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MANAGEMENT OF THE DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO ISLAND CONSERVATION RESERVES

A briefing note for the Advisory Committee for the proposed Dampier Archipelago/Cape Preston marine conservation reserve (Action Item 5.9)

There are 43 islands in the Dampier Archipelago, 25 of which are managed by CALM for the conservation of flora and fauna, and are vested as nature reserves with the Conservation Commission. These reserves extend to the low water mark (Attachment 1).

The management plan for these islands was produced in 1990, and is currently being revised. The current management plan remains in use until the new one is finalised. There will be a 2 month period of public comment on the revised version of the plan, prior to its approval by the Conservation Commission.

East Lewis, West Lewis and the middle portion of Malus Islands are reserved for conservation and recreation under the *CALM Act* 1984. They are not covered by the management plan currently, although it is proposed to include them in the revised version. These reserves also extend to low water mark.

Islands not managed by CALM include Legendre, which is vested in the Minister for Industrial Development, and the Intercourse Islands, many of which are Industrial Purpose Leases.

There are four main management objectives for the Dampier Archipelago islands, consistent with the purpose of the reserves, and acknowledging the fact that they are widely used for recreation:

- ◆ to conserve the flora and fauna, in particular to maintain the full complement of native species present, their habitats, and the natural ecological processes which sustain their communities;
- ◆ to conserve the physical landscape;
- ◆ to protect archaeological and historic values; and
- ◆ to provide for the proper recreational and educational use of the islands, consistent with the above.

Management for conservation is addressed under the following headings in the existing management plan:

- ◆ fire protection;
- ◆ control of introduced plants;
- ◆ control of introduced animals;
- ◆ control of access for mining and industrial purposes;
- ◆ aquaculture;
- ◆ marine pollution;
- ◆ habitat degradation and rehabilitation; and
- ◆ research and monitoring.

Each of these sections has objectives which are designed to protect the conservation values of the islands.

Management of Aboriginal and historic sites mainly involves location and protection of these sites, in compliance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.

Part of the management plan includes a zoning scheme for the islands to protect areas of very high conservation value from human impacts and possible degradation. There are three types of zones.

Special conservation zones are designed mainly to protect nesting seabirds and tend to be small islands such as Lady Nora and Keast. No public access is permitted to these areas.

Conservation zones are designed to protect important turtle nesting beaches and prevent possible degradation to vegetated areas of the islands. Daylight access only is permitted to these areas.

Recreational zones allow for camping (maximum 5 nights) up to 100 metres from the shore and are located on most of the major beaches in the Archipelago. Unrestricted day access is permitted to these areas. Although not part of the zoning plan, unrestricted access is permitted to the islands vested for conservation and recreation.

The provisions of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and *CALM Act 1984* apply to the island conservation reserves. These include no permanent structures being erected by the public, flora and fauna not being disturbed or removed, which includes all shells from the intertidal area (whether living or dead), prohibition of pets on the islands (dogs, cats or other animals), all rubbish to be removed and no open fires.

There are 33 recreational shacks, licensed by CALM on West Lewis, East Lewis and Malus Islands. The shacks provide a recreational outlet for people living in the Shire of Roebourne and their guests. Day-to-day management is undertaken with the assistance of the Dampier Archipelago Recreational Dwellers Association.

While the terrestrial and marine reserves will be managed under separate management plans and vested in separate bodies, they will both be managed by CALM. Integration of the two reserves will include:

- a) the use of similar generic management objectives for conservation of the two areas;
- b) a decision about whether to place the intertidal zones within the terrestrial reserves or the proposed marine conservation reserve and,
- c) education of users regarding the boundaries and allowable uses within the two reserve types.

In addition, when considering possible spatial controls for the proposed marine conservation reserve, it will be beneficial to have a comprehensive understanding of the spatial and temporal patterns of human usage of the adjacent islands and mainland reserves. This is because it is desirable to minimise impacts, where possible, of spatial controls in the proposed marine conservation reserve on current human usage in the terrestrial reserves. Such management integration will ensure protection of the conservation values of both reserve types while providing equitable outcomes for the reserves that have broad community support.

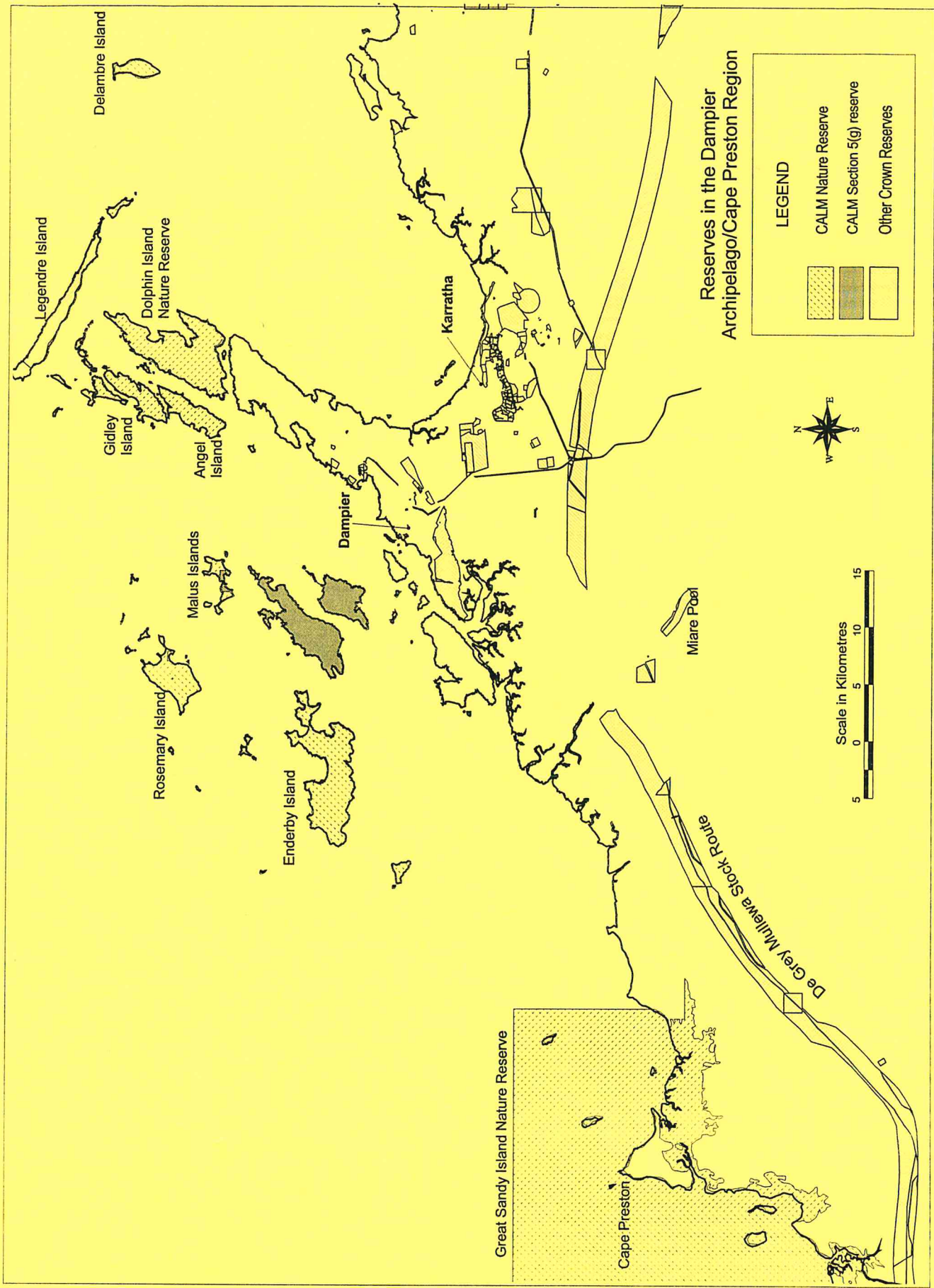


Table 6. Land tenure and vesting in the Dampier Archipelago and Cape Preston region..

Reserve	Class	Name	Tenure	Purpose	Vesting	Comment
380	C	Landing Rock Well	Non-CALM Act-General	Public purpose	unvested	
1766	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Public purposes	unvested	
30948	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Airport	Shire of Roebourne W.P.L. and Minister for Land	Approval required (21 years)
33831	B	Great Sandy Island Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	Conservation of flora & fauna	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark
34944	B	Dolphin Island Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	Conservation of flora & fauna	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36907	C	East Lewis Island, Boiler Rock	5(g) Reserve	Conservation & Recreation	NPNCA	Forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36909	C	West Lewis & Whittaker Islands	5(g) Reserve	Conservation & Recreation	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36910	C	Malus Island	5(g) Reserve	Conservation & Recreation	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36913	C	Angel, Brigadier, Conzinc, Delambre, Eaglehawk, Egret Gidley, Goodwyn, Hauy, Keast, Kendrew, Lady Nora, Malus, Mawby, Tozer, & Wilcox Islands, and Bare, Collier, Millers & Nelson Rocks, and Elphick Nob	Nature Reserve	Conservation of flora & fauna	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36915	A	Enderby & Rosemary Islands	Nature Reserve	Conservation of flora & fauna	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
36991	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Water supply & pipeline	Water Corporation	
39161	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Quarry	Minister for Works	
39202	C	Cohen Island	Nature Reserve	Conservation of flora & fauna	NPNCA	Gazetted to Low Water Mark & forms part of Dampier Archipelago Reserve system
39777	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Natural gas pipeline purposes	Dbngp Land Access Minister	
40457	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Air traffic control tower	Airservices Aust	
40877	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Marine navigation aid	AMSA	
40896	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Radio communication site	Minister for Mines	
41012	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Natural gas pipeline purposes	Dbngp Land Access Minister	
41636	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Port purposes	Dampier Port Authority	
42311	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Service corridor	Dbngp Land Access Minister	
42820	C	Legendre Island	Non-CALM Act-General	Future industrial	Minister for Resource	

Reserve	Class	Name	Tenure	Purpose	Vesting	Comment
				purposes	Development	
43195	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Archaeological site	WA Museum	
43303	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Marine aid to navigation	AMSA	
44922	C		Non-CALM Act-General	Recreation & drainage	Shire of Roebourne W.P.L. & Minister for Land	Approval required (21 years)
3114/464			Special Lease	CL 1976/55	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3114/1027			Special Lease	CL 1984/453	Chinara Pty Ltd	
3116/464			Special Lease	CL 1976/55	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/716		Mt Welcome Pastoral	Special Lease	CL 1976/335	Mt Welcome Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	
3116/3468			Special Lease	CL 1966/712	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	HWM
3116/3469		East Intercourse, Channel & Tidepole Islands	Special Lease	CL 1966/713	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/3471		(channel)	Special Lease	CL 1966/715	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/3806		(channel)	Special Lease	CL 1969/13	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/3807		(Parker Point, Ship Rock)	Special Lease	CL 1970/39	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/3907			Special Lease	CL 1969/14	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	HWM
3116/4596			Special Lease	CL 1969/15	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/4598		(Channel Reef)	Special Lease	CL 1974/75	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/4600			Special Lease	CL 1974/76	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/4976		Mistaken & East Mid Intercourse Islands	Special Lease	CL 1978/42	Dampier Salt Pty Ltd	
3116/4984			Special Lease	CL 1975/144	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/5503		(channel)	Special Lease	CL 1974/93	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/5552			Special Lease	CL 1979/318	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	HWM
3116/6702		(Courtenay)	Special Lease	CL 1979/146	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/7842			Special Lease	CL 1984/161	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/7936			Special Lease	CL 1985/263	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	HWM
3116/8870			Special Lease	CL 1985/26	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd	
3116/9124			Special Lease	CL 1985/265	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	LWM
3116/9125			Special Lease	CL 1989/1822	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	
3116/9126			Special Lease	CL 1985/266	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	
3116/9127		Mt Wongama	Special Lease	CL 1985/267	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	
3116/9129			Special Lease	CL 1985/269	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	
3116/9130			Special Lease	CL 1985/270	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	

Reserve	Class	Name	Tenure	Purpose	Vesting	Comment
3116/112 81			Special Lease	CL 1994/434	AUUA - Carotene Ltd	
3116/113 11			Special Lease	CL 1994/527	North West Game Fishing Club Inc	
	Vacant Crown Land	Bezout Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Dixon Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	East Mid Intercourse Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Haycock Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Intercourse Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Pemberton Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Roly Rocks			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	Walcott Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	West Intercourse Island			not vested	
	Vacant Crown Land	West Mid Intercourse Island			not vested	
CT 1022/255			Freehold Land		AMSA	