

Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2024

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28 May 2024

Council Ref: GVT-LIA-STA pf:kb

The Honourable Leanne Linard MP
Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs
GPO Box 5078
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister *Leanne*

RE: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO CROCODILE MANAGEMENT ZONE WITHIN MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

A huge thank you Minister, as a council that has lobbied for this to occur on behalf of our constituents and our agricultural industry, we would like to sincerely thank you and your departmental staff for recognising the importance of the inclusion of Lake Mitchell and the adjoining tributaries to the ATypical Zone also referred to as Zone F. I would though like to raise with you a request for the current extension of 'Zone F', as defined for the Mareeba Shire Council local government area.

Council believes that the current area defined as 'Zone F' does not realistically reflect the true extent of the areas that should be classed as 'atypical habitat zone' which requires removal of any crocodile after a confirmed sighting. Currently none of the Barron River catchment above the (Din Din) Barron River Falls at Kuranda has been included in 'Zone F'.

Where the current Zone "F" encompassing the upper Mitchell River catchment and the Barron River catchment adjoin just north of Mareeba poses no real barrier to the movement of crocodiles. The land is very flat with agricultural industry occupying land in between both catchments (meaning water drainage pipes etc.), also in heavy rain events water covers the divide. In the recent Cyclone Jasper and subsequent rain event, there was a considerable water depth between the two catchments. With the known presence of saltwater crocodiles in this area of the Mitchell catchment the probability of crocodiles being on the move and travelling this very short distance poses a very real threat.

While it is acknowledged that there have been no official sightings, there have been numerous reports by community members of sightings of saltwater crocodiles in this area of the Barron catchment. Given the high use of the Barron River for Agricultural, Domestic and recreational purposes this area is one where we would strongly recommend and request for the immediate removal of saltwater crocodiles.

Your assistance in having your department expand the current 'Zone F' defined area within the Mareeba Shire to include the additional area of the Barron River catchment above the Din Din Falls will be well received by both Council and the broader community.

Yours faithfully



CR ANGELA TOPPIN //
MAYOR



Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS

DES Crocodile Management Zone F - Proposed Expansion

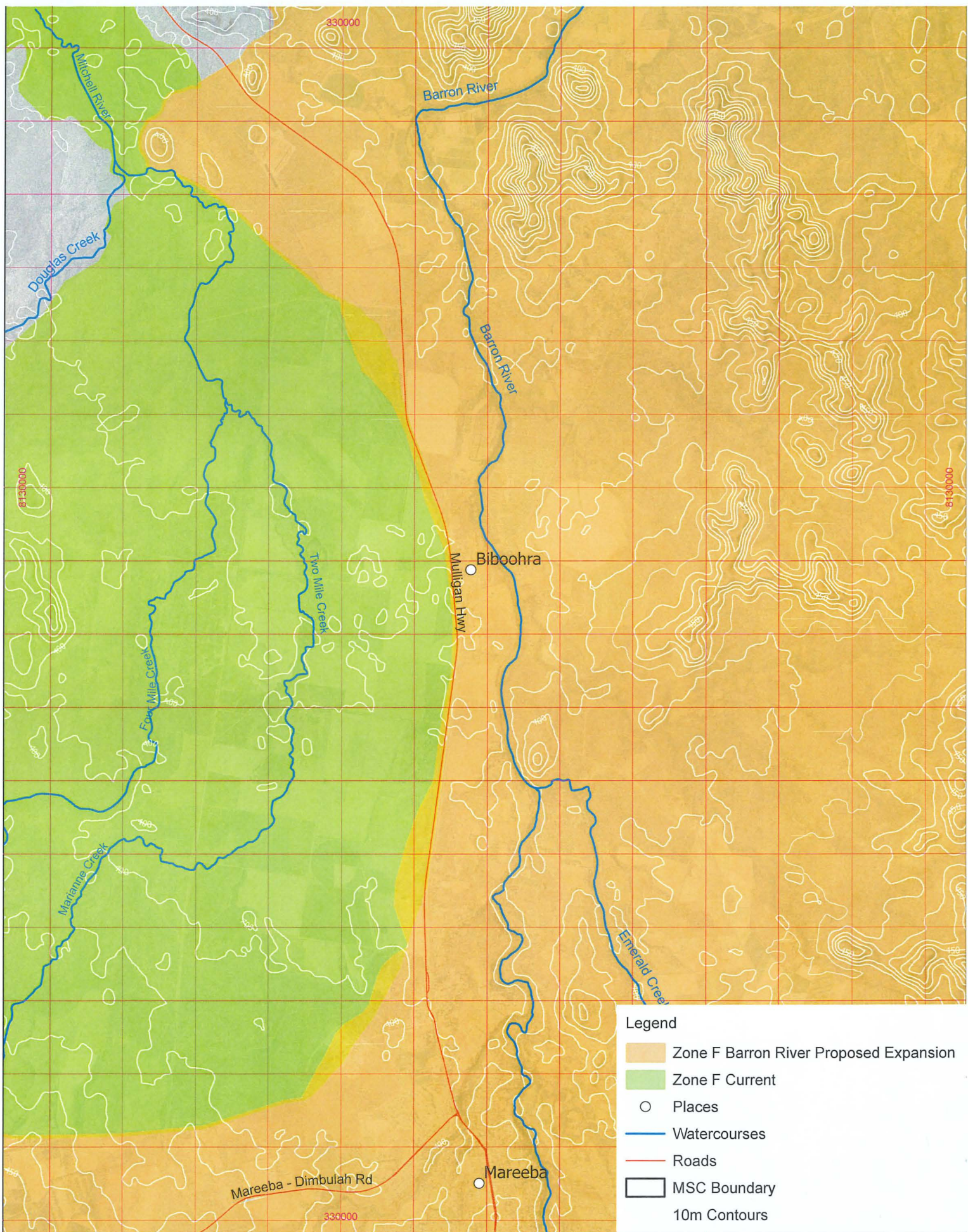
- Legend
- Zone F Barron River Proposed Expansion
 - Zone F Current
 - Places
 - Watercourses
 - Roads
 - MSC Boundary



Map Grid of Australia
Zone 55 (GDA94)



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DES Crocodile Management Zone F - Proposed Expansion

