



***EPBC Act Strategic Assessment –
Progress report and where to next?***

Approvals and Wildlife Division (Mark Flanigan)
National Oceans Office (Paula Tomkins)
Heritage Division (Terry Bailey)

The Agreement: Summary

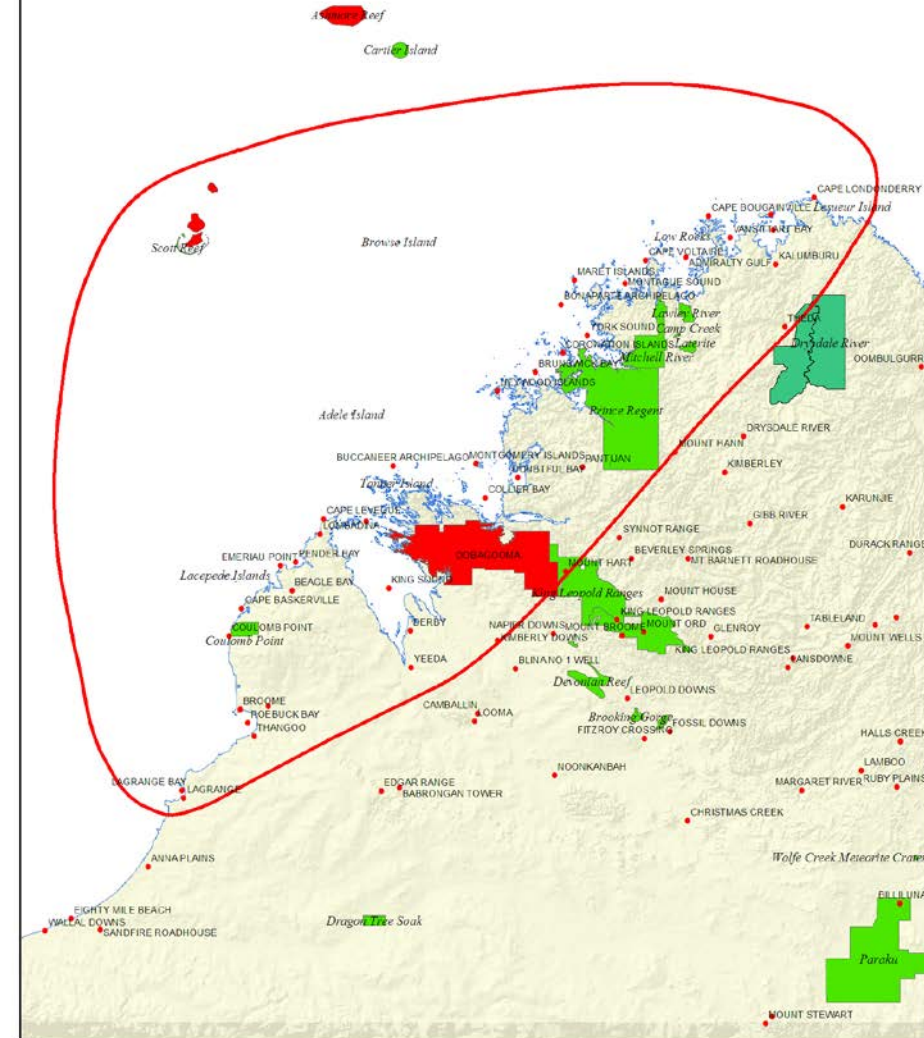
Agreement between the WA and
Australian Governments in Feb
2008

Provides a means for :

1. Proactively addressing what would otherwise be negative cumulative impacts and economic inefficiencies associated with piecemeal LNG-related developments to service the Browse Basin Gas Reserves; and
2. Assessing the broader natural, indigenous and historic heritage values in the Kimberley region.

NB: consideration will also be given to feasible alternatives outside the Kimberley region

Map 2: Kimberley Hub Regional Assessment



0 50 100 200 Kilometers

Australian Government
Department of the Environment,
Water, Heritage and the Arts

July 2008

Kimberley Hub Strategic Assessment
Heritage listed place
Heritage nominated place
Protected Areas

The Agreement: An Ecologically Sustainable Development Solution

- Concentrate impacts to an appropriate and defined area
- Address the cumulative impacts associated with piecemeal LNG development to service the Browse Basin Gas Reserves
- Provide region wide conservation and heritage protection
- Provide greater certainty to industry, government and the community over future LNG related development in Northern WA.



Photo: DEWHA

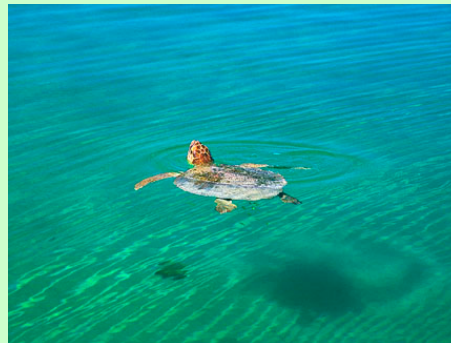


Photo: Kevin Crane (CALM)



Photo: Ian Morris

The Agreement and NW Marine Bioregional Plan

LNG Hub Location and Management Plan, *three stages*:

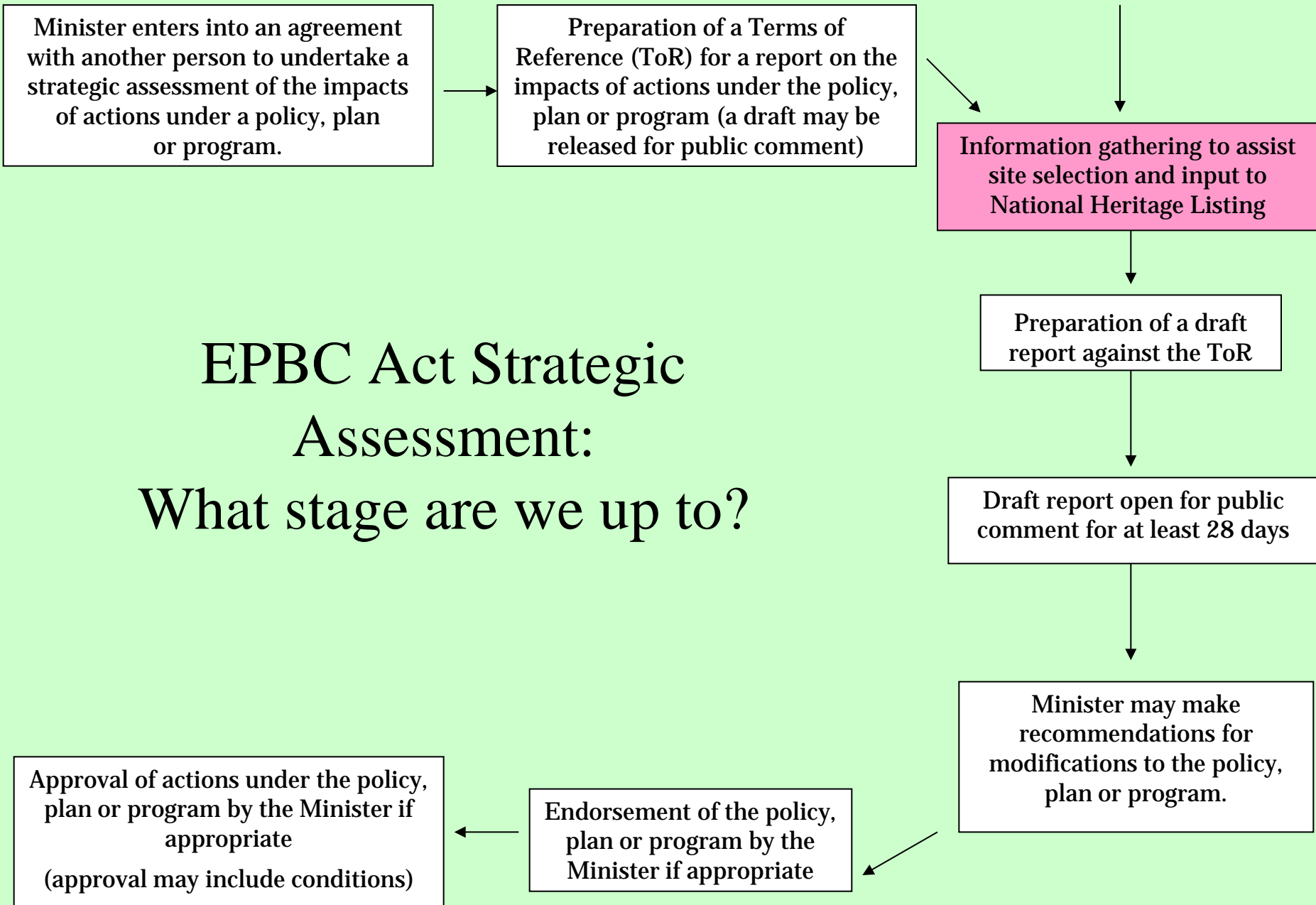
- environment and heritage (in particular matters of NES) will be considered during the short-listing and final selection of a Hub location to service the Browse Basin Gas Reserves;
- the impacts of actions associated with the development and functioning of the Hub will be identified, assessed and mitigated; and
- the Plan for the Hub and associated activities will provide for the conservation and protection of matters of NES

Simultaneous Process

- National Heritage Listing (to assist identification, listing and ultimately protection of the environment/heritage of the Kimberley more broadly)
- Northwest Marine Bioregional Plan

Each of these initiatives are expected to be completed mid 2010

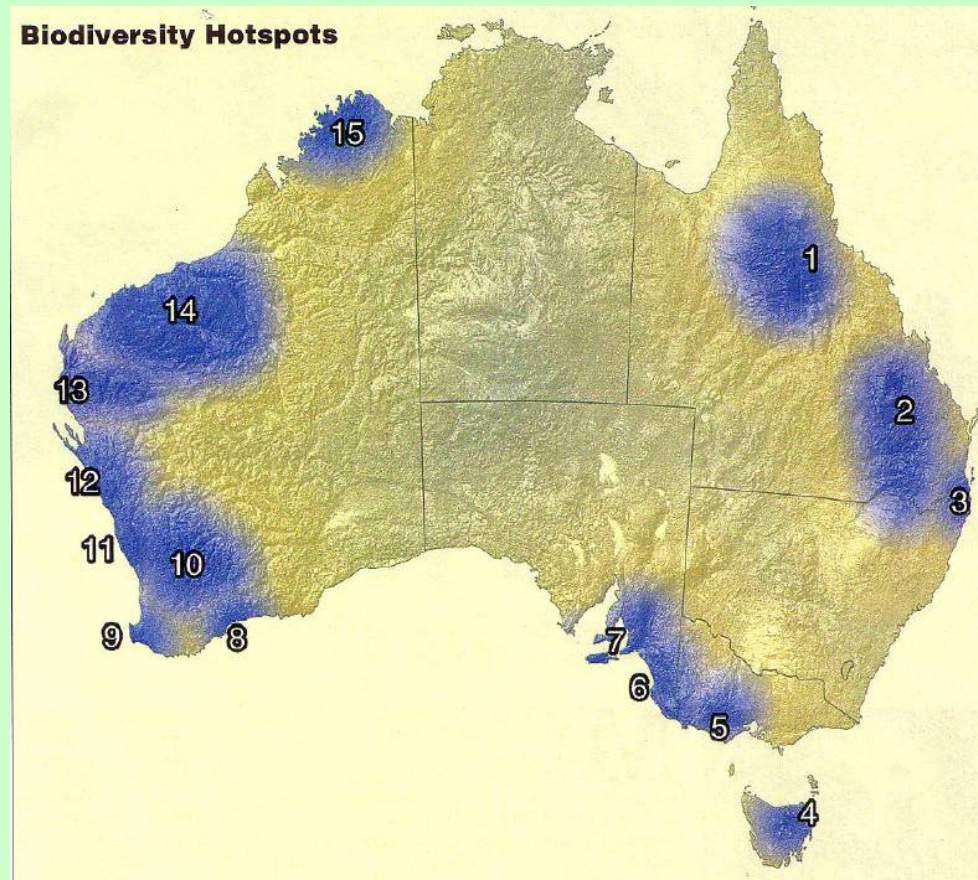
EPBC Act Strategic Assessment: What stage are we up to?



*The Kimberley:
Significant Environmental and Heritage Values and
one of Australia's biodiversity hotspots*

Matters of NES in the Region of
Assessment

- Listed Threatened Species and Ecological Communities
- Listed Migratory Species
- RAMSAR Wetlands
- Commonwealth Marine Environment
- National Heritage Values
- Prospective Matters of NES



Northwest Marine Bioregional Plan

NW Region

- Extends from Kalbarri in south to NT border
- Commonwealth waters from 3 – 200 nm



Photo: WA DEC

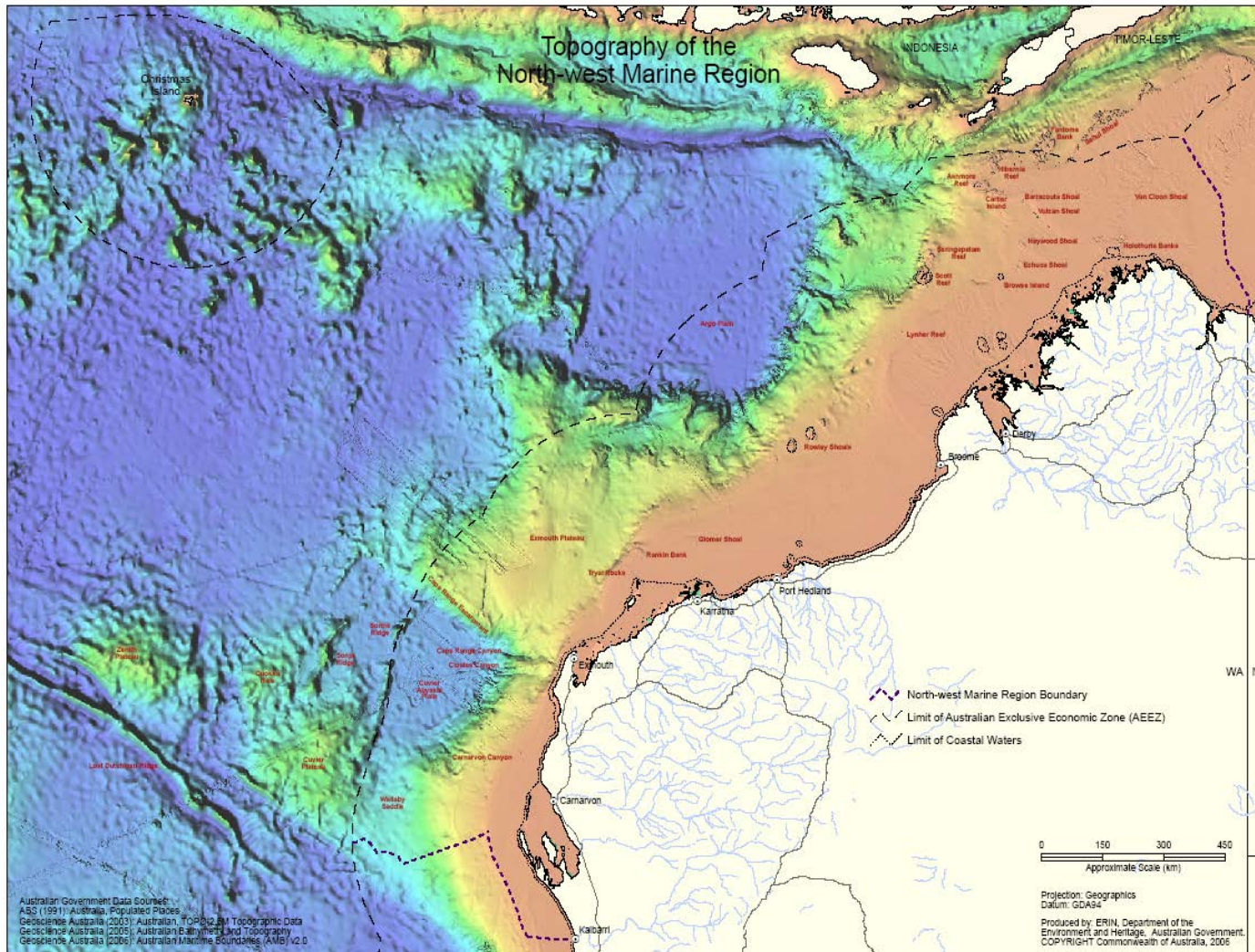
Aim

- Identify conservation values in the NW marine region
- Guide the Minister in decision-making under EPBC Act
- Implement the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas in Commonwealth waters (ie identify MPAs)
- Advise proponents of the Government's conservation priorities in the marine environment



Photo: DEWHA

North-west Marine Region



Milestones:

**Bioregional
Profile – Mid
2008**

**Draft Plan –
Mid 2009**

**Final Plan –
Mid 2010**

Linkages with the Strategic Assessment

- Working closely within DEWHA
- Working with WA Govt Agencies
- Providing advice and sharing all information collated as part of the NW marine bioregional planning process to the Strategic Assessment

[Australia's heritage system Kimberley Jul 08.ppt](#)