

FEDERAL - EPBC Act

1. Referrals open for comment

Great Keppel Island Resort Revitalisation Plan with a footprint of 900 hectares – comments due Wednesday 7th October

Wongaling Beach subdivision – comments due Friday 16th October

2. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals

Kuranda Heights Road, Kuranda subdivision – approved with conditions

Wongaling Beach residential development – to be assessed by Public Environmental Report

Oasis Mission Beach Resort – transfer of approval to SMB1 Mission Beach Pty Ltd

Myola – Oakforest Road residential development – variation to approval

3. Policy Statement

Weeping Myall Woodlands listing as an endangered community

4. Draft Recovery Plans – comments due 4th January 2010

Northern bettong *Bettongia tropica*

Proserpine rock-wallaby *Petrogale persephone*

Spectacled flying fox *Pteropus conspicillatus*

Buff-breasted button-quail *Turnix olivii*

Water mouse (false water rat) *Xeromys myoides*

5. Wildlife trade and conservation invitations for comment

Importation of two varieties of scarabaeine dungbeetle for release as a biological control agent – comments due Friday 6th November

STATE

Projects open for submissions

Queensland Curtis LNG project – submissions on the EIS by Monday 19th October

Gladstone Steel Making Facility – submissions on the draft Terms of Reference by Monday 12th October

Declared projects with initial advice statements

Kevin's Corner coal mine, Galilee Basin

Great Keppel Island Resort, central Queensland

FEDERAL - EPBC Act

All of the information below is drawn directly from the Commonwealth Government's website (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. Referrals open for comment

2009/5095	GKI Resort Pty Ltd/Tourism and recreation/Great Keppel Island/QLD/Great Keppel Island Resort Revitalisation Plan	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 07 Oct 2009
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The proposed action is a Revitalisation Plan for Great Keppel Island located approximately 12 kilometres off the coast of Yeppoon. The development is to include 300 room hotel and day spa, up to 1700 low rise tourism resort villas and 300 tourism resort apartments, a 560-berth marina, retail and recreational facilities and upgrade to existing airstrip with a footprint of approximately 900 hectares.

The reefs around the island are fringing reefs on the southern section of the Great Barrier Reef. The island is within the catchment of the Shoalwater and Corio Bays area which are identified as Ramsar wetlands of international significance. 13 threatened species, a littoral rainforest and coastal vine thickets threatened community and 44 migratory species may potentially occur in the area.

The referral concludes that the action is a controlled action.

2009/5109	Peter Lloyd Heywood/Residential development/Lot 4, RP747499, Tully-Mission Beach Rd, Wongaling Beach/QLD/Six allotment subdivision and associated infrastructure	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Comments due: 16 Oct 2009
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The proposed allotments are on partly vegetated land covered by mature and disturbed remnant lowland mesophyll vine forest that is habitat for the endangered southern cassowary. It is bounded to the west by the Hull River and the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, and to the east by urban-zoned areas of Wongaling Beach.

There are three listed endangered species in the area including the Southern Cassowary and 31 migratory species.

The referral acknowledges that cassowaries utilise the property and the proposed action has potential to impact on the vegetation and habitat of the southern cassowary. In the opinion of the developer the referral concludes that with the proposed impact mitigation measures the action is not a controlled action.

2. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals

Reference Number	Title of referral	Notifications from EPBC Act	Date of Notice
2009/4916	Micheli Borzi/Residential development/Kuranda Heights Road, Kuranda/QLD/Residential Subdivision	Decision on approval of action: Approved with conditions	22 Sep 2009

The subdivision of 4.91 hectares, including the construction of infrastructure on Kuranda Heights Road, Kuranda has been approved with controlling provisions.

Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals – cont.

2009/5051	Wilmatt Holdings Pty Ltd/Residential development/Wongaling Beach/QLD/Rockingham Close residential development, Lot 66 on SP164474, Wongaling Beach QLD	Decision on Assessment Approach: Public Environment Report	29 Sep 2009
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It was found that the proposed action is a controlled action and will be assessed by public environment report. Further details to be advised.

2005/2389	Oasis Mission Beach Pty Ltd/Tourism, recreation and conservation management/Mission Beach/QLD/Development of a resort complex	Notice of Transfer of Approval	30 Sep 2009
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The approval given in June 2006 has been transferred from Oasis Mission Beach Pty Ltd to SMB1 Mission Beach Pty Ltd and refers to proposed resort complex and associated infrastructure on Lot 103 on SP172430 at Mission Beach with a development zone of approximately 3.2 hectares.

2008/4394	Christensen Family Trust/Residential development/Lot 13 15 & 16 Myola-Oakforest Rd Kuranda/QLD/Rural Residential Subdivision and Services	Notification of Variation to Approval	30 Sep 2009
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The approval has been amended to include under condition 1 of Annexure 1 of the approval dated 3 June 2009:

“or the person taking the action must obtain written approval from the Minister to have the building envelopes amended in size or location.”

3. Policy Statement

[Weeping Myall Woodlands – EPBC Act policy statement 3.17](#)

The Weeping Myall Woodlands ecological community is [listed as endangered](#) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This policy statement is intended to provide a guide for stakeholders on the reasons for listing, how to identify and manage the ecological community, and the EPBC Act implication of its listing.

Weeping Myall Woodlands in Queensland are found in the Condamine NRM, Fitzroy Basin Committee NRM, South West QLD NRM and Burnett Mary NRM. For further details review the policy on the [DEWHA website](#).

4. Draft national recovery plans open for public comment

There are a number of recovery plans that are open for comment until 4th January 2010. Click on the link below to view the full details on the DEWHA website.

Draft recovery plans that apply to the Northern Queensland area:

1. [Draft national recovery plan for the northern bettong *Bettongia tropica*](#)

Currently occur in three locations: Mt Carbine Tableland, Lamb Range and Coane Range (Paluma) and listed as endangered.

2. [Draft national recovery plan for the Proserpine rock-wallaby *Petrogale persephone*](#)

Listed as endangered the Proserpine rock-wallaby essential habitat is found around Proserpine.

3. [Draft national recovery plan for the spectacled flying fox *Pteropus conspicillatus*](#)

Listed as Vulnerable the spectacled flying fox occurs in north-eastern Queensland, with the largest population known from the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area between Townsville and Cooktown.

4. [Draft national recovery plan for the buff-breasted button-quail *Turnix olivii*](#)

Critical habitat can be broadly defined as stoney or grassy woodlands and forests on plains and slopes found throughout inland Queensland. Due to lack of detailed information population locations and numbers are not know.

5. [Draft national recovery plan for the water mouse \(false water rat\) *Xeromys myoides*](#)

The water mouse is listed as vulnerable in Queensland and a threatened species in the Northern Territory. They are found in coastal saltmarsh, mangrove and wetland habitats and in Queensland from Proserpine south to the Queensland/New South Wales Border.

5. Wildlife trade and conservation invitations for comment

[Amendment to Live Import List to include Axolotl \(*Ambystoma mexicanum*\)](#)

The Australian Regenerative Medicine Unit of Monash University has prepared a draft environment assessment report under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 to include *A. mexicanum* (Axolotl) on the live import list for research purposes.

Comments are due by 30th October 2009.

[Draft environment assessment report for the importation of *Onthophagus vacca* \(a scarabaeine dung beetle\) for release as a biological control agent](#)

[Draft environment assessment report for the importation of *Bubas bubalus* \(a scarabaeine dung beetle\) for release as a biological control agent](#)

CSIRO Entomology has prepared draft environment assessment reports to include two varieties of scarabaeine dungbeetle on the live import list for release into the Australian environment to enhance cattle dung burial, and thus limit reproduction of the Australian Bush Fly (*Musca vetustissima*). Comments are invited on the draft report by **Friday 6th November**.

A proposed action that has been referred under the EPBC Act may be declared by Queensland's Coordinator-General to be a "state significant project" under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld) and an Environmental Impact Statement may be required by the Queensland Government under that Act.

The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments have entered into a Bilateral Agreement which allows Queensland to carry out the Commonwealth's environmental assessments in certain circumstances.

The community are entitled to make submissions in relation to the environmental assessments, whether at Commonwealth or Queensland level.

All of the information below is drawn directly from the Queensland Government's website (www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects) 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 review.

STATE PROJECTS

1. Significant Projects in Northern Queensland

Queensland Curtis LNG project

The project proposes to develop an integrated liquefied natural gas project in Queensland comprising :

- expansion of coal seam gas operations in the Surat Basin
- development of a gas and water pipeline network
- development of the liquefied natural gas processing and export facility on Curtis Island.

On 4 July 2008, the Coordinator-General declared the project to be a 'significant project' for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required in accordance with Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)* (SDPWOA). The Department of Infrastructure and Planning will manage the EIS process on behalf of the Coordinator-General.

Written submissions on the EIS are invited from the public by **5pm Monday 19 October 2009**.

Gladstone Steel Making Facility

Boulder Steel Limited is proposing to construct and operate an integrated steel making plant at a site within the Aldoga Precinct of the Gladstone State Development Area in Central Queensland. The plant will produce high quality steel for export to overseas finishing plants.

On 3 April 2009, the Coordinator-General declared the Gladstone Steel Making Facility to be a significant project for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)*. On 23 June 2009, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts determined the project is not a controlled action and therefore will not require assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)* (EPBC Act).

The draft TOR is available for public review and written comments are due by **5pm Monday 12th October 2009**.

Great Keppel Island Resort

GKI Resort Pty Ltd plans to build a 300 room hotel, 2000 resort apartments/villas, a 560-berth marina, ferry terminal and yacht club, retail village, 18-hole championship golf course, sporting oval, an upgrade to the existing airstrip, and establishing a 545 hectare environmental park.

The project was declared a significant project on 28th August, a copy of the initial advice statement is available on the [website](#).

Kevin's Corner Project

Queensland's Coordinator-General declared the new coal mining project a significant project on Thursday 10th September. The project is located adjacent to the Alpha Coal project approximately 360 kilometres south-west of Mackay. Kevin's Corner will be assessed separately, although there is some overlap with the Alpha Coal project rail line and port.

Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd's proposes to establish a 30 million tonne per annum coal mine in the Galilee Basin, central Queensland, to service international export markets for thermal coal.

The first opportunity for public comment will be when the draft terms of reference for the EIS are released in coming months and then more significant opportunity for public comment when the EIS is released. A copy of the Initial advice statement is available from the [website](#).

Regards,

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