

The nearest Ramsar wetland of Shoalwater and Corio Bays is approximately 180 km north-east. This project area drains into the Mackenzie River, which discharges into Keppel Bay via Fitzroy River. Brigalow woodland and listed threatened species are found in the area. Migratory species also potentially occur at the Project site.

The referral suggests that as listed species are unlikely to occur in the area and the ecological communities are small then it is not a controlled action.

2009/5245	Townsville Heights Estate Pty Ltd/Commercial development/Bohle Plains, Townsville /QLD/Tompkins Road Industrial Development	Invitation for Public Comment on Referral	Date of notice: 15 Dec 2009	Comments due: 31 Dec 2009
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Request for Material Change of Use for a proposed Industrial Development with a footprint of 50.54 hectares. Listed threatened species, marine species and migratory species may potentially be found in the area. The referral concluded the proposed development is not likely to have a significant impact.

2009/5176	Amsal Pty Ltd/Tourism and recreation/Rykers Road, Cape Tribulation/QLD/Development of Accommodation Cabins and Associated Facilities on Lot 9 on RP727756	Invitation for Public Comment on Reconsideration of Referral Determination: S78A Reconsideration request	Date of notice: 18 Dec 2009	Comments due: 06 Jan 2010
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Amsal Pty Ltd have requested a reconsideration to change the original decision from a controlled action to not a controlled action.

Members of the public are invited to provide comments in writing on this request. The request for reconsideration, the original decision and supporting documents are available.

2008/4678	Wahroonga Holdings Pty Ltd/Residential development/Lot 2 SP158022 Explorer Drive, Luggar Bay, Mission Beach/QLD/13 Lot residential subdivision	Notification to Publication of Preliminary Documentation	Date of notice: 16 Dec 2009	Comments due: 13 Jan 2010
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Comments are invited on the proposed action for a subdivision and revegetation at Luggar Bay. The action is a controlled action under the EPBC Act as it is likely to have a significant impact on World Heritage and National Heritage areas and listed threatened species and communities.

Documents can be viewed at the Innisfail Library, Queensland EPA Cairns Office, DEWHA Office or www.conics.com.au/consultation website. Comments are due COB Wednesday 13th January and can be submitted to cairns@conics.com.au.

2. Decisions on Referrals

2009/5195	ZeroGen P/L/Mining/Central Queensland/QLD/ZeroGen Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle Power Plant and CO2 Capture, Transport and Storage	Decision whether action needs approval/Approval Required	Date of Notice: 14 Dec 2009
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The construction and operation of an integrated gasification combined cycle power plant was found to be controlled action under Listed threatened species and communities and Migratory species controlling provisions where approval will be required.

(NB. The Queensland Coordinator General declared this a significant project on 11th December and requires an environmental impact statement.)

2008/4418	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Limited/Mining/Approximately 40kms South East of Moranbah, Bowen Basin/QLD/Develop an Open Cut Coal Mine at Daunia	Decision on approval of action: Approved with conditions	Date of Notice: 11 Dec 2009
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Eight conditions have been attached to the approval in relation to listed threatened species, Squatter Pigeon (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) and the Brigalow dominated vegetation.

3. Notices for Comment

Queensland East Coast Pearl Fishery

The current export approval for the Queensland East Coast Pearl Fishery is valid until 20 January 2010 and the fishery is now due for reassessment for ongoing export accreditation. It is a small-scale, wild-harvest fishery that collects live adult pearl oyster shell along the east coast of Queensland.

The submission is available from the DEWHA website and open for public comment until **COB Friday 15th January 2010.**

Reminders

1. CITES - 15th Conference of the Parties (CoP 15)

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that the international trade in animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Australia is one of 175 current signatories to CITES.

Comments are invited from interested individuals and organisations on Conference of Parties (CoP 15) proposals and agenda items. Comments must be received by **Friday 8th January 2010** and be clearly referenced to the specified agenda items.

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.

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, the inclusion of this information in this newsletter should not be taken to indicate that EDO-NQ supports or has otherwise taken a position about the proposals which are the subject of review.

STATE PROJECTS

1. Significant Projects in Northern Queensland

ZeroGen Declared a Significant Project

On 11th December the Queensland Coordinator General declared this to be a significant project requiring environmental impact statement in accordance with the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*.

ZeroGen proposes to construct and operate a 400 MW (530 MW gross) commercial-scale power generation facility that integrates a coal gasification power plant with the capture and storage of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions to generate low emission base-load electricity for the National Electricity Market.

The initial advice statement is available from the [website](#).

Regards,

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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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