

The core objectives for these categories are set out in the table below.

Community land categories, guidelines and core objectives

Community land management categorisation

Community land category	Local Government Regulation 2005 Guidelines for categorisation	Local Government Act 1993 (Ss.36G, 36I, 36N) Core objectives for community land categories
Natural area - bushland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as bushland under section 36(5) of the Act if the land contains primarily native vegetation and that vegetation: is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or although not the natural vegetation of the land, is still representative of the structure or floristics, or structure and floristics, of the natural vegetation in the locality. <p>Such land includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and that contains a range of habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter), or moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even age, where native shrubs and grasses are present in the understorey even though there may be some weed invasion, or highly disturbed bushland where the native understorey has been removed, where there may be significant weed invasion and where dead and dying trees are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees or shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated. 	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as bushland are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and to promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and to restore degraded bushland, and to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and to retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.
Natural area – escarpment	<p>Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as an escarpment under section 36(5) of the Act if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the land includes such features as a long cliff-like ridge or rock, and the land includes significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities. 	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to protect any important geological, geomorphological or scenic features of the escarpment, and to facilitate safe community use and enjoyment of the escarpment

Natural area – foreshore	Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as foreshore under section 36(5) of the Act if the land is situated on the water’s edge and forms a transition zone between the aquatic and terrestrial environment.	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as foreshore are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to maintain the foreshore as a transition area between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and to protect and enhance all functions associated with the foreshore’s role as a transition area, and • to facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of the foreshore, and to mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use.
Park	Land should be categorised as a park under section 36(4) of the Act if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and • to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games • to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management
General community use	<p>Land should be categorised as general community use under section 36(4) of the Act if the land—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and • is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102–105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance. 	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and • in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Source:

Guidelines for categorisation: *Local Government Regulation 2005*

Core objectives for community land categories: *Local Government Act Amendment 1993*