



VISION

66 Territorians working together to manage our environment's natural, cultural and economic values for the benefit of all. 99

FOR MORE INFORMATION

This publication is available on request through contacting info@territorynrm.org.au

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CONTENTS

NORTHERN TERRITORY NRM PLAN REVIEW 2018

2	Reading	the	repor

3

5

8

9

12

14

16

18

Plan process and summary

What is in the plans?

Regional Plan Programs

6 Northern Territory

Community Survey - Key results

All strategy and activity progress

Program strategy and Activity Progress

10 Regions Progress

11 Findings and recommendations

Arid Lands - Strategy and Activity implementation

Tablelands - Strategy and Activity Implementation

Gulf Savanna - Strategy and Activity Implementation

Top End - Strategy and Implementation

20 Detailed reports for each region



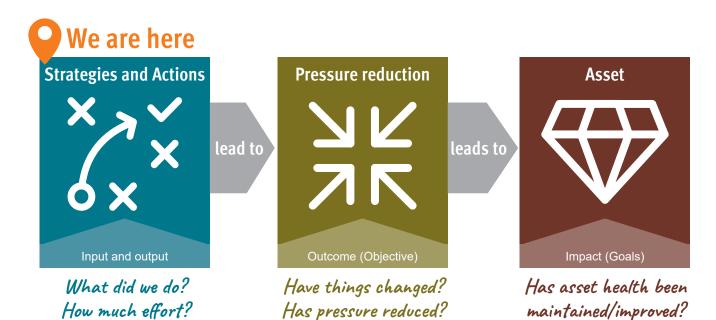
READING THE REPORT

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

PLAN PROCESS AND SUMMARY



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.

Review of 2010-2015 NRM Plan

2 Regional Workshops

Meetings with Local/Regional Experts

4 Expert and Sector Input

NT-wide Prioritisation Workshop

6 Public Comment

7 Publication

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.

Implementation

Year 1: Strategies and Actions

Year 2: + Milestones

Year 3: + Objectives

Year 4: Goals

Year 5: Evaluation

Next version





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



People on Country



Community Knowledge



Coastal and Marine



Freshwater Systems



Healthy Soils



Grasslands/ Rangelands



Cultural Landscapes and Sites



Biodiversity and Conservation Sites



Ranges

Pressures

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



Loss of Knowledge and Access



Feral Animals



Mining and Energy Production



Inappropriate Fire Regimes



Recreation and Other Activities



Invasive Plants



Primary Industries



Pollution



Climate Change and Severe Weather

Programs

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

- Managing Fire
- Preventing and Managing Weeds
- Reducing the Impacts of Feral Animals
- Industry Adoption of Sustainable Practices

- Water Resources and Soil Management
- 6 NRM Based Economic Opportunities
- Minimising Ecological Footprints of Development

- 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.

Background

Strategies

Priority Activities

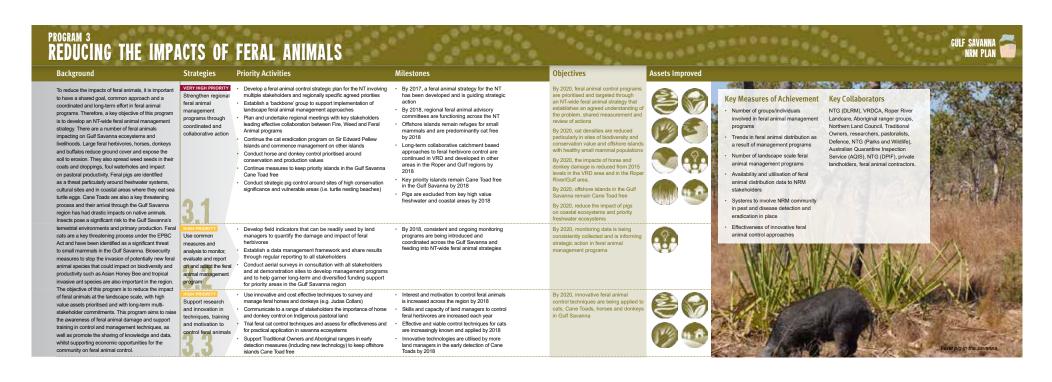
Milestones

Objectives

Assets Improved

Key Measures Of Achievement

Key Collaborators



NORTHERN TERRITORY

Approach

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

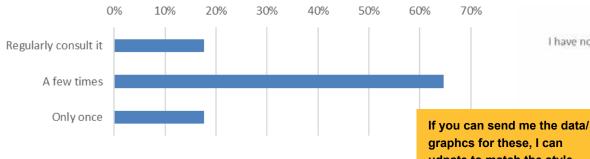
The results will be 'fed back' into the next work program based on the plan and the plan updated to reflect this process before the next review.

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

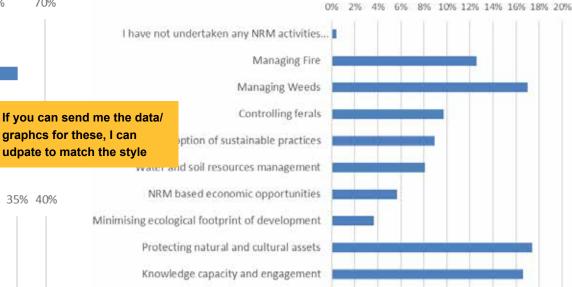
COMMUNITY SURVEY - KEY RESULTS



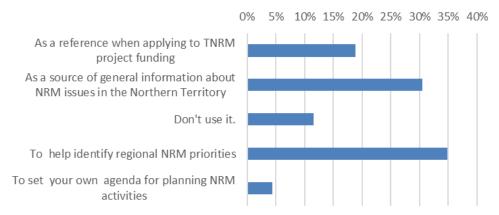




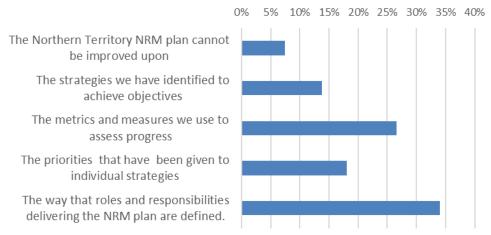




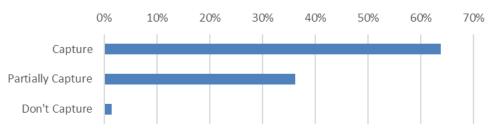
How do you use the NT NRM plan 2016-2020?



What aspects of the Northern Territory NRM plan (2016-2020) do you think we could improve upon?



To what extent do you think the 9 programs identified in the plan capture the overall NRM priorities for the Northern Territory?



ALL STRATEGY AND ACTIVITY PROGRESS

Looking across all Programs, Strategies and Activities in all plans shows that most (73%) of Strategies are being pursued, with the remainder yet to be addressed. This is likely to be due to timing, and is reasonable to expect at this stage of plan implementation (1 year in).

Although the degree of implementation for the actions is less (33%) this is to be expected given that, while Strategies have been started, there are many Activities within them and so it would be expected the level of implementation would be less. Nevertheless, it is still positive that after a year a third of the actions are being implemented.

The small degree of Minor Issues probably reflects again the early stage of implementation.



Strategy Progress: All regions



Activity Progress: All regions

Completed 3% On-track 67% Scheduled 2%

Not specified 2%



PROGRAM STRATEGY AND ACTIVITY PROGRESS



Completed On-track Minor issues Major issues Scheduled Not specified

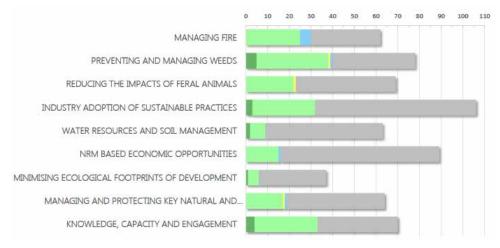
Program Strategy Progress

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

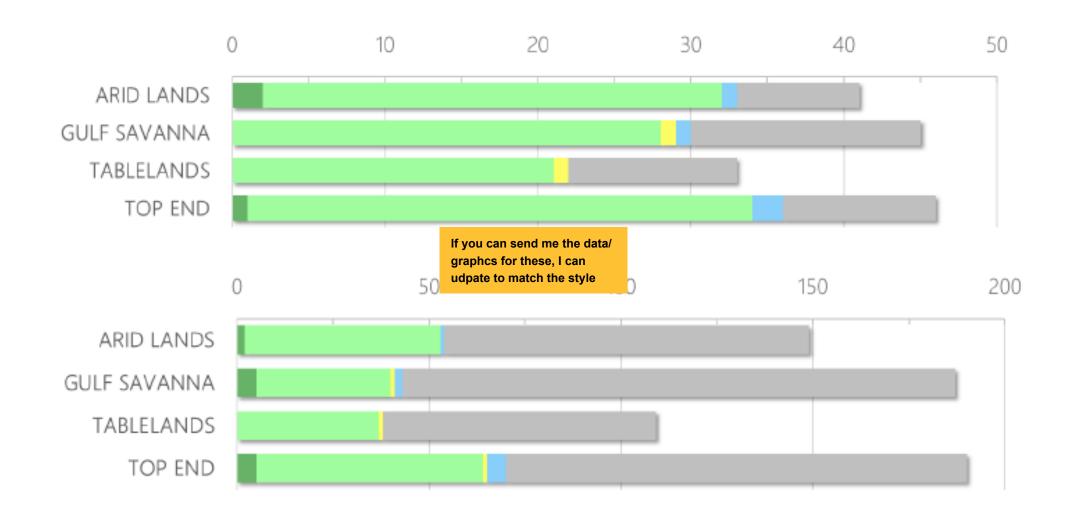
Looking a the implementation of Activities, there has been some progress in all Programs. As for Strategies, given the early stage of implementation of the Plan there are not yet any clear areas of concern.



REGIONS PROGRESS

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





FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



Findings

- The NRM plan has been generally well received during its first year in implementation.
- But there is some room for improvement and some lessons to be learned-which we'll focus on in the next review.
- People are utilising the plan in different ways around the Territory.
- There still needs to be work done with all stakeholders to identify responsibility for delivery of Strategies and Activities, and monitoring.
- This will become a more significant issue as the review cycle moves into outcomes.
- Stakeholders broadly agreed with assessment of progress, noting that some areas that TNRM had recorded as having little progress were progressing
- There has not been as much focus on Water
 Resource Management and Minimising the Impacts of
 Development as there has been on some of the more
 applied areas of activity (eg managing fire)
- Did not appear to be any areas of concern (Minor or Major issues) that require particular focus at this stage.

Recommendations

- A number of recommendations from stakeholders for revision of Objectives will be incorporated into the next version of the plan
- Next review will need to focus on Outcomes, not outputs, and focus on specific indicators



ARID LANDS - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION



Strategy implementation: All regions

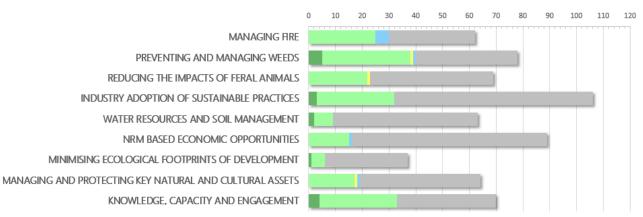


ARID LANDS - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION





Activity implementation: All regions



TABLELANDS - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

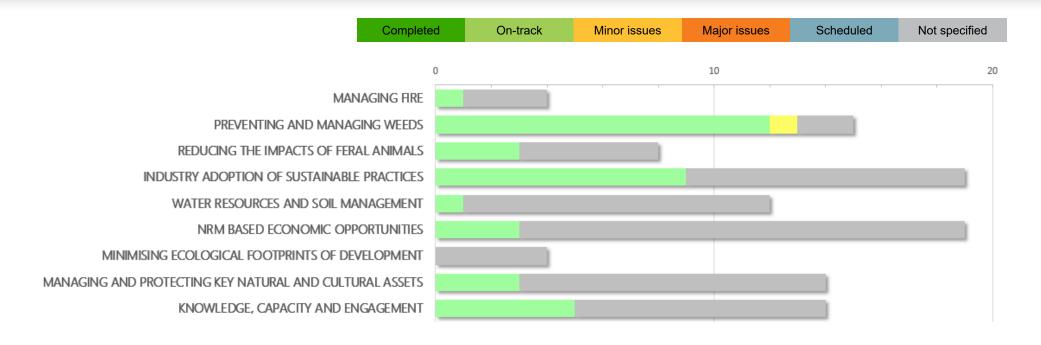


Strategy implementation: All regions

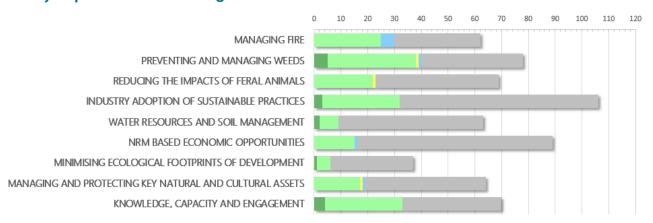


TABLELANDS - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

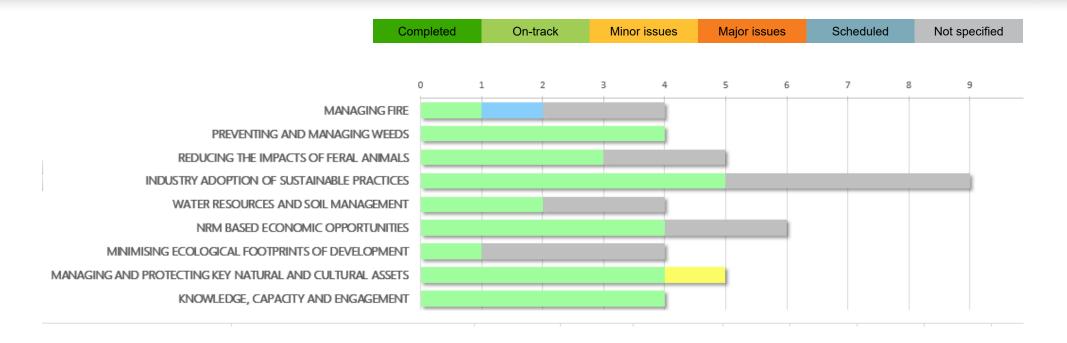




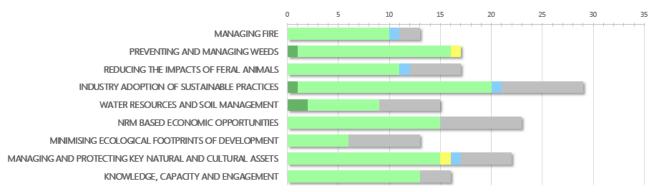
Activity implementation: All regions



GULF SAVANNA - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION



Strategy implementation: All regions

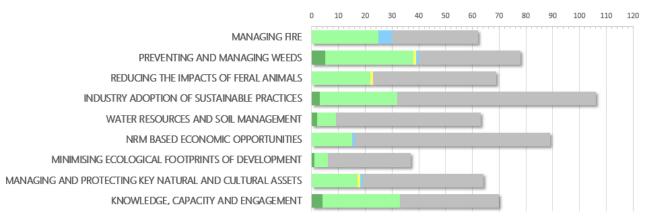


GULF SAVANNA - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION





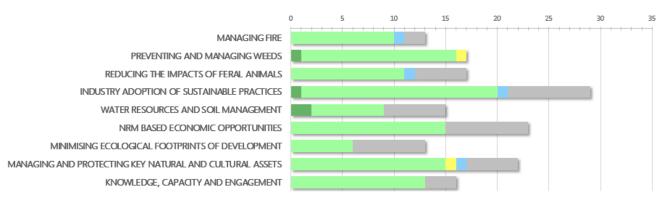
Activity implementation: All regions



TOP END - STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION



Strategy implementation: All regions

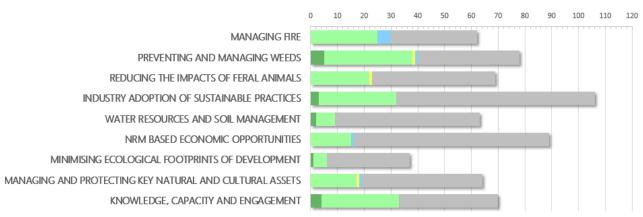


TOP END - ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

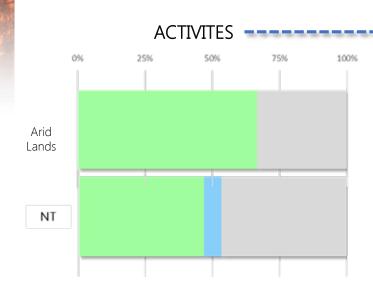




Activity implementation: All regions



ARID LANDS MANAGING FIRE



KEY COLLABORATORS

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

----- STRATEGIES ----- OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 Collaborative approaches to strategic fire management are extended across the Arid Lands region
- 1.2 Increase use of spatial fire management tools, knowledge systems, safe burning practices and equipment throughout the Arid Lands
- 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
- 1.4 Promote policies and market forces that support collaborative fire management approaches that provide social/cultural benefit in Arid Lands

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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

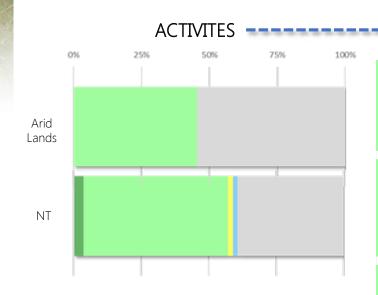
Completed

On-Track

Minor Issues

Major Issues

Scheduled



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 ----- OBJECTIVES

2.1 Adopt collaborative approaches to weed management in the Arid Lands

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

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

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

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

REDUCING FERAL ANIMAL IMPACTS

Arid Lands NT

KEY COLLABORATORS

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

Minor Issues

Not Specified

3.1 Strengthen regional feral management programs through coordinated and collaborative action

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

Н

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

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

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

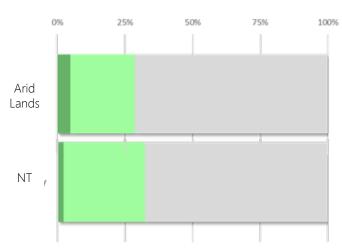
By 2020, monitoring data is being collected from a range of sources consistently and informing strategic action in feral management programs

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





KEY COLLABORATORS

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

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

N

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

M

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

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

Completed

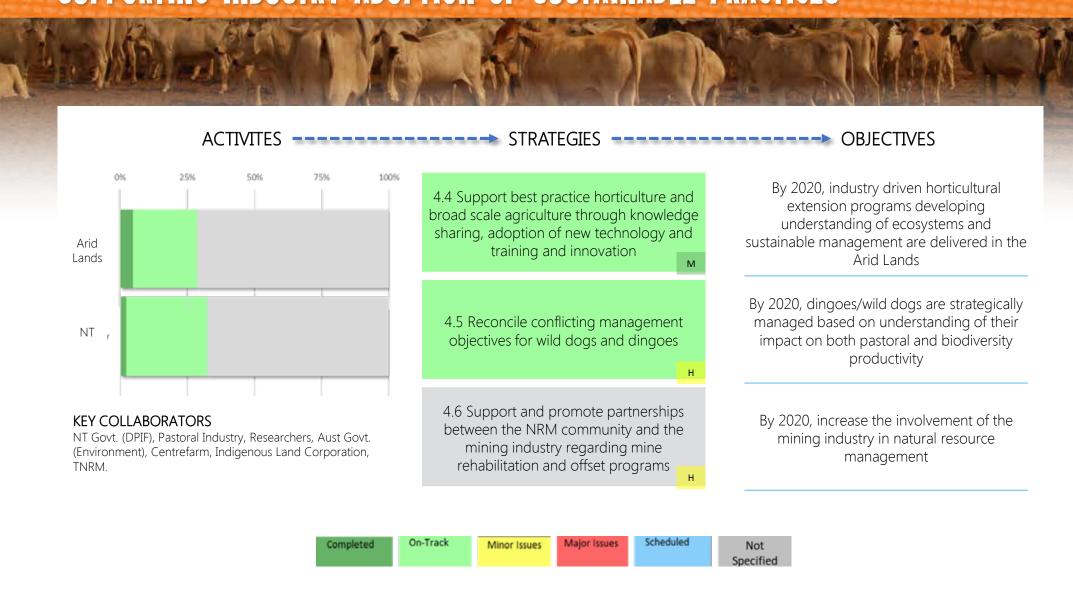
On-Track

Minor Issues

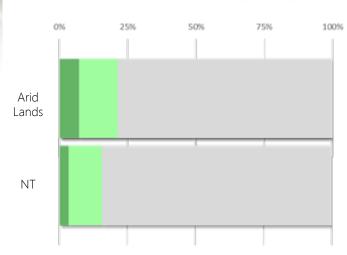
Major Issues

Scheduled

SUPPORTING INDUSTRY ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES







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.

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

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

5.3 Support training and extension services on sustainable soil management M

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

By 2020, water resources that have a moderate to high level of development relative to the water available for development (in consideration of nonconsumptive 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

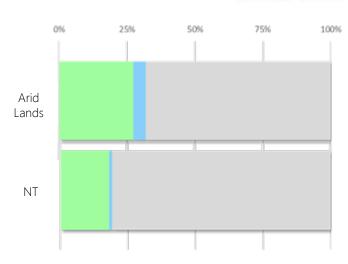
Minor Issues

Major Issues

Scheduled

NRM BASED ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES





KEY COLLABORATORS

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

- 6.1 Develop NRM based economic enterprises based on the harvest of native species
- 6.2 Develop capacity for Fee For Service opportunities of Landcare groups, Aboriginal Rangers and other NRM groups
- 6.3 Support projects and research to develop and participate in national, NT and regional initiatives to develop carbon market programs
- 6.4 Investigate, progress and communicate emerging primary industry and diversification economic opportunities on Aboriginal and Pastoral lands including horticulture, aquaculture and tourism H
- 6.5 Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables M
- 6.6 Investigate and support development opportunities from new environmental technologies and renewables

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

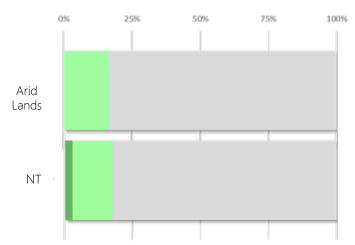
Scheduled



7.1 Minimise the environmental footprint of

the major population centres in the Arid

Lands



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

KEY COLLABORATORS NTG (DLRM), TNRM, Central Land Council, Researchers, Aust

Govt. (Environment), Local Government, Arid Lands Environment Centre, landholders

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

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

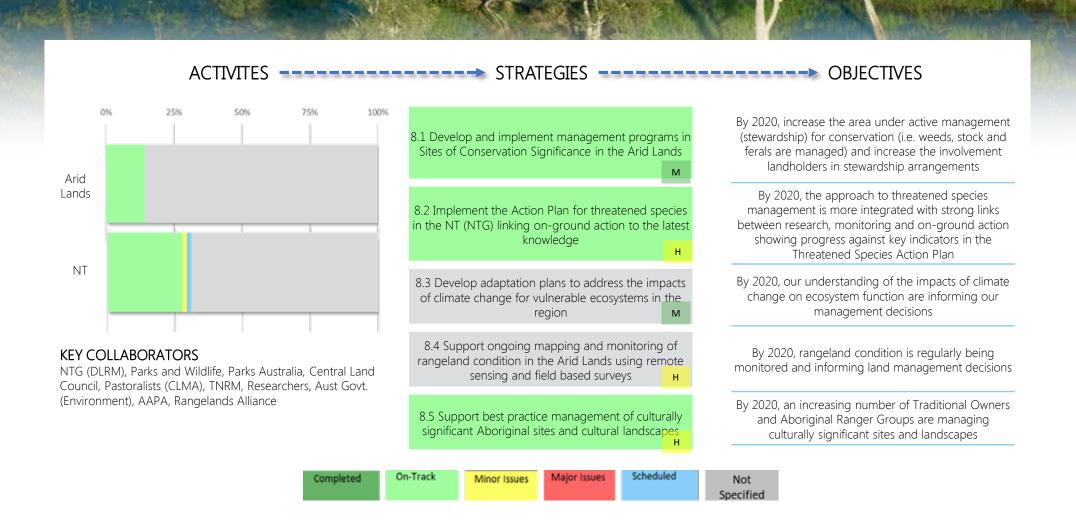
On-Track

Minor Issues

Major Issues

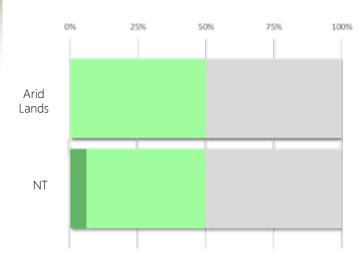
Scheduled

MANAGING AND PROTECTING KEY NATURAL AND CULTURAL ASSETS





ACTIVITES ---- OBJECTIVES



KEY COLLABORATORS

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

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

- 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.
- 9.3 Support accredited and informal training in land management and sustainable industry practices in the Arid Lands
 - 9.4 Ongoing review of NRM outcomes facilitating adaptive management

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