

There have been no new referrals list for public comment this week.

Past referral still open:

1. Ross River, **Townsville Marine Precinct** Project - comments due 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Notices of interest:

1. Listing of **Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets** as critically endangered
2. **Traveston Crossing Dam** information page
3. **Northern Prawn Fishery** assessment for ongoing export accreditation – comments due 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Previous notices still open for comment:

1. Water buyback in the Murray-Darling Basin region – applications due 19<sup>th</sup> December
2. Magnetic Island Draft Policy Statement – submissions due 29<sup>th</sup> October
3. Risk assessment on the import of Russian Sturgeon – submissions due 21<sup>st</sup> November
4. Dwarf Sawfish – nomination to be listed as vulnerable – comments due 24<sup>th</sup> October

All of the information below is drawn directly from the Commonwealth Government's website ([www.environment.gov.au/epbc/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/index.html)) and is provided for information and summary purposes only; EDO-NQ does not warrant or guarantee its accuracy or correctness. In addition, EDO-NQ does not support the various proposals which are the subject of the EPBC Act referrals below.

## 1. Invitation on public comment on referral

2008/4497	<a href="#">Port of Townsville/Transport - water/south of Benwell Road Beach, Ross River, Townsville/QLD/Townsville Marine Precinct</a>	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 21 Oct 2008
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Development of a commercial marine precinct at the mouth of Ross River, known as the Townsville Marine Precinct Project. Threatened plants, birds, terrestrial fauna, marine mammals and reptiles have been identified as likely to occur within the Project area as well as migratory birds, mammals, reptiles and sharks. The area of the project is also known to hold indigenous heritage values. Full details of likely impacts under World Heritage, Listed threatened species and communities and listed migratory species are given in the referral and comments are invited from the public.

For further information on how to comment refer to the Invitations for public comment section of the [help document](#) provided by the Department of the Environment and Water Resources.

## 2. Other Notices

### [New ecological community listing](#)

Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets of Eastern Australia have been listed as critically endangered.

### [Traveston Crossing Dam Information Page](#)

The Traveston Crossing Dam proposal involves the construction and operation of a new dam on the Mary River in Queensland and was designated 'a controlled action' under the EPBC Act. This means that mandatory assessment processes must be undertaken before a final decision can be made on the project.

## [Northern Prawn Fishery](#)

The current export approval for the Northern Prawn Fishery is valid until 9 January 2009 and the fishery is now due for assessment for ongoing export accreditation. The Northern Prawn Fishery occupies 771,000 square kilometres off Australia's northern coast. A status report for Re-assessment for export approval under the EPBC Act is available for comment until Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

### 3. Previous notices still open

#### [Restoring the Balance in the Murray-Darling Basin Program \(water buyback\)](#)

The 2008-09 Northern basin water entitlement purchase round is now open to willing sellers of water entitlements in the Queensland and northern New South Wales areas of the Murray-Darling Basin. Applications are due by **19 December 2008**.

#### **Magnetic Island Draft Policy Statement**

The [Draft Policy Statement](#) is designed to assist a person proposing to take an action on or around Magnetic Island decide whether or not they require EPBC Act approval. This draft policy statement should be read in conjunction with the [EPBC Act Policy Statement 1.1](#). Public comments period closes **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October**.

#### **Risk Assessment on the Import of Russian Sturgeon**

Comments are invited on the draft report assessing the suitability of import of the Russian Sturgeon into Australia. Full details and a [copy of the report](#) are available on the DEWHA website. Submissions due by **21<sup>st</sup> November 2008**

#### **Dwarf Sawfish – nomination to be listed as vulnerable.**

A tropical Australian species distributed from Cairns to the Kimberleys. [Further details on comments being sought](#) available on the DEWHA website. Comments due by **24<sup>th</sup> October 2008**.

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Regards,

**EDO-NQ**

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