



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

Range State Meeting on the Single Species Action Plan for Hawksbill Turtle in South-East and Western Pacific

Australia



Dr Karen Arthur

31 May 2022

Australian Delegation

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment



Narelle Montgomery



Karen Arthur



Arnikah Dean



Prof Mark Hamann
James Cook University





Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Hawksbill turtle are listed as Threatened and Migratory → Matter of National Environmental Significance

It is an offense to:

- Kill, injure, take or move Hawksbill in a Commonwealth Area
- Have a significant impact on the listed species

State & territory legislation

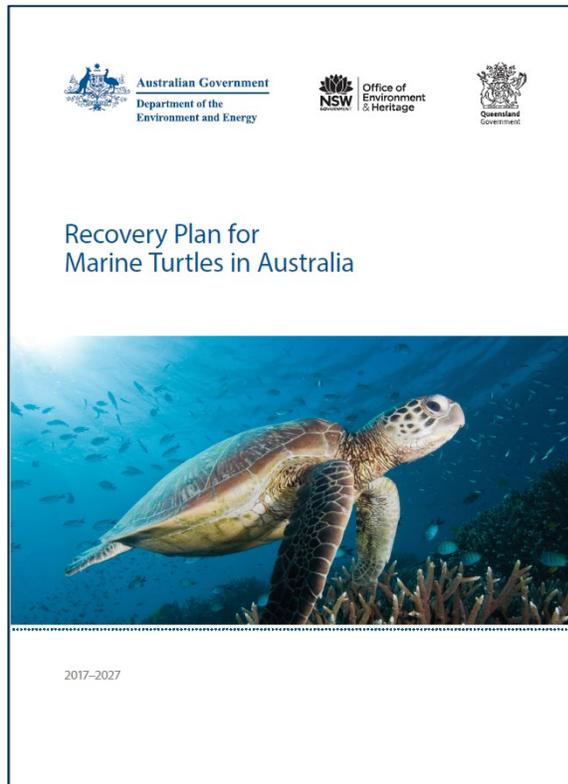
Native Title Act 1993

Native Title holders are not prohibited or restricted from exercising Native Title Rights for personal, domestic and non-commercial communal needs.

Hawksbills managed under Law and Lore

Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia

Provides the overarching framework for managing marine turtles in Australia



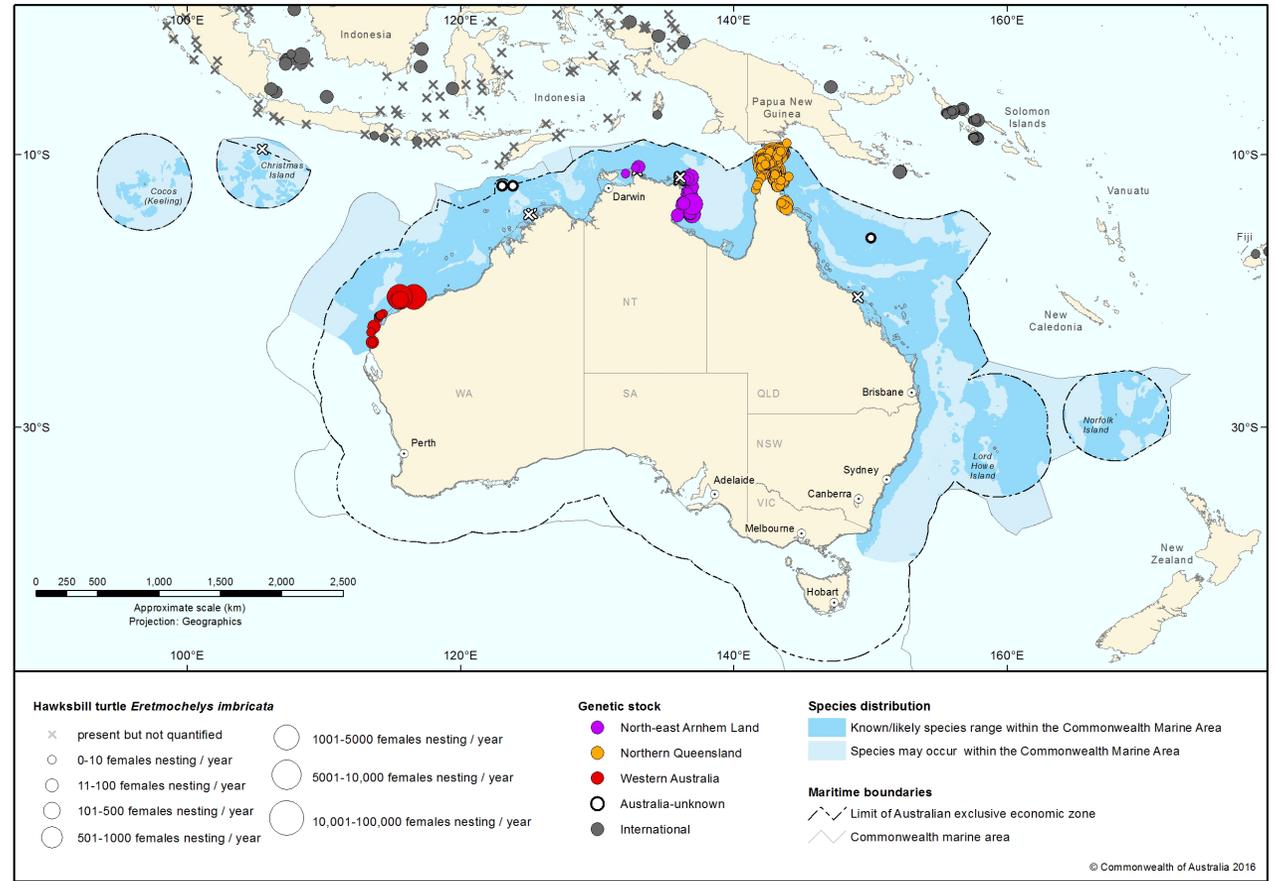
- Recovery plan for 6 species turtle
- Identifies threats and actions required to address threats

Long term objective to minimise anthropogenic threats to allow for conservation status to improve such that they can be removed from threatened species list

Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia

Three genetic stocks

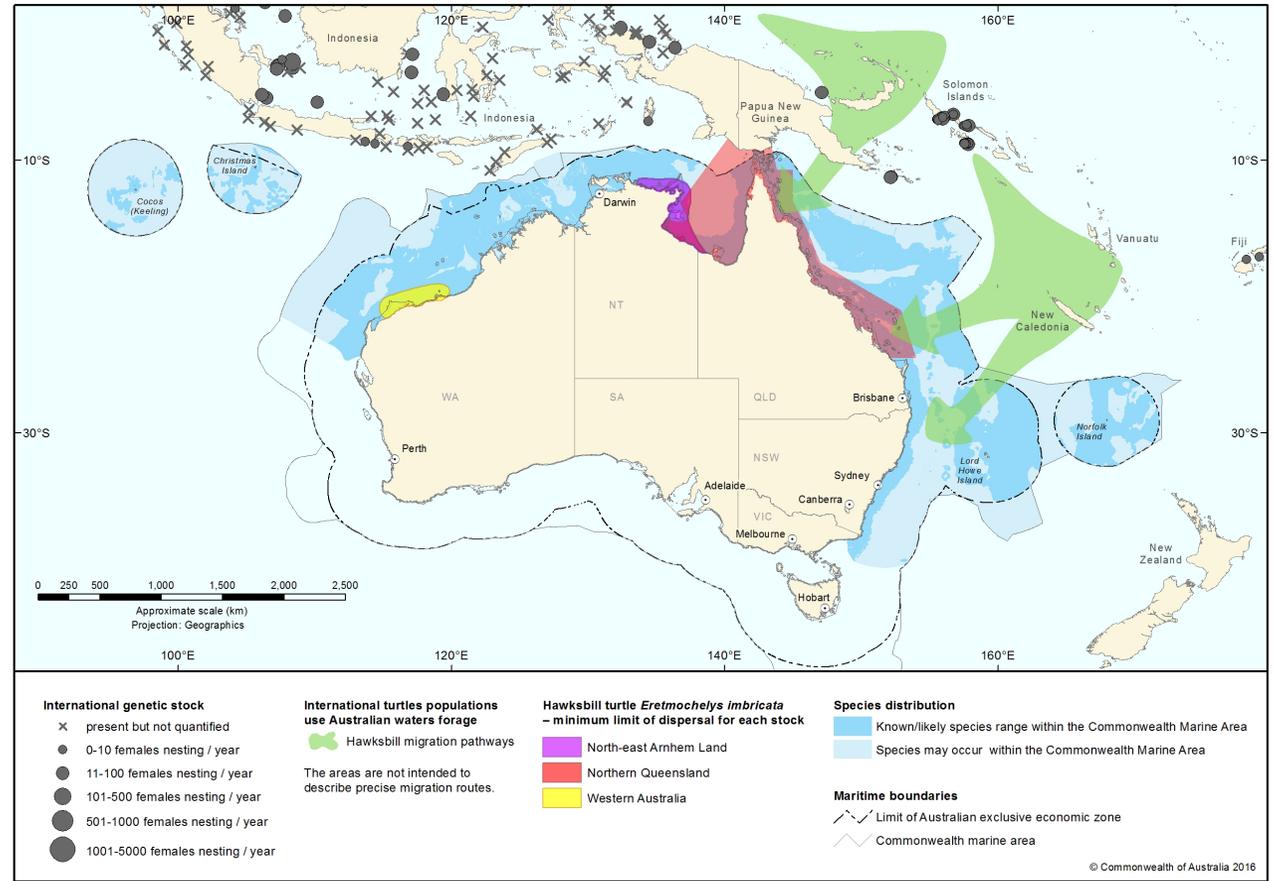
- **North Queensland** - Declining
- **North East Arnhem Land** - Unknown
- **Western Australian** – Large, likely stable



Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia

Three genetic stocks

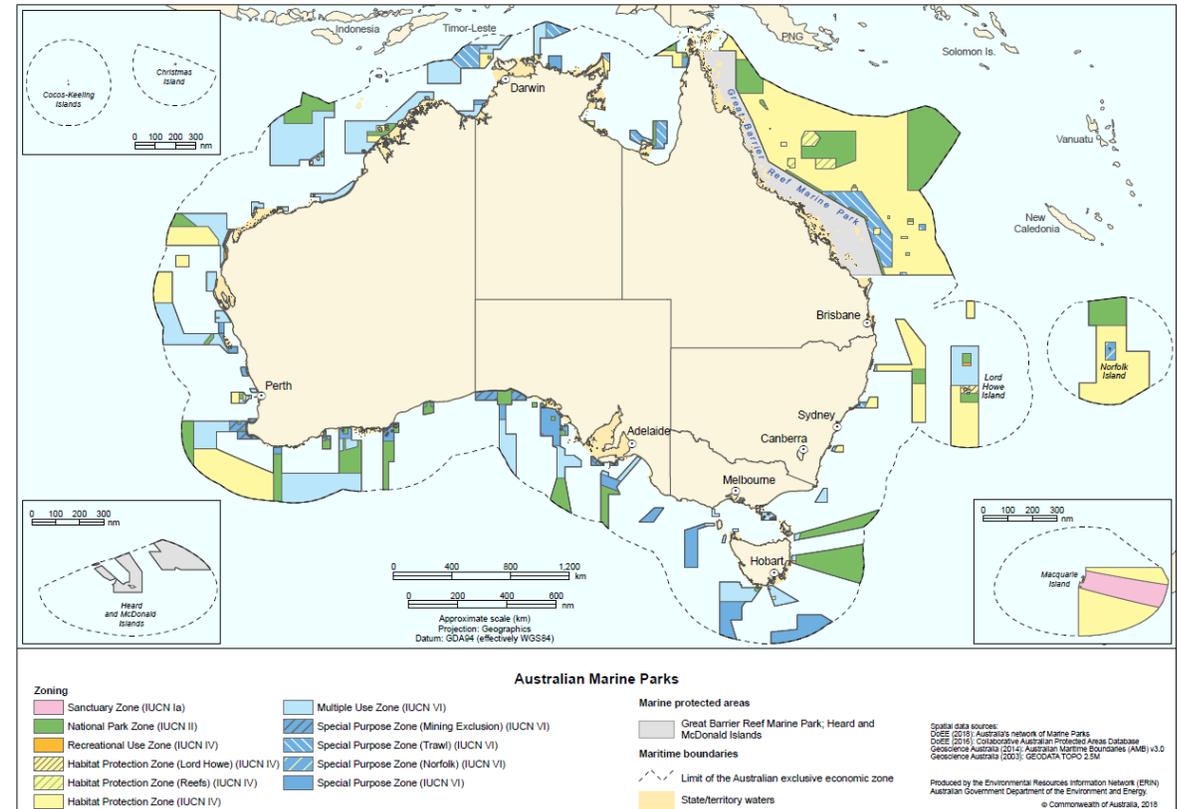
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Habitat Protection

Designated protected areas

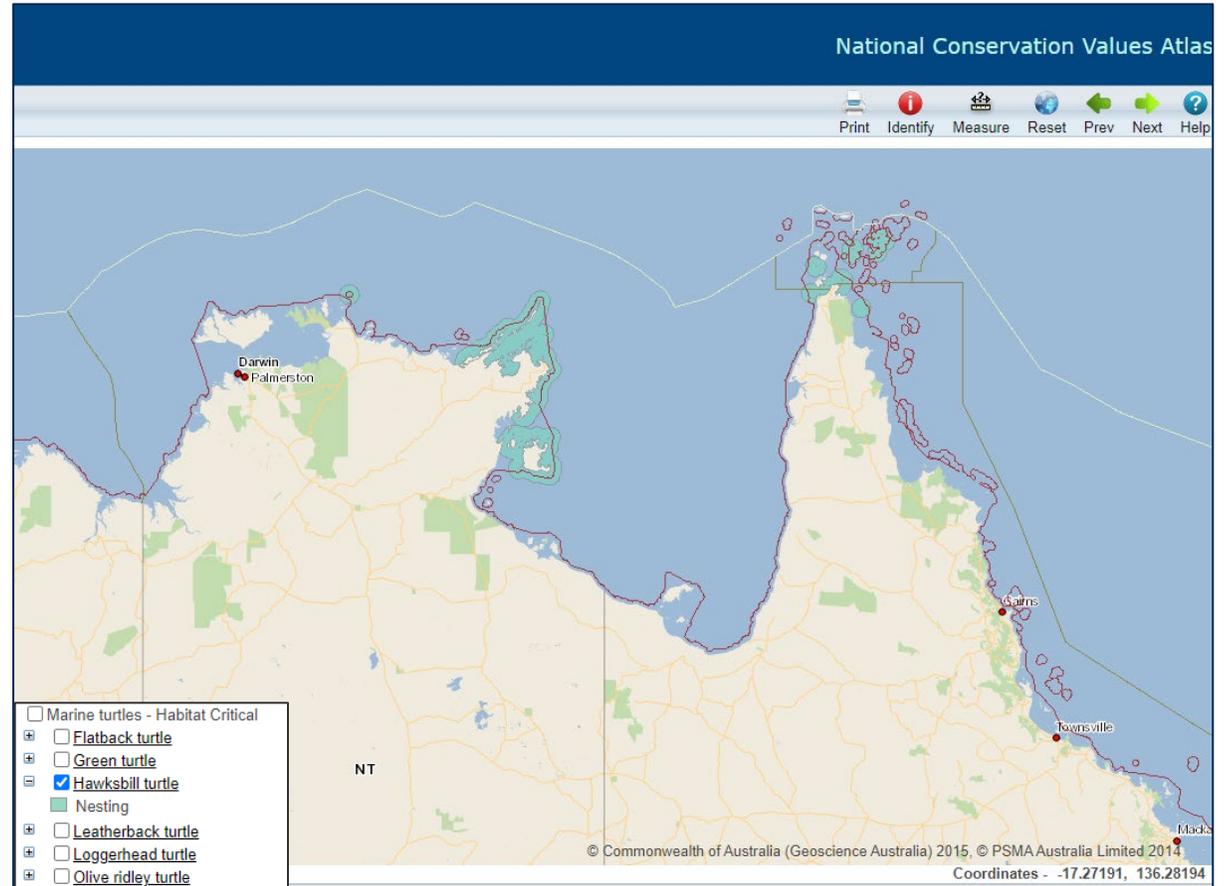
- Australian marine park estate: 3.3 million km²



Habitat Protection

Designated protected areas

- Australian marine park estate: 3.3 million km²
- Recovery Plan:
 - Habitat Critical to Survival of the Species
 - Biologically Important Areas (BIAs)



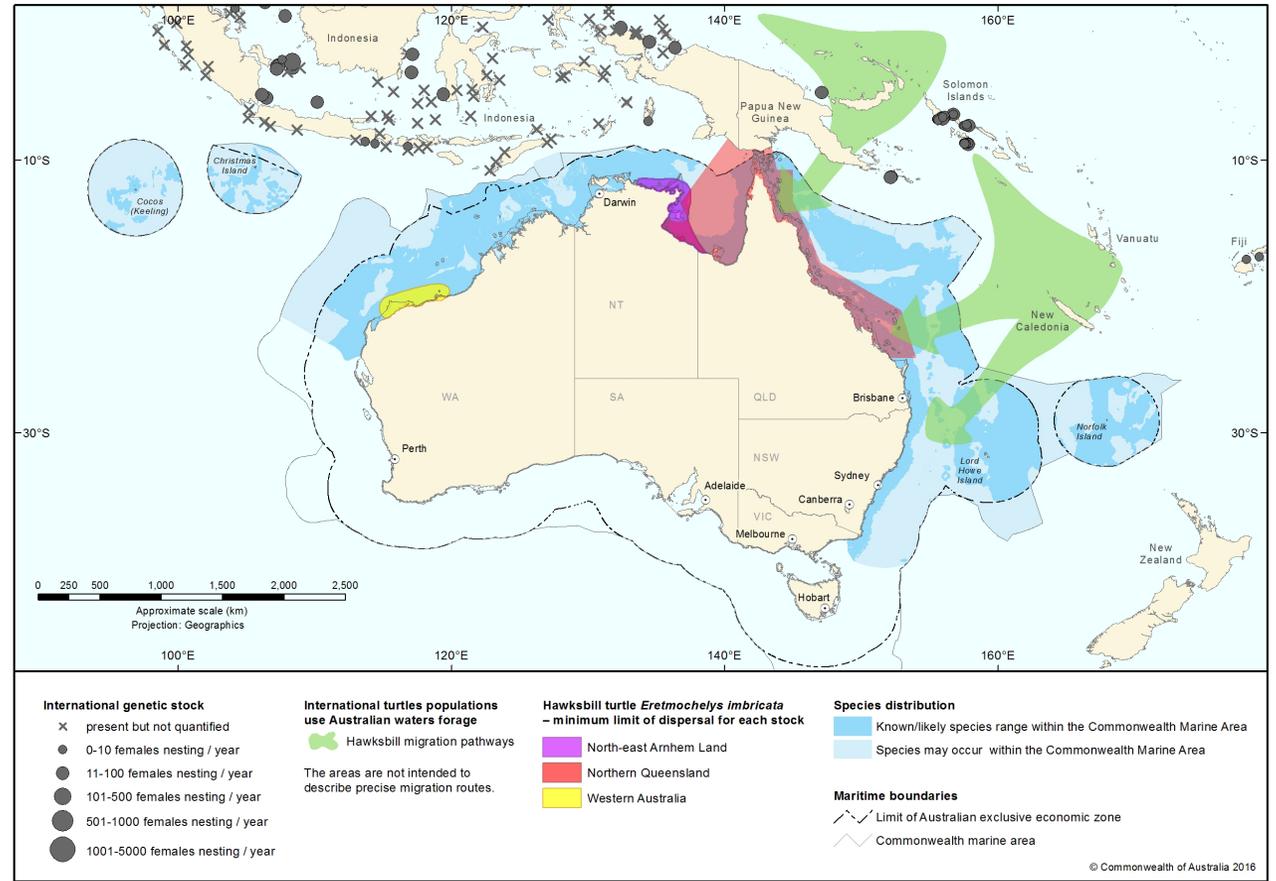
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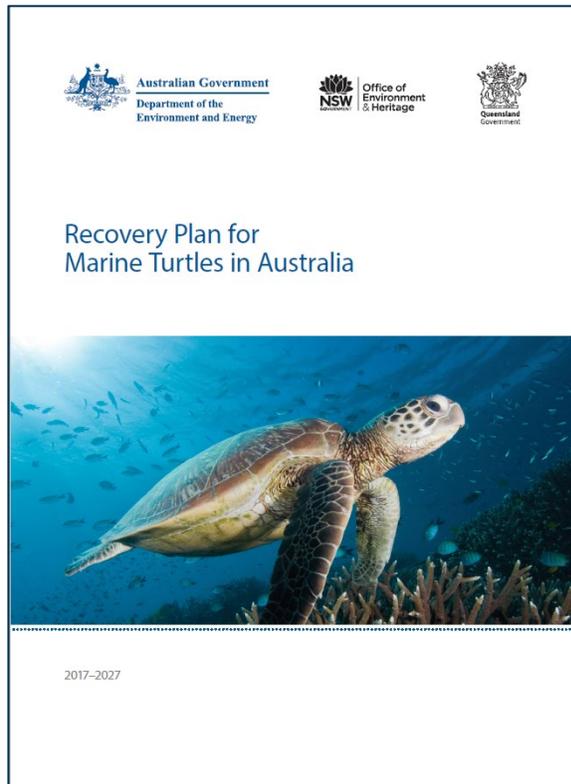
Threats (high and very high)

- International take
- Marine debris
- Terrestrial predation
- Take of eggs
- Climate change



Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia

Provides the overarching framework for managing marine turtles in Australia



- **Queensland:** Queensland Turtle Conservation Strategy, Nest to Oceans Program
- **Northern Territory:** Coastal Marine Management Strategy
- **Torres Strait:** Dugong and Turtle Management Project, Community Based Management Plans
- **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:** Reef 2050, Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program
- **New South Wales:** Saving our Species Program and Draft Conservation Strategy
- **Western Australia:** North West Shelf Flatback Turtle Conservation Program Strategic Conservation Plan 2014-2021
- **Local Government:** Planning schemes (light pollution)

