplanade	5	Level 5 - High presentation and visitation areas requiring to ensure a very high level of presentation and function at all times, weekends, and public holiday servicing.
Tully	Lions Park	5	
Tully	Tully Skate Park	5	
Tully	Banyan Park	5	
Mission Beach	Stinger Net Mission	4	Level 4 – Proactive maintenance to ensure high standard of presentation and facility maintenance.
Mission Beach	Ulysses Park	4	
South Mission Beach	Casurina Park Stinger Net	4	
Innisfail	ANZAC King George Memorial	4	
Kurrimine Beach	Tafiolis Park Stinger Net	4	
Etty Bay	Etty Bay Stinger Net	4	

VILLAGE PARK

Location	Name	Stars level	Stars Level Definition
Tully Heads	Penning Park	4	Level 4 – Proactive maintenance to ensure a high standard of presentation and facility maintenance.
Cardwell	Coral Sea Park	4	
Bingil Bay	Bingil Bay Foreshore	3	
Bingil Bay	Bingil Bay Toilet Park	3	Level 3 – Medium standard of maintenance above minimum standards.
Flying Fish Point	Scheu Park	3	

LOCAL PARK

Location	Name	Stars	Stars Level Definition
Tully	Mitchell Park	4	Level 4 – Proactive maintenance to ensure high standard of presentation and facility maintenance.
Cardwell	Cardwell Community Hall	3	Level 3 – Medium standard of maintenance above minimum standards.
Coconuts	Matt Cockbain Park	3	
Cowley Beach	Cowley Foreshore Park	3	
East Palmerston	East Palmerston Reserve	3	
El Arish	Pud Tardent Park	3	
Innisfail	Dave Dunbar park	3	
Innisfail	Sam Brischetto Park	3	
Innisfail	Groom Esplanade	3	
Innisfail	Dalrymple Park	3	
South Mission Beach	Jackey Jackey Park	3	
Wongaling Beach	Wheatley Park	3	
Silkwood	CWA Park	3	
South Johnstone	Aerodrome Park Mundoo	3	
South Johnstone	Chap Chappa Park	3	
Tully	Tom Johnstone Park	3	
Tully Heads	Ross Dunlop Park	3	
Wangan	Wangan Park	3	

OPEN SPACE

Location	Name	Stars	Stars Definition
Cardwell	Colleen McLaughlin	5	Level 5 - High presentation and visitation areas requiring to ensure very high level of presentation and function at all times, weekends, and public holiday servicing.
Tully	Violet Smith Park	5	
Innisfail	Page Park	4	Level 4 – Proactive maintenance to ensure high standard of presentation and facility maintenance.
Innisfail	Cane Cutter Court	4	
Mission Beach	Village Green	4	
Mission Beach	Community Hall	4	
Tully	Civic Centre	4	
Tully	Tully Library	4	
Bulgun	Bulgun Park	3	Level 3 – Medium standard of maintenance above minimum standards.
Cardwell	Marine Parade	3	
Cardwell	Cardwell Library	3	
Cardwell	Old Post Office Library	3	
Cardwell	Coral Sea Park North	3	
Cardwell	Pensioner Huts	3	
Cowley Beach	Cowley Boat Ramp Park	3	
Coquette Point	Coquette Point Lookout	3	
Flying Fish Point	Flying Fish Point Environ	3	
Flying Fish Point	Heath Point	3	
Hull Heads	Hull Heads Camp Ground	3	
Innisfail	Fred Drew Park	3	
Innisfail	CWA Park Innisfail	3	
Innisfail	Loth Park	3	
Innisfail	Dalrymple Park	3	
Innisfail	Cullinane Park	3	
Innisfail	Hospital Park	3	
Innisfail	Sundial Park	3	
Innisfail	Hadrell Park	3	
Innisfail	Coronation Drive	3	
Innisfail	Wrights Park,Plus BMX Tra	3	
Innisfail	Dalrymple Park	3	
Innisfail	Vulletta Park	3	
Innisfail	River Way Community Garde	3	
Jubilee Heights	Rose Layt Park	3	

Mission Beach	Arenga Park	3	Level 3 – Medium standard of maintenance above minimum standards.
Liverpool Creek	Liverpool Creek Picnic Ar	3	
Kurrimine Beach	Boustead Park	3	
Bingil Bay	Cutten Bros Graves	3	
Mission Beach	Clump Point Lookout	3	
Mission Beach	Campbell St	3	
Mena Creek	Mena Creek Environmental	3	
Mena Creek	Sharpe Park	3	
Mission Beach	Ross Overton Park	3	
Bingil Bay	Pioneer Street Lookout	3	
Mourilyan	Mourilyan	3	
South Mission Beach	Kennedy Esplanade	3	
South Mission Beach	Butterfly Park	3	
South Mission Beach	Old Mission Site	3	
South Mission Beach	Frogs Hollow	3	
Tully	Wildsoet Park	3	
Tully	Rotary Park	3	
Tully	Halfcourt Basketball	3	
Tully Heads	Tully Heads Community Hal	3	Level 2 – Minimal Maintenance to comply with standards.
Tully Heads	Penning Open Space	3	
Wongaling Beach	Banfield Parade	3	
Belvedere	Sam Brischetto Oval	2	
Flying Fish Point	Worth Park	2	
Innisfail	Groom Esplanade	2	
Innisfail	Daradgee Oval	2	
Innisfail	River Avenue Park	2	
Innisfail	Termine Park	2	
Innisfail	Ned Maxwell Park	2	
Liverpool Creek	Liverpool Creek Rest area	2	

BUSHLAND RESERVE

Location	Name	Hierarchy
South Mission Beach	Kennedy Track	Level 1 Bushland
South Mission Beach	Butterfly Park	Level 1 Bushland
South Mission Beach	Kennedy Esplanade	Level 1 Bushland
South Mission Beach	Kennedy Esplanade South	Level 1 Bushland
Wongaling Beach	Reid Road Foreshore	Level 1 Bushland
Wongaling Beach	Banfield Parade Foreshore	Level 1 Bushland
Wongaling Beach	Koda St	Level 1 Bushland
Wongaling Beach	Koda St Foreshore Reserve	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Marc's Park	Level 1 Bushland
Bingil Bay	Bingil Creek	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Arenga Park	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Clump Point	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Boat Bay Cutten Bros Track	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Narragon Beach Foreshore	Level 1 Bushland
Bingil Bay	Bingil Bay Foreshore	Level 1 Bushland
Bingil Bay	Brookes Beach	Level 1 Bushland
Bingil Bay	Garners Beach	Level 1 Bushland
Tully Heads	Tully Heads Spit	Level 1 Bushland
Etty Bay	Bulkuru Wetlands	Level 1 Bushland
Kurrimine Beach	Maria Creek Spit	Level 1 Bushland
Etty Bay	Etty Bay	Level 1 Bushland
Ella Bay	Ella Bay	Level 1 Bushland
Mena Creek	Mena Creek Walking Track	Level 1 Bushland
Cardwell	Melaleuca Walking Track	Level 1 Bushland
Innisfail	Warrina Lakes Wetlands	Level 1 Bushland
Palmerston	Gregory Falls	Level 1 Bushland
Utchee Creek	Camp Creek Falls	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Campbell St Reserve	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Mission Beach Foreshore North	Level 1 Bushland
Mission Beach	Mission Beach Foreshore South	Level 1 Bushland
Heath Point	Heath Point	Level 1 Bushland
Jubilee Heights	Polly Creek	Level 1 Bushland
Silkwood	Nyletta	Level 1 Bushland
Cooroo Lands	Warriker Creek	Level 1 Bushland
Cardwell	Garden Island	Level 1 Bushland



SPORTS RESERVE

Location	Name	Stars	Hierarchy
Innisfail	Pease Park	5	Regional
Innisfail	Callendar Park	4	Regional
Tully	Tully Showgrounds	5	Regional
Cardwell	Cardwell Sports Ground	4	District
Innisfail	Goondi Sports Reserve	4	District
Mission Beach	MARCs Park	4	District
Mourilyan	Castor Park	4	District
Tully	Tully Aero Sports Field	3	District
Wangan	Wangan Sports Complex	4	Village
Silkwood	Silkwood Sports	3	Village
El Arish	El Arish Sport Oval Percy Benn	2	Open Space



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