

## ENVT100.1 Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) - Checklist

Use this Checklist with ENVT100 Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation.

Step 1 Complete the Impact Identification and Management Table in Appendix 1.

Step 2 Go to:  
<http://www.ea.gov.au/epbc/index.html>

- Click on 'Interactive Map'
- Click on the 'Interactive Map Search'
- 'Accept' the caveat conditions. This will take you to the EPBC Interactive Map.
- Outline the tenement boundary of the project
- Conduct a search on the selected area.

Step 3 Using the EPBC Interactive map, and the report produced, answer the following questions. This will assist in establishing whether the actions identified in the Impact Identification and Management Table will have a significant impact, and if they are a matter of National Environmental Significance (NES).

If you answer '**Yes**' to any of the following questions, please fill out the corresponding section in the Checklist.

Note All questions below are to be answered.

1. Are the actions on, near or likely to adversely affect a World Heritage Property (WHP)?

Yes

No

If '**Yes**', complete Section 1. If '**No**' go to Question 2.

2. Are the actions on, near or likely to adversely affect a Ramsar Wetland?

Yes

No

If '**Yes**', complete Section 2. If '**No**' go to Question 3.

3. Are the actions likely to have a significant environmental impact on an Australian flora or fauna species, that is, listed in the Act as being extinct in the wild, critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable?

Yes

No

If **'Yes'**, complete Section 3. If **'No'** go to Question 4.

4. Are the actions likely to affect any listed migratory species?

Yes

No

If **'Yes'**, complete Section 4. If **'No'** go to Question 5.

5. Do the actions involve nuclear material/products, or an activity or facility for processing nuclear material/products?

Yes

No

If **'Yes'**, complete Section 5. If **'No'** go to Question 6.

6. Is the action in, near or likely to impact on a Commonwealth Marine area?

Yes

No

If **'Yes'**, complete Section 6. If **'No'**, then please follow the directives below.

If the answer is 'Yes' to any of the above questions in this checklist, then the action is likely to have a significant environmental impact on a matter of National Environmental Significance.

When complete, attach the relevant Sections to this Questionnaire.

# EPBC Checklist

## Section 1

### World Heritage Properties (WHP)

All WHP's are listed at:

<http://www.ea.gov.au/heritage/awh/worldheritage/index.html>

#### a) From your search, select the WHP that was on, near or likely to be affected:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heard and McDonald Islands                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Macquarie Island       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Greater Blue Mountains Area                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lorde Howe Island      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Naracoorte)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fraser Island          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Barrier Reef     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves of Australia | <input type="checkbox"/> Kakadu National Park   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shark Bay, Western Australia                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Willandra Lakes Region |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Tropics of Queensland                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmanian Wilderness   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ulura-Kata Tjuta National Park                   |   |

#### b) What are the World Heritage Values for the relevant WHP?

To answer this question, start at:

<http://www.ea.gov.au/heritage/awh/worldheritage/index.html>

Choose the relevant WHP, and then select the link to the relevant World Heritage values.

What values have you identified (These may be appended to the EPBC Checklist)?

---

---

---

#### c) Is the action likely to result in one or more of these World Heritage values being lost, damaged or degraded?

**Yes**     **No**     **Unsure**

(To answer this question, you will need to form an opinion. This opinion should be based on the advice of a person with the relevant scientific expertise or experience.)

If the answer is 'Yes' or 'Unsure' to any questions in Section 1, then refer the actions.

If the answer is 'No' to all of Section 1, go to Question 2.

## Section 2

## Ramsar Wetlands

a) Which Ramsar Wetland have you identified?

---

b) What is the “ecological character” of the relevant Ramsar Wetland?

To answer this question, start at:

<http://www.ea.gov.au/cgi-bin/ramsar/search.pl>

Type in the name of the Ramsar wetland that you have identified and submit query. The database will produce an Information Sheet on the wetland. This provides information about the wetland, such as the ecological character of the wetland.

What ecological character has the database identified?

---

---

c) Is the action likely to have a significant environmental impact on the identified ecological character of the relevant Ramsar Wetland? This will occur if the action is likely to result in:

(To answer the following questions, you will need to form an opinion. This opinion should be based on the advice of a person with the relevant scientific expertise or experience.)

- areas of the wetland being destroyed or substantially modified;  Yes  No
  
- a substantial and measurable change in the hydrological regime of the wetland;  Yes  No
  
- the habitat or life cycle of native species, dependent upon the wetland, being seriously affected;  Yes  No
  
- a substantial and measurable change in the physio-chemical nature of the wetland; or  Yes  No
  
- an invasive species, that is harmful to the ecological character of the wetland, being established in the wetland.  Yes  No

If the answer is ‘Yes’ to any of Section 2, then refer the action.

If the answer is ‘No’ to all of Section 2 then go to Question 3.

### Section 3 Native Australian Flora and Fauna

All species are listed at:

<http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/index.html>

(Between July 2000 and the end of that year, the species listed on this website are being reclassified to fit in with the classifications required by the Act.)

*Note* Do not include migratory species in this section. Address migratory species in Section 4.

#### **Part A**

Record the listed species and ecological communities under the following classifications.

#### Species

For each of the following sub-sections click on 'Flora' first. Once the information for

Those species that are **extinct in the wild**:

---

---

Those species that are **critically endangered** or **endangered**:

---

---

---

Those species that are **vulnerable**:

**Dasycercus cristicauda**

---

---

---

#### Ecological Communities

Those ecological communities that are **critically endangered** or **endangered**:

---

---

---

Continue with the following questions in Part B.

## **Part B**

(To answer the following questions, you will need to form an opinion. This opinion should be based on the advice from a person with the relevant scientific expertise or experience.)

### **Species**

For those species that are **extinct in the wild**, will or is the action, likely to:

- adversely affect a captive or propagated population, or one recently introduced or re-introduced into the wild?  Yes  No
- or
- interfere with the recovery of the species, or its re-introduction to the wild?  Yes  No

For those species that are **critically endangered** or **endangered**, will or is the action, likely to:

- lead to a long term decrease in the size of a population?  Yes  No
- reduce the area of distribution of the species?  Yes  No
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations?  Yes  No
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species?  Yes  No
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population?  Yes  No
- modify, destroy, remove isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline?  Yes  No
- result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the habitat of the endangered or critically endangered species?  Yes  No
- interfere with the recovery of the species?  Yes  No

For those species that are **vulnerable**, will or is the action, likely to:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an 'important population' of a species?  Yes  No
- reduce the area of distribution of an 'important population'?  Yes  No

- fragment an existing 'important population' into two or more populations?  Yes  No
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species?  Yes  No
- disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population?  Yes  No
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability, or quality, of habitat to the extent that the population of the species is likely to decline?  Yes  No
- result in invasive species, that are harmful to a vulnerable species, becoming established in the habitat of the vulnerable species?  Yes  No
- interferes substantially with the recovery of the species?  Yes  No

### Ecological Communities

For those ecological communities that are **critically endangered**, will or is the action, likely to:

- lead to a long-term adverse effect on an ecological community?  Yes  No
- reduce the area of distribution of a community?  Yes  No
- fragment an existing population of the community?  Yes  No
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of an ecological community?  Yes  No
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability, or quality, of habitat to the extent that the population of the species is likely to decline?  Yes  No
- result in invasive species, that are harmful to the critically endangered or endangered community, becoming established in a population of the community?  Yes  No
- interferes with the recovery of the ecological community?  Yes  No

Do any **Recovery Plans** apply, that the Commonwealth adopted?  Yes  No

All the existing Recovery Plans adopted by the Commonwealth are listed at: <http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/recovery/list.html#swa>

If '**Yes**', do they provide any guidance on whether an action is likely to be significant?  Yes  No

What are the guidelines?

---

---

---

---

---

On the basis of such guidance, will or is the action, likely to have a significant impact?

**Yes**

**No**

If the answer is '**Yes**' to any of Part B then refer the action.  
If the answer is '**No**' to all of Part B then go to Question 4.



## Section 5 Nuclear Action

Does the action involve:

- establishing or significantly modifying a nuclear installation or a facility for storing spent nuclear fuel?  **Yes**  **No**
- transporting spent nuclear fuel or radioactive waste products arising from reprocessing?  **Yes**  **No**
- establishing or significantly modifying a facility for storing radioactive waste products arising from reprocessing?  **Yes**  **No**
- mining or milling uranium ore?  **Yes**  **No**
- establishing or significantly modifying a large-scale disposal facility for radioactive waste?  **Yes**  **No**
- de-commissioning or rehabilitating of any facility or area on which an activity described above has been undertaken? (as at 31 October 2000, there are no such actions.)  **Yes**  **No**
- any other action prescribed by the Regulations (as at 31 October 2000, there are no such actions).  **Yes**  **No**

If the answer is 'Yes' to any of Section 5, then refer the action.

If the answer is 'No' to all of Section 5, then go to Question 6.

## Section 6

## Commonwealth Marine Environment

All such Commonwealth marine areas are listed at:

<http://www.ea.gov.au/coasts/information/marinearea.html>

**Which area is identified?**

---

---

Will or is the action, likely to:

- result in a known or potential pest species becoming established in the Commonwealth marine area?  **Yes**  **No**
  
- modify, destroy, fragment or disturb a substantial area of habitat resulting in an adverse impact on the marine ecosystem function or integrity within a Commonwealth marine area?  **Yes**  **No**
  
- have a substantial adverse effect on a population of a marine species or cetacean including its life cycle (breeding, feeding, migration behaviour and life expectancy) and spatial distribution?  **Yes**  **No**
  
- result in a substantial change in air or water quality (including temperature) which may adversely impact on biodiversity, ecological integrity, social amenity or human health.  **Yes**  **No**
  
- result in organic chemicals, heavy metals, or other potentially harmful chemicals accumulating in the marine environment, which adversely affects the biodiversity, ecological integrity, social amenity or human health?  **Yes**  **No**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **IMPACT IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT TABLE**

**Impact Identification and Management**

- Identify the activities proposed for this programme and complete the table.

Exploration Activity	Action (Identify tasks involved with activity)	Potential Impact (without Controls)	Controls (Refer to relevant RTE Procedures)	Residual Impact -with Controls (Low/Med/High)	Residual Impact significant (Y/N)	Affect Matter of NES? (Y/N) If Yes, which NES?
<p><b><u>Data Gathering</u></b></p> <p><b>Airborne Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aerial photographs</li> <li>• spectral scanning</li> <li>• geophysical surveys</li> </ul> <p><b>Hand Geological Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hand sampling of rocks and soils</li> <li>• passive gravity measurements</li> <li>• handheld magnetic measurements</li> </ul> <p><b>Geophysical Surveys</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• looped conductor wire method</li> <li>• peg and hole method</li> <li>• seismic - shot hole</li> </ul>						

Exploration Activity	Action (Identify tasks involved with activity)	Potential Impact (without Controls)	Controls (Refer to relevant RTE Procedures)	Residual Impact -with Controls (Low/Med/High)	Residual Impact significant (Y/N)	Affect Matter of NES? (Y/N) If Yes, which NES?
<p><b>Geochemical Surveys</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sampling by pick/shovel/trowel</li> <li>• trenching</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Drilling</u></b> <b>Rotary Air Blast</b></p> <p><b>Percussion Drilling</b></p> <p><b>Diamond Core Drilling</b></p> <p><b>Access</b></p> <p><b>Temporary Camp</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establishing and using camp of size one caravan or less</li> <li>• establishing and using camp of size more than one caravan</li> </ul>						