

FEDERAL - EPBC Act

1. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals
Construction of a residence at Oak Valley, Townsville – approval not required
Boyett Road, Mission Beach residential subdivision – approved with conditions
2. Wildlife Imports
Environment assessment report for the live import of the pea aphid *Acyrtosiphon pisum*
– comments due Wednesday 18th October

Reminders

3. Threatened Status review - comments due Friday 27th November
4. Nominations to the Threatened Species Scientific Committee
Pseudomys novaehollandiae (New Holland Mouse) - comments on nomination due Friday, 30th October
Allen's cling goby (*Stiphodon allen*) - comments on nomination due Thursday, 3rd November
5. Draft Recovery Plans – comments due 4th January 2010
6. Wildlife trade and conservation invitations for comment
Amendment to Live Import List to include Axolotl (*Ambystoma mexicanum*) – comments due Friday 30th October
Importation of two varieties of scarabaeine dungbeetle for release as a biological control agent – comments due Friday 6th November

STATE

Notices:

Tropical Paradise Resort Project, Cairns – declared significant project 23rd October 2009.
Queensland Curtis Island LNG Project, Gladstone
Gladstone Steel Making Facility

Projects open for submissions:

Shell Australia LNG Project – submissions on draft TOR by Monday 2nd November
Fisherman's Landing Port Expansion – submissions on the EIS by Monday 9th November

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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. Decisions and Preliminary Documentation on referrals

Please note that when the preliminary documentation is available it will be open to public comment. Prior notice is given of assessment by this method to give members time to accumulate information as only a few days notice is given for submission.

Reference Number	Title of referral	Notifications from EPBC Act	Date of Notice
2009/5096	Laurence J Murphy/Residential development/Oak Valley/QLD/Construct residence and access road on Lot 5 on SP189975 Chisholm Trail	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Not Required - particular manner	26 Oct 2009
2008/3943	MiCorp Property/Residential development/Lot1 RP713212, Boyett Road, Mission Beach/QLD/24 Lot Residential Subdivision	Decision on approval of action: Approved with conditions	26 Oct 2009

The conditions attached to the approval aim to minimise impacts on the listed endangered Southern Cassowary and its habitat. Full details are available.

2. Wildlife Import

[Environment assessment report for the live import of the pea aphid *Acyrtosiphon pisum*](#)

CSIRO Entomology has prepared a draft environment assessment report under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to include *A. pisum* (pea aphid) on the live import list for research purposes, as part of an international pea aphid genome project. Invitation for public comment closes **Wednesday, 18th November 2009**.

Reminders

3. Threatened species status review

The Threatened Species Scientific Committee is reviewing the status of a number of species. Listed below are the species found in Queensland currently undergoing status review. For further information view the [Biodiversity Threatened species](#) page (scroll down) of the website. Comments due by **Friday, 27th November**.

Species Name	Nominated Category	State	Comment period closes
<i>Acacia chinchillensis</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Calamus warburgii</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009
Callistemon sp. Boulia (L.Pedley 5297) = <i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November

<i>Digitaria porrecta</i>	Downgrade to Vulnerable	New South Wales, Queensland	2009 27 November 2009
<i>Diuris sheaffiana - Diuris tricolour</i>	De-list	Qld, NSW, Vic	27 November 2009
<i>Diuris tricolour</i>	De-list	Qld, NSW, Vic	27 November 2009
<i>Hicksbeachia pinnatifolia</i>	De-list	New South Wales, Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Leucopogon cuspidatus</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Pultenaea stuartiana - Pultenaea foliolosa</i>	De-list	New South Wales, Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Pultenaea foliolosa</i>	De-list	New South Wales, Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Ristantia gouldii</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Tinospora tinosporoides</i>	De-list	New South Wales, Queensland	27 November 2009
<i>Xanthostemon youngie</i>	De-list	Queensland	27 November 2009

4. Nominations to the Threatened Species Scientific Committee

[*Pseudomys novaehollandiae* \(New Holland Mouse\) - comment on nomination](#)

EPBC Act nomination to list in vulnerable category. In Queensland it is listed as common but a recent report concludes the species is endangered in Queensland. Members of the public are invited to comment on this nomination to further inform the committee in its nomination assessment process. Public comment period closes on **30th October 2009**.

[Allen's cling goby \(*Stiphodon allen*\) - comment on nomination](#)

EPBC Act nomination to list in endangered category for this freshwater fish species. The adult cling gobies are confined to freshwater streams in high rainfall regions, and in Australia are exclusively found within the Wet Tropics, only inhabiting relatively pristine rainforest streams. Public comment period closes on **3rd November 2009**.

5. 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.

6. 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

Tropical Paradise Resort Project, Cairns

The proposal is to establish a themed entertainment and tourist precinct 18 kilometres south of Cairns.

On 23 October 2009 the Coordinator-General declared this a significant project for which an EIS is required.

A copy of the initial advice statement on the project is available through the link above.

Queensland Curtis LNG project

The EIS was released for public and advisory agency comment on 28 August 2009 until 19 October 2009. A total of 38 submissions on the EIS were received by the Coordinator-General. Submissions are currently being considered.

Gladstone Steel Making Facility

The draft TOR for the EIS were released for public and advisory agency comment on 29 August 2009 until 12 October 2009. A total of 12 submissions on the draft TOR was received by the Coordinator-General, including 10 from advisory agencies and 2 from members of the public and organisations.

Reminders

Shell Australia LNG Project – draft TOR

Written submissions by **5pm Monday, 2nd November**. Further details are available on the [DIP website](#).

Fisherman's Landing Port Expansion – EIS

Written submissions are due by **5pm Monday 9th November**. Click on link to [Fisherman's Landing Port Expansion webpage](#) for details on how to access a copy of the EIS. A fact sheet and submission template are also available.

Regards,

Environmental Defender's Office of NQ Inc.

Level 1, 96-98 Lake Street

Cairns QLD 4870

Ph: 07 4031 4766

Fax: 07 4041 4535

Email: edonq@edo.org.au

Internet: www.edo.org.au

The EDO-NQ is a Community Legal Centre that specialises in public interest environmental law. For more information see www.edo.org.au/edonq.

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