



Review: landscapes, beef and budgets

**Territory NRM Conference
2018**



Key findings

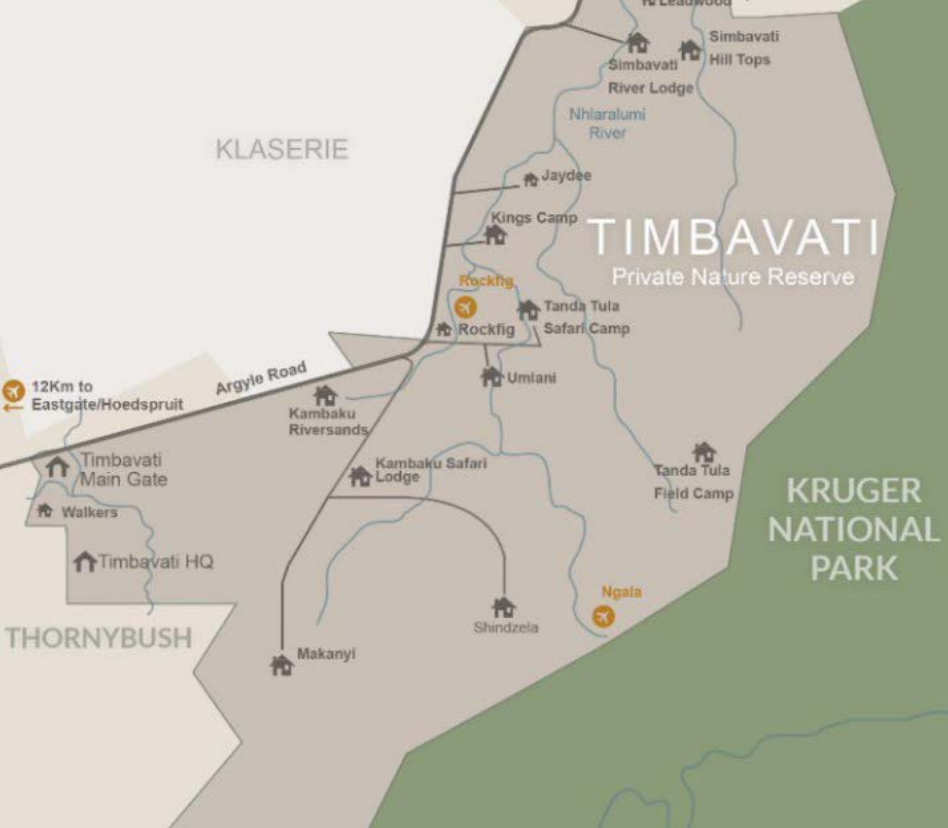
- **Territory Conservation Agreements work**
- **Low cost way of getting pastoral estate engaged**
- **Chance to scale up, eagerness of pastoralists to be involved**



Park, reserve, stewardship, private conservation ... by any other name?

- **Many different types**
- **Can be government, community, commercially or privately owned**
- **Objectives are widely varied and change over time – all about \$\$**





Private Protected Areas

- **Around 50 definitions in use**
- **Have been in existence for more than 200 years**
- **Objectives are widely varied and change over time**



Huge capacity within the pastoral industry for conservation

- Large areas under management by one person, family or company
- Plenty of equipment (graders, dozers and gear) and very hard workers
- Every decision is 'on-the-ground'



Territory NRM: Territory Conservation Agreements

- Designed in the NT – size/scale**
- Started in 2011 – currently 47, supported through funding from the Australian Government**
- Expression of Interest, Co-investment, 10-year management plan and monitoring**



ALTERNATE WATERING POINTS

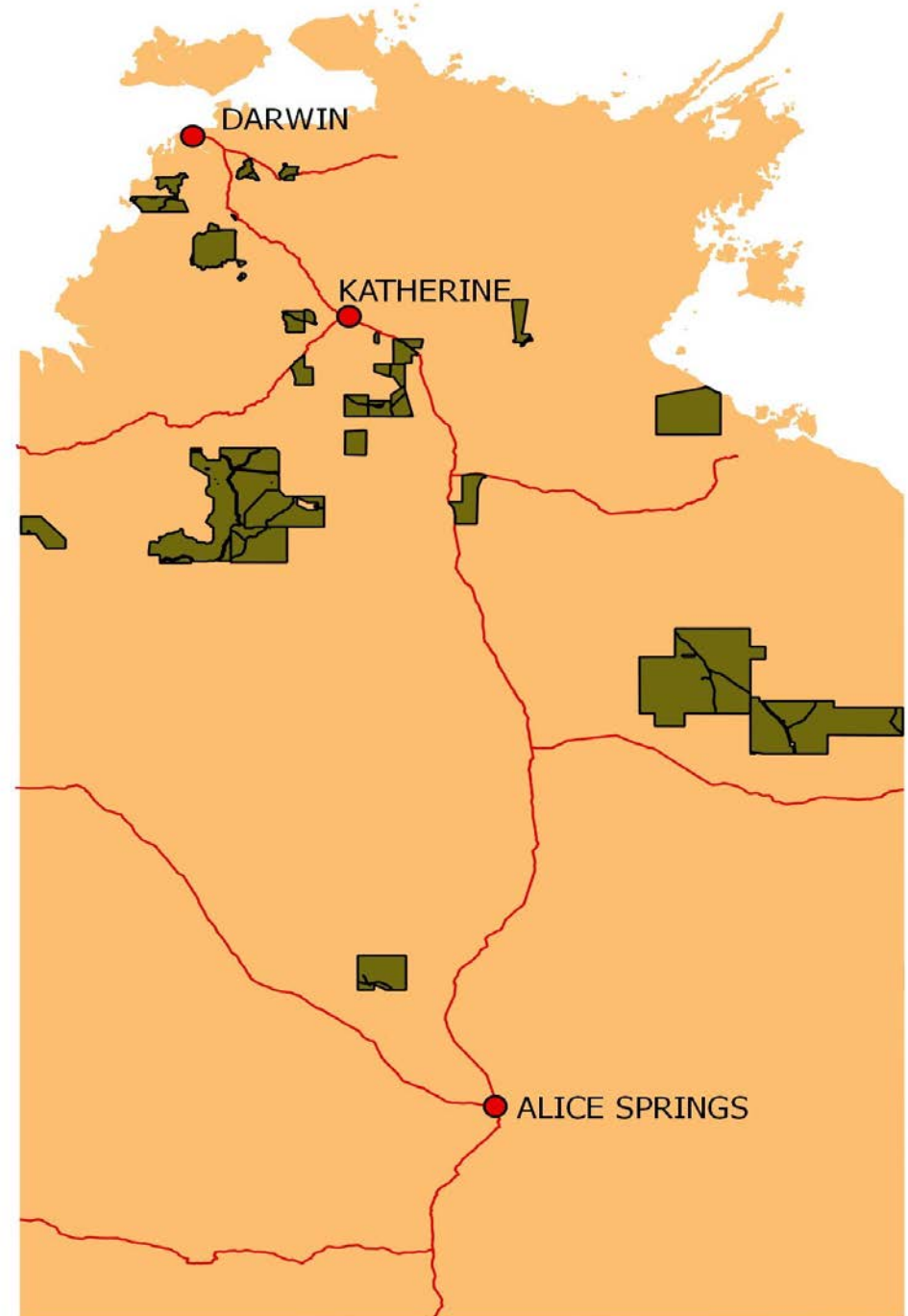
FENCING

SEASONAL SPELLING



Northern Territory – Landscapes, beef and budgets

- Pastoral properties with TCAs cover more than 5 million hectares
- Only a few managers covering the area



This review of TCAs:

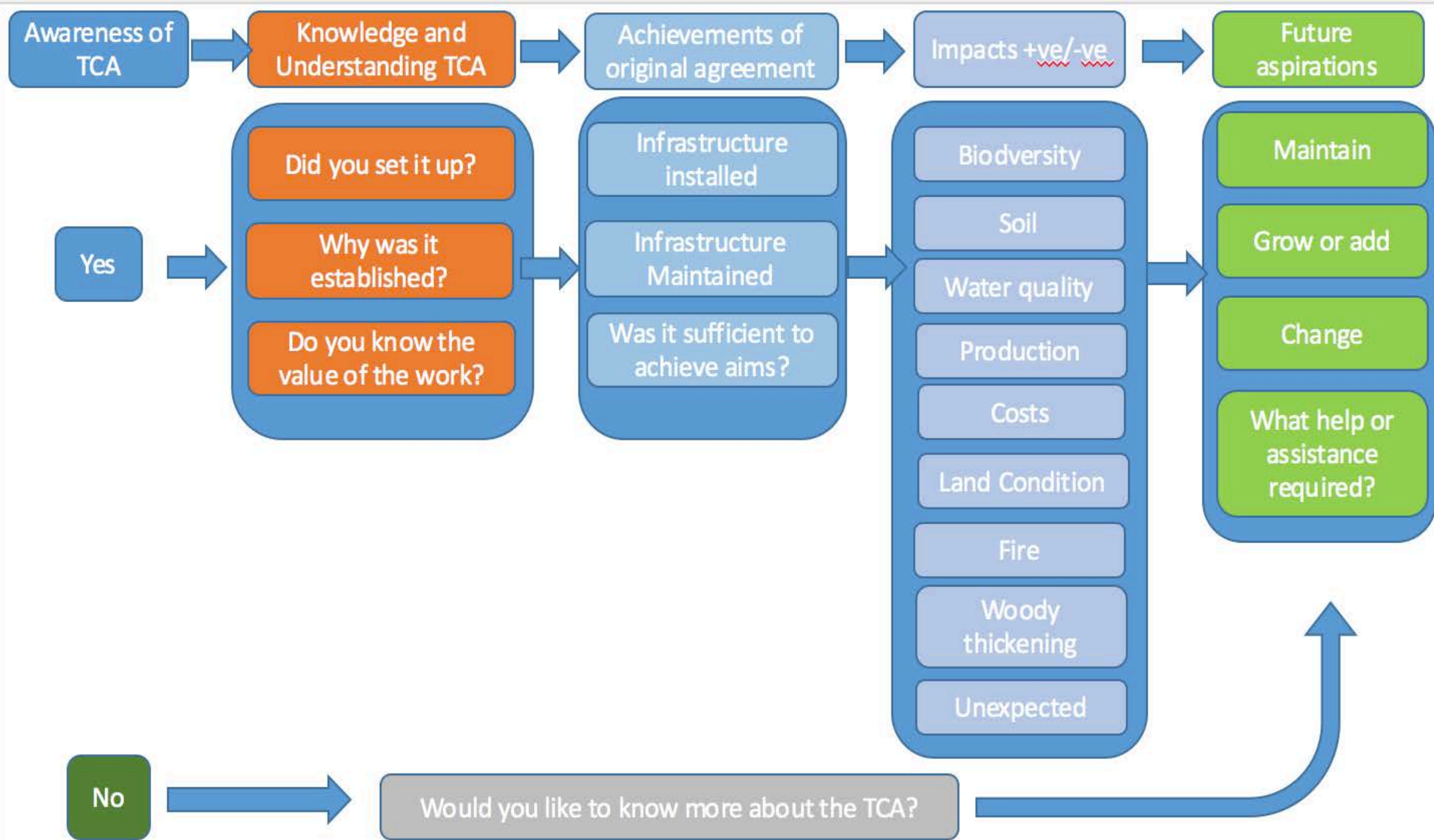
- Review management plans
- Initial phone-call
- Site visit
- Face-to-face interviews



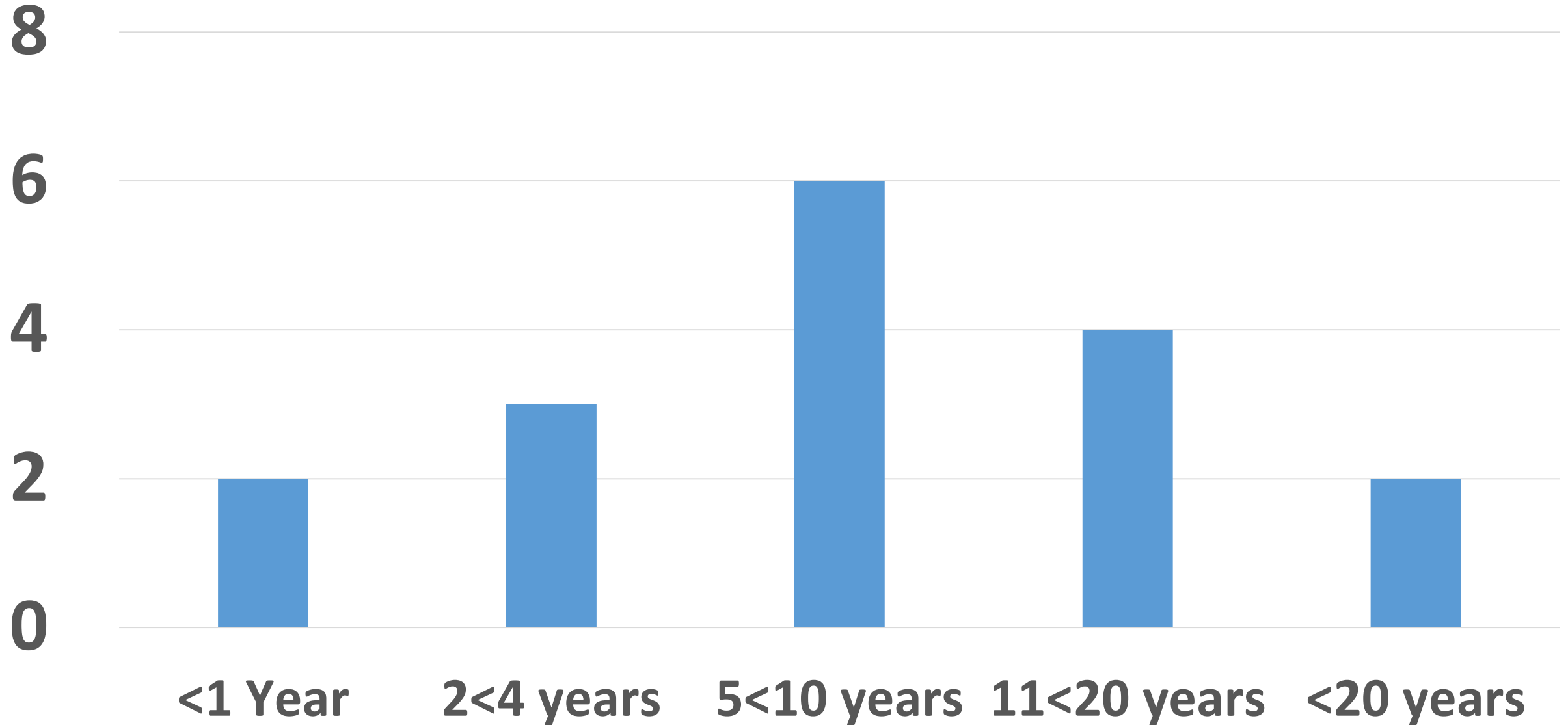
Key review questions

- 1. Have TCA's been maintained?**
- 2. Do new/different managers understand the TCA's?**
- 3. Has the conservation outcomes gone beyond the fence?**





How years have you been manager?



- **No properties had left the Territory NRM TCA program**
- **100% of participants felt the infrastructure worked in the way that it was meant to**
- **88% of participants felt that production on the station had improved following the establishment of the TCA**

Environment:

“No negatives have been found from being involved in the program. Seeing and learning more about the species in the area has been positive.”



Water:

“Where the waterholes have been fenced off we’ve seen an improvement in the water quality. The riparian zone is in better condition and filters the water on the way into the swamp.”



Production benefits:

“The TCA, and the smaller paddocks have cut back our mustering costs so it is real money that we are saving. It is maybe 20-30 hours of helicopter time so it is a lot of money.”



Commitment:

“We are committed to the process. In theory we could have saved \$30k by using the TCA instead of paying for agistment. We took the long term view.”



Future:

- Participants are keen to keep going
- Option to strengthen and build on the network
- Continue to seek investment



Thanks



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