



Queensland

# **Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2012**

## **Explanatory Notes for SL 2012 No. 113**

made under the

*Nature Conservation Act 1992*

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## **General outline**

### **Short title**

*Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2012.*

### **Authorising law**

Sections 77 to 80 of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

### **Policy objectives and the reasons for them**

Section 72(1) of the Act states that Queensland wildlife is to be managed in accordance with, amongst other things, the management principles prescribed for the class of wildlife.

The objective is to ensure that conservation and land use restrictions involving species are commensurate with their status.

### **Achievement of policy objectives**

Under Part 5 of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* ('the Act'), wildlife may be classified as 'extinct in the wild', 'endangered', 'vulnerable', 'near

threatened' or 'least concern' on the basis of population size and the risk of species extinction.

The Species Technical Committee ('STC') assesses the status of wildlife in Queensland. The STC includes scientific membership from the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and other areas as required.

The STC has assessed the status of 24 species of plants in accordance with the requirements of the Act as well as best practice international species reclassification guidelines. The STC has recommended the reclassification of these species to reflect current scientific knowledge (see table below). The proposed amendments give effect to those recommendations.

### Proposed reclassification of 24 species of plants

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Current wildlife class</b>	<b>Proposed wildlife class</b>
<i>Acacia fleckeri</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Acacia gittinsii</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Acacia jackesiana</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Allocasuarina filidens</i>	near threatened	vulnerable
<i>Asplenium athertonense</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Asplenium excisum</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Austrobuxus swainii</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Capparis batianoffii</i>	near threatened	vulnerable
<i>Choricarpia subargentea</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Commersonia perkinsiana</i>	least concern	endangered
<i>Cyathea baileyana</i>	near threatened	least concern

<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Current wildlife class</b>	<b>Proposed wildlife class</b>
<i>Dichanthium setosum</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Endiandra introrsa</i>	near threatened	not protected
<i>Gonocarpus urceolatus</i>	vulnerable	least concern
<i>Gossia bamagensis</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Gossia lewisensis</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Gossia lucida</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Gossia macilwraithensis</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Leptospermum barneyense</i>	least concern	vulnerable
<i>Pandorea baileyana</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>	near threatened	endangered
<i>Ricinocarpos canianus</i>	least concern	endangered
<i>Sarcotoechia villosa</i>	near threatened	least concern
<i>Zieria montana</i>	least concern	vulnerable

### **Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law**

The amendment regulation is consistent with the main objects of the Act, that is, the protection and maintenance of nature while allowing for its ecologically sustainable use.

Under the Act, the conservation of nature is to be achieved by a comprehensive strategy that involves, amongst other things, researching,

analysing and disseminating information on wildlife; prescribing wildlife to various classes; and managing wildlife in accordance with those classes.

### **Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation**

The amendment regulation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation relating to the conservation of nature.

### **Benefits and costs of implementation**

The proposed amendments will ensure that conservation and land use restrictions applied under the Act as well as other legislation on the basis of species classification is scientifically justified.

Without the amendments, there is a risk that conservation and land use requirements applied on the basis of inaccurate species classification may be unnecessary (for example, where research has demonstrated that a species is more widespread and secure than its current classification indicates) or ineffective (for example, where a species is being upgraded to a more threatened status).

### **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The amendments are consistent with fundamental legislative principles, as defined under the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

### **Consultation**

Queensland Treasury was consulted in relation to the proposed amendments and confirmed that a Regulatory Assessment Statement is not required.

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#### ENDNOTES

- 1 Laid before the Legislative Assembly on . . .
- 2 The administering agency is the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

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