

Expanding our major green spaces

Securing and activating spaces
for future generations





Image credit: S. Pass

The Sunshine Coast is well known for its natural beauty, green spaces and coastal and hinterland living. The green spaces that surround our neighbourhoods and towns significantly contribute to both the liveability and identity of the region.

Green spaces include national parks, environment reserves, recreation parks and agricultural and rural landscapes. These spaces are managed by a wide range of public and private land owners which collectively create these spaces.



Why are green spaces important?

As the Sunshine Coast population grows and is expected to exceed 500,000 by 2041, we need to plan for the future and secure land to protect natural assets, respond to climatic changes and provide further green spaces for people to enjoy.



Image credit: D. Clay

These green spaces provide for conservation, flood management, rural production and sport and recreation opportunities. They also provide visual and physical relief from the built environment and enable us to build our resilience for the future.

Where are our major green spaces?

Council is planning and advocating to deliver five major green space areas:

1. Blue Heart Sunshine Coast
2. The Coast
3. Lower Mooloolah River
4. Mountain View
5. Regional Inter-urban Break.

These major green spaces will be essential in maintaining a healthy environment and liveable Sunshine Coast.



Image credit: C. Stubbs



Our five major green spaces



Blue Heart Sunshine Coast

An area of more than 5000 hectares in the Maroochy River floodplain. It's where effective land and water management will proactively respond to a transitioning landscape, whilst delivering a variety of integrated environmental, social and economic outcomes.

The Coast

Our 60 kilometre coastline is a unique area made up of beaches, foreshore dunes and rocky headlands. It supports varying habitats and contributes to our identity and lifestyle. We aim to build a resilient and healthy coast which responds to coastal hazards, facilitates recreational uses and maintains our coastal lifestyle.

Image credit: A. Bell.

Mountain View

This area seeks to celebrate the iconic Glass House Mountains and surrounds, create landscape connections and support nature-based recreation. The proposed Mary Cairncross Ecological Park forms part of this major green space and aims to complement the existing Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.

Image credit: A. Ryan.

Lower Mooloolah River

The Lower Mooloolah River is located in the lower reaches of this river's catchment. We aim to protect and enhance the open space, conservation, rural landscape and flood storage values for the future. It is considered critical to support the transformation of the urban coastal corridor as the region's population grows.

Regional Inter-urban Break

This area covers 32,034 hectares of non-urban land uses and separates the Sunshine Coast from greater Brisbane. We aim to protect its environmental, rural production and recreation values, including the iconic Glass House Mountains and Pumicestone Passage.

Image credit: Z. Jones.

Major green spaces offer many opportunities to:

- Preserve and enhance the green frame and the regional landscape and character
- Protect the environment, plants and animals
- Secure and activate land for today's community and future generations
- Create spaces and places for the health and well-being of our community
- Build resilience and flexibility to respond to change
- Manage flood risks to protect people and the natural and built environments
- Create partnerships with landholders and the community
- Attract visitors to the region that support our growing economy
- Manage and protect productive rural spaces.



Back image credit: D. Bazley.





Image credit: S. Bruce

Image credit: Anderson

Delivering a
**healthy environment and
liveable Sunshine Coast**



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