



# Northern Territory NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2020

## PLAN REVIEW 2018





“Territorians working together to manage our environment’s natural, cultural and economic values for the benefit of all.”

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

This publication is available on request through contacting [info@territorynrm.org.au](mailto:info@territorynrm.org.au)

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Australian Government



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# INTRODUCTION



The Northern Territory NRM Plan provides an overarching direction, scope and prioritisation for natural resource management activities across the Northern Territory. The 2016-2020 plan was developed following a review of outcomes from the previous 'Northern Territory Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (2010-2015)', and lengthy community and stakeholder consultations across all Territory regions. The planning was also underpinned by the best available science.

When it was launched in June 2016, Territory NRM made a commitment to all planning stakeholders that the plan would be regularly reviewed and (if necessary), updated. This would enable adaptive management in response to changing knowledge as well as emerging opportunities and challenges through the implementation of the plan. This adaptive approach follows the principles of 'The Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation', with which the plan was developed.

In July 2017, the first review commenced, this report describes the process and outcome of this review. It clearly describes how the plan itself is structured and the mechanism by which the review was undertaken. Specifically, the report highlights the extent to which progress has been made initiating plan activities and strategies in each of the Territory regions as well as across the Territory as a whole.

The report also presents the findings of the online survey that supported the plan review consultations and workshops and it offers an overview of the community feedback on plan delivery that was received at each of the four regional plan review workshops. Finally, it collates and sets out a justification for proposed revisions to be made to the plan at the end of its second year.

Overall, the first review of the Northern Territory NRM plan engaged the participation and feedback of approximately 200 stakeholders, and so the process demonstrates the same inclusive and participatory ethos as the original planning.



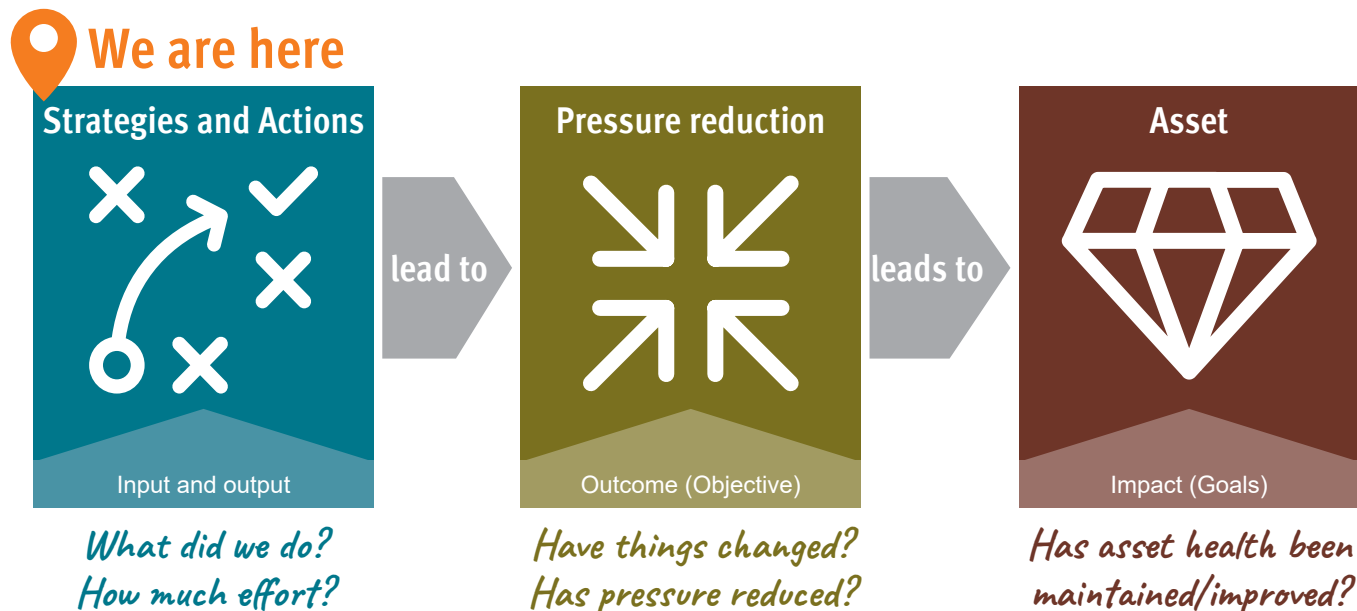


The report presents an assessment of the progress with the Strategies and Actions contained in each of the four regional NRM plans that make up the Territory NRM Plan. We have focused on the Strategies and Actions, at this stage, because these are the most straightforward areas to report against after only a year of plan implementation.

It is intended that the next review will focus more on Outcomes (Pressure Reduction), and subsequent reviews on Impacts (health of Assets).

For each Strategy and Action an assessment has been made about its progress by TNRM Staff in consultation with regional stakeholders, and the Strategy or Action given a rating using the table below. For each region, we show the rating for Strategies and Actions against the nine Programs, and compare that to the overall rating across the Territory. A detailed assessment for each Region is provided in the appendices.

We start by presenting some background on development of the Plan, and some summary material for the Territory as a whole.



## Project / Strategy / Action

For now, as well as recording the effort we made (time / \$\$) we are also rating our progress with the Projects, Strategies and Actions using the scale below

Rating	Example
Not specified	We really don't know and have no information
<b>Scheduled</b> for future implementation	We have not got around to this yet, but we will
<b>On-track</b> - ongoing, generally on track	We are doing it, and it is all going as we expected (more or less)
<b>Minor issues</b> - ongoing, has minor issues that need attention	We are doing it, but there have been some delays due to weather/technical problems
<b>Major issues</b> - ongoing, major issues that need attention	We are doing it, but there have been some significant delays that we are not sure when we can resolve
<b>Completed</b> - successfully completed	We did it
<b>Abandoned</b> - no longer relevant or useful	We don't think we need to do this anymore





## Developing the 2016-2020 Plan

The NRM plan was developed using a participatory processes and set up to facilitate ongoing review. The new plan used past plans and re-evaluated priorities and NRM targets, as well as integrating climate change projections and adaptation into NRM actions (partnership with researchers). The plan was focused more at the regional level to support implementation action planning.



## Where are we now?

The plan has now been in place for over a year, and projects are being implemented based on what the plan says. Many of the things we want to achieve in the plan will take a number of years, and so we are starting the review process looking first at the work we have done (Year 1 below). In later years we will work on measuring and reporting achievement of Milestones, Objectives and Goals, as well as maintaining our reporting on the work being done.





# WHAT IS IN THE PLANS?



The Plans themselves all have the following main elements:

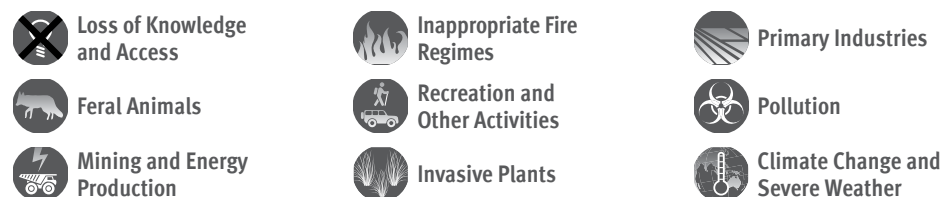
## Assets

The important things that we want to see as healthy as possible to sustain the environment and communities of the Northern Territory



## Pressures

The things that are potentially influencing the Assets in a negative way



## Programs

The areas of work that will be used to manage Pressures and Assets

- 1 Managing Fire
- 2 Preventing and Managing Weeds
- 3 Reducing the Impacts of Feral Animals
- 4 Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices
- 5 Water Resources and Soil Management
- 6 NRM Based Economic Opportunities
- 7 Minimising Ecological Footprints of Development
- 8 Managing and Protecting Key Natural and Cultural Assets
- 9 Knowledge, Capacity and Engagement





# REGIONAL PLAN PROGRAMS



As well as containing these elements (Assets, Pressures, Programs) the regional plans are set up to help us more easily measure and report on our progress with implementation.

The example below shows the typical structure of a Program in a Regional Plan which contains all the elements listed to the right.

The Background sets out the issue in the region, Strategies are listed and prioritised, and Activities that will be undertaken to do the Strategy then listed. The Milestones we should come to as we implement the Activities are listed, and the Objectives they will help us reach (these are usually linked to a Pressure).

Finally the Plan shows which Assets are impacted by the Strategies, how we will Measure our impact, and who will be involved in implementation.

PROGRAM 3 REDUCING THE IMPACTS OF FERAL ANIMALS						GULF SAVANNA NRM PLAN	
Background	Strategies	Priority Activities	Milestones	Objectives	Assets Improved		
<p>To reduce the impacts of feral animals, it is important to have a shared goal, common approach and a coordinated and long-term effort in feral animal programs. Therefore, a key objective of this program is to develop an NT-wide feral animal management strategy. There are a number of feral animals impacting on Gulf Savanna ecosystems and livelihoods. Large feral herbivores, horses, donkeys and buffalos reduce ground cover and expose the soil to erosion. They also spread weed seeds in their coats and droppings, foul waterholes and impact on pastoral productivity. Feral pigs are identified as a threat particularly around freshwater systems, cultural sites and in coastal areas where they eat sea turtle eggs. Cane Toads are also a key threatening process and their arrival through the Gulf Savanna region has had drastic impacts on native animals. Insects pose a significant risk to the Gulf Savanna's terrestrial environments and primary production. Feral cats are a key threatening process under the EPBC Act and have been identified as a significant threat to small mammals in the Gulf Savanna. Biosecurity measures to stop the invasion of potentially new feral animal species that could impact on biodiversity and productivity such as Asian Honey Bee and tropical invasive ant species are also important in the region. The objective of this program is to reduce the impact of feral animals at the landscape scale, with high value assets prioritised and with long-term multi-stakeholder commitments. This program aims to raise the awareness of feral animal damage and support training in control and management techniques, as well as promote the sharing of knowledge and data, whilst supporting economic opportunities for the community on feral animal control.</p>	<p><b>VERY HIGH PRIORITY</b></p> <p>Strengthen regional feral animal management programs through coordinated and collaborative action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a feral animal control strategic plan for the NT involving multiple stakeholders and regionally specific agreed priorities</li> <li>Establish a 'backbone' group to support implementation of landscape feral animal management approaches</li> <li>Plan and undertake regional meetings with key stakeholders leading effective collaboration between Fire, Weed and Feral Animal programs</li> <li>Continue the cat eradication program on Sir Edward Pellew Islands and commence management on other islands</li> <li>Conduct horse and donkey control prioritised around conservation and production values</li> <li>Continue measures to keep priority islands in the Gulf Savanna Cane Toad free</li> <li>Conduct strategic pig control around sites of high conservation significance and vulnerable areas (i.e. turtle nesting beaches)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2017, a feral animal strategy for the NT has been developed and is guiding strategic action</li> <li>By 2018, regional feral animal advisory committees are functioning across the NT</li> <li>Offshore islands remain refuges for small mammals and are predominantly cat free by 2018</li> <li>Long-term collaborative catchment based approaches to feral herbivore control are continued in VRD and developed in other areas in the Roper and Gulf regions by 2018</li> <li>Key priority islands remain Cane Toad free in the Gulf Savanna by 2018</li> <li>Pigs are excluded from key high value freshwater and coastal areas by 2018</li> </ul>	<p>By 2020, feral animal control programs are prioritised and targeted through an NT-wide feral animal strategy that establishes an agreed understanding of the problem, shared measurement and review of actions</p> <p>By 2020, cat densities are reduced particularly in sites of biodiversity and conservation value and offshore islands with healthy small mammal populations</p> <p>By 2020, the impacts of horse and donkey damage is reduced from 2015 levels in the VRD area and in the Roper River/Gulf area.</p> <p>By 2020, offshore islands in the Gulf Savanna remain Cane Toad free</p> <p>By 2020, reduce the impact of pigs on coastal ecosystems and priority freshwater ecosystems</p>		<p><b>Key Measures of Achievement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of groups/individuals involved in feral animal management programs</li> <li>Trends in feral animal distribution as a result of management programs</li> <li>Number of landscape scale feral animal management programs</li> <li>Availability and utilisation of feral animal distribution data to NRM stakeholders</li> <li>Systems to involve NRM community in pest and disease detection and eradication in place</li> <li>Effectiveness of innovative feral animal control approaches</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Collaborators</b></p> <p>NTG (DLRM), VRDCA, Roper River Landcare, Aboriginal ranger groups, Northern Land Council, Traditional Owners, researchers, pastoralists, Defence, NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS), NTG (DPIF), private landholders, feral animal contractors.</p> <p><i>feral pig in the savanna</i></p>	
	<p><b>HIGH PRIORITY</b></p> <p>Use common measures and analysis to monitor, evaluate and report on and adapt the feral animal management program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop field indicators that can be readily used by land managers to quantify the damage and impact of feral herbivores</li> <li>Establish a data management framework and share results through regular reporting to all stakeholders</li> <li>Conduct aerial surveys in consultation with all stakeholders and at demonstration sites to develop management programs and to help garner long-term and diversified funding support for priority areas in the Gulf Savanna region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2018, consistent and ongoing monitoring programs are being introduced and coordinated across the Gulf Savanna and feeding into NT-wide feral animal strategies</li> </ul>	<p>By 2020, monitoring data is being consistently collected and is informing strategic action in feral animal management programs</p>			
	<p><b>HIGH PRIORITY</b></p> <p>Support research and innovation in techniques, training and motivation to control feral animals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use innovative and cost effective techniques to survey and manage feral horses and donkeys (e.g. Judas Collars)</li> <li>Communicate to a range of stakeholders the importance of horse and donkey control on Indigenous pastoral land</li> <li>Trial feral cat control techniques and assess for effectiveness and for practical application in savanna ecosystems</li> <li>Support Traditional Owners and Aboriginal rangers in early detection measures (including new technology) to keep offshore islands Cane Toad free</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interest and motivation to control feral animals is increased across the region by 2018</li> <li>Skills and capacity of land managers to control feral herbivores are increased each year</li> <li>Effective and viable control techniques for cats are increasingly known and applied by 2018</li> <li>Innovative technologies are utilised by more land managers in the early detection of Cane Toads by 2018</li> </ul>	<p>By 2020, innovative feral animal control techniques are being applied to cats, Cane Toads, horses and donkeys in Gulf Savanna</p>			



# APPROACH: HOW WE REVIEW THE PLAN?



## Step 1: Initial rating of progress

TNRM staff, in consultation with regional and Territory stakeholders, reviewed progress with implementation of each Activity and Strategy in the NRM Plan.

## Step 2: Community Survey

At the same time, a community survey was distributed using SurveyMonkey to regional and Territory stakeholders, asking the questions on the right. Over 100 responses were made to the survey. Responses to key questions (4, 6, 7, 10 and 13) are shown on the next page.

## Step 3: Stakeholder review

The results of Step 1 and Step 2 were then taken and shared in 4 regional workshops (Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Darwin) where they were reviewed and revised.

## Step 4: Revision

The results will be 'fed back' into the next work program based on the plan and the plan updated to reflect this process before the next review.



- 1 How do you describe your own NRM stakeholder status/affiliation?
- 2 To which geographic sub-region does your NRM interest pertain?
- 3 How were you engaged through the original Northern Territory NRM plan consultation in 2015-2016?
- 4 How frequently have you looked at the Northern Territory NRM plan (2016-2020)?
- 5 Which of the two following comments best reflects your view of the Northern Territory NRM plan (2026-2020)?
- 6 How do you use the NT NRM plan 2016-2020?
- 7 To what extent do you think the 9 programs identified in the plan capture the overall NRM priorities for the Northern Territory?
- 8 To what extent do you think the objectives identified for your sub-region align with your own sub-regional priorities?
- 9 To what extent do you think the Strategies and Activities identified for your sub-region constitute logical pathways to improving assets?
- 10 Which of the 9 programs in the NRM plan have you or your organisation undertaken substantial work towards?
- 11 If you have contributed to one or more NRM programs, tell us briefly what you have done.
- 12 Do you think the Northern Territory NRM plan format is effective for engaging the participation and partnership of stakeholders into coordinated NRM?
- 13 What aspects of the Northern Territory NRM plan (2016-2017) plan do you think could we could improve upon?



# STEP 1: STRATEGY AND ACTIVITY PROGRESS



Reviewing implementation of activities and strategies across all programs, stakeholder consultations reveal approximately a third of activities (33%) and nearly three quarters of strategies (73%) are already underway within the first year of plan implementation. Because there are multiple activities within each strategy, it is expected that the proportion of strategies commenced will exceed the proportion of activities. Nevertheless, it is positive that at the end of the first year in a five year plan, a third of all plan activities had already commenced.

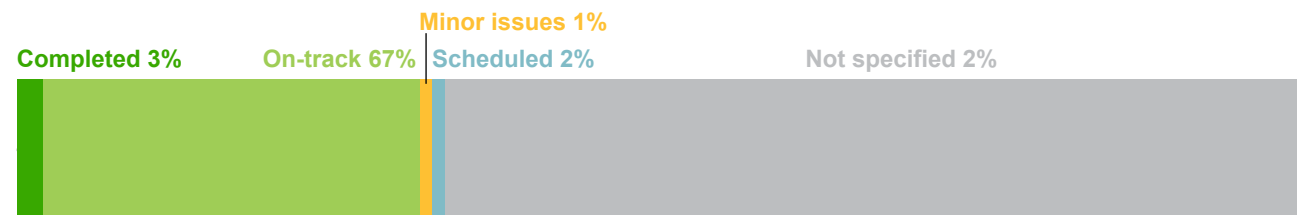
It is understandable that the rate of progress varies considerably between programs within regions, and between regions themselves. This is to be expected. Regions where there has traditionally been a strong focus on particular NRM activities (e.g. weeds or fire management) would naturally progress these programs before the others. Likewise, those regions with the greatest numbers of NRM stakeholders and actors working across diverse program areas will tend to progress the most quickly.

In overview, it seems that implementation of the plan has progressed well during its first 12 months. No intractable problems have emerged, and if some activities and strategies have been a little slow getting off the mark or minor issues have emerged, this probably just reflects the very early stage of implementation, and that some program areas have relatively little precedent in some regions. All in all, there seems little cause for concern at this stage, but progress towards implementation should continue to be carefully monitored.

## Strategy Progress: All regions



## Activity Progress: All regions



# PROGRAM STRATEGY AND ACTIVITY PROGRESS



## Program Strategy Progress

Good progress is being made in implementing most Programs in the NRM plan, particularly in the areas of Fire, Weeds and Knowledge. Given the early stage of plan implementation there are not yet any clear areas that should be of concern.

## Program Activity Progress

Looking at the implementation of Activities, there has been some progress in all Programs. As for Strategies, given the early stage of implementation of the Plan there are not yet any clear areas of concern.



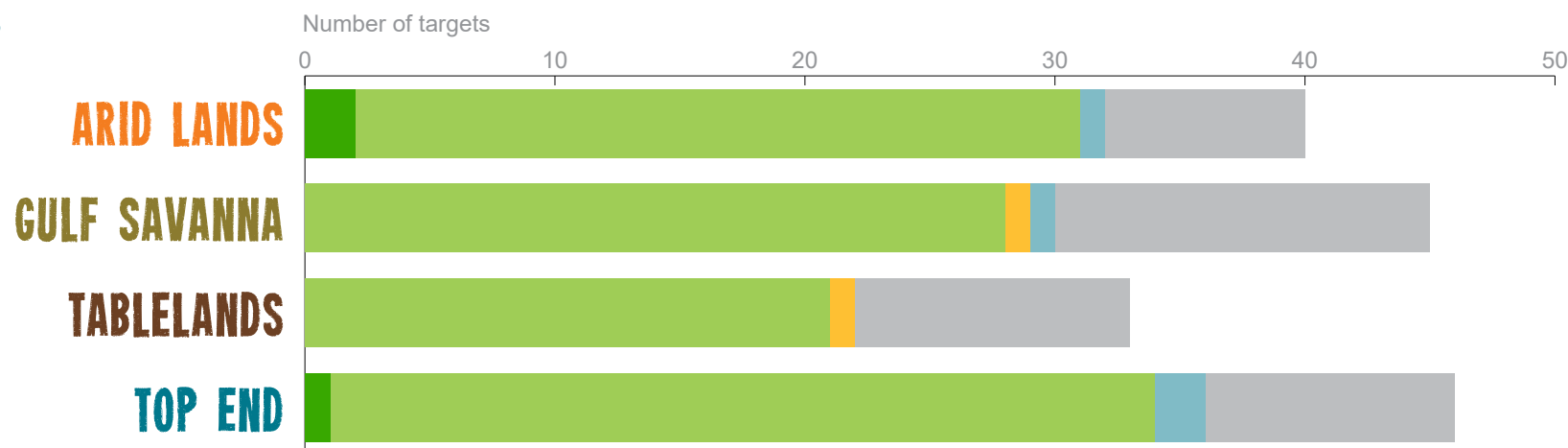




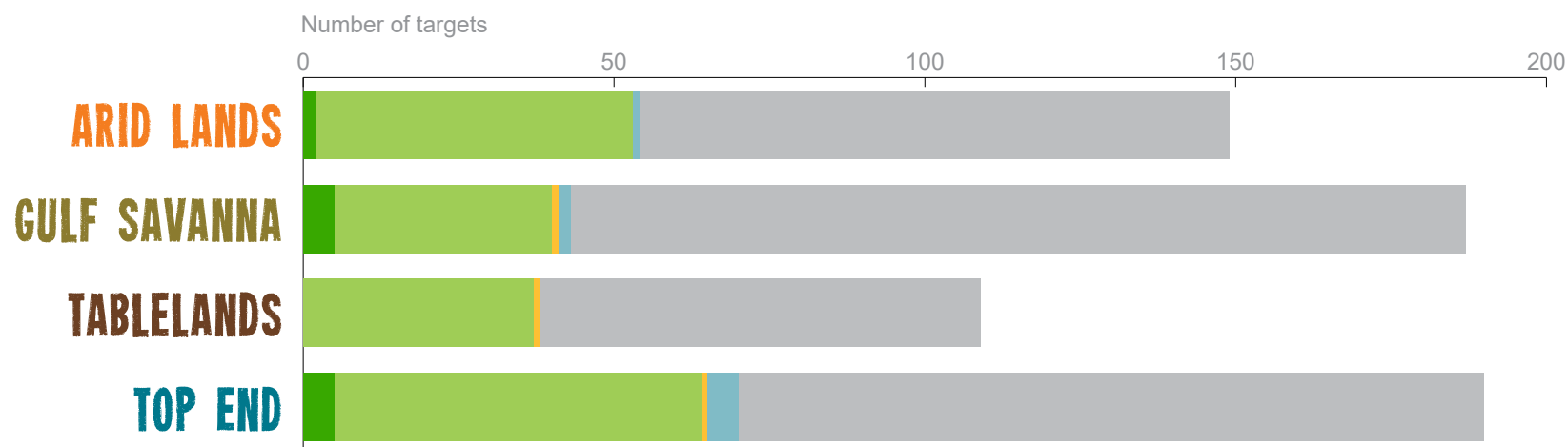
Each of the Regional Plans is being utilised, and most Strategies have at least been started in all of the Programs (see later pages for greater detail on this).



## Program Strategy Progress



## Program Activity Progress



# STEP 2: COMMUNITY ONLINE SURVEY



The community survey was undertaken online, and was designed to engage a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including those not directly consulted through other stages of the Plan Review process. The purpose of the survey was to get structured feedback on the plan from this wider community, and better understand regional differences in how it was being perceived and utilised. It was intended that understanding broader community perceptions of the plan would help inform the direction of plan review workshops.

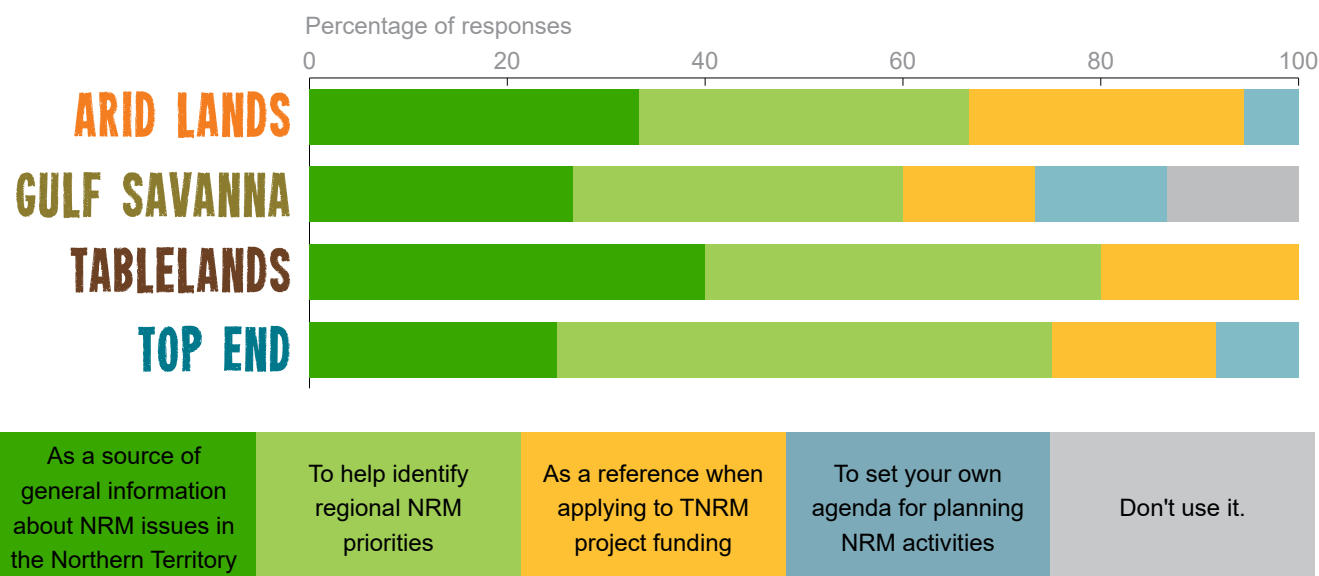
The total, the community survey elicited responses from over 100 respondents associated with all four regions of the Territory. As might be expected, the highest proportion of respondents expressed an affiliation with the Top End (32%) with fewer responses from the Arid Lands (25%), the Gulf Savanna (15%) and Table Lands (15%) regions.

The primary stakeholder affiliation for respondents was government, with TNRM members and private landholders also being major response groups. Furthermore, about three quarters of those responding to the community survey had previously had some awareness of or participation in the planning process during 2015 and 2016, and so some prior contextual understanding of what the plan was about.

## Using the plan

There is almost universal agreement that the plan is well written, clearly structured and simple to use (94%). The majority of NRM stakeholders who responded (64%), report occasionally referring to the NRM plan. A smaller proportion (17%), regularly consult the plan and a similar proportion have only used it once. The largest proportion of respondents describe using the plan as intended, as a guide for identifying NRM priorities and directing action (35%), while a slightly smaller proportion describe using the plan as a source of general information about NRM the Territory (30%). Very few stakeholders report that they don't use the plan at all for planning NRM. Responses suggest that there are no major regional differences in how the plan is being used (Figure 1). In overview these results are generally positive and suggest that most NRM stakeholders are using the plan, and therefore it seems to be playing a role in shaping the NRM agenda for the Northern Territory.

In terms of undertaking on ground activities set out in the plan, 'Protecting Natural and Cultural Assets', 'Knowledge Capacity and Engagement', 'Managing Weeds' and 'Managing Fire' are the programs which respondents report having been most active within. Conversely less than 10% of respondents report working on 'Controlling Ferals', 'Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices', 'Water and Soil Resources Management', 'NRM based Economic Opportunities' or 'Minimising the Ecological Footprint of Development'. It is clear that some programs of the plan are engaging more stakeholder activity than others, but as highlighted in the overall review of progress, most programs have strategies already under implementation and it is still early days in delivery of the plan.





# STEP 2: COMMUNITY ONLINE SURVEY

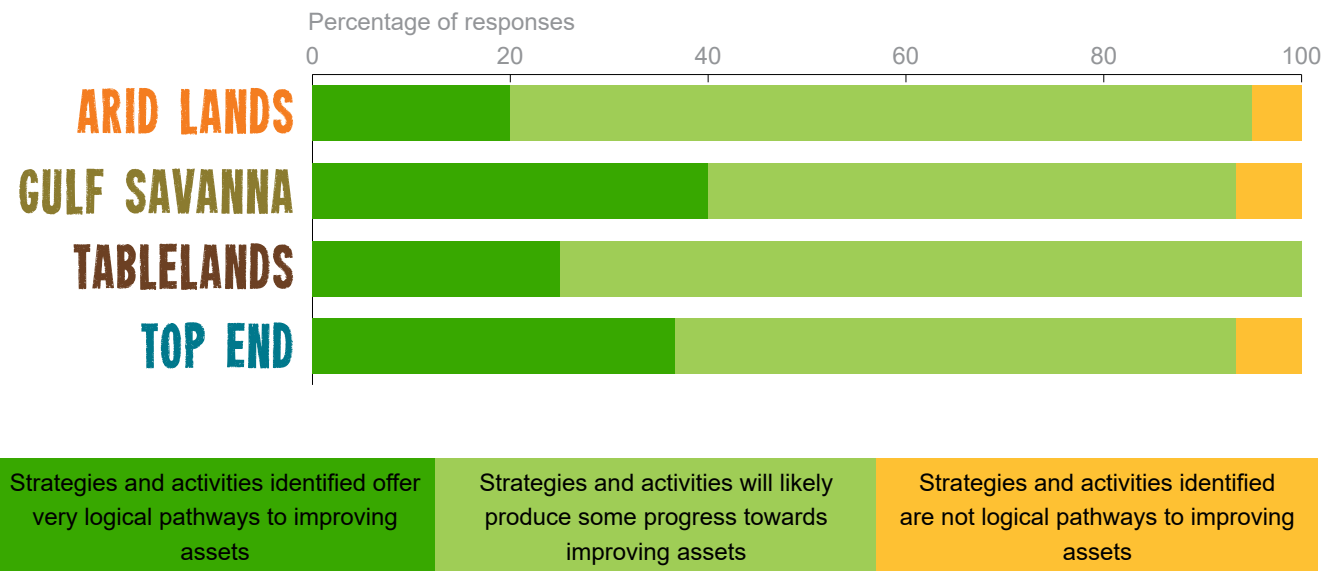


## Effectiveness of the Plan

A majority of responding stakeholders (64%) indicated they felt the nine programs of the 2016-2020 plan fully capture the priorities of the Northern Territory. However, responses were more mixed when respondents were asked how the plan aligned with their own regional priorities. The largest portion described some alignment between the plan and their regional priorities (57%), while others described the plan as aligning very well (42%). Only 3% of NRM stakeholders felt there was no alignment.

Overall, there is considerable confidence that if implemented, the strategies described in the plan would improve the condition of Territory assets. Only 4% of responding stakeholders felt that the plan strategies would not likely improve assets. Confidence in the effectiveness of the plan appears slightly higher among Top End and Gulf Savanna stakeholders.

Nearly all survey respondents (94%) feel that the 2016-2020 plan is either moderately or very effective in engaging participation and coordinating NRM action in the Territory, with only 6% believing that it fails to engage NRM activity. Nevertheless, most survey respondents feel that there remains some room for improvement in the plan. The primary issue on which stakeholders are seeking clarification is 'Roles and Responsibilities in Delivering the Plan', with 'Metrics and Measures' being another area for potential improvement. Only a minority of respondents felt that the 'Prioritisation of Strategies' could be improved.



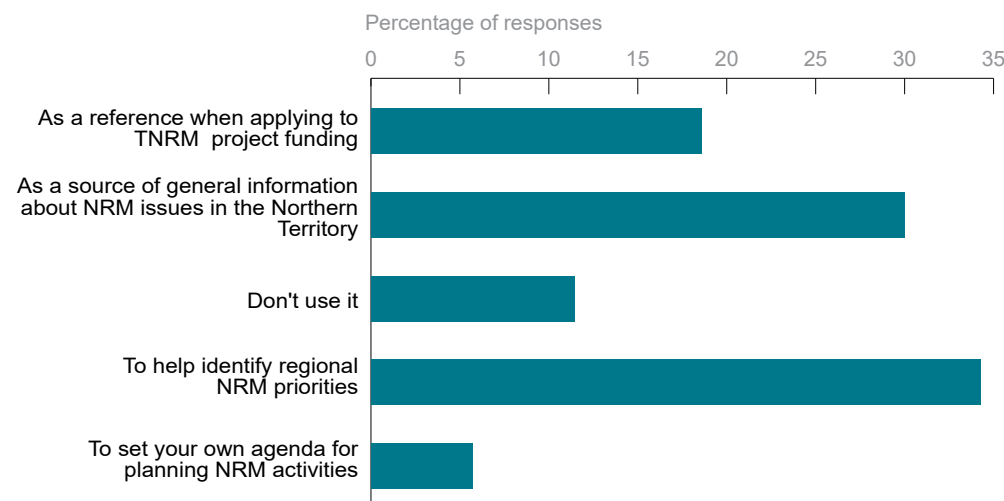
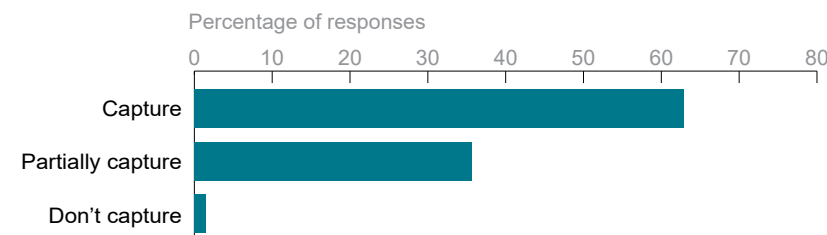
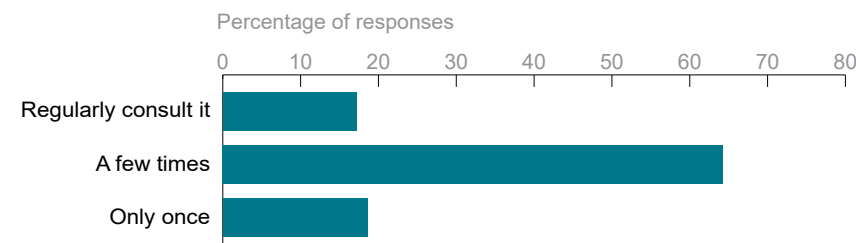
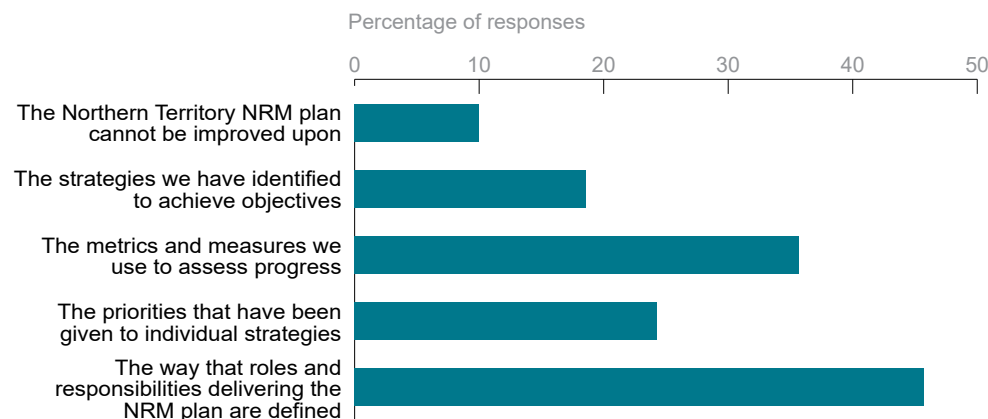
# COMMUNITY SURVEY FEEDBACK SUMMARY



Overall, the survey reveals a moderate to high level of satisfaction with the 2016-2020 Northern Territory NRM plan. It is described as clear and easy to use, and a majority of responding stakeholders are occasionally (or even regularly) reaching for the plan to inform their own NRM decisions. This perspective seems to be consistent across all regions of the Territory.

Community responses echo the findings of the Activities and Strategies Status review, namely that not all programs are equally popular, with the broader community less engaged with some programs than others. Nevertheless, activity is reported across all programs, so at this early stage in delivery of the plan this is no cause for concern.

Most survey respondents describe the plan as well aligned with Territory issues and priorities. Responses were more mixed at the regional level, but still largely positive. The survey reveals community confidence that if the plan is implemented, it will have a positive impact on natural and cultural assets. Finally, the community perceives the 2016-2020 plan as at least moderately effective in engaging participation and coordinating NRM action. However, respondents highlight opportunities to improve some areas of the plan. These areas were noted by the planning team and brought forward for review and further discussion during the four regional plan-review workshops.





# STEP 3: REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS



The four regional plan review workshops offer were designed to engage with stakeholders across the Territory, update them on progress being made towards the delivery of the plan and then seek their feedback/validation of this. The workshops enabled regional stakeholders to feedback how implementation of the plan was progressing and highlight any areas which they felt could be improved or warranted attention or amendment.



## Gulf Savanna Regional Workshop: Plan Issues and feedback

The Gulf Savanna workshop was conducted on 5th December 2017 in Katherine. It was attended by approximately 10 regional stakeholders, representing DENR, Bushfires NT, DPIR, NARMCO, Consolidated Pastoral Co. and VRDCA among others.

The workshop was informed by presentations from the plan review team, which led into a direct feedback session discussing individual plan programs. Given Katherine's status as a hub supporting the pastoral industry, discussions focussed particularly around issues of 'Managing Fire' (did the plan recognise 'good fire' and 'bad fire', from an industry perspective?), 'Preventing and Managing Weeds' (understanding the current spread of weeds and responses to them), 'Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices' (how can this adoption be gauged?) and 'Water and Soil Resources Management' (the progress of regional water resource planning and Impacts of PFAS).

Other more general issues raised at the workshop included the need for improved regional collaboration and identifying appropriate measures for success. There was also discussion of the future role of Landcare groups in the new funding environment. It was also noted that some regional strategies and activities have not yet got underway and should be highlighted for action. Specific comments on the plan are listed in Table 1.

## Arid lands Regional Workshop: Plan Issues and feedback

The Arid Lands workshop was conducted on 8th December 2017 in Alice Springs. It was attended by approximately 15 regional stakeholders, representing DENR, CLC, CSIRO, ALEC, LfW, CAT, Bushfires NT, P&W and CLMA among others.

The workshop was informed by presentations from the plan review team, which led into further discussion and feedback about individual plan programs. Key discussion points included 'NRM based Economic Opportunities' (indigenous opportunities in fee-for-service work and carbon farming). 'Protecting natural and Cultural Assets' (the work of rangers and IPAs related to the plan, indigenous access to pastoral land and Central Australian threatened species), and 'Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices' (developing bush foods industries, utilising remote sensing for grazing land management, defining sustainability and integrating mines into land management strategies). Discussion of 'Water and Soil Resources Management' focused upon the unique opportunities and challenges of water allocation at Ti Tree, and how these aligned with plan strategies.

Other more general issues raised at the workshop included the need for improved regional coordination between all stakeholders. Lack of coordination and dialogue was identified as a particular problem in the Arid Lands. Specific comments on the plan are listed in Table 1.

# STEP 3: REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS



## Table Lands Workshop: Plan Issues and feedback

The Table Lands workshop was conducted on 11th December 2017 in Tennant Creek. It was attended by a select group of 6 regional stakeholders, representing CLC, P&W, BLCA and DENR and Bushfires NT.

Key discussion themes included 'Managing Fire' (promoting collaboration cross tenures and between neighbours), 'Preventing and Managing Weeds' (the need to progress survey and a mapping of weeds and 'Reducing the Impacts of Ferals' (the growing problem of donkeys around Tennant, coordinating P&W aerial culls and the issue of cats). Other feedback covered the need for action on waste management and illegal dumping on the Tablelands, especially around Tennant Creek and ranger observations of increasing soil erosion around waterholes. Specific comments on delivery and performance of the plan are listed in Table 1.

## Top End Regional Workshop: Plan Issues and feedback

The workshop was informed by presentations from the plan review team, which led into further discussion and structured feedback on individual plan programs. Key discussion points included 'Managing Fire' (engagement in fire planning, validating outcomes through NAFI and remote sensing data and establishing outcomes), 'Reducing the Impacts of Feral Animals' (discussion of how much progress has been made in this program, measures unstandardized and little collaboration or overall strategy), 'Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices', ( how is 'sustainability' being defined, and who constitutes 'industry'?), 'Minimising the Ecological Footprint of Development' (concerns about lack of collaboration and transparency in planning, weakness in regulation and EPA processes).

More generally, workshop attendees discussed the fragmented and incohesive approach to data gathering and sharing to underpin NRM in the Top End and the need to strengthen this to build opportunities in a new conservation economy. They also discussed the current policy and regulatory environment in the Territory and its failure to support emerging opportunities. Specific comments on the Plan are given in Table 1.





# ARID LANDS REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW WORKSHOP STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

ARID LANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



Program	Comments	Recommended Actions	Justification
<b>1</b> Managing Fire	1.1 Reasonable progress made on this with many people working together 1.2 There is a need to view results at a regional rather than a project scale to appreciate progress 1.4 Struggling to establish carbon economy in the centre, no method or policy	Noted	
<b>2</b> Preventing and managing weeds	2.1 Opportunity to improve sharing of weed data between TOs and DENR Bio-control of Parkinsonia 2.2 Problems defining what are weeds eg. Buffel 2.3 There are difficulties monitoring progress against weeds at regional scale 2.4 Requires increasing priority	Raise to H priority	This is something that is essential but isn't happening fast enough
<b>3</b> Reducing the impacts of feral animals	3.1 Most things appear On Track, but struggling to achieve a coordinated response strategy 3.2 Are we seeking to decrease impact or density? 3.3 Research needed on relationship between herbivores, buffel and fire 3.4 Should commercial harvest of ferals be referenced under this program?	Change 'density' to 'impact'   Reference commercial harvest of ferals under 3.4	Feral animal densities are less relevant than the impact they are having   Harvest programs are part of the ferals management strategy, and relevant to the Arid Lands
<b>4</b> Industry adoption of sustainable practices	4.1 Progress made on sustainable seed Harvesting, bush foods Need clarification on what is meant by 'sustainability' Does water allocation fall under this, what about Tourism industry ? 4.3 Trend towards remote sensing grazing Management 4.6 Mining to incorporate fee for service work	Definition of sustainability included	Lack of clarity.
<b>5</b> Water resources and soil management	5.1 Progress is being made in water allocation Planning (e.g. Ti tree committee), monitoring of usage and tracking impacts. Move 5.1 and 5.2 to 'On Track' Greater recognition of on-industrial uses? 5.3 There should be greater recognition of soil health and condition as opposed to soil loss	5.1 and 5.2 to 'On Track'  Add an additional reference to soil health in activities	These activities are underway  There is a heavy focus on erosion control rather than soil health
<b>6</b> NRM based economic opportunities	6.2 Might be a little bit 'On Track' (e.g Arid Edge, ranger funding through NTG) 6.4 Centrecorp supporting horticulture for domestic consumption. Measure of Achievement add 'Number of skilled people'	Add 'Number of skilled individuals' as a measure of achievement	There is a heavy focus on erosion control rather than soil health
<b>7</b> Minimising the ecological footprints of development	7.1 Agree 7.2 Agree 7.3 Tourism awareness is OK, Objective should be sustainability demonstrated through practice change Add Parks NT and Parks Australia as key collaborators	Change objective 7.3 to 'sustainability demonstrated through practice change' Add Parks NT and Parks Australia as key Collaborators	There is already awareness but this alone is insufficient without practice change Tourism occurs and impacts on national parks in the Arid Lands
<b>8</b> Managing and protecting key natural and cultural assets	8.2 More than one Threatened Species Plan 8.4 is On Track. Change strategy to extend to all land uses change 'rangeland' to 'land'. 8.5 Still some issues of access for TOs to manage cultural sites	Change 8.4 to On Track. Change strategy to refer to all land uses, and replace 'rangelands' with 'lands'	These activities are underway, but should not be limited to a single land use
<b>9</b> Knowledge capacity and engagement	Most dynamic area of Activity 9.2 Should include NTCA as a key collaborator	Introduce NTCA as a key collaborator	NTCA are perceived as key partners
General Comments	Much discussion at the Arid Lands workshop focused on the need for improved dialogue, collaboration and coordination and the consequences of failing to do so.		

# GULF SAVANNA REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW WORKSHOP STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK



Program	Comments	Recommended Actions	Justification
<b>1</b> Managing Fire	1.1 Defining the difference between 'good' and 'bad' fire in a pastoral production context. better speak of controlled/uncontrolled	Objectives should read 'reduction in unplanned or uncontrolled fires'	Pastoral industry may require late season burning
	1.2 Some land holders have limited Internet access to NAFI		
	1.3 Bushfires NT regional planning has been informative and beneficial		
<b>2</b> Preventing and managing weeds	2.1 Agreement that most strategies on track, but highlight distinction between public funded weed management and industry funded Regional weeds reference groups helping		
	2.4 Recognising the role of tourism in spreading weeds and measures to mitigate this. Lack of funding for some weeds (Bellyache) and perspective that some high priority weeds started as pastoral trials (Gamba, Neem)	Add to activities something on 'raising tourist awareness' about spreading weeds  Also awareness among policy makers to raise profile of some weed threats	Not mentioned elsewhere  Currently under funded
<b>3</b> Reducing the impacts of feral animals	3.1 Mixed messages over promotion of donkey/ buffalo industry		
	3.2 No activity yet undertaken. Consider increase priority	Raise priority of 3.2 (VH)	A fundamental step to managing ferals
<b>4</b> Industry adoption of sustainable practices	4.1 Participation numbers for a baseline?		
	4.3 Some of this activity is underway -need to follow up with DPIR	Check with DPIR and if necessary change status	Confirmation
	4.4 Some progress may have been made DPIR		
	4.5 On Track	Change to On Track	
<b>5</b> Water resources and soil management	4.9 Check on progress with Robyn Cowley	Check with DPIR and if necessary change status	Confirmation
	5.1 Formal water resource allocation process underway (should list as On Track?)	Change to On Track	Underway
	5.2 Major Issue (PFAS)		
	5.3 Some work is being done towards this through Landcare (List as collaborators)	List Landcare groups (RRLC, VRDCA) as collaborators	Active partners
<b>6</b> NRM based economic opportunities	6.1 Some progress has been made - 2 companies harvesting native seeds	Change to On Track	Underway
	6.6 This still seems a long way off		
<b>7</b> Minimising the ecological footprints of development	7.1 This is not happening	Change to Not Specified	Not Underway
	7.2 PFAS		
	7.3 Need an offsets strategy		
	7.4 Department of Tourism	Add Department of Tourism to key collaborators	Should be involved
<b>8</b> Managing and protecting key natural and cultural assets	8.1 Some progress by DENR	Noted	
	8.2 Most of this is driven from outside the Region		
	8.5 Jawoyn working on this		
<b>9</b> Knowledge capacity and engagement	9.3 Informal training on stations is ongoing (DPIR)	Noted	
General Comments	Interested in results of community survey would like it opened again. Discussion of measures of success for strategies Observation that many areas of 'grey' still exist against strategies	Note community concern on how progress is being reviewed and tracked	





Program	Comments	Recommended Actions	Justification
<b>1</b> Managing Fire	1.1 There has been considerable progress towards this objective, particularly between CLC rangers, Parks and other Landholders	Noted	
<b>2</b> Preventing and managing weeds	2.2 Working to remove Buffel in some areas 2.3 Parks have been active in weed survey and mapping particularly in the Davenport. 2.4 Trialing <i>flupropanate</i>	Noted	
<b>3</b> Reducing the impacts of feral animals	3.1 Mixed progress. More donkeys being spotted around Tennant Cat management only opportunistic. Parks doing annual shoots Redclaw in waterholes	Noted	
<b>4</b> Industry adoption of sustainable practices	All good	Noted	
<b>5</b> Water resources and soil management	5.2 Rangers report growing soil erosion around waterholes. More work needed	Noted	
<b>6</b> NRM based economic opportunities	6.2 Some progress with this. CLC rangers have been doing contract work with Parks	Noted	
<b>7</b> Minimising the ecological footprints of development	7.1 Problems with illegal dumping of waste around Tennant -needs attention!	Noted	
<b>8</b> Managing and protecting key natural and cultural assets	8.5 Davenport central track, working with Parks and TOs to protect sites Parks, Territory Parks alive program	Noted	
<b>9</b> Knowledge capacity and engagement	9.3 Tennant Creek rangers Chem cert training		
General Comments	Community Feedback at the Tablelands Plan Review workshop was essentially positive and endorsed the findings of the Plan status update. Discussions focused around the reasons for this status	Note community endorsement of Plan status review	

Program	Comments	Recommended Actions	Justification
<b>1</b> Managing Fire	1.2 Need to develop standardised metrics around fire impacts, derived from NAFI		
	1.3 NTPFES may be a collaborator	Add NTPES as collaborator	Involved in planning for and responding to fire
	1.4 Question the effectiveness of current policies		
<b>2</b> Preventing and managing weeds	2.1 General agreement	No change	
<b>3</b> Reducing the impacts of feral animals	3.1 Feel the progress review slightly optimistic, but prioritisation correct.		
	3.2 Lack of standard metrics a problem: this needs to escalate from H to VH priority	Standard metric escalated to VH priority	Nothing is happening towards this
	3.3 Agree with progress review		
	3.4 This strategy weak, needs revising	Strengthen Strategy 3.4 wording	Currently vague
	3.5 Agree on track due to being federally driven		
<b>4</b> Industry adoption of sustainable practices	4.1 Questions about how and what industries are being engaged. Could Fracking be added?		
	4.2 Should be 'on track': Government monitoring of grazing and pasture (DENR, DIPR)		
	4.3 Good stakeholder engagement in fisheries	Make 4.3 On Track	Government programs
	4.6 TNRM in a position to draw together stakeholders		
	4.7 Forestry industry difficult to engage		
	4.8 NT lacks a climate policy, action required- priority?	Increase priority of strategy 4.8	Need for climate strategy
<b>5</b> Water resources and soil management	General agreement	No change	
<b>6</b> NRM based economic opportunities	General agreement	No change	
<b>7</b> Minimising the ecological footprints of development	7.1 Agree that activity occurring but poor transparency and clarity in planning.	Add word 'transparency' to development approval processes	To improve process

# WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT FROM THE PROCESS?



The Northern Territory NRM Plan review team commenced the review to ensure that the Plan remained connected with the aspirations of the stakeholders who had developed it, and sensitive to emerging opportunities, barriers and new knowledge relevant its delivery.

The review process has involved a progress update engaging key implementation partners, a wider community survey and regional review workshops. Collectively the process has told us that:

- Implementation of the plan has got off to a good start in its first year, and can be considered 'on track' with no real major causes for concern.
- There is broad consensus that the plan is proving a useful document for framing and structuring NRM actions and strategies to address priority issues and is of particular value in regions where levels of institutional coordination are low, or for thematic areas where there is a weak policy or regulatory environment.
- The progress review has highlighted a few individual activities and strategies for which implementation has not yet commenced, or has been slow to commence and so these should be monitored.

- The review highlights questions around how progress towards plan goals could be qualitatively measured: While this review highlights which programs had been worked upon, there is no measure for how successful activities or strategies had been in achieving targets. Consequently, future plan reviews should move beyond simply 'Activities' and 'Strategies' and focus on 'Objectives' and 'Measures of Achievement'.
- With over 200 NRM stakeholders directly engaged at different stages through the plan review process, the review has provided a further opportunity for community discussion, reflection and input into the structure, direction and objectives of the plan, and has generated fruitful conversation about natural resource management more broadly.
- A total of 27 relatively minor changes to update status, prioritisation or wording of the plan have been recommended through the review, and after consideration these will be incorporated into the plan.

## Ammending the Plan: what next?

The plan review team have taken the comments, suggested amendments and inclusions arising from the plan review process (and described in this report) and will be incorporate these into the revised 2016-2020 NRM plan.

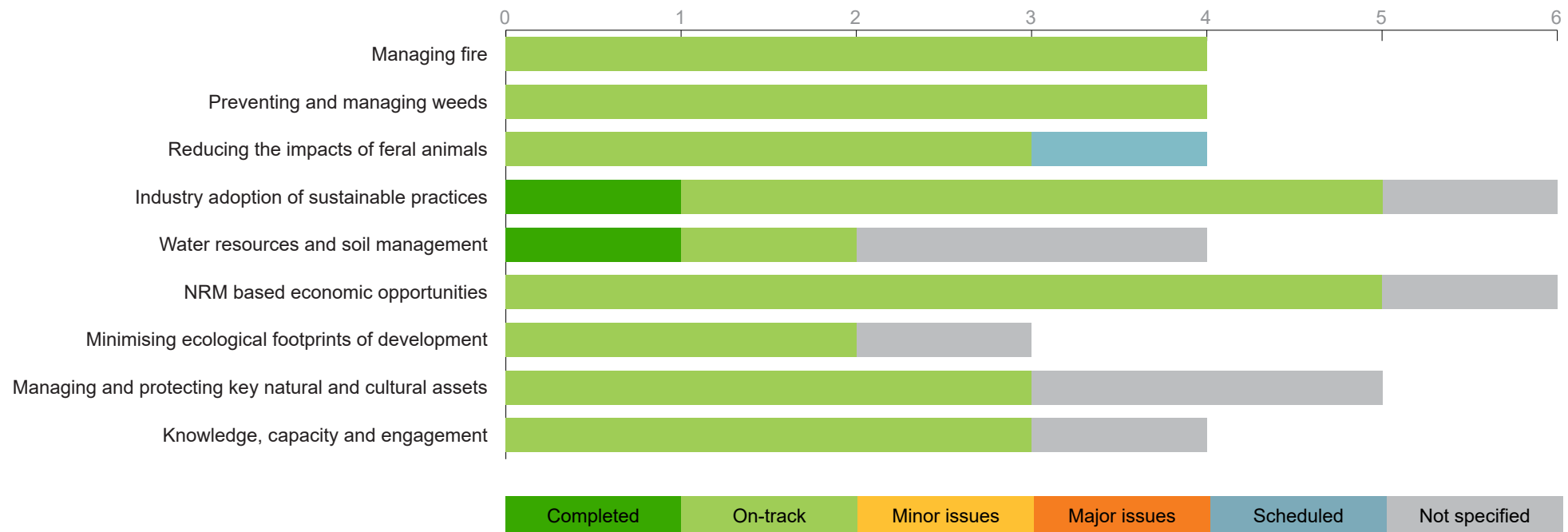
Because the changes remain relatively minor, there will be no additional print run of the revised plan in hard copy. The 'live' version of the plan is hosted in Territory NRMs Miradi project management system and it is this plan which will be updated. It is the version of the plan by which progress is measured.

TNRM will commence the second review of the NRM Plan.

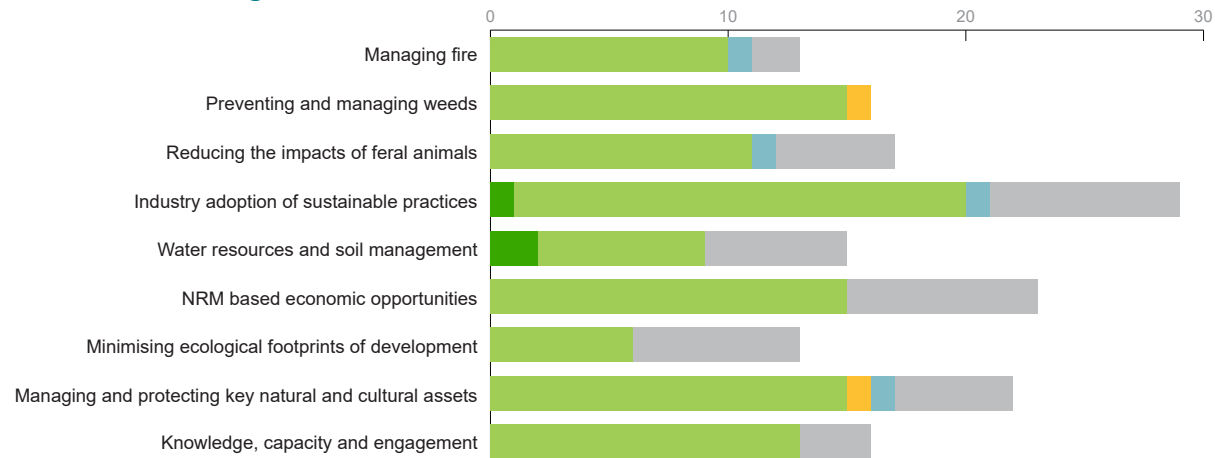


# ARID LANDS - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

ARID LANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW

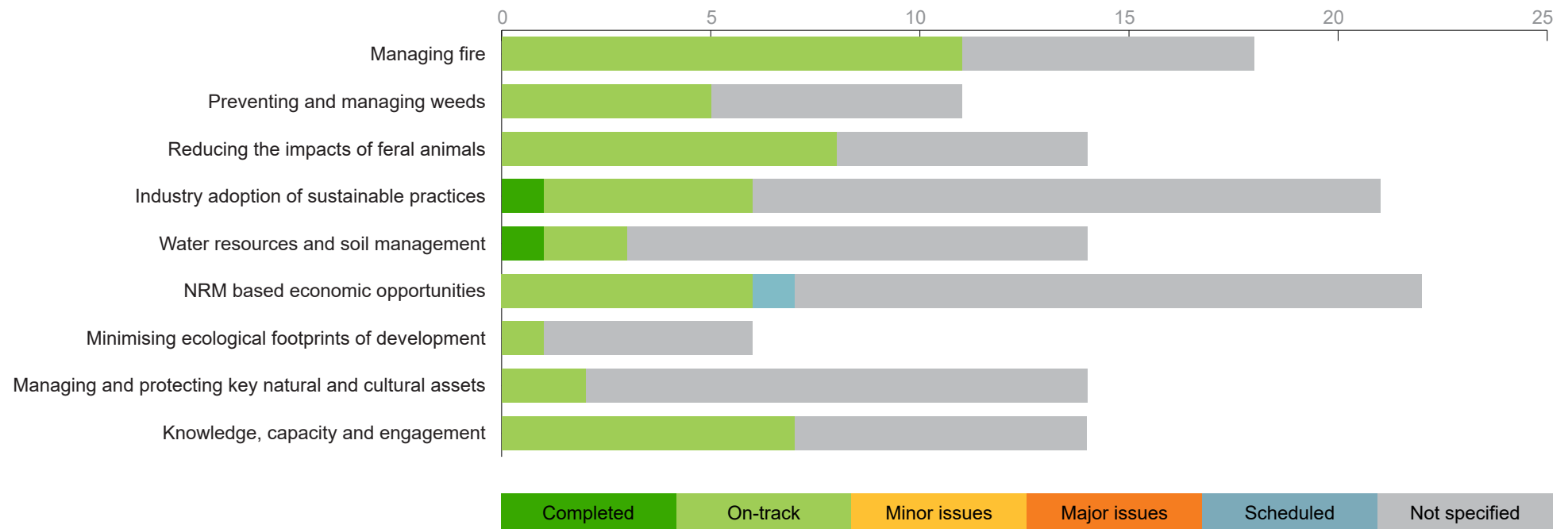


## Strategy implementation: All regions

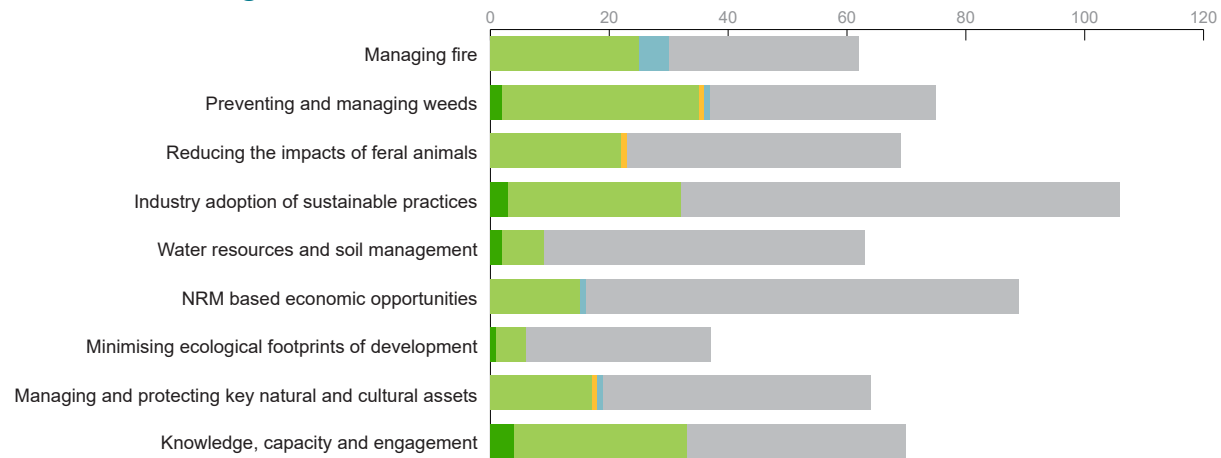


# ARID LANDS - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

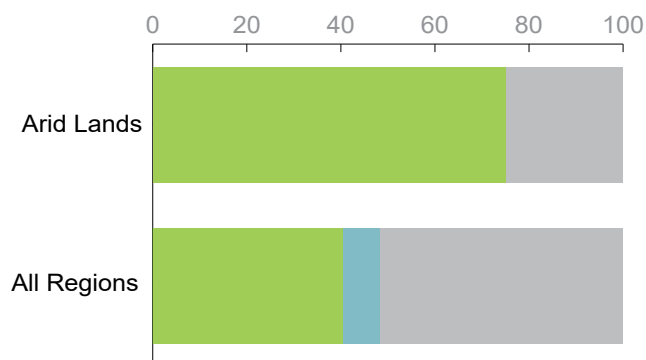
ARID LANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



## Strategy implementation: All regions



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Central Land Council, Pastoralists (CLMA), Researchers, NTG (Bushfires NT), Aust. Govt. (Environment), TNRM, Regional Shires

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.1** Collaborative approaches to strategic fire management are extended across the Arid Lands region

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.2** Increase use of spatial fire management tools, knowledge systems, safe burning practices and equipment throughout the Arid Lands

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.3** Increase application of fire management techniques that promote biodiversity and ecosystem function and minimise risk to infrastructure and human health across the Arid Lands

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**1.4** Promote policies and market forces to support collaborative fire management approaches that provide social/cultural benefit in Arid Lands

## Objectives

By 2020, fire regimes are more diverse and wildfire extent is lower than the 2000-2010 average

By 2020, fire activity is being planned and monitored utilising GIS and remote sensing across the entire Arid Lands region by all stakeholders

By 2020, fire management is demonstrably based on knowledge of cultural, biodiversity and production values, threats and the best management options

By 2020, policies support long-term fire management in the Arid Lands through economic incentives

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

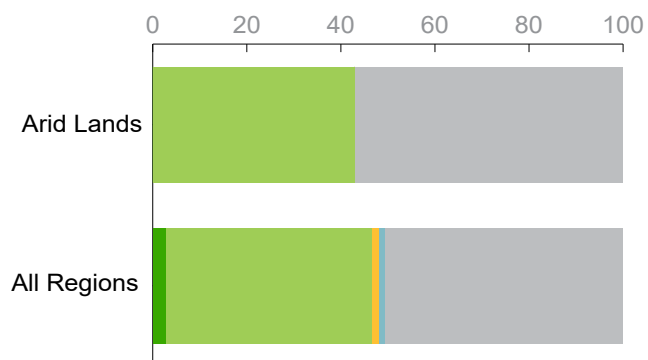
Scheduled

Not specified





### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

NTG (Weeds), TNRM, Pastoralists (CLMA), Central Land Council, Aust. Govt. (Environment & Agriculture), Landholders, Landcare groups, Local Government, Contractors and other Government Depts

### Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.1** Adopt collaborative approaches to weed management in the Arid Lands

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**2.2** Prevent the introduction of new weeds and the spread of the region's priority weeds

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.3** Improve adaptive weed management through monitoring, research and utilising data, training and capacity building

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**2.4** Increase the region's awareness of its priorities and capacity to manage the impacts of weeds

### Objectives

By 2020, the spread of Athel Pine is contained to 2015 levels

By 2020, Cacti, Parkinsonia and Rubber Bush have active weed management implementation programs

By 2020, no new weed species are introduced and existing weeds are not spread to new areas

By 2020, Sites of Conservation Significance or culturally significant sites that are currently buffel-free remain so

By 2020, strategic catchment-based weed management is adopted throughout the region

By 2020, landholders are increasingly responsible and taking more action for weed management

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

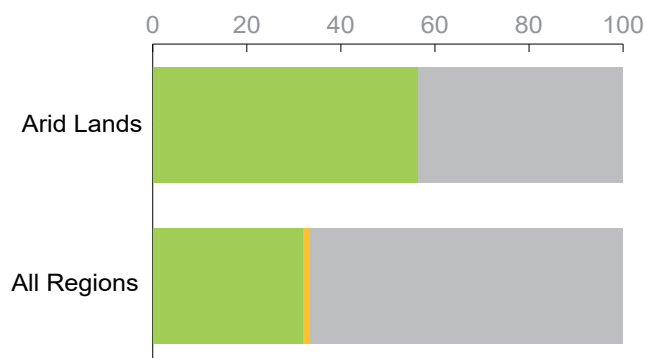
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# ARID LANDS REDUCING FERAL ANIMAL IMPACTS

ARID LANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NT Govt. (DLRM), Central Land Council, TNRM, Pastoralists (CLMA), Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), Commercial Operators

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.1** Strengthen regional feral management programs through coordinated and collaborative action

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**3.2** Use common measures and analysis to monitor, evaluate and report on and adapt the feral management program

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.3** Support research and innovation in techniques, training and motivation to control feral animals

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**3.4** Promote policies, legislation and commercial utilisation that supports objectives in collaborative feral animal control programs

## Objectives

By 2020, feral animal control programs are prioritised and targeted through an NT wide feral animal strategy that establishes an agreed understanding of the problem, shared measurement and review of actions

By 2020, impacts of camels on arid ecosystems is no greater than 2015 level

By 2020, monitoring data is being collected from a range of sources consistently and informing strategic action in feral management programs

By 2020, the impacts of cats and foxes is reduced at sites of high conservation value

By 2020, the impacts of horses is reduced from some key aquatic sites

By 2020, feral animal control programs are supported through a range of legislation, policies and commercial harvest

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

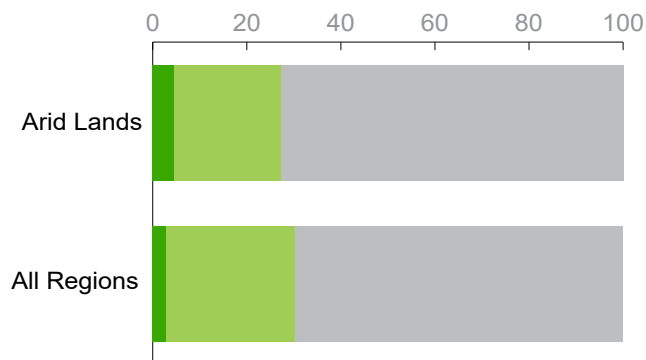
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NT Govt. (DPIF), Pastoral Industry, Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), Centrefarm, Indigenous Land Corporation, TNRM.

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.1** Engage with industry to encourage sustainable approaches to developing the north policies and programs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.2** Ensure resources are increased for biosecurity support services in line with increased agricultural development

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.3** Support best practice grazing management through delivery of regional monitoring programs and promoting practices that promote both productivity and ecological outcomes

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.4** Support best practice horticulture and broad scale agriculture through knowledge sharing, adoption of new technology and training and innovation

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.5** Reconcile conflicting management objectives for wild dogs and dingoes

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.6** Support and promote partnerships between the NRM community and the mining industry regarding mine rehabilitation and offset programs

## Objectives

By 2020, policies and programs for development in the Arid Lands are informed by best available science and knowledge to ensure the protection of cultural and natural assets

By 2020, our biosecurity system is integrated and risk-based with strong community involvement that minimises the establishment of exotic pests and diseases

By 2020, best practice sustainable grazing practices are increasingly taken up by the pastoral industry

By 2020, industry driven horticultural extension programs developing understanding of ecosystems and sustainable management are delivered in the Arid Lands

By 2020, dingoes/wild dogs are strategically managed based on understanding of their impact on both pastoral and biodiversity productivity

By 2020, increase the involvement of the mining industry in natural resource management

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

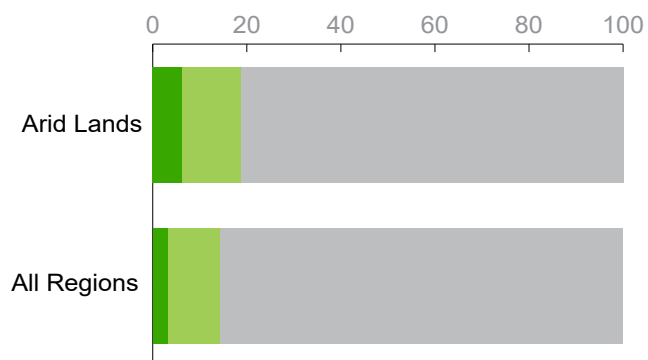
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM -Water Resources & Soil), Pastoralists, CLMA, Researchers, NTG (DPIF), Australian Govt. (Environment & Agriculture), Centrefarm, Contractors, horticulturalists, NTG (DME -Mines), Mining Industry, Central Land Council.

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.1** Water resource planning and management is undertaken in consultation with multiple stakeholders, and underpinned by the best available scientific information

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.2** Increase our knowledge and resources available to understand and manage the impacts on ecosystems and groundwater from mining, pastoral, agricultural and domestic use

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**5.3** Support training and extension services on sustainable soil management

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**5.4** Promote policies and market forces to support collaborative fire management approaches that provide social/cultural benefit in Arid Lands

## Objectives

By 2020, water resources that have a moderate to high level of development relative to the water available for development (in consideration of non-consumptive uses) are managed through a Water Allocation Framework which includes monitoring and ensures that cultural, environmental and production values are maintained.

By 2020, our knowledge of the impacts of water use from key industrial and domestic uses of water resources has increased and a regulatory framework exists to minimise pollution of groundwater

By 2020, soil loss and land degradation are being prevented and, where necessary, addressed

By 2020, areas for agricultural development have been identified with thorough understanding on limitations of soil and water resources

Completed

On-track

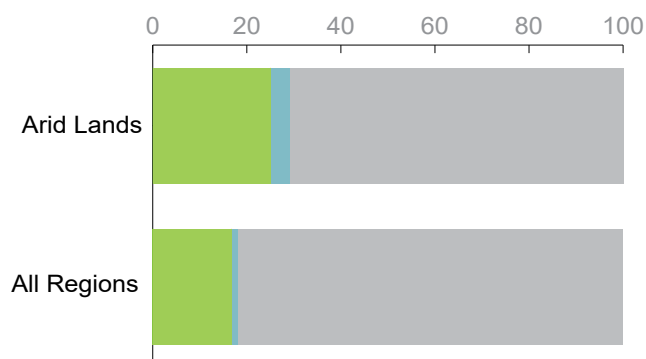
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Centrefarm, Central Land Council, Aboriginal organisations, Private Industry, NT Govt. (Legacy Mines Unit), NT Govt. (DLRM), Pastoralists, Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), TNRM

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.1** Develop NRM based economic enterprises based on the harvest of native species

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.2** Develop capacity for Fee For Service opportunities of Landcare groups, Aboriginal Rangers and other NRM groups

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.3** Support projects and research to develop and participate in national, NT and regional initiatives to develop carbon market programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.4** Investigate, progress and communicate emerging primary industry and diversification economic opportunities on Aboriginal and Pastoral lands including horticulture, aquaculture and tourism

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.5** Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.6** Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables

## Objectives

By 2020, new employment and business opportunities are created based on sustainable harvest of native species

By 2020, ranger groups and other local NRM enterprises are strong and economically viable supported by a diversity of funding sources and locally based commercial opportunities

By 2020, carbon abatement opportunities are beginning to be taken in the Arid Lands region

By 2020, new employment opportunities are created through diverse primary industries and on different tenures in the Arid Lands

By 2020, the renewables and 'environmental' sector is contributing more to the Arid Lands economy than 2015

By 2020, new opportunities and new partnerships between private sector and NRM stakeholders have been developed

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

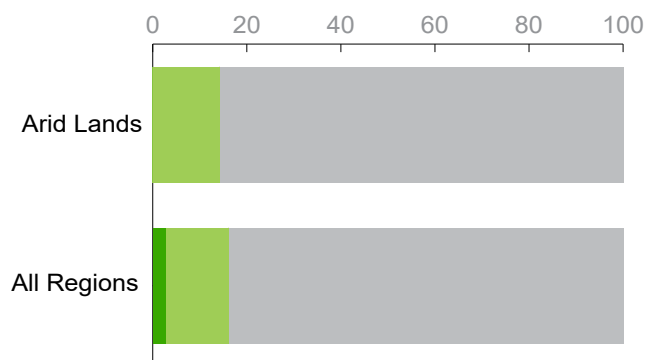
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), TNRM, Central Land Council, Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), Local Government, Arid Lands Environment Centre, landholders

### Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.1** Minimise the environmental footprint of the major population centres in the Arid Lands

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**7.2** Strengthen and consolidate environmental offset arrangements to direct offsets where they are likely to be most effective for NRM in the Arid Lands

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.3** Minimise the impact of tourism on the environment through the adoption and promotion of sustainable initiatives

### Objectives

By 2020, towns and communities have improved environmental planning and management in the Arid Lands

By 2020, offsets are well directed and transparent and linked to achieving the prioritised NRM strategies of the Arid Lands

By 2020, there is increased environmental awareness by recreational users in the Arid Lands

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

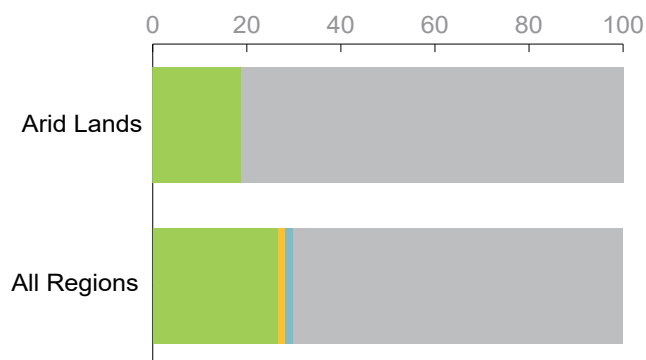
Scheduled

Not specified





## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), Parks and Wildlife, Parks Australia, Central Land Council, Pastoralists (CLMA), TNRM, Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), AAPA, Rangelands Alliance

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.1** Develop and implement management programs in Sites of Conservation Significance in the Arid Lands

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.2** Implement the Action Plan for threatened species in the NT (NTG) linking on-ground action to the latest knowledge

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.3** Develop adaptation plans to address the impacts of climate change for vulnerable ecosystems in the region

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.4** Support ongoing mapping and monitoring of rangeland condition in the Arid Lands using remote sensing and field based surveys

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.5** Support best practice management of culturally significant Aboriginal sites and cultural landscapes

## Objectives

By 2020, increase the area under active management (stewardship) for conservation (i.e. weeds, stock and ferals are managed) and increase the involvement of landholders in stewardship arrangements

By 2020, the approach to threatened species management is more integrated with strong links between research, monitoring and on-ground action showing progress against key indicators in the Threatened Species Action Plan

By 2020, our understanding of the impacts of climate change on ecosystem function are informing our management decisions

By 2020, rangeland condition is regularly being monitored and informing land management decisions

By 2020, an increasing number of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Ranger Groups are managing culturally significant sites and landscapes

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

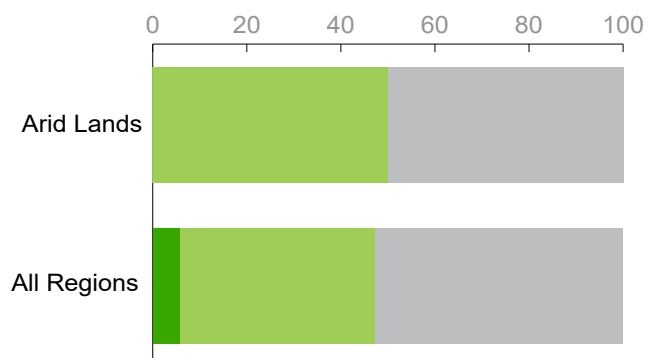
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# ARID LANDS KNOWLEDGE, CAPACITY AND ENGAGEMENT

ARID LANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

TNRM, NT Govt. (DLRM), TNRM, Landcare groups, Central Land Council, Pastoralists, CLMA, Researchers, AustGovt. (Environment), ALL

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.1** Support land managers to record and utilise TEK, scientific research and pastoral knowledge in NRM planning and activities.

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.2** Strengthen networks and partnerships between NRM stakeholders in the Arid Lands including supporting the development of new partnerships with industry and philanthropic organisations.

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.3** Support accredited and informal training in land management and sustainable industry practices in the Arid Lands

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.4** Ongoing review of NRM outcomes facilitating adaptive management

## Objectives

By 2020, increased resources and longterm approaches to NRM issues for people managing land in the Arid Lands

By 2020, Territory Natural Resource Managers are incorporating the best available knowledge, information and data into their management including TEK and community knowledge

By 2020, there is increased support provided for targeted training in relevant natural resource management skills

By 2020, multi-stakeholder review processes are strengthened in the Arid lands leading to adaptive management and improved practices and stakeholder cooperation

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

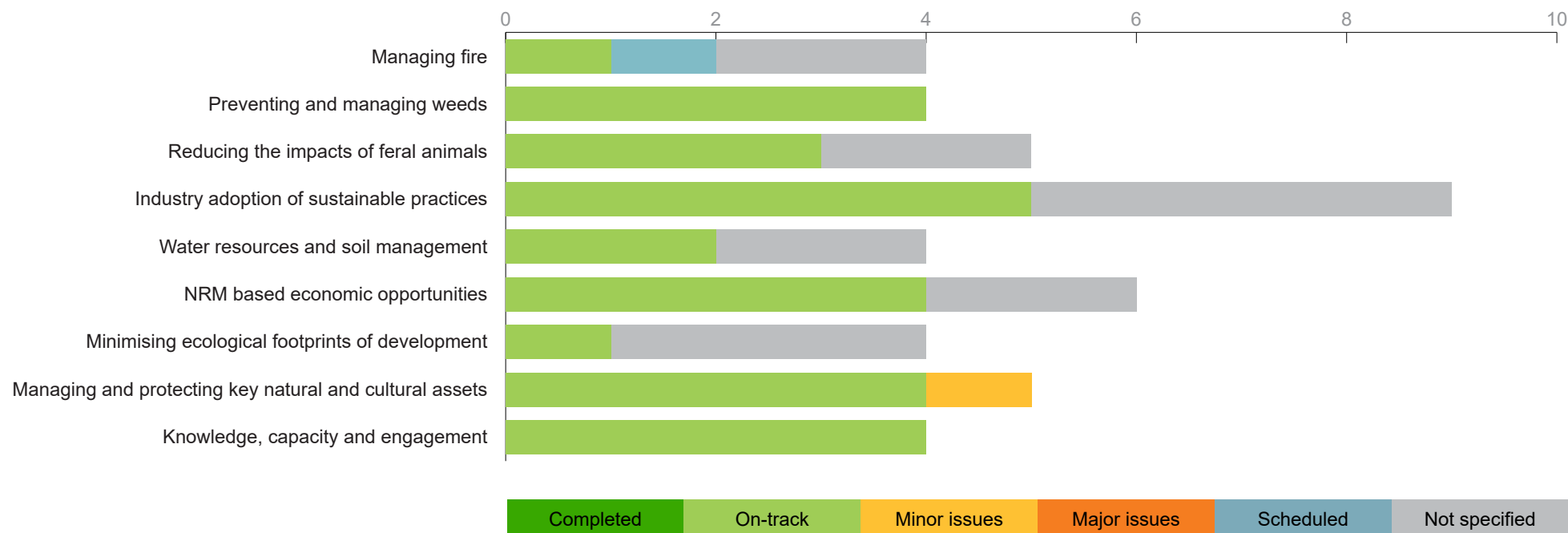
Major issues

Scheduled

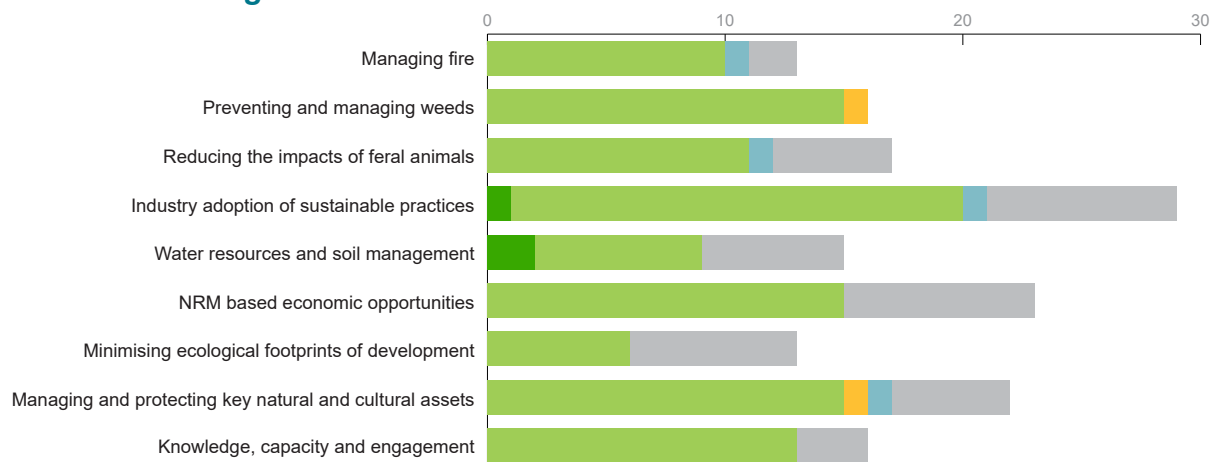
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# GULF SAVANNA - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

GULF SAVANNA  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



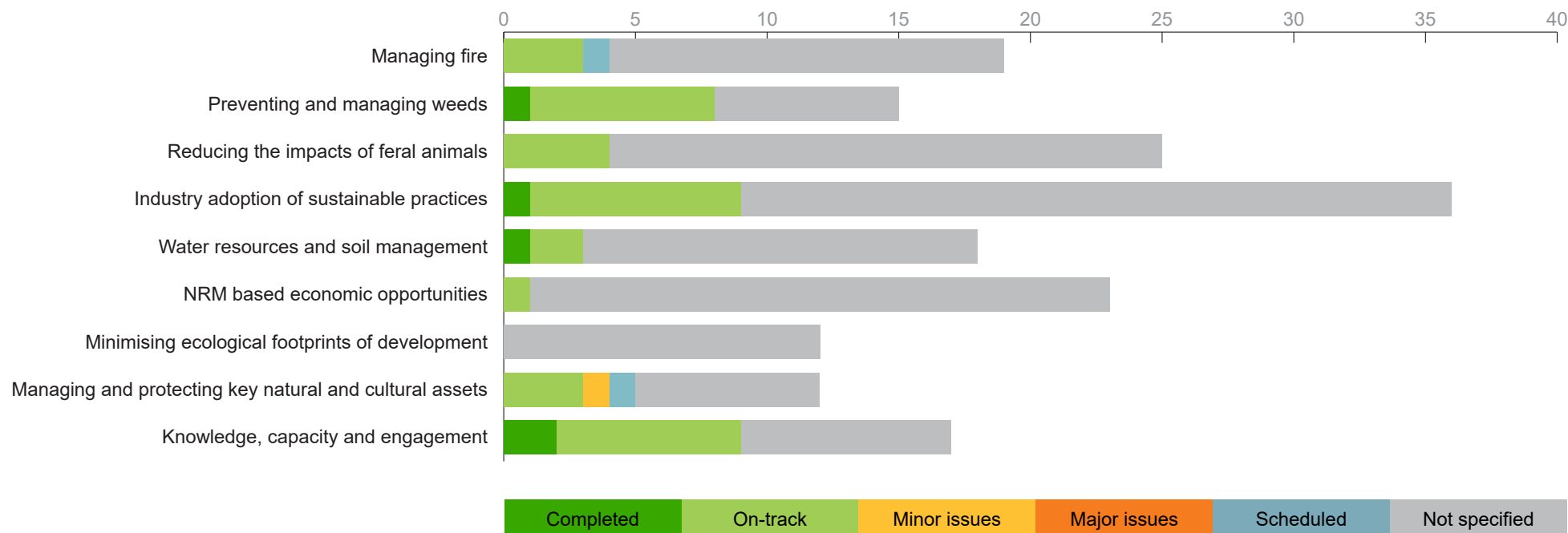
## Strategy implementation: All regions



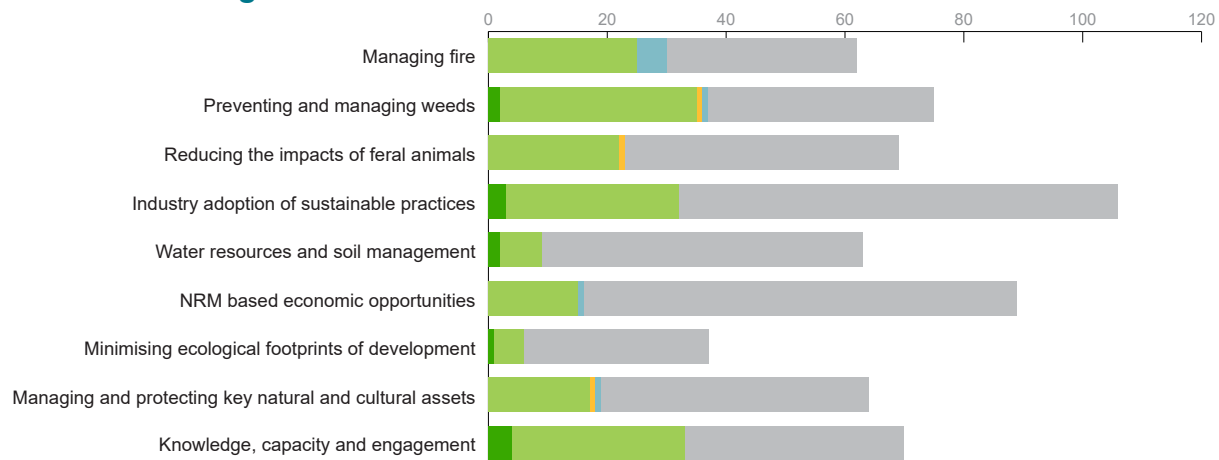


# GULF SAVANNA - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

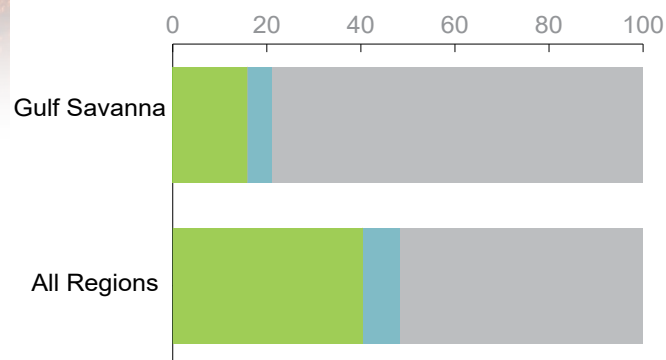
GULF SAVANNA  
NRM PLAN REVIEW



## Strategy implementation: All regions



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Pastoralists, NTG (Bushfires NT), North Australian Fire Information (NAFI) service, Northern Land Council, NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Researchers, Regional Shires.

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**1.1** Collaborative approaches to strategic fire management are extended across the Gulf Savanna region

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.2** Increase use of spatial fire management tools, knowledge systems, safe burning practices and equipment throughout the Gulf Savanna

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.3** Increase application of fire management techniques that promote biodiversity and ecosystem function and minimise risk to infrastructure and human health across the Gulf Savanna

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.4** Promote policies and market forces that support collaborative fire management approaches that provide social/cultural benefit in the Gulf Savanna

## Objectives

By 2020, Fire regimes are improved in the Gulf Savanna region with less late dry season fires and managed at a finer scale according to different habitat and ecosystem type

By 2020, fire is being planned and monitored using GIS and remote sensing across the entire Gulf Savanna region by all stakeholders

By 2020, fire regimes are demonstrably based on knowledge of cultural, biodiversity and production values, threats and the best management options

By 2020, policies support long term fire management in the Gulf Savanna through economic incentives and ongoing and consistent resourcing

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

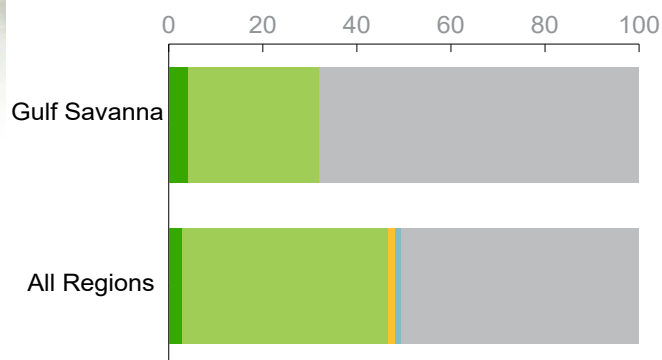
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

# GULF SAVANNA CONTROLLING WEEDS AND THE CATCHMENT SCALE

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (Weeds Branch), Victoria River District Conservation Association, Roper River Landcare, Pastoralists, Aboriginal Ranger Groups, NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Northern Land Council, Defence, Researchers, TNRM, Private landholders.

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.1** Adopt collaborative approaches for strategic control of high priority weed species in the Gulf Savanna region

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**2.2** Prevent the introduction of new weeds and the spread of the region's priority weeds

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.3** Improve adaptive weed management through monitoring, research, utilising data, training and capacity building

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**2.4** Increase the region's awareness of its priorities and capacity to manage the impacts of weeds

## Objectives

By 2020, Prickly Acacia, Mesquite, Mimosa and Chinese Apple are managed to eradicable levels in the Gulf Savanna

By 2020, further adoption of weed management plans for priority weeds in the region

By 2020, reduce the spread of priority weeds throughout the Gulf Savanna region

By 2020, Rubber vine is not established in the Gulf Savanna region

By 2020, best practice including new innovative tools are adopted throughout the region and delivering improved strategic catchment based weed management in the Gulf Savanna

By 2020, land users are increasingly responsible and taking more action for weed management

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

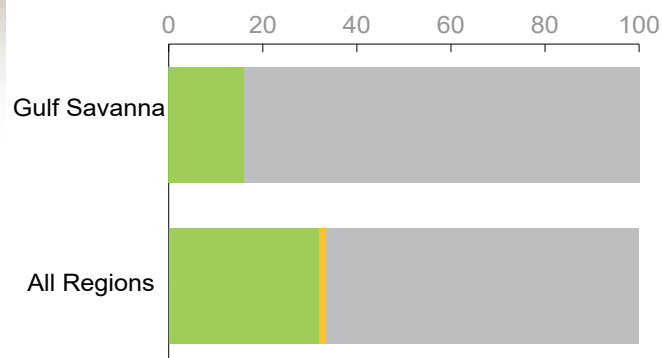
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), VRDCA, Roper River Landcare, Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Northern Land Council, Traditional Owners, Researchers, Pastoralists, Defence, NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS), NTG (DPIF -Biosecurity), private landholders, Feral Animal Contractors.

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**3.1** Strengthen regional feral management programs through coordinated and collaborative action

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.2** Use common measures and analysis to monitor, evaluate and report on and adapt the feral management program

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**3.3** Support research and innovation in techniques, training and motivation to control feral animals

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.4** Promote policies, legislation and commercial utilisation that supports objectives in collaborative feral animal control programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.5** Strengthen the coordination and delivery of Biosecurity surveillance and response to potential pest animals, insects and marine pests

## Objectives

By 2020, feral animal control programs are prioritised and targeted through an NT-wide feral animal strategy that establishes an agreed understanding of the problem, shared measurement and review of actions

By 2020, cat densities are reduced particularly in sites of biodiversity and conservation value and offshore islands with healthy small mammal populations

By 2020, reduce the impact of pigs on coastal ecosystems and priority freshwater ecosystems

By 2020, offshore islands in the Gulf Savanna remain cane toad free

By 2020 the impacts of horse and donkey damage is reduced from 2015 levels in the VRD area and at sites of conservation significance in the Roper River/Gulf area

By 2020, monitoring data is being collected from a range of sources consistently and informing strategic action in feral management programs

By 2020, innovative feral control techniques are being applied to cats, cane toads, horses and donkeys in Gulf Savanna

By 2020, feral animal control programs are supported through a range of legislation, policies and commercial harvest

By 2020, collaborative biosecurity programs are in place to reduce the likelihood of new pest animals becoming established in the Gulf Savanna

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

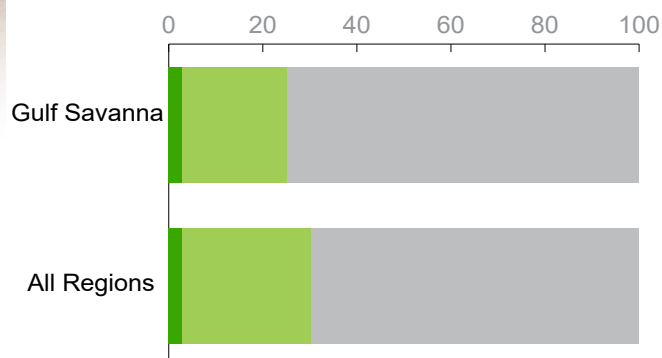
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

NTG (DPIF), NTG (DME), NTG (DLRM), VRDCA, Roper River Landcare, TNRM, Researchers, Industry representative groups (NT Cattlemen's Assoc., NT Farmers, NT Seafood Council, NT Amateur Fishing Association, NT Minerals Council, etc.), AustGovt (Agriculture & Environment), Northern Land Council

### Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.1** Support best practice grazing management through delivery of regional monitoring programs and promoting practices that promote both productivity and ecological outcomes

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.2** Engage with industry to encourage sustainable approaches to developing the north policies and programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.3** Ensure resources are increased for biosecurity support services in line with increased agricultural development

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.4** Reconcile conflicting management objectives for wild dogs and dingoes

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.5** Support best practice horticulture and broad scale agriculture through knowledge sharing, adoption of new technology and training and innovation

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.6** Support ecologically sustainable fisheries management through monitoring and improved technology

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.7** Support and promote partnerships between the NRM community and the mining industry regarding mine rehabilitation and offset programs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.8** Develop and implement a forestry management and assessment framework

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.9** Carry out adaptation planning on the likely impacts of climate change with industry

### Objectives

By 2020, increase skills and knowledge of land managers to implement sustainable grazing practices

By 2020, policies and programs for development in Gulf Savanna are informed by best available science and knowledge to ensure the protection of cultural and natural assets

By 2020, our biosecurity system is integrated and risk-based with strong community involvement that minimises the establishment of exotic pests and diseases

By 2020, dingoes/wild dogs are strategically managed based on understanding of their impact on both pastoral and biodiversity productivity

By 2020, industry driven horticultural extension programs developing understanding of ecosystems and sustainable management are delivered in the Gulf Savanna

By 2020, fishing stocks continue to be healthy and data collection and analysis is improved and informing fisheries management

By 2020, increase the involvement of the mining industry in natural resource management

By 2020, plantation forestry activities are more regulated and adopting best practice

By 2020, industry targeted climate adaptation plans have been completed with strategies for natural resource industries to cope with increased climate variability and extremes

Completed

On-track

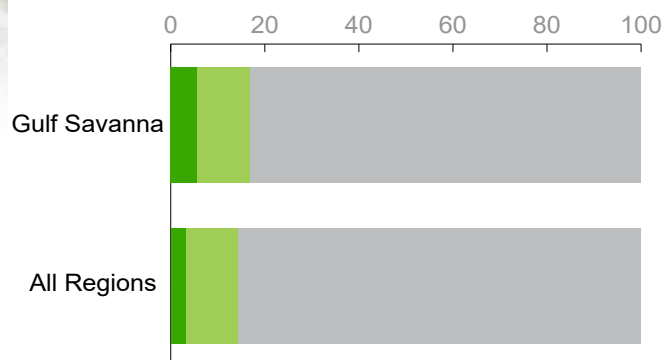
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (Water Resources), NTG (DPIF), NTG (DME), TNRM, Researchers, Industry representative groups (NT Cattlemen's Assoc., NT Farmers, NT Minerals Council, etc.), Aust. Govt (Environment & Agriculture), Northern Land Council, Horticultural industry, Northern Environmental Science Program

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**5.1** Water resource planning and management is undertaken in consultation with multiple stakeholders, and underpinned by the best available scientific information

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.2** Increase our knowledge and resources available to understand and manage the impacts on ecosystems and groundwater from mining, pastoral, agricultural and domestic use

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.3** Support training and extension services on sustainable soil management

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**5.4** Identify areas with potential for agricultural development through assessments of soil and water resources

## Objectives

By 2020, water resources that have a moderate to high level of, development relative to the water available for development (in consideration of non-consumptive uses) are managed through a Water Allocation Framework which includes monitoring and ensures that cultural, environmental and production values are maintained

By 2020, our knowledge of the impacts of water use from key industrial and domestic uses of water resources has increased and a regulatory framework exists to minimise pollution of groundwater

By 2020, soil loss, soil function and land degradation are being prevented and, where necessary, addressed

By 2020, areas for agricultural development have been identified with thorough understanding on limitations of soil and water resources

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

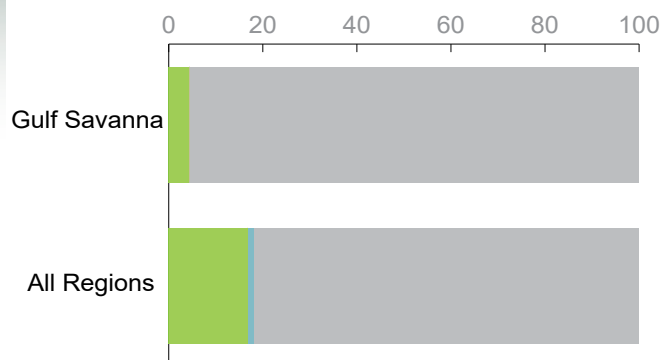
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Researchers, Northern Land Council, Pastoralists, NTG (DME), Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Aust. Govt. (Environment -Emissions Reduction Fund), AustGovt. (PMC –Indigenous Programs), Private enterprise, NTG (DPIF).

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.1** Develop NRM based economic enterprises based on the harvest of native species

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.2** Develop capacity for Fee For Service opportunities for local NRM groups

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.3** Support projects and research to develop and participate in national, NT and regional initiatives to develop carbon market programs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.4** Investigate, progress and communicate emerging primary industry and diversification economic opportunities on Aboriginal and Pastoral lands including horticulture, aquaculture and tourism

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.5** Link new and emerging opportunities with NRM stakeholders in the NT

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.6** Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables

## Objectives

By 2020, new employment and business opportunities are created based on sustainable harvest of native species

By 2020, ranger groups and other local NRM enterprises are strong and economically viable supported by a diversity of funding sources and locally based commercial opportunities

By 2020, ranger groups and other local NRM enterprises are strong and economically viable supported by a diversity of funding sources and locally based commercial opportunities

By 2020, new employment opportunities through diverse primary industries and on different tenures in the NT

By 2020, new opportunities and new partnerships between private sector and NRM stakeholders have been developed

By 2020, the renewables and environment sector is contributing more to the Gulf Savanna economy than 2015

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

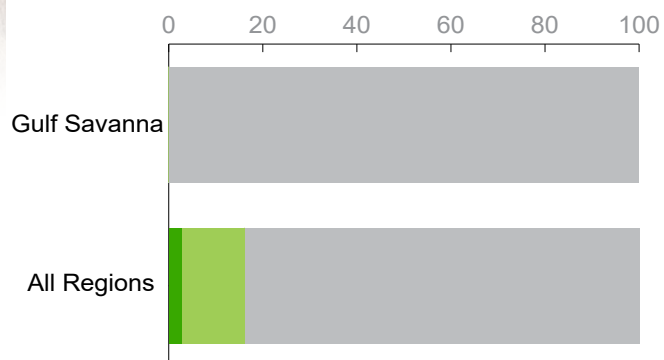
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

# GULF SAVANNA MINIMISING ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINTS OF DEVELOPMENT

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), NTG (DLPE), Local Government (Shires), Katherine Town Council, NT Environment Protection Agency, NT Environment Centre, NTG (DME), TNRM, Research institutions, Northern Land Council, Environment NGO's.

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.1** Minimise the environmental footprint of main population centres in the Gulf Savanna

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.2** Implement processes that minimise the entry of toxic chemicals in the environment in the Gulf Savanna

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**7.3** Strengthen and consolidate environmental offset arrangements to direct offsets where they are likely to be most effective

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.4** Minimise the impact of tourism on the environment through the adoption and promotion of sustainable

## Objectives

By 2020, Katherine and other towns/ communities in the region display improved environmental planning and management

By 2020, the entry of toxic chemical into the environment from commercial activities has been reduced

By 2020, offsets are well directed and transparent and linked to achieving the prioritised NRM strategies of the NT

By 2020, there is increased environmental awareness by recreational users of natural resources and visitors to the Gulf Savanna and practical solutions are implemented to reduce these impacts

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

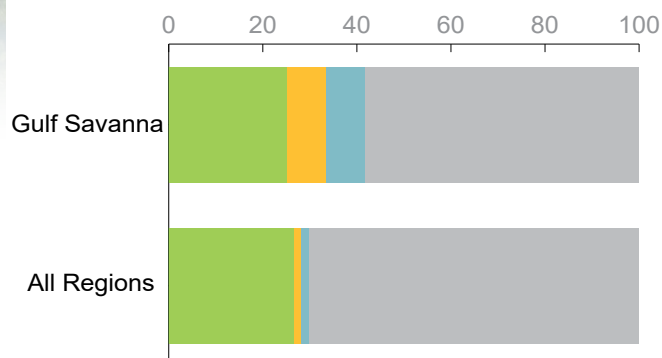
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Research institutions, TNRM, Pastoralists, NTG (DLRM), NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA), Traditional Owners, Northern Land Council, Landholders.

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.1** Develop and implement management programs for Sites of Conservation Significance in the Gulf Savanna

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.2** Implement the Action Plan for threatened species in the NT (NTG) linking on-ground action to the latest knowledge

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.3** Facilitate stewardship of high value conservation areas through schemes such as Territory Conservation Agreements and Indigenous Protected Areas

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.4** Develop adaptation plans for the impacts of climate change for vulnerable ecosystems in the Gulf Savanna

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.5** Support best practice management of Aboriginal culturally significant sites and landscapes

## Objectives

By 2020, the majority of Sites of Conservation significance have management plans being implemented

By 2020, the approach to threatened species management is more integrated with strong links between research, monitoring and onground action showing progress against key indicators in the Threatened Species Action Plan

By 2020, increase the involvement of Aboriginal people with Indigenous Protected Areas and pastoralists in conservation stewardship arrangements

By 2020, our understanding of the impacts of climate change on ecosystem function informs management.

By 2020, increased involvement of Aboriginal land managers and Traditional Owners in managing culturally significant sites and landscapes

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

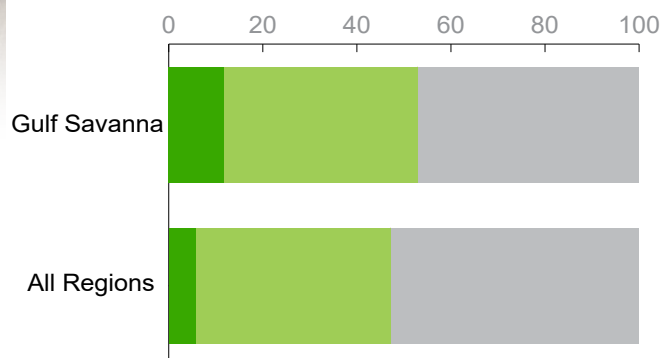
Scheduled

Not specified





## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Landcare groups, TNRM, Philanthropic sector, CDU, Batchelor Institute, Private training providers, Research Institutions, Northern Land Council, Industry representative groups, Pastoralists, NTG, Aust. Govt. (Environment)

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.1** Strengthen networks and partnerships between NRM stakeholders including supporting the development of new partnerships with industry and philanthropic organisations and promoting community and industry responsibility of NRM issues

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.2** Support land managers to record, utilise and share scientific research, TEK and pastoral knowledge in NRM planning and management activities

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.3** Support accredited and informal training in land management and sustainable industry practices

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.4** Ongoing review of NRM outcomes facilitating adaptive management

## Objectives

By 2020, increased resources and long-term approaches to NRM issues for people managing land

By 2020, Territory Natural Resource Managers are incorporating the best available knowledge, information and data into their management including TEK and community knowledge

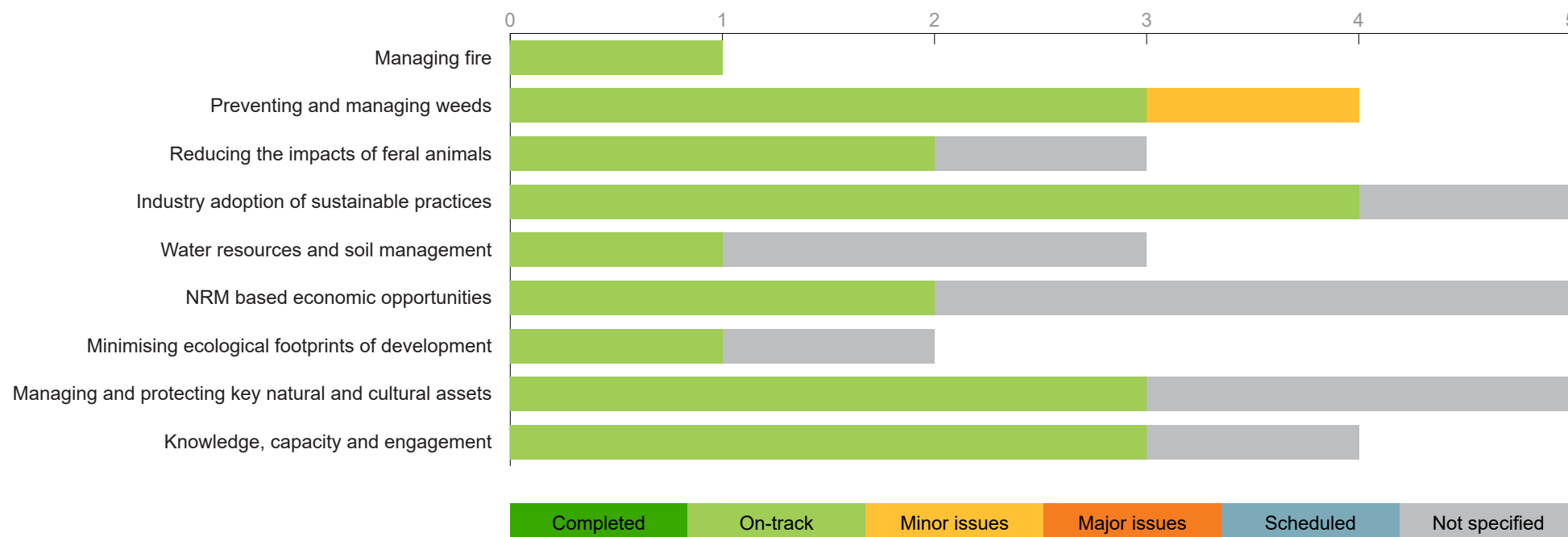
By 2020, there is increased and more targeted training in relevant natural resource management skills

By 2020, multi-stakeholder review processes are strengthened in the NT leading to adaptive management and improved practices and stakeholder cooperation

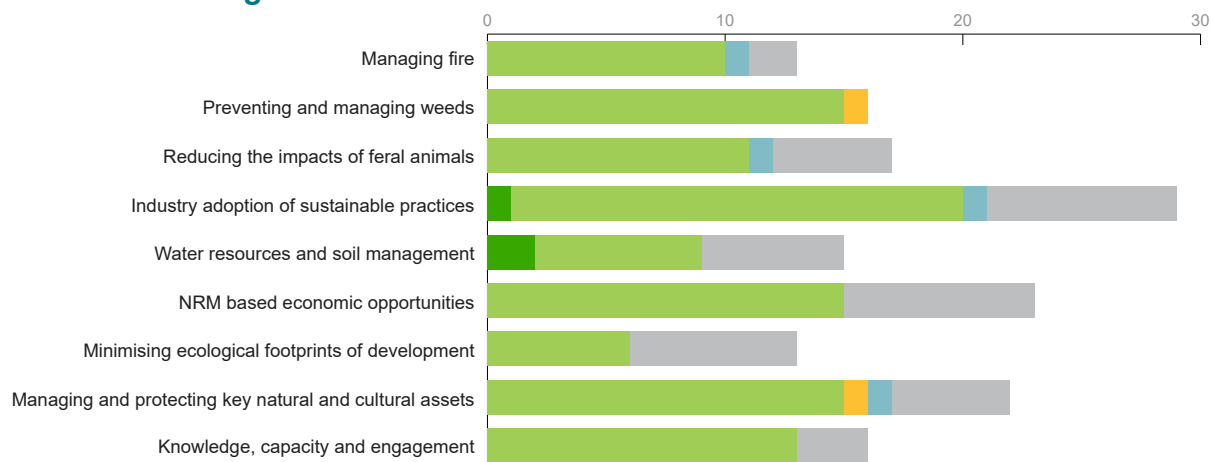


# TABLELANDS - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

TABLELANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW

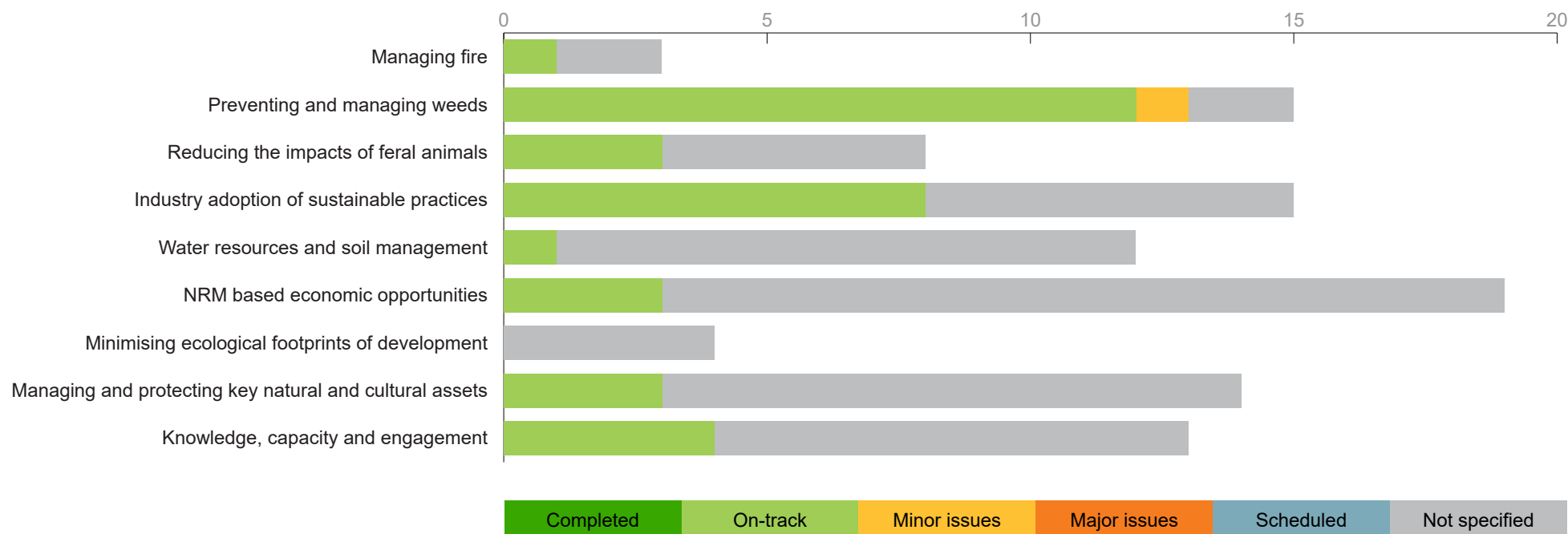


## Strategy implementation: All regions

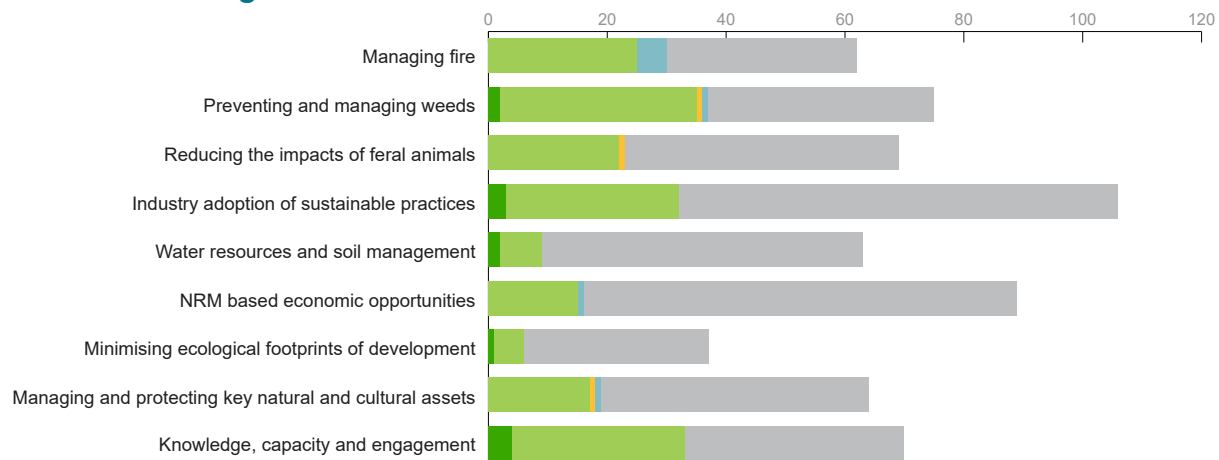


# TABLELANDS - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

TABLELANDS  
NRM PLAN REVIEW

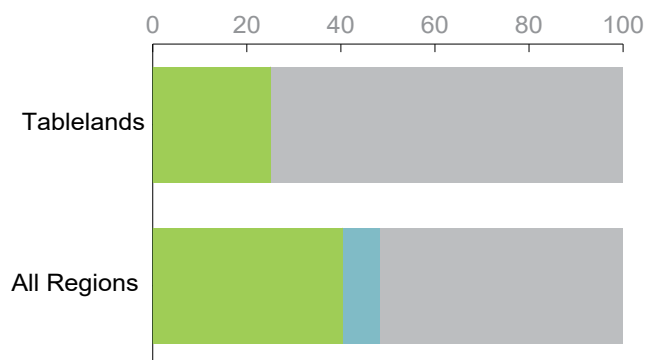


## Strategy implementation: All regions





## Activities status



## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.1** Improve coordination of cross tenure fire management approaches that promote pastoral production, cultural and biodiversity

## Objectives

By 2020, the impact of wildfires is reduced in the Barkly Tablelands

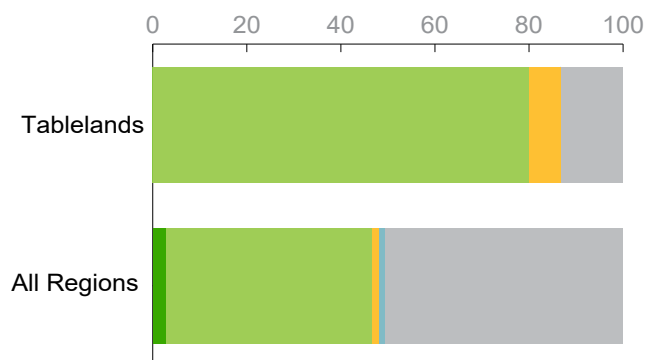
## Key Collaborators

Central Land Council, NTG (Bushfires NT), Barkly  
Landcare Conservation Association (BLCA), Researchers





### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

BLCA, NTG (Weeds Branch), Pastoralists, Central Land Council, Traditional Owners, Landholders, Barkly Shire, Researchers

### Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.1** Adopt collaborative approaches to weed management in the Tablelands Region

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**2.2** Prevent the introduction and spread of the Tablelands priority weeds

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.3** Improve adaptive weed management through monitoring, research, utilising data, training and capacity building

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**2.4** Increase the regions awareness of weed priorities and capacity to manage the impacts of weeds

### Objectives

By 2020, no new outbreaks of Mesquite and Prickly Acacia have formed and densities are reduced in infested areas

By 2020, reduce the current infestation of Parkinsonia in the Tablelands

By 2020, no new weeds (including rubber vine) have established in the Tablelands

By 2020, weed management knowledge and access to information has improved

By 2020, reduce densities of rubber bush in the Tablelands and reduce its impact on native grasslands

Completed

On-track

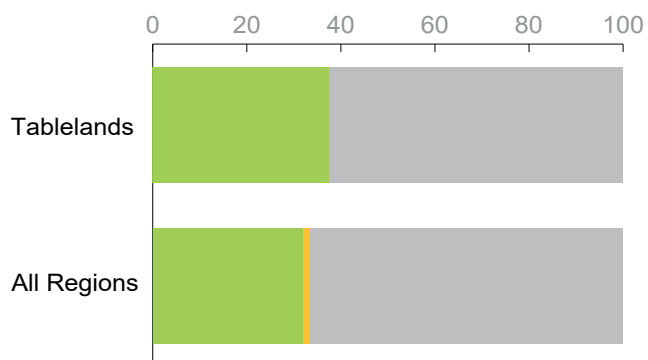
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.1** Strengthen regional feral management programs through coordinated and collaborative action

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**3.2** Build community understanding of the impacts of feral animals and support for their control through engagement

## Objectives

By 2020, feral animal control programs are prioritised and targeted through an NT-wide feral animal strategy that establishes an agreed understanding of the problem, shared measurement and review of actions

By 2020, feral animals are managed around key aquatic and conservation areas in the Tablelands

## Key Collaborators

NT Govt. DeptLand Resource Management, AustGovt (Agriculture & Environment), BLCA, Pastoralists, Central Land Council, Researchers

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

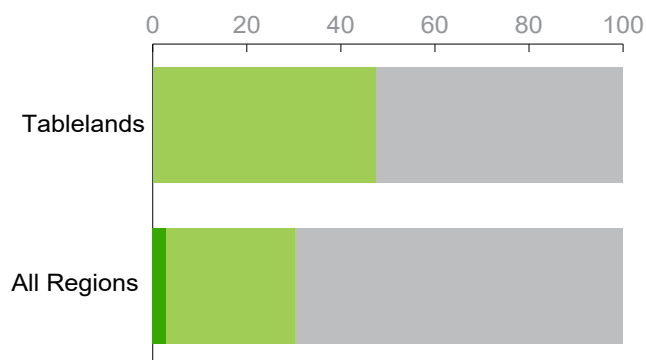
Scheduled

Not specified





### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

Pastoral industry, BLCA, NTG (DPIF), NTG (DME), NTG (DLRM), Aust. Govt. (Environment, Agriculture & Mining), Central Land Council

### Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.1** Engage with industry to encourage sustainable approaches to developing the north policies and programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.2** Ensure resources are increased for biosecurity support services in line with agricultural development in the North

★★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**4.3** Support best practice grazing management through delivery of regional monitoring programs and promoting practices that promote both productivity and ecological outcomes

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**4.4** Support and promote partnerships between the NRM community and the mining industry regarding mine rehabilitation and offset programs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.5** Reconcile conflicting management objectives for wild dogs and dingoes

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**4.6** Carry out adaptation planning on the likely impacts of climate change with indigenous people and pastoralists

### Objectives

By 2020, policies and programs for development in Tablelands are informed by best available science and knowledge to ensure the protection of cultural and natural assets

By 2020, our biosecurity system is integrated and risk-based with strong community involvement that minimises the establishment of exotic pests and diseases

By 2020, best practice sustainable grazing practices are increasingly taken up by the pastoral industry

By 2020, increase the involvement of the mining industry in natural resource management

By 2020, dingoes/wild dogs are strategically managed based on understanding of their impact on both pastoral and biodiversity productivity

By 2020, a Barkly Tablelands climate adaptation plan has been completed with strategies for land managers to cope with increased climate variability and extremes

Completed

On-track

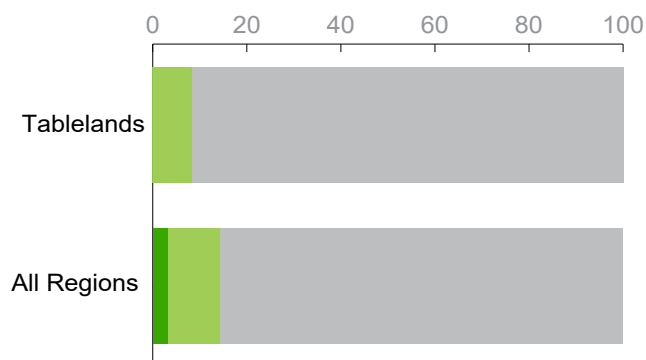
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NT Government (Land Resource Management, Primary Industries, Mines), Pastoral industry, Horticulture industry, landholders, CLC, AustGovt

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**5.1** Water resource planning and management is undertaken in consultation with multiple stakeholders, and underpinned by the best available scientific information

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.2** Increase our knowledge and resources available to understand and manage the impacts on ecosystems and groundwater from mining, pastoral, agricultural and domestic use, to ensure the best available science underpins water resource planning and management

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.3** Support training and extension services on sustainable soil management

## Objectives

By 2020, water stewardship programs are well established and ongoing planning and management processes involving diverse stakeholders are established

By 2020, our knowledge of the impacts of water use from key industrial and domestic uses of water resources has increased and a regulatory framework exists to minimise pollution of groundwater

By 2020, soil loss, soil function and land degradation are being prevented and, where necessary, addressed

Completed

On-track

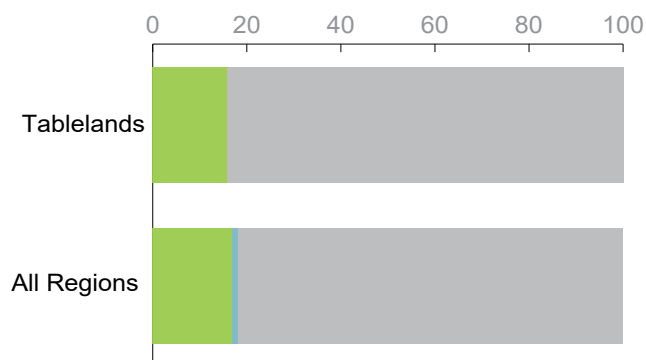
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Business enterprises, researchers, Pastoralists, Central Land Council, NT Govt. (DME), Aust. Govt (Environment), Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Aboriginal enterprises, Central Land Council, CentreFarm

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.1** Develop NRM based economic enterprises based on the harvest of native species

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.2** Develop capacity for Fee For Service opportunities of Landcare groups, Aboriginal Rangers and other NRM groups

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.3** Support projects and research to develop and participate in national, NT and regional initiatives to develop carbon market programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.4** Investigate, progress and communicate emerging primary industry and diversification economic opportunities on Aboriginal and Pastoral lands including horticulture, aquaculture and tourism

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.5** Link new and emerging opportunities with NRM stakeholders in the NT

## Objectives

By 2020, new employment and business opportunities are created based on sustainable harvest of native species

By 2020, ranger groups and other local NRM enterprises are strong and economically viable supported by a diversity of funding sources and locally based commercial opportunities

By 2020, carbon abatement opportunities are beginning to be taken in the Tablelands region

By 2020, new employment opportunities are created through diverse primary industries and on different tenures in the Tablelands

By 2020, new opportunities and new partnerships between private sector and NRM stakeholders have been developed

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

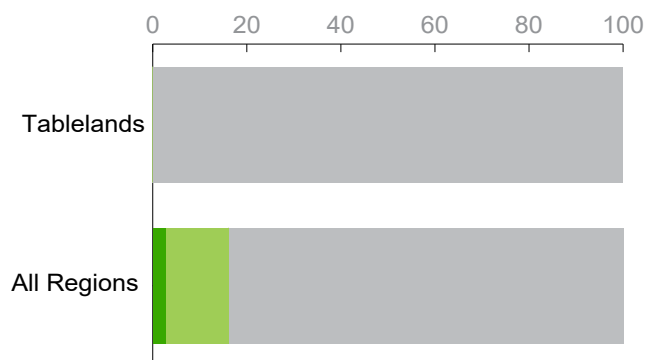
Scheduled

Not specified





### Activities status



### Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.1** Minimise the environmental footprint of main population centres in the Tablelands

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**7.2** Strengthen and consolidate environmental offset arrangements to direct offsets where they are likely to be most effective for NRM in the Tablelands

### Objectives

By 2020, Tennant Creek and other living areas in the region display improved environmental planning and management

By 2020, offsets are well directed and transparent and linked to achieving the prioritised NRM strategies of the Tablelands

### Key Collaborators

NTG (Land Resource Management), AustGovt.  
(Environment), Researchers, TNRM, Local Government

Completed

On-track

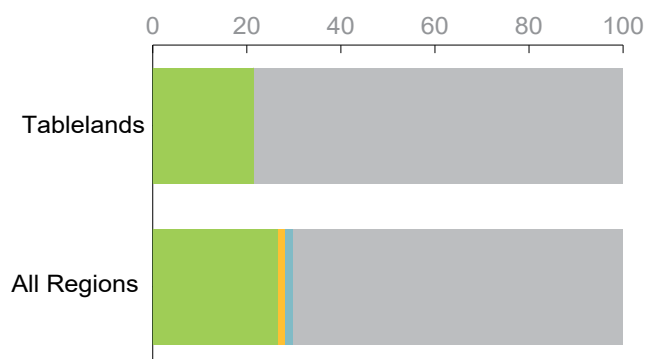
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), Central Land Council, Aust. Govt. (Environment), TNRM, BLCA, Researchers, Pastoralists, Traditional Owners

## Strategies

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**8.1** Protect conservation values of significant wetlands on the Barkly Tablelands through collaborative management and monitoring programs

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**8.2** Implement the Action Plan for threatened species in the NT (NTG) linking on-ground action to the latest knowledge

\*\* MEDIUM PRIORITY \*\*

**8.3** Develop adaptation plans to address the impacts of climate change for vulnerable ecosystems in the region

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**8.4** Support ongoing mapping and monitoring of rangeland condition using remote sensing together with field based surveys

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**8.5** Support best practice management of indigenous culturally significant sites and landscapes

## Objectives

By 2020, increase the area of high value aquatic ecosystems under active management (stewardship) for conservation (i.e. weeds, stock and ferals are managed) and increase the involvement of pastoralists in stewardship arrangements

By 2020, the approach to threatened species management is more integrated with strong links between research, monitoring and on-ground action showing progress against key indicators in the Threatened Species Action Plan

By 2020, our understanding of the impacts of climate change on ecosystem function are informing our management decisions

By 2020, rangeland condition is regularly being monitored and informing grazing management decisions

By 2020, increase the involvement of indigenous land managers and TO's in land management activities across the Tablelands

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

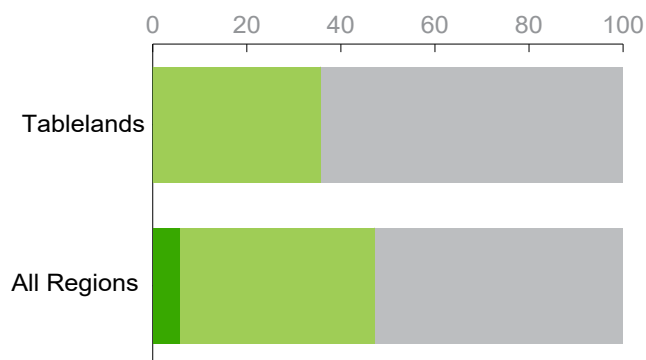
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

TNRM, BLCA, Pastoralists, NTG (DLRM, DPIF), AustGovt. (Environment & Agriculture), Research institutions, training providers, Central Land Council, Aboriginal Organisations, land holders

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.1** Strengthen Landcare and NRM networks promoting community and industry responsibility of NRM issues

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.2** Support land managers to record, utilise and share TEK, scientific research and pastoral knowledge in NRM planning and activities

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★★

**9.3** Support accredited and informal training in land management and sustainable industry practices in the Tablelands

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.4** Ongoing review of NRM outcomes facilitating adaptive management

## Objectives

By 2020, increased resources and long-term approaches to NRM issues for land managers

By 2020, Territory Natural Resource Managers are incorporating the best available knowledge, information and data into their management including TEK and community knowledge

By 2020, there is increased and more targeted training in relevant natural resource management skills

By 2020, multi-stakeholder review processes are strengthened in the Tablelands leading to adaptive management and improved practices and stakeholder cooperation

Completed

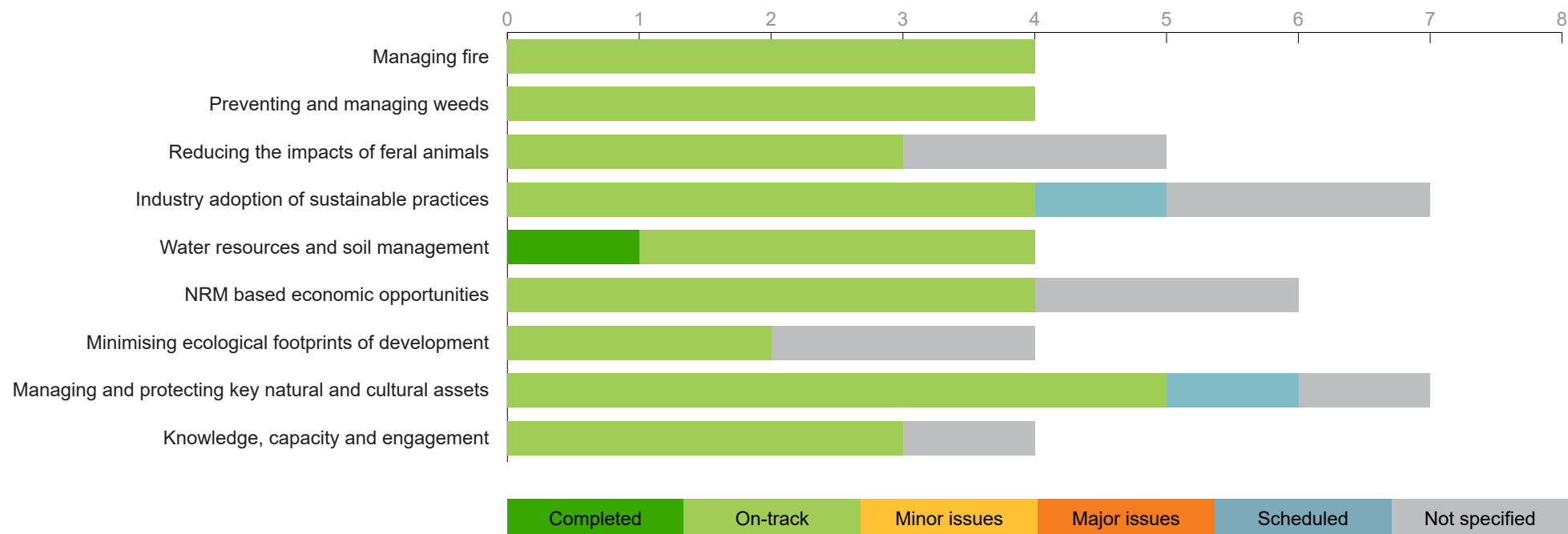
On-track

Minor issues

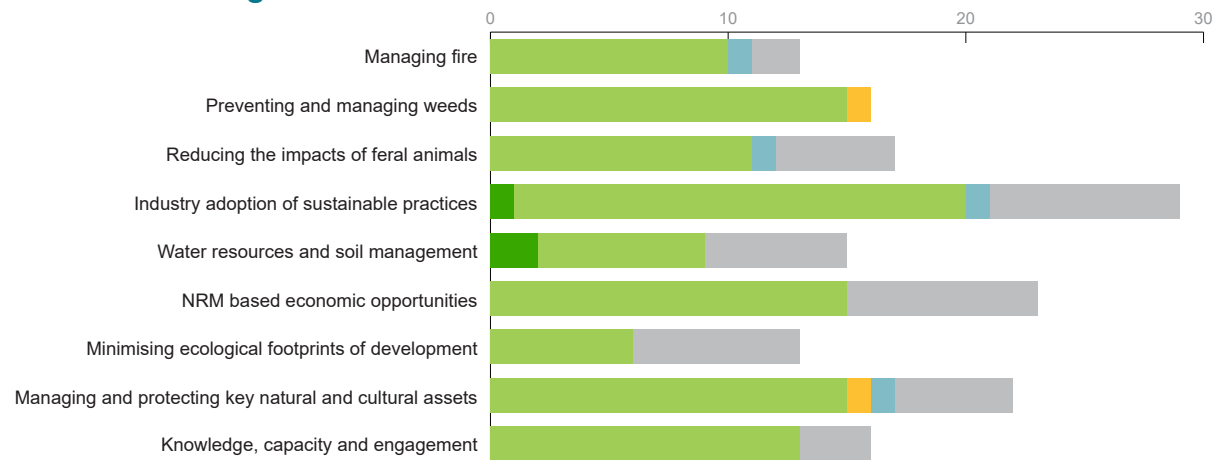
Major issues

Scheduled

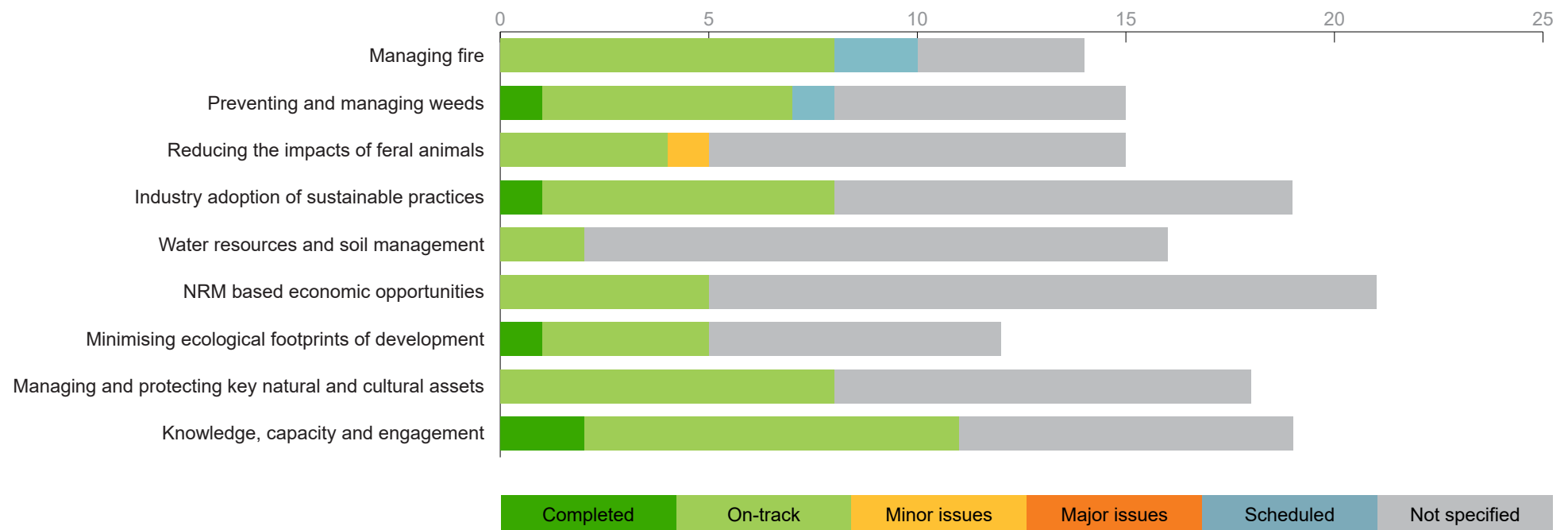
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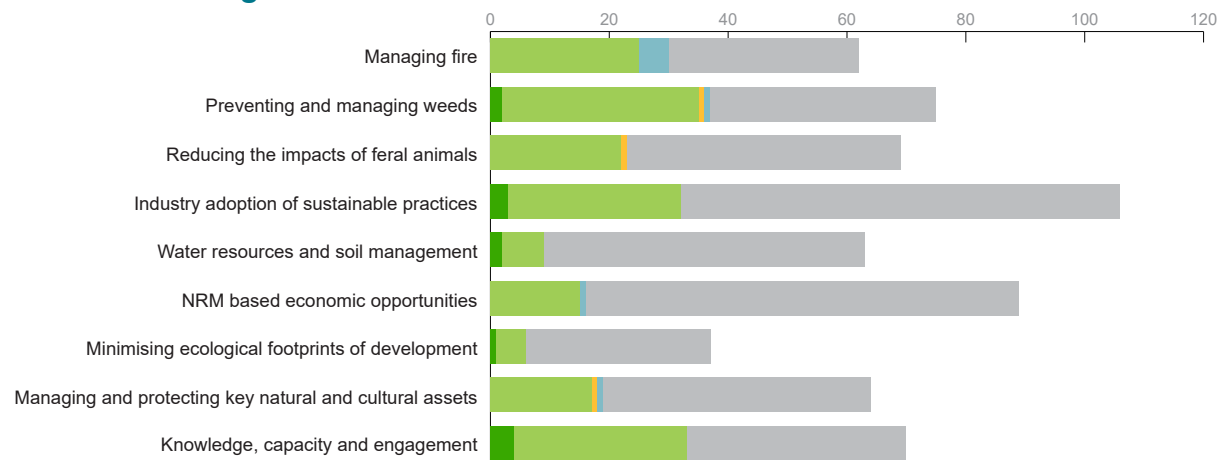
## Strategy implementation: All regions



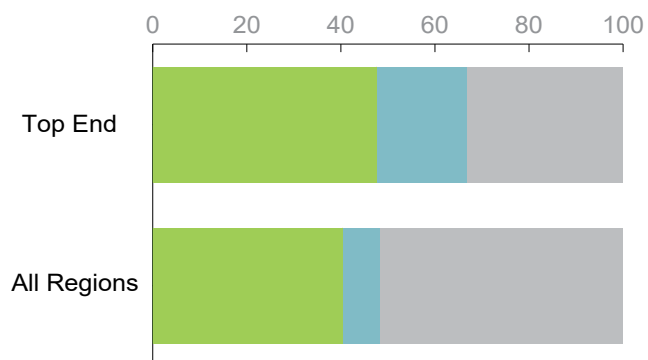




## Strategy implementation: All regions



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Western Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Program (WALFA), Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Pastoralists, NTG (Bushfires NT), North Australian Fire Information (NAFI) service, Northern Land Council, Parks and Wildlife, researchers, Landholders, Regional Shires.

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**1.1** Collaborative approaches to strategic fire management are extended across the Top End region

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.2** Increase use of spatial fire management tools, knowledge systems, safe burning practices and equipment throughout the Top End

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.3** Increase application of fire management techniques that promote biodiversity and ecosystem function and minimise risk to infrastructure and human health across the Top End

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**1.4** Promote policies and market forces that support collaborative fire management approaches that provide social/cultural benefit in the Top End

## Objectives

By 2020, fire regimes are improved in the Top End region with less Late Dry Season Fires and managed at a finer scale according to different habitat and ecosystem type

By 2020, fire is being planned and monitored using GIS and remote sensing across the entire Top End region by all stakeholders

By 2020, fire regimes are demonstrably based on knowledge of cultural, biodiversity and production values, threats and the best management options

By 2020, policies support long term fire management in the Top End through economic incentives and ongoing and consistent resourcing

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

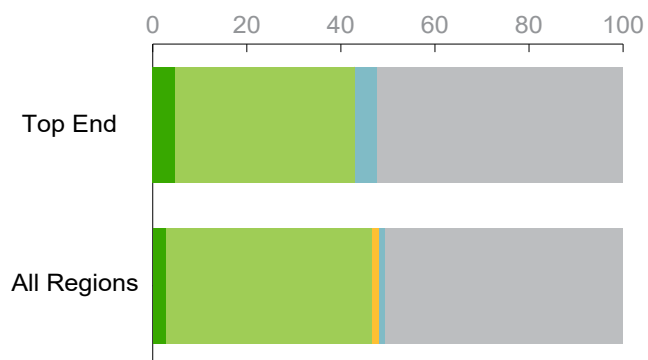
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG Weeds Branch, Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Pastoralists, Northern Land Council, Parks and Wildlife, Researchers, Defence, TMRM, Landholders, Local Government, Contractors.

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.1** Collaborative approaches for strategic control of high priority weed species are extended across the Top End

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**2.2** Prevent the introduction of new weeds and the spread of the regions priority weeds

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**2.3** Improve adaptive weed management through monitoring, research and utilising data, training and capacity building

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**2.4** Increase the regions awareness of its priorities and capacity to manage the impacts of weeds

## Objectives

By 2020, stop the spread of new incursions and contain current infestations of the regions priority weeds and alert weeds

By 2020, establish the distribution of gamba grass and confine it to stop the spread into new areas

By 2020, no new weed threats have established themselves in the Top End region

By 2020, best practice including new innovative tools are adopted throughout the region and delivering improved strategic catchment based weed management in the Top End

By 2020, land users are increasingly responsible and taking more action for weed management

Completed

On-track

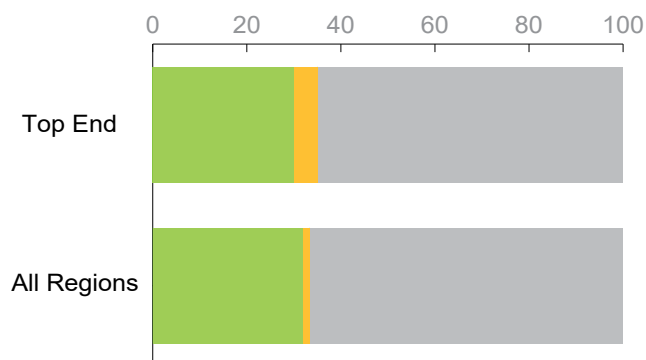
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), NTG (Parks & Wildlife Service), Northern Land Council, Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Pastoralists, Australian Quarantine Inspection Service, NTG (DPIF –Biosecurity), Landholders, Researchers, Feral Animal Contractors.

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**3.1** Strengthen regional feral management programs through coordinated and collaborative action

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.2** Use common measures and analysis to monitor, evaluate and report on and adapt the feral management program

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.3** Support research and innovation in techniques, training and motivation to control feral animals

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**3.4** Promote policies, legislation and commercial utilisation that supports objectives in collaborative feral animal control programs

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**3.5** Strengthen the coordination and delivery of Biosecurity surveillance and response to potential pest animals, insects and marine pests

## Objectives

By 2020, feral animal control programs are prioritised and targeted through an NT-wide feral animal strategy that establishes an agreed understanding of the problem, shared measurement and review of actions

By 2020, the impacts of buffalo and horse numbers is reduced from 2015 levels with ongoing control programs in place

By 2020, monitoring data is being collected from a range of sources consistently and informing strategic action in feral management programs

By 2020, innovative feral control techniques are being applied to pigs, cats and cane toads in the Top End

By 2020, cat densities are reduced particularly in sites of biodiversity and conservation value and offshore islands with healthy small mammal populations

By 2020, offshore islands in the Top End remain cane toad free

By 2020, feral animal control programs are supported through a range of legislation, policies and commercial harvest

By 2020, collaborative biosecurity programs are in place to reduce the likelihood of new pest animals becoming established in the Top End

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

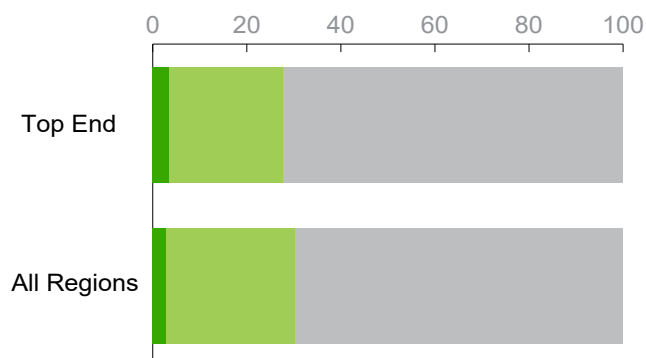
Scheduled

Not specified





## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (DPIF), TNRM, Researchers, Industry representative groups (NT Cattlemen's Assoc., NT Farmers, NT Seafood Council, NT Amateur Fishing Association, NT Minerals Council, etc.), NTG (Water Resources), NTG (DME), Aust. Govt. (Agriculture), Northern Land Council

## Strategies

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**4.1** Engage with industry to encourage sustainable approaches to developing the north policies and programs

\*\* MEDIUM PRIORITY \*\*

**4.2** Ensure resources are increased for biosecurity support services in line with increased agricultural development

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**4.3** Support best practice grazing management through delivery of regional monitoring programs and promoting practices that promote both productivity and ecological outcomes

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**4.4** Support best practice horticulture and broad scale agriculture through knowledge sharing, adoption of new technology and training and innovation

\*\* MEDIUM PRIORITY \*\*

**4.5** Support ecologically sustainable fisheries management through monitoring and improved technology

\*\*\* HIGH PRIORITY \*\*\*

**4.6** Support and promote partnerships between the NRM community and the mining industry regarding mine rehabilitation and offset programs

\*\* MEDIUM PRIORITY \*\*

**4.7** Develop and implement a forestry management and assessment framework

\*\* MEDIUM PRIORITY \*\*

**4.8** Carry out adaptation planning on the likely impacts of climate change with industry

## Objectives

By 2020, policies and programs for development in the Top End are informed by best available science and knowledge to ensure the protection of cultural and natural assets

By 2020, our biosecurity system is integrated and risk-based with strong community involvement that minimises the establishment of exotic pests and diseases

By 2020, increase skills and knowledge of land managers to implement sustainable grazing practices

By 2020, industry driven horticultural extension programs developing understanding of ecosystems and sustainable management are delivered in the NT

By 2020, fishing stocks continue to be healthy and data collection and analysis is improved and informing fisheries management

By 2020, increase the involvement of the mining industry in natural resource management

By 2020, plantation forestry activities are more regulated and adopting best practice

By 2020, industry targeted climate adaptation plans have been completed with strategies for natural resource industries to cope with increased climate variability and extremes

Completed

On-track

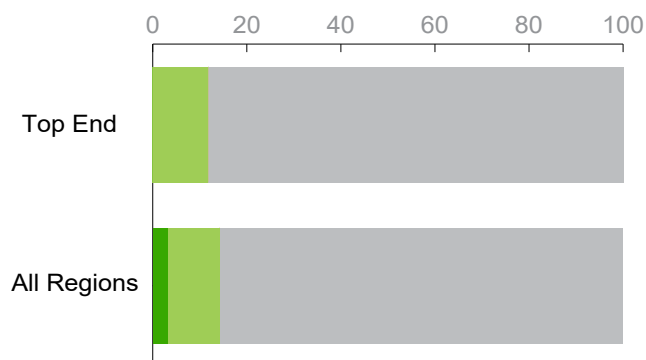
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

NTG (Water Resources), NTG (DPIF), NTG (DME), TNRM, Researchers, Industry representative groups (NT Cattlemen's Assoc., NT Farmers, NT Minerals Council, etc.), Aust. Govt (Environment & Agriculture), Northern Land Council, Horticultural industry, Northern Environmental Science Program

## Strategies

★★★★ VERY HIGH PRIORITY ★★★★★

**5.1** Water resource planning and management is undertaken in collaboration with a diverse range of stakeholders based on an equitable and transparent process

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.2** Increase our knowledge and resources available to understand and manage the impacts on ecosystems and groundwater from mining, pastoral, agricultural and domestic use

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**5.3** Support training and extension services on sustainable soil management

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**5.4** Identify areas with potential for agricultural development through assessments of soil and water resources

## Objectives

By 2020, water resources are managed and monitored with input from all stakeholders through a Water Allocation Framework which includes monitoring and ensures that cultural, environmental and production values are maintained

By 2020, our knowledge of the impacts of water use from key industrial and domestic uses of water resources has increased and a regulatory framework exists to minimise pollution of groundwater

By 2020, soil loss, soil function and land degradation are being prevented and, where necessary, addressed

By 2020, areas for agricultural development have been identified with thorough understanding on limitations of soil and water resources

Completed

On-track

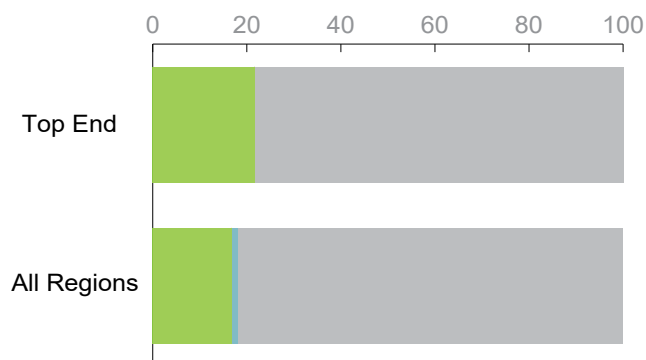
Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Researchers, Northern Land Council, Pastoralists, NTG (DME), Aboriginal Ranger Groups, Aust. Govt. (Environment -Emissions Reduction Fund), AustGovt. (PMC –Indigenous Programs), Private enterprise, NTG (DPIF).

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.1** Develop NRM based economic enterprises based on the harvest of native species

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.2** Develop capacity for Fee For Service opportunities for local NRM groups

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.3** Support projects and research to develop and participate in national, NT and regional initiatives to develop carbon market programs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.4** Investigate, progress and communicate emerging primary industry and diversification economic opportunities on Aboriginal and Pastoral lands including horticulture, aquaculture and tourism

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**6.5** Link new and emerging opportunities with NRM stakeholders in the NT

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**6.6** Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables

## Objectives

By 2020, new employment and business opportunities are created based on sustainable harvest of native species

By 2020, ranger groups and other local NRM enterprises are strong and economically viable supported by a diversity of funding sources and locally based commercial opportunities

By 2020, NRM stakeholders have increased their participation in carbon market programs

By 2020, new employment opportunities through diverse primary industries and on different tenures in the NT

By 2020, new opportunities and new partnerships between private sector and NRM stakeholders have been developed

By 2020, the renewables and environment sector is contributing more to the Top End economy than 2015

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

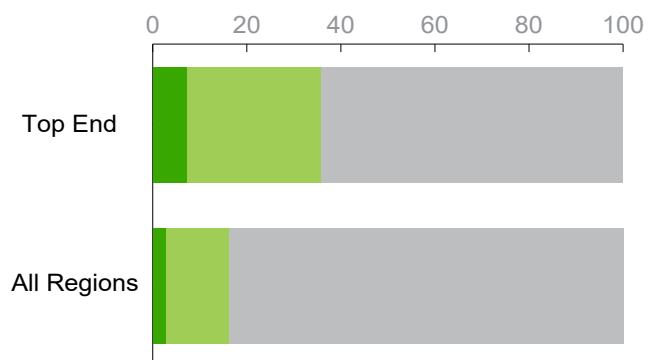
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



### Activities status



### Key Collaborators

NTG (DLRM), NTG (DLPE), Local Government (Shires), Darwin and Palmerston City Council, NT Environment Protection Agency, NT Environment Centre, NTG (DME), TNRM, Research institutions, Northern Land Council, Environment NGO's

### Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.1** Minimise the environmental footprint of urban and peri-urban development of the Greater Darwin area

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.2** Assess current hazardous substance handling and emergency response procedures and improve where necessary

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**7.3** Strengthen and consolidate environmental offset arrangements to direct offsets where they are likely to be most effective

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**7.4** Minimise the impact of tourism on the environment through the adoption and promotion of sustainable initiatives

### Objectives

By 2020, development of urban and regional centres adheres to best practice principles of Ecologically Sustainable Developments

By 2020, the entry of toxic chemical into the environment from commercial activities has been reduced

By 2020, offsets are well directed and transparent and linked to achieving the prioritised NRM strategies of the NT

By 2020, there is increased environmental awareness by recreational users of natural resources and visitors to the Top End and practical solutions are implemented to reduce these impacts

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

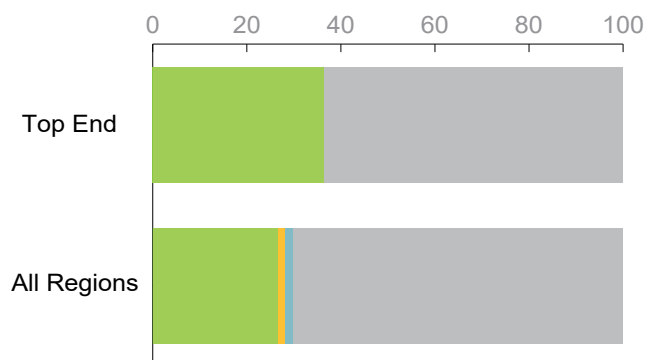
Scheduled

Not specified





## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Research institutions, TNRM, Pastoralists, NTG (DLRM), NTG (Parks and Wildlife), Parks Australia, Sacred Sites Authority (AAPA), Traditional Owners, Northern Land Council, Landholders

## Strategies

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.1** Develop and implement management programs for Sites of Conservation Significance in the Top End

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.2** Implement the Action Plan for threatened species in the NT (NTG) linking on ground action to the latest knowledge

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.3** Facilitate stewardship of high value conservation areas through schemes such as Territory Conservation Agreements and Indigenous Protected Areas

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.4** Continue and extend marine habitat and key species mapping to inform planning, management and monitoring

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.5** Develop and implement a strategic plan to address preventable saltwater intrusion into Coastal SoCs

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**8.6** Develop adaptation plans for the impacts of climate change for vulnerable ecosystems in the Top End

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**8.7** Support best practice management of Aboriginal culturally significant sites and landscapes

## Objectives

By 2020, the majority of Sites of Conservation significance have management plans being implemented

By 2020, the approach to threatened species management is more integrated with strong links between research, monitoring and on-ground action showing progress against key indicators in the Threatened Species Action Plan

By 2020, increase the involvement of Aboriginal people with Indigenous Protected Areas and pastoralists in conservation stewardship arrangements

By 2020, marine habitat and key species knowledge has improved and is informing development decisions

By 2020, saltwater intrusion threats to Sites of Conservation Significance have been identified, along with prioritised strategies for addressing them

By 2020, our understanding of the impacts of climate change on ecosystem function informs management

By 2020, increased involvement of Aboriginal land managers and Traditional Owners in managing culturally significant sites and landscapes.

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

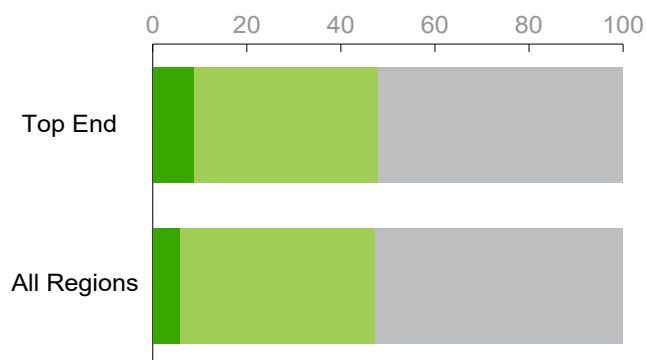
Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified



## Activities status



## Key Collaborators

Landcare groups, TNRM, Philanthropic sector, CDU, Batchelor Institute, Private training providers, Research Institutions, Northern Land Council, Industry representative groups, Pastoralists, NTG, Aust. Govt. (Environment)

## Strategies

★★★ HIGH PRIORITY ★★★

**9.1** Support land managers to record, utilise and share scientific research, TEK and pastoral knowledge in NRM planning and management activities

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.2** Strengthen networks and partnerships between NRM stakeholders including supporting the development of new partnerships with industry and philanthropic organisations and promoting community and industry responsibility of NRM issues

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.3** Support accredited and informal training in land management and sustainable industry practices

★★ MEDIUM PRIORITY ★★

**9.4** Ongoing review of NRM outcomes facilitating adaptive management

## Objectives

By 2020, Territory Natural Resource Managers are incorporating the best available knowledge, information and data into their management including TEK and community knowledge

By 2020, increased resources and long-term approaches to NRM issues for people managing land

By 2020, there is increased and more targeted training in relevant natural resource management skills

By 2020, multi-stakeholder review processes are strengthened in the NT leading to adaptive management and improved practices and stakeholder cooperation

Completed

On-track

Minor issues

Major issues

Scheduled

Not specified

