

Crisafulli Climate and Nature Report Card Analysis

Overview

This document provides the evidence base for QCC's 2025 One-Year Report Card. All findings are derived from publicly available information.

Scoring Criteria

The following scoring criteria was used to rate the government's stance in each area.

Grading Criteria	
A	Policies and initiatives aligned with best available evidence
B	Policies and initiatives that make significant progress towards, but are not aligned with, the best available evidence
C	Policies and initiatives that make some progress, but are far from aligned with best available evidence.
F	Policies and initiatives that reverse or undermine progress.

The Queensland Conservation Council acknowledges that we meet and work across the many lands of Queensland. We wish to pay respect to their Elders - past and present - and acknowledge the important role all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people play in protecting, conserving and sustaining Queensland.

Summary Rating of Queensland Government (October 2025)

The table below summarizes the ratings QCC has given the Government. You can easily compare these ratings to our scores election commitments in October 2024 - [here](#).

Topic	Comments	Last year's grade
Taking Action on Climate Change and Powering up Queensland with Clean Energy	While the Government has said they will not amend the state's legislated 75% by 2035 emission reduction target, their recently-released Energy Roadmap makes it near impossible to achieve. The Roadmap does not include a firm coal closure timeline, and suggests state-owned coal power stations could run beyond 2046, while gas generation is estimated to double. The Crisafulli Government has also made moves to streamline coal and gas extraction approvals, while axing two wind farms.	F
Plans to protect nature and threatened species	Funding for wildlife hospitals and some regional conservation projects is a start, but it won't stop Queensland's biodiversity crisis. Forest clearing continues, and critical habitat remains unprotected. To give threatened species a fighting chance, the government must end deforestation, particularly in Great Barrier Reef catchments and strengthen habitat-protection laws.	C
Increasing protected Areas	<p>The government committed after the election to expanding Queensland's protected-area estate by 1.88 million hectares by 2028 and began developing a private protected areas strategy.</p> <p>That commitment is a positive sign, but as of mid-2025, there's been no real increase in land protected for nature. Queensland remains far behind other states, and progress will depend on stronger funding and political will.</p>	C+

Full Analysis (October 2025)

Below is the full analysis breakdown on where the Government stand on protecting nature and climate.

1. Taking Action on Climate Change and Powering up Queensland with Clean Energy

Question from Election Survey	Analysis of where LNP is at?
<p>What is the emission reduction target they will implement for 2035?</p>	<p>Qld legislated 75% by 2035 under Labor in Apr 2024¹; LNP ordered a review of this target before suggesting that it will not be amended. However, the target is near impossible to reach under the energy scenario outlined in the new Energy Roadmap, which prolongs coal and expands gas.</p>
<p>Are they, or do they have plans to apply binding methane abatement plans in line with emissions reduction targets to all existing fossil fuel projects?</p>	<p>No state-wide binding methane limits tailored to existing coal & gas across the board.² Govt position not yet aligned to any binding methane targets and hasn't implemented policies that would improve monitoring and reporting.</p>
<p>What are their key policies for reducing emissions in the following sectors: a. Transport b. Industry and waste c. Agriculture and land d. Resources, especially fugitive emissions e. The built environment</p>	<p><i>Transport:</i> Have removed the EV target for Qfleet, although the Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy continues with charging network and fleet initiatives; limited new commitments so far.</p> <p><i>Industry & Waste:</i> Waste Strategy 2025–2030 in consultation; industrial emissions rely heavily on national schemes and investment programs.</p> <p><i>Agriculture & Land:</i> Land Restoration Fund and Low Emissions Agriculture Roadmap remain the main frameworks; further methane regulation unclear.</p>

1

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-21/greenhouse-gases-renewable-energy-cut-emissions-queensland/103747902>

2

<https://www.edo.org.au/2024/09/05/regulatory-reform-can-rapidly-reduce-qlds-methane-emissions-new-analysis-shows>;

<https://www.edo.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/240423-Final-QLD-Methane-Report-and-Recommendations.pdf>

	<p><i>Resources (fugitive emissions):</i> No binding methane controls yet; policy direction to be clarified in the October roadmap. The government has been following a pro-fossil fuel agenda adding emission potential, instead of reducing.</p> <p><i>Built environment:</i> Household energy efficiency policies remain modest with Queensland Productivity Commission's interim report suggesting that the Qld Govt roll back the 2022 National Construction Code, allowing new homes to be less efficient. Something to watch.</p>
<p>What are their policies for helping Queensland communities and nature adapt for the impacts of climate change?</p>	<p>Q-CAS framework under review. Resilient Homes Fund, and local council programs continue, with ongoing disaster recovery and preparedness funding.</p>
<p>What renewable energy targets are they supporting for 2032 and 35?</p>	<p>The Government has moved to repeal the legislated targets of 70% by 2032 and 80% by 2035.</p>
<p>What is their plan for reaching Queensland's existing renewable energy targets and closing all state-owned coal-fired power stations?</p>	<p>The Government has committed to repeal Queensland renewable energy targets, and plans to keep state-owned coal power stations running until at least 2046 (where previously they were slated to close in 2035).</p>
<p>What are their policies for supporting the growth of large-scale renewable energy and storage?</p>	<p>The Government has announced a \$400 million fund to support the delivery of more renewable energy, storage and gas. However, they have also axed two wind farms at the discretion of the Planning Minister, and implemented unprecedented new planning laws for large-scale solar and wind projects.</p>
<p>What are their policies for improving the uptake of Consumer Energy Resources (CER), efficient electric appliances, and household energy efficiency upgrades, including for renters and social housing tenants?</p>	<p>Limited additional funding allocated in addition to what was previously announced by the former State Government, apart from \$26.3 million over three years for the Supercharged Solar for Renters program. This scheme will provide rebates of \$3,500 for eligible landlords to install solar</p>

	panels intended to reduce electricity bills for 6,500 renting households and tenants.
What are their policies for improving the rollout of renewable energy, including by reducing environmental impacts, improving community engagement practices and First Nations benefits?	Large-scale wind and solar projects have now been made impact accessible, which means communities can now have their say on proposed developments. The State Government has also implemented new community engagement requirements. However, there has been no meaningful reforms to reduce the nature impacts of renewable energy projects, and Renewable Energy Zone planning appears to have stalled.
What are their key policies for supporting new clean manufacturing and minerals processing industries, such as battery manufacturing and green steel production?	The Government cut funding for the CQ-H2 and national battery hub projects. Their Energy Roadmap does not factor in enough renewable energy build to seize new clean manufacturing opportunities.
Will they maintain Queensland's ban on nuclear energy?	Nuclear Facilities Prohibition Act 2007 (Qld) remains in force. Premier Crisafulli has said the LNP won't repeal the state ban. ³
Do they have any other policies, not captured above, that support decarbonising Queensland and our energy system?	They have maintained coal royalties but have provided other tax breaks to coal corporations. Approved Lake Vermont extension along with giving green light for gas exploration. The Government has also set up the Resources Cabinet Committee to streamline approvals and cutting green tape.

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2. Stronger Laws and Plan to Protect Nature

Question	Analysis
<p>What are their policies to protect Queensland's threatened species, such as the greater glider and koala?</p>	<p>Logging in greater glider habitat continues, and Minister Powell is saying the Greater Glider Forest Park will not be pursued and the government is not convinced of the benefits of creating more protected areas from state forests beyond the SEQ planning areas (timber comes first).</p> <p>The Crisafulli Government committed to protect in one term at least equivalent to what the former government protected in three terms. To meet this commitment, approximately 1.88 million hectares will need protecting by October 2028. If they are able to achieve this it will be impressive but very unlikely given no new money has yet been committed for protected area expansion.</p> <p>No new money has been announced New Koala Conservation Strategy in development - but no announcement on direction of it yet, or consultation</p>
<p>Have they committed to improving Cultural Heritage mapping and protection, in partnership with Traditional Owners?</p>	<p>No clear new commitments to improve cultural Heritage mapping and protections.</p>
<p>What are their policies to protect Queensland's state-owned native forests from industrial logging and ensure the growth and efficient use of plantation wood supply?</p>	<p>The Future Timber Plan commits to further entrenching state-owned and private native forest logging, with no new public protected areas created since forming government. No response to our Forests for Everyone campaign report pitching the protection of this lowest hanging fruit, so we fear larger scale, more intensive logging is to come.</p>
<p>What is their position on the legality of peaceful protest for climate and environmental causes?</p>	<p>The Queensland Government recognises the legal right to peaceful protest, and has not sought to put any further restrictions on it.</p>
<p>Do they support the Koala Protection Strategy, including an expansion of the strategy to cover other koala habitat areas in Queensland?</p>	<p>Initially, yes they are looking into other areas. However, this position is not finalised.</p>
<p>Will they maintain the Vegetation Management Framework?</p>	<p>Currently there are no plans to change the Vegetation Management Framework.</p>

What are their policies to reduce land clearing rates?	It is not clear what their policies for reducing land clearing rates are as announcements have not been made.
What are their policies to support the development of high integrity carbon and biodiversity methods for landholders to protect forests and facilitate environmental outcomes?	No announcements on their policy to support the development of high integrity carbon and biodiversity methods.
Will they introduce a well-resourced independent Environment Protection Agency for Queensland?	It appears unlikely they will introduce a well-resourced independent EPA for Queensland.
Will they strengthen the existing framework of environmental regulation in Queensland and maintain the comparative funding level for the Department of Environment Science and Innovation?	Very unlikely. Tourism was prioritised with \$440m but no matching funds for DETSI to protect and recover our natural assets either within national parks or more broadly with recovery plans for threatened species.
What are their policies for conserving nature through Regional and Bioregional Planning?	DETSI and DCCEEW are continuing this and the minister is supporting it.
Will you retain the legal avenue for the community to seek review of mining leases and environmental authorities for mining projects?	In March, the AG scrapped a multi-year mining objections review, which was set to strengthen the way the Land Court handled contested mining leases.
What are their policies to improve water quality in the Great Barrier Reef?	No official announcement to date about the scope, funding etc of the LNP's Reef Water Quality Program, but the Environment Minister has made vague comments in the media that the LNP would, should, could do more to improve reef water quality
Will you commit to implementing water demand management strategies, water sensitive urban design, wastewater recycling, water use efficiency standards and other alternative water supply options?	It is unclear what the Government's stance on these matters is as they have provided no response or public announcements.
What is your policy about building new large scale water supply dams?	The Premier has made vague comments on social media which indicates he supports building the proposed Lakeland Irrigation Area Scheme, which will involve building a large dam on the upper Palmer River in the Mitchell River catchment.

3. Increasing Queensland's Protected Areas

<p>Have they committed to doubling Queensland's protected areas to 17% by 2030? If not, what date do you propose?</p>	<p>No, they have not announced 17% by 2030 They have committed to 1.88 million ha by 2028 which would be more than Labor did in 3 terms of govt but a long-term plan for 17% is needed.</p>
<p>What are their policies (including funding) for expanding Queensland's protected areas?</p>	<p>Policies not yet announced but draft private protected area framework has been and is positive for private land while lacking any detail on public land protected area expansion. The Protected Areas Strategy 2020-2030 has not been endorsed by this govt, which is saying their private PA framework is the first step of their full PA policy. This could be very bad, if funding commensurate with the last govt is not committed to growing the PA estate significantly.</p>
<p>Will they increase funding required to adequately manage the protected areas estate, including funding for indigenous rangers?</p>	<p>Possibly for private PAs, not clear for public PAs. Funding was announced for 30 new indigenous ranger positions in Sept 2025. 50 positions were announced in 2024. There are some good signs for private protected area funding (no funds committed yet but good policy framework that will hopefully lead to \$ in FY26).</p>
<p>Do they support the nomination of sections of Cape York as a World Heritage Area?</p>	<p>Unlikely. In Jan 2025 Powell ordered a review into the WH push for Cape York.</p>
<p>What other policies do they have to support protecting nature?</p>	<p>None.</p>