

Proposed Cape Range – Ningaloo Reef World Heritage Nomination

Background Information

July 2004

1. The Western Australian Government made policy commitments to nominate the North West Cape and Ningaloo Marine Park area for inclusion in the World Heritage List.
2. This commitment has been confirmed on several occasions over the past 2 years.
3. The Premier and the Minister for the Environment have written to their respective Federal Government counterparts to initiate the process. The responses from the Federal Government have been positive.
4. In order to assist progressing the nomination, the Government has established a Consultative Committee. The Committee has a membership of three:
 - Mr Doug Bathgate (Chair)
 - Ms Sue Jones
 - Mr Neil Blake
5. The Consultative Committee has the following Terms of Reference:

Specific questions that the Consultative Committee should address are:

 - *What are the main issues and concerns of the key stakeholders, and to what extent are those issues generic versus specific to a particular area?*
 - *Are there responses to concerns that can be accommodated without compromising the nomination? This should include concerns about the impact of World Heritage listing on the town of Exmouth.*
 - *What is the preferred boundary for the World Heritage nomination that meets the World Heritage criteria including integrity, and requirements for on-going management?*
6. The Committee is required to consult with key stakeholders in the area, including Government agencies, local governments, industry and community organizations (including Indigenous organizations and groups) in the course of considering options for the World Heritage area boundary.
7. The Committee has an advisory role to the Minister for the Environment. State Cabinet will make the final decision on the boundary of the World Heritage area nomination to be put to the Australian Government.
8. The procedures established by the World Heritage Committee require that the State Party (in this case, the Australian Government) will lodge no more than one new nomination by the deadline of 1 February each year. The nomination would be considered by the World Heritage Committee in June/July the following year. The intervening period is used by the Secretariat to undertake the necessary independent assessments.
9. The World Heritage Committee has expressed a preference that the State Party submit a draft nomination by 30 September in the year before the nomination is lodged, as preliminary advice.

10. The present timetable is for the nomination to be lodged by the Australian Government by 1 February 2005, for decision by the World Heritage Committee in mid-2006.
11. To meet this timeline, the processes of developing the nomination by the Western Australian Government would have to be completed by 1 December 2004.
12. The Government has retained the services of an expert consultant to assist in the preparation of the nomination. Dr Warren Nicholls has been involved in the development or assessment of all of Australia's World Heritage Properties, and in assessments and nominations in North Korea, South Africa, Argentina and Brazil.
13. Dr Nicholls is also advising the Committee.
14. The Committee will seek access to all the available information about the specific values of the Cape Range – Ningaloo Reef area.
15. A single study area that includes both North West Cape and Ningaloo Marine Park has been endorsed by the Minister for the Environment as a starting point for the consultation process. This study area is shown on Attachment 1.
16. The final boundary for the nomination could include part or all of the study area, or could (with Government agreement) extend beyond it.
17. In making its recommendations on the preferred boundary for the World Heritage nomination, the Committee will consider the values of the area in relation to the World Heritage Criteria, and the requirement that the nominated area satisfies conditions of authenticity (cultural heritage nominations) and/or integrity (natural heritage nominations). The criteria, including requirements for authenticity and integrity, are attached (Attachment 2).
18. The Committee will also give consideration to the ways in which the proposed World Heritage listing may affect the people living in and adjacent to the nominated area, local governments, other people and organizations with interests in the area, and issues such as the potential for World Heritage listing to promote tourism and regional development.
19. A summary of implications of World Heritage listing is given in Attachment 3. A key issue is that World Heritage listing cultivates local and national pride, aids in the development of sense of place, and contributes to the development of feelings of national responsibility to ensure that the area is well managed. Other benefits to the local and regional community include increases in national and international tourism with flow-on effects to regional development.
20. World Heritage listing does not affect ownership – this remains as it was prior to nomination, and State and local laws still apply. The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth) will also apply where and when the specific values for which the property has been nominated are likely to be damaged. In the case of development proposals that may affect the nominated values, environmental impact assessment would be undertaken by the Western Australian EPA on behalf of the Commonwealth Government in accordance with a bilateral agreement on assessment.

21. Experience in Australia's World Heritage Properties shows that a range of activities can be carried out in a property. For example, pastoral activities, commercial and recreational fishing, and basic resource extraction occur in a number of World Heritage Properties. In most properties, activities associated with tourism have increased substantially since listing.
22. In Australia, management arrangements vary from property to property: more than half the Australian properties are managed by State/ Territory Government agencies, two have specially established management authorities (the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Property includes Commonwealth waters), two are largely owned by Indigenous communities and leased to a Commonwealth Government Department for management as a National Park and one is an Australian Territory and is managed by a Commonwealth Government Department.
23. For the Shark Bay World Heritage Property, with a range of land tenures and supporting a range of activities, management oversight of the property as a whole is provided by a Ministerial Council (two Commonwealth Ministers, two State Ministers). Supporting the Ministerial Council are two committees: a Community Consultative Committee and a Scientific Advisory Committee. The Department of Conservation and Land Management has a lead management agency role for the Property, as well as responsibility for on-ground management of the CALM estate (lands and waters), and additional planning and management within the Property is provided by the Shark Bay Shire.
24. It should be noted that the Cape Range – Ningaloo World Heritage Property may include a mix of Commonwealth and State lands and waters.
25. An essential requirement for each World Heritage Property is that a management plan be developed. The primary management objectives for World Heritage Properties are:
 - to protect, conserve and present the World Heritage values of the property;
 - to integrate the protection of the area into a comprehensive planning program;
 - to give the property a function in the life of the Australian community;
 - to strengthen appreciation of and respect for the property's World Heritage values, particularly through educational and information programs;
 - to keep the community broadly informed about the condition of the World Heritage values of the property; and
 - to take appropriate scientific, technical, legal, administrative and financial measures necessary for achieving the foregoing objectives.

In achieving the objectives, due regard is given to:

- ensuring the provision of essential services to communities within and adjacent to a property; and
- allowing and recognising the involvement of the local community in the planning and management of a property.

26. The Consultative Committee has identified a series of questions that should be considered by the stakeholders wishing to provide additional input to the decision-making process. These questions are:
1. Does the stakeholder support a nomination based on the defined study area boundary?
 2. If not, what are the issues of concern? Does the stakeholder have any suggestions as to how these concerns might be accommodated within a nomination based on the defined study area?
 3. Are there known values outside the defined study area that should be included in the nomination?
 4. Does the stakeholder have concerns about the nomination of a larger area? If so, what are those concerns? If they relate to a specific area, please identify that area.
 5. Are there other issues that the stakeholder would like to draw to the attention of the Consultative Committee?

Additional input should be provided by 15 July 2004. The contact details for providing this additional information are:

World Heritage Consultative Committee, C/o Department of Conservation and Land Management, Cnr Hackett Drive and Australia II Drive, Crawley WA 6009.

Attachment 2. World Heritage Criteria

(From *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*. WHC02/2 July 2002)

Criteria for the inclusion of properties in the World Heritage List

To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must satisfy the selection criteria.

Criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List

23. The criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List should always be seen in relation to one another and should be considered in the context of the definition set out in Article 1 of the Convention which is reproduced below:

"monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and of man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological points of view."

24. A monument, group of buildings or site - as defined above - which is nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List will be considered to be of outstanding universal value for the purpose of the Convention when the Committee finds that it meets one or more of the following criteria and the test of authenticity. These criteria are defined by the Committee in its Operational Guidelines.

Each property nominated should therefore:

- a.
 - i. represent a masterpiece of human creative genius; or
 - ii. exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; or
 - iii. bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared; or
 - iv. be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; or
 - v. be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement or land-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; or
 - vi. be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (the Committee considers that this criterion should justify inclusion in the List only in exceptional circumstances and in conjunction with other criteria cultural or natural);

and

- b.
 - i. meet the test of authenticity in design, material, workmanship or setting and in the case of cultural landscapes their distinctive character and components (the Committee stressed that reconstruction is only acceptable if it is carried out on the basis of complete and detailed documentation on the original and to no extent on conjecture).
 - ii. have adequate legal and/or traditional protection and management mechanisms to ensure the conservation of the nominated cultural properties or cultural landscapes. The existence of protective legislation at the national, provincial or municipal level and/or a well-established contractual or traditional protection as well as of adequate management and/or planning control mechanisms is therefore essential and, as is clearly indicated in the following paragraph, must be stated clearly on the nomination form. Assurances of the effective implementation of these laws and/or contractual and/or traditional protection as well as of these management mechanisms are also expected. Furthermore, in order to preserve the integrity of cultural sites, particularly those open to large numbers of visitors, the State Party concerned should be able to provide evidence of suitable administrative arrangements to cover the management of the property, its conservation and its accessibility to the public.

25. Nominations of immovable property which are likely to become movable will not be considered.

26. With respect to *groups of urban buildings*, the Committee has furthermore adopted the following Guidelines concerning their inclusion in the World Heritage List.

27. Groups of urban buildings eligible for inclusion in the World Heritage List fall into three main categories, namely:

towns which are no longer inhabited but which provide unchanged archaeological evidence of the past; these generally satisfy the criterion of authenticity and their state of conservation can be relatively easily controlled;

historic towns which are still inhabited and which, by their very nature, have developed and will continue to develop under the influence of socio-economic and cultural change, a situation that renders the assessment of their authenticity more difficult and any conservation policy more problematical;

new towns of the twentieth century which paradoxically have something in common with both the aforementioned categories: while their original urban organization is clearly recognizable and their authenticity is undeniable, their future is unclear because their development is largely uncontrollable.

28. The evaluation of towns that are no longer inhabited does not raise any special difficulties other than those related to archaeological sites in general: the criteria which call for uniqueness or exemplary character have led to the choice of groups of buildings noteworthy for their purity of style, for the concentrations of monuments they contain and sometimes for their important historical associations. It is important for urban archaeological sites to be listed as integral units. A cluster of monuments or a small group of buildings is not adequate to suggest the multiple and complex functions of a city which has disappeared; remains of such a city should be preserved in their entirety together with their natural surroundings whenever possible.

29. In the case of inhabited historic towns the difficulties are numerous, largely owing to the fragility of their urban fabric (which has in many cases been seriously disrupted since the advent of the industrial era) and the runaway speed with which their surroundings have been urbanized. To qualify for inclusion, towns should compel recognition because of their architectural interest and should not be considered only on the intellectual grounds of the role they may have played in the past or their value as historical symbols under criterion (vi) for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List (see [paragraph 24](#) above). To be eligible for inclusion in the List, the spatial organization, structure, materials, forms and, where possible, functions of a group of buildings should essentially reflect the civilization or succession of civilizations which have prompted the nomination of the property. Four categories can be distinguished:

- i. Towns which are typical of a specific period or culture, which have been almost wholly preserved and which have remained largely unaffected by subsequent developments. Here the property to be listed is the entire town together with its surroundings, which must also be protected;
- ii. Towns that have evolved along characteristic lines and have preserved, sometimes in the midst of exceptional natural surroundings, spatial arrangements and structures that are typical of the successive stages in their history. Here the clearly defined historic part takes precedence over the contemporary environment;

- iii. "Historic centres" that cover exactly the same area as ancient towns and are now enclosed within modern cities. Here it is necessary to determine the precise limits of the property in its widest historical dimensions and to make appropriate provision for its immediate surroundings;
- iv. Sectors, areas or isolated units which, even in the residual state in which they have survived, provide coherent evidence of the character of a historic town which has disappeared. In such cases surviving areas and buildings should bear sufficient testimony to the former whole.

30. Historic centres and historic areas should be listed only where they contain a large number of ancient buildings of monumental importance which provide a direct indication of the characteristic features of a town of exceptional interest. Nominations of several isolated and unrelated buildings which allegedly represent, in themselves, a town whose urban fabric has ceased to be discernible, should not be encouraged.

31. However, nominations could be made regarding properties that occupy a limited space but have had a major influence on the history of town planning. In such cases, the nomination should make it clear that it is the monumental group that is to be listed and that the town is mentioned only incidentally as the place where the property is located. Similarly, if a building of clearly universal significance is located in severely degraded or insufficiently representative urban surroundings, it should, of course, be listed without any special reference to the town.

32. It is difficult to assess the quality of new towns of the twentieth century. History alone will tell which of them will best serve as examples of contemporary town planning. The examination of the files on these towns should be deferred, save under exceptional circumstances.

33. Under present conditions, preference should be given to the inclusion in the World Heritage List of small or medium-sized urban areas which are in a position to manage any potential growth, rather than the great metropolises, on which sufficiently complete information and documentation cannot readily be provided that would serve as a satisfactory basis for their inclusion in their entirety.

34. In view of the effects which the entry of a town in the World Heritage List could have on its future, such entries should be exceptional. Inclusion in the List implies that legislative and administrative measures have already been taken to ensure the protection of the group of buildings and its environment. Informed awareness on the part of the population concerned, without whose active participation any conservation scheme would be impractical, is also essential.

35. With respect to *cultural landscapes*, the Committee has furthermore adopted the following guidelines concerning their inclusion in the World Heritage List.

36. Cultural landscapes represent the "combined works of nature and of man" designated in Article 1 of the Convention. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal. They should be selected on the basis both of their outstanding universal value and of their representativity in terms of a clearly defined geo-cultural region and also for their capacity to illustrate the essential and distinct cultural elements of such regions.

37. The term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment.

38. Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land-use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature. Protection of cultural landscapes can contribute to modern techniques of sustainable land-use and can maintain or enhance natural values in the landscape. The continued existence of traditional forms of land-use supports biological diversity in many regions of the world. The protection of traditional cultural landscapes is therefore helpful in maintaining biological diversity.

39. Cultural landscapes fall into three main categories, namely:

- i. The most easily identifiable is the clearly defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which are often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles.
- ii. The second category is the organically evolved landscape. This results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub-categories:
 - a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form.
 - a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time.
- iii. The final category is the associative cultural landscape. The inclusion of such landscapes on the World Heritage List is justifiable by virtue of the powerful religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent.

40. The extent of a cultural landscape for inclusion on the World Heritage List is relative to its functionality and intelligibility. In any case, the sample selected must be substantial enough to adequately represent the totality of the cultural landscape that it illustrates. The possibility of designating long linear areas which represent culturally significant transport and communication networks should not be excluded.

41. The general criteria for conservation and management laid down in paragraph 24.(b).(ii) above are equally applicable to cultural landscapes. It is important that due attention be paid to the full range of values represented in the landscape, both cultural and natural. The nominations should be prepared in collaboration with and the full approval of local communities.

42. The existence of a category of "cultural landscape", included on the World Heritage List on the basis of the criteria set out in paragraph 24 above, does not exclude the possibility of sites of exceptional importance in relation to both cultural and natural criteria continuing to be included. In such cases, their outstanding universal significance must be justified under both sets of criteria.

Criteria for the inclusion of natural properties in the World Heritage List

43. In accordance with Article 2 of the Convention, the following is considered as "natural heritage":

"natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view;

geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation;

natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty."

44. A natural heritage property - as defined above - which is submitted for inclusion in the World Heritage List will be considered to be of outstanding universal value for the purposes of the Convention when the Committee finds that it meets one or more of the following criteria specified by Operational Guidelines and fulfilling the conditions of integrity set out below.

Sites nominated should therefore:

- a.
 - i. be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features; or
 - ii. be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals; or
 - iii. contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance; or
 - iv. contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation;

and

- b. also fulfil the following conditions of integrity:
 - i. The sites described in 44(a)(i) should contain all or most of the key interrelated and interdependent elements in their natural relationships; for example, an "ice age" area should include the snow field, the glacier itself and samples of cutting patterns, deposition and colonization (e.g. striations, moraines, pioneer stages of plant succession, etc.); in the case of volcanoes, the magmatic series should be complete and all or most of the varieties of effusive rocks and types of eruptions be represented.

- ii. The sites described in 44(a)(ii) should have sufficient size and contain the necessary elements to demonstrate the key aspects of processes that are essential for the long-term conservation of the ecosystems and the biological diversity they contain; for example, an area of tropical rain forest should include a certain amount of variation in elevation above sea-level, changes in topography and soil types, patch systems and naturally regenerating patches; similarly a coral reef should include, for example, seagrass, mangrove or other adjacent ecosystems that regulate nutrient and sediment inputs into the reef.
- iii. The sites described in 44(a)(iii) should be of outstanding aesthetic value and include areas that are essential for maintaining the beauty of the site; for example, a site whose scenic values depend on a waterfall, should include adjacent catchment and downstream areas that are integrally linked to the maintenance of the aesthetic qualities of the site.
- iv. The sites described in paragraph 44(a)(iv) should contain habitats for maintaining the most diverse fauna and flora characteristic of the biographic province and ecosystems under consideration; for example, a tropical savannah should include a complete assemblage of co-evolved herbivores and plants; an island ecosystem should include habitats for maintaining endemic biota; a site containing wide-ranging species should be large enough to include the most critical habitats essential to ensure the survival of viable populations of those species; for an area containing migratory species, seasonal breeding and nesting sites, and migratory routes, wherever they are located, should be adequately protected; international conventions, e.g. the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), for ensuring the protection of habitats of migratory species of waterfowl, and other multi- and bilateral agreements could provide this assurance.
- v. The sites described in paragraph 44(a) should have a management plan. When a site does not have a management plan at the time when it is nominated for the consideration of the World Heritage Committee, the State Party concerned should indicate when such a plan will become available and how it proposes to mobilize the resources required for the preparation and implementation of the plan. The State Party should also provide other document(s) (e.g. operational plans) which will guide the management of the site until such time when a management plan is finalized.
- vi. A site described in paragraph 44(a) should have adequate long-term legislative, regulatory, institutional or traditional protection. The boundaries of that site should reflect the spatial requirements of habitats, species, processes or phenomena that provide the basis for its nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List. The boundaries should include sufficient areas immediately adjacent to the area of outstanding universal value in order to protect the site's heritage values from direct effects of human encroachment and impacts of resource use outside of the nominated area. The boundaries of the nominated site may coincide with one or more existing or proposed protected areas, such as national parks or biosphere reserves. While an existing or proposed protected area may contain several management zones, only some of those zones may satisfy criteria described in paragraph 44(a); other zones, although they may not meet the criteria set out in paragraph 44(a), may be essential for the management to ensure the integrity of the nominated site; for

example, in the case of a biosphere reserve, only the core zone may meet the criteria and the conditions of integrity, although other zones, i.e. buffer and transitional zones, would be important for the conservation of the biosphere reserve in its totality.

- vii. Sites described in paragraph 44(a) should be the most important sites for the conservation of biological diversity. Biological diversity, according to the new global Convention on Biological Diversity, means the variability among living organisms in terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part and includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. Only those sites which are the most biologically diverse are likely to meet criterion (iv) of paragraph 44(a).

45. In principle, a site could be inscribed on the World Heritage List as long as it satisfies one of the four criteria and the relevant conditions of integrity. However, most inscribed sites have met two or more criteria. Nomination dossiers, IUCN evaluations and the final recommendations of the Committee on each inscribed site are available for consultation by States Parties which may wish to use such information as guides for identifying and elaborating nomination of sites within their own territories.

Attachment 3. Implications of World Heritage Listing

(from Australia's *World Heritage Properties* published by the Department of the Environment and Heritage 2002)

Implications of World Heritage Listing

Benefits

Inscription of a property on the World Heritage List can produce many benefits for Australia, and in particular, for local communities.

Australia's World Heritage properties are a clearly identifiable part of our heritage. In the case of properties such as the Tasmanian Wilderness, Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef, World Heritage listing has featured in promotions which have resulted in greatly increased tourist visitation from overseas and within Australia.

In addition to possible increases in employment opportunities and income, local communities could also expect benefits from improved planning and management of the region. A major focus for Australian Government assistance for World Heritage properties has been the provision of resources for strengthening management and improving interpretation and visitor facilities.

World Heritage listing also cultivates local and national pride in the property and develops feelings of national responsibility to protect the area.

Ownership and Control

World Heritage listing does not affect ownership rights. Ownership remains as it was prior to nomination, and State and local laws still apply. World Heritage properties in Australia do not become Commonwealth property. Nor does ownership of these World Heritage properties pass to any international body or foreign power.

Australia's World Heritage properties comprise a wide variety of land tenures including freehold, perpetual lease, pastoral lease, town reserve, State forest, national park, nature reserve, Aboriginal reserve and recreational reserve.

Land Uses

The Australian Government has an international obligation to protect and conserve World Heritage properties, but there is no impediment to existing land uses unless they threaten the outstanding universal natural and cultural values of the property.

Experience in Australia's World Heritage properties shows that listing does not necessarily limit the range of activities which can be carried out on a property. For instance, grazing occurs in the Willandra Lakes Region, NSW, and Shark Bay, Western Australia, and there is recreational and commercial fishing in the Great Barrier Reef.

Management

In Australia management arrangements vary from property to property:

Willandra Lakes Region, the Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves (Australia), Lord Howe Island, Shark Bay, the Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh/Naracoorte), the Tasmanian Wilderness, Macquarie Island, the Greater Blue Mountains Area and Fraser Island are managed by government agencies in their respective States.

In the case of the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics of Queensland, joint State/Commonwealth management arrangements apply. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) is the Commonwealth agency responsible for overall management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the World Heritage Area, and the Queensland Government, particularly the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, provides day-to-day management to the Authority. The Wet Tropics Management Authority was formed to develop policy and carry out planning for the World Heritage Area with day-to-day management being carried out by State government agencies.

Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park is owned by the Aboriginal community, who leases it to the Director of National Parks and Wildlife. The Director manages the property as a national park.

Parts of Kakadu National Park are Aboriginal land and the remaining Commonwealth-owned land is currently subject to land claims. The Director of National Parks and Wildlife is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Park.

The Heard and McDonald Islands Group is an Australian Territory with day-to-day management being the responsibility of the Australian Antarctic Division.

For each Australian property, management plans have been produced or are planned. The Commonwealth considers such plans as vital in implementing Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.

The primary management objectives for World Heritage properties are part Australia's general obligations under the World Heritage Convention:

- to protect, conserve and present the World Heritage values of the property;
- to integrate the protection of the area into a comprehensive planning program;
- to give the property a function in the life of the Australian community;
- to strengthen appreciation and respect of the property's World Heritage values, particularly through educational and information programs;
- to keep the community broadly informed about the condition of the World Heritage values of the property; and
- to take appropriate scientific, technical, legal, administrative and financial measures necessary for achieving the foregoing objectives.

In achieving these primary objectives due regard is given to:

- ensuring the provision of essential services to communities within and adjacent to a property;
- allowing provision for use of the property which does not have a significant impact on the World Heritage values and their integrity;
- recognising the role of current management agencies in the protection of a property's values; and
- the involvement of the local community in the planning and management of a property.

World Heritage Study Area

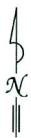
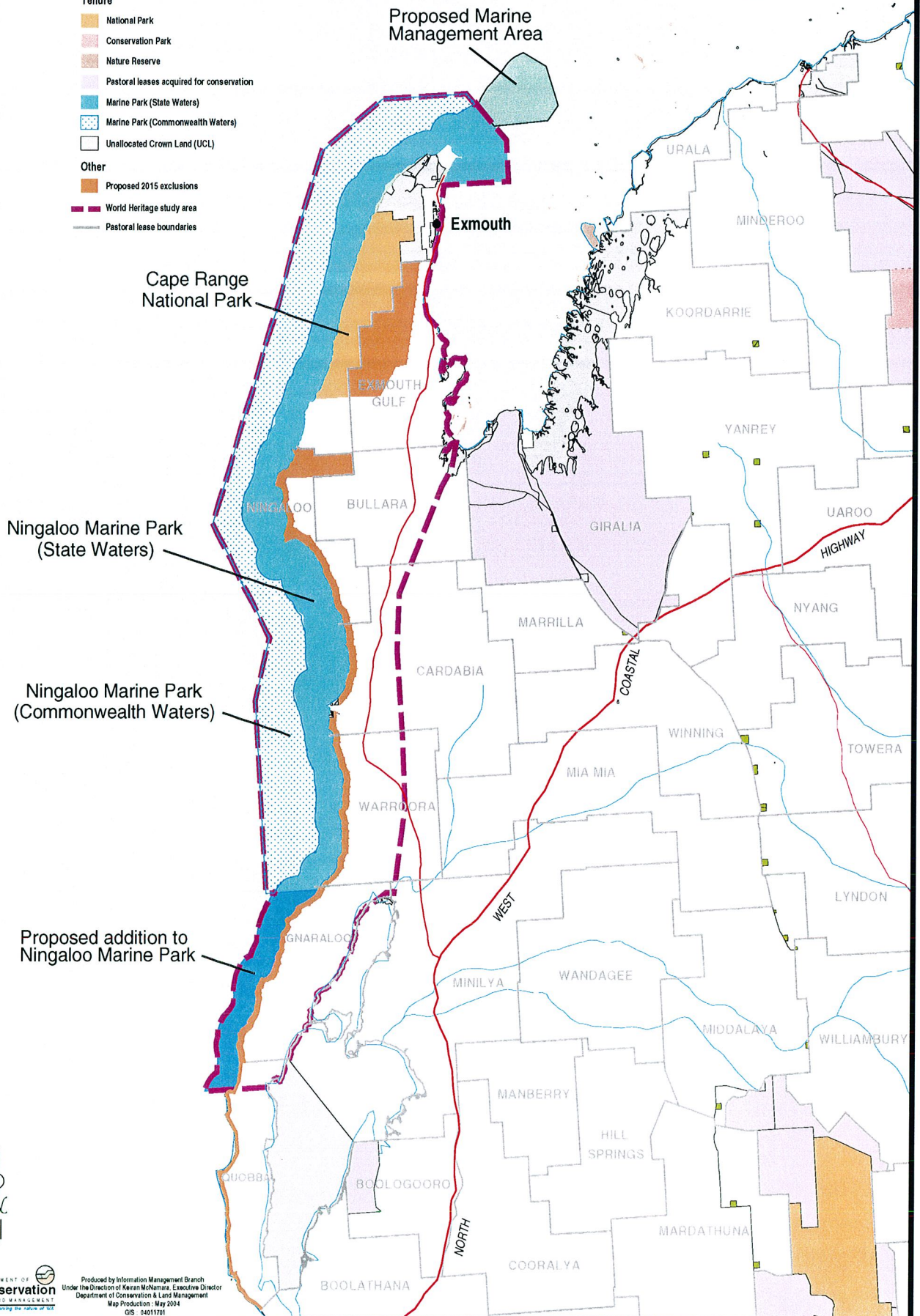
LEGEND

Tenure

-  National Park
-  Conservation Park
-  Nature Reserve
-  Pastoral leases acquired for conservation
-  Marine Park (State Waters)
-  Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters)
-  Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)

Other

-  Proposed 2015 exclusions
-  World Heritage study area
-  Pastoral lease boundaries

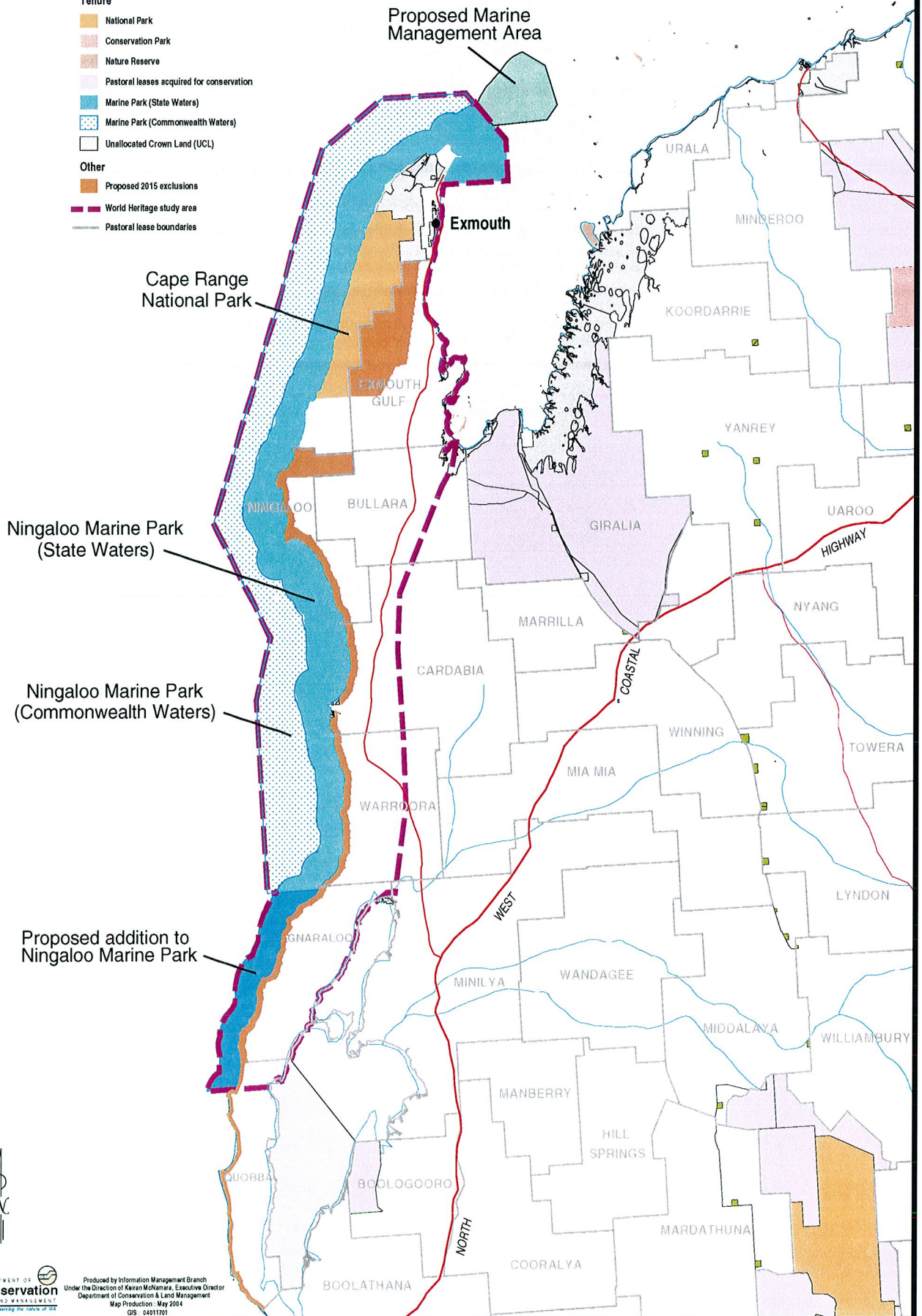


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Conservation
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
Caring for the nature of WA

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World Heritage Study Area

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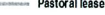
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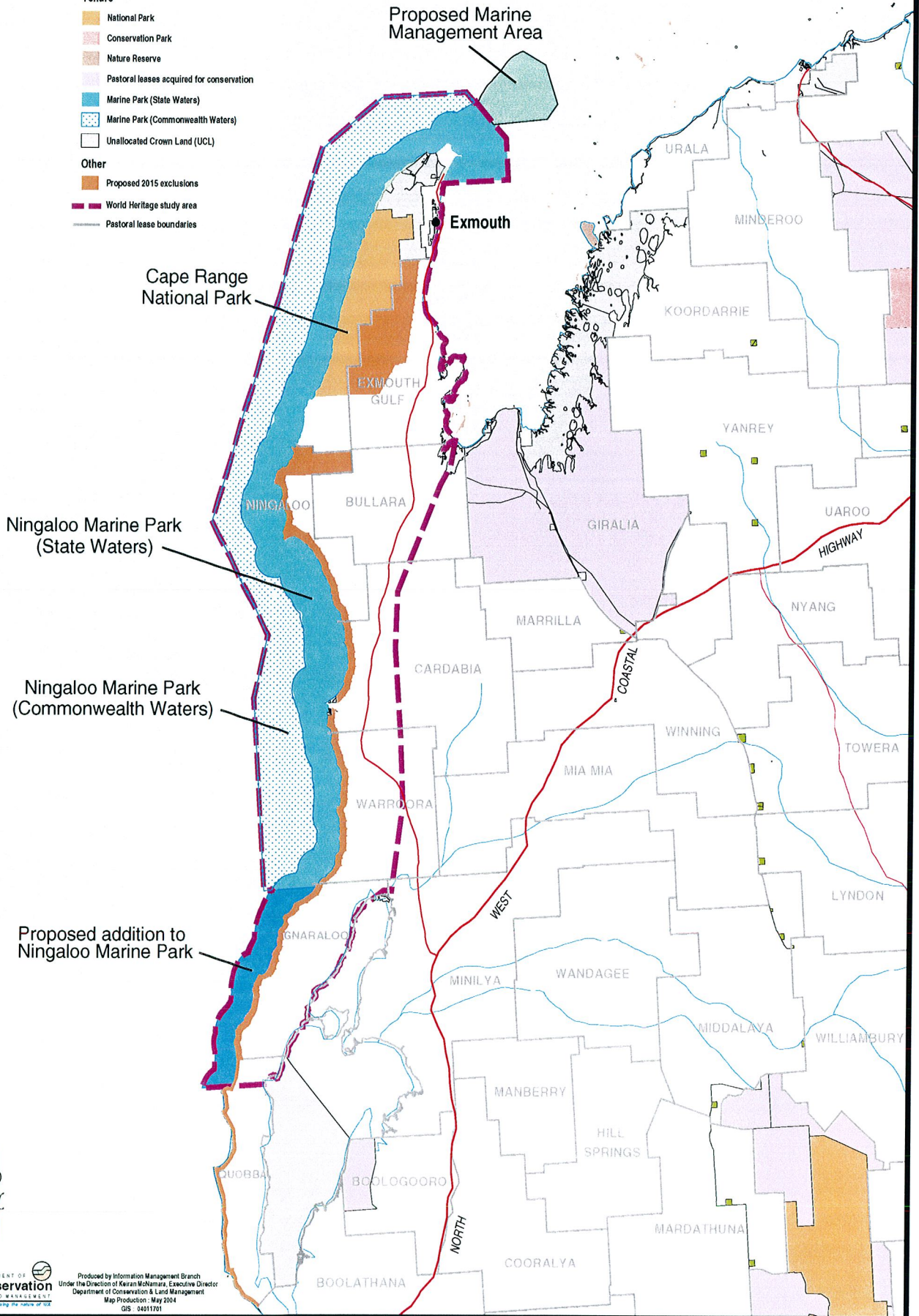
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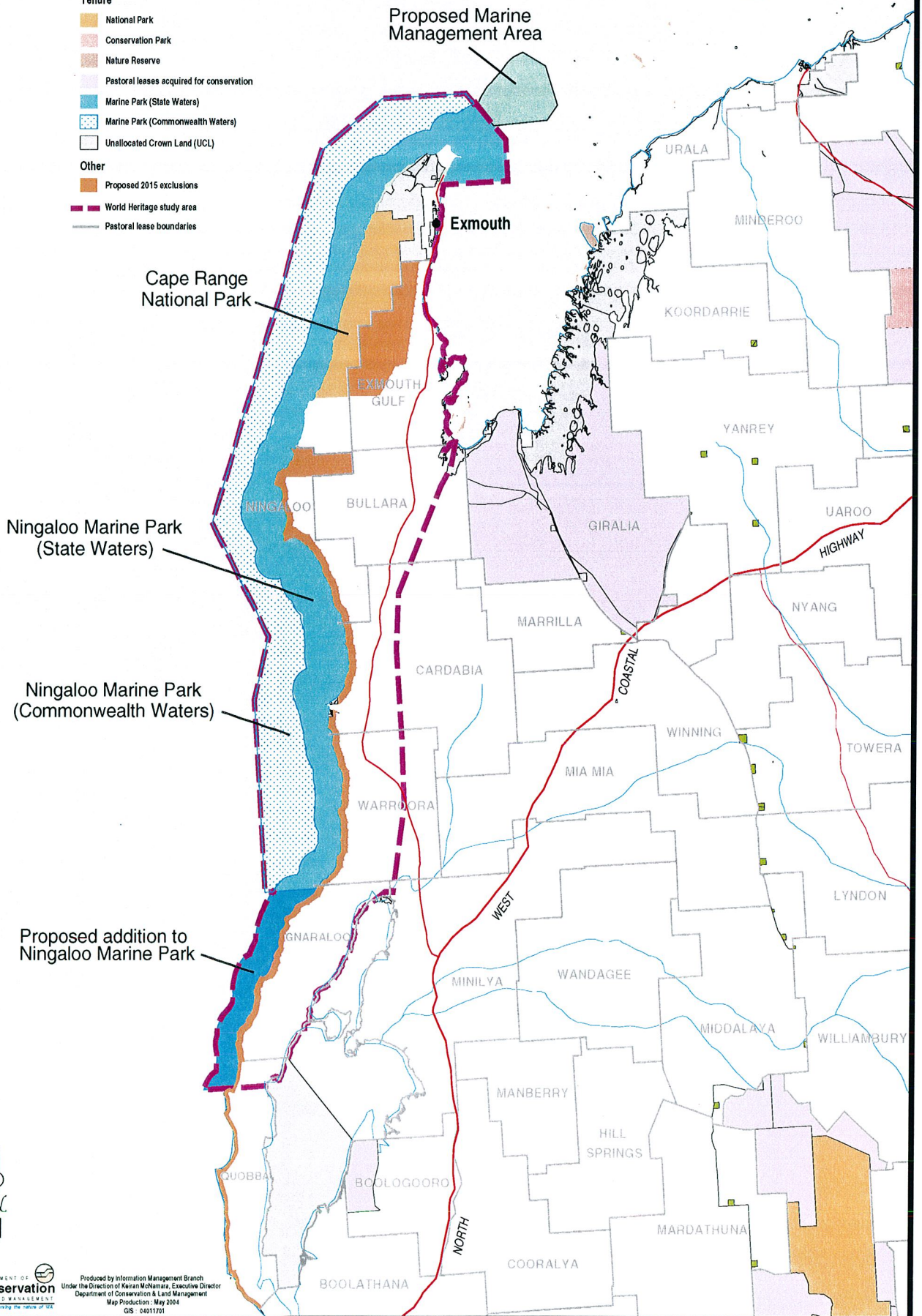
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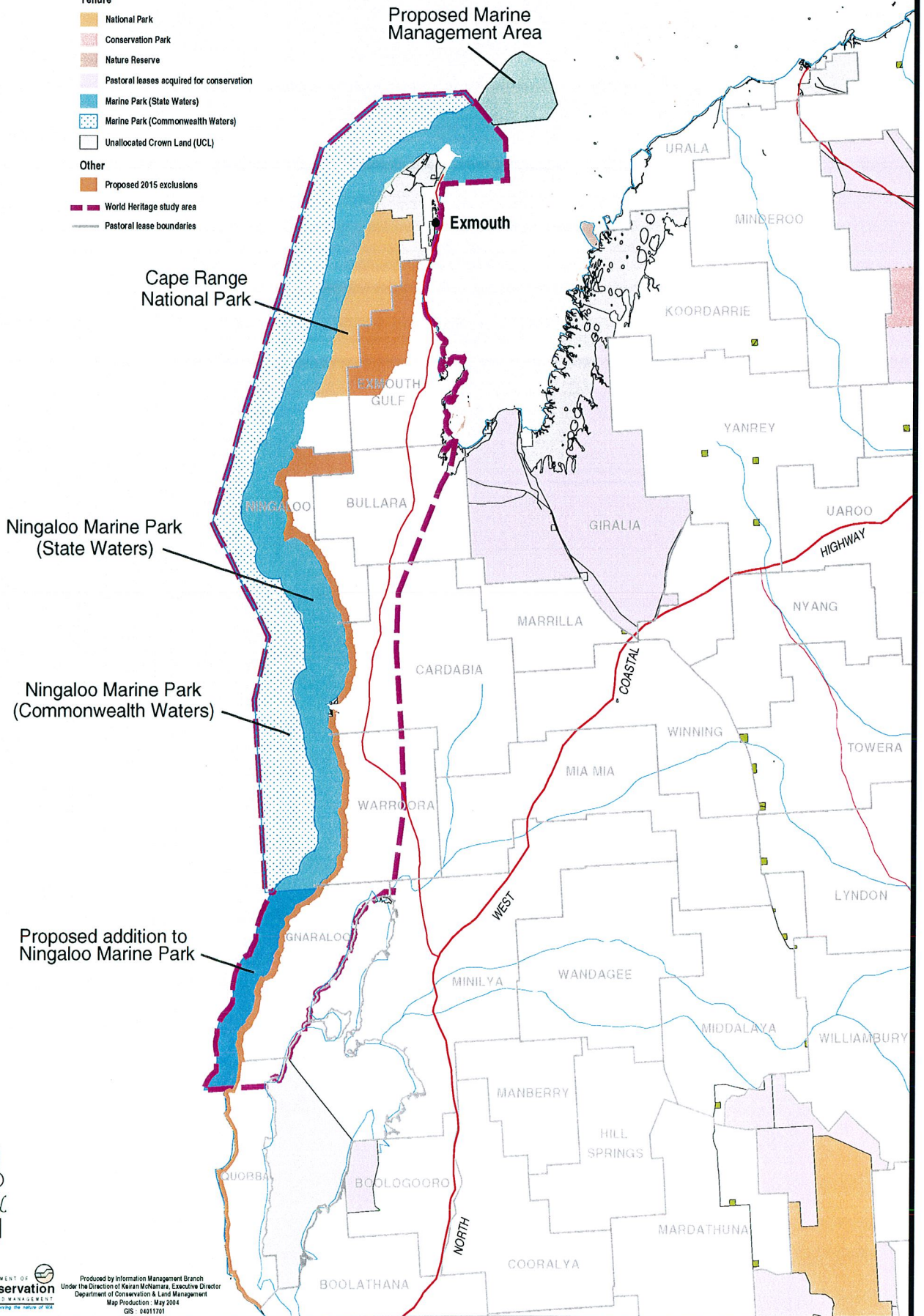
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-  Marine Park (State Waters)
-  Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters)
-  Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)

Other

-  Proposed 2015 exclusions
-  World Heritage study area
-  Pastoral lease boundaries



World Heritage Study Area

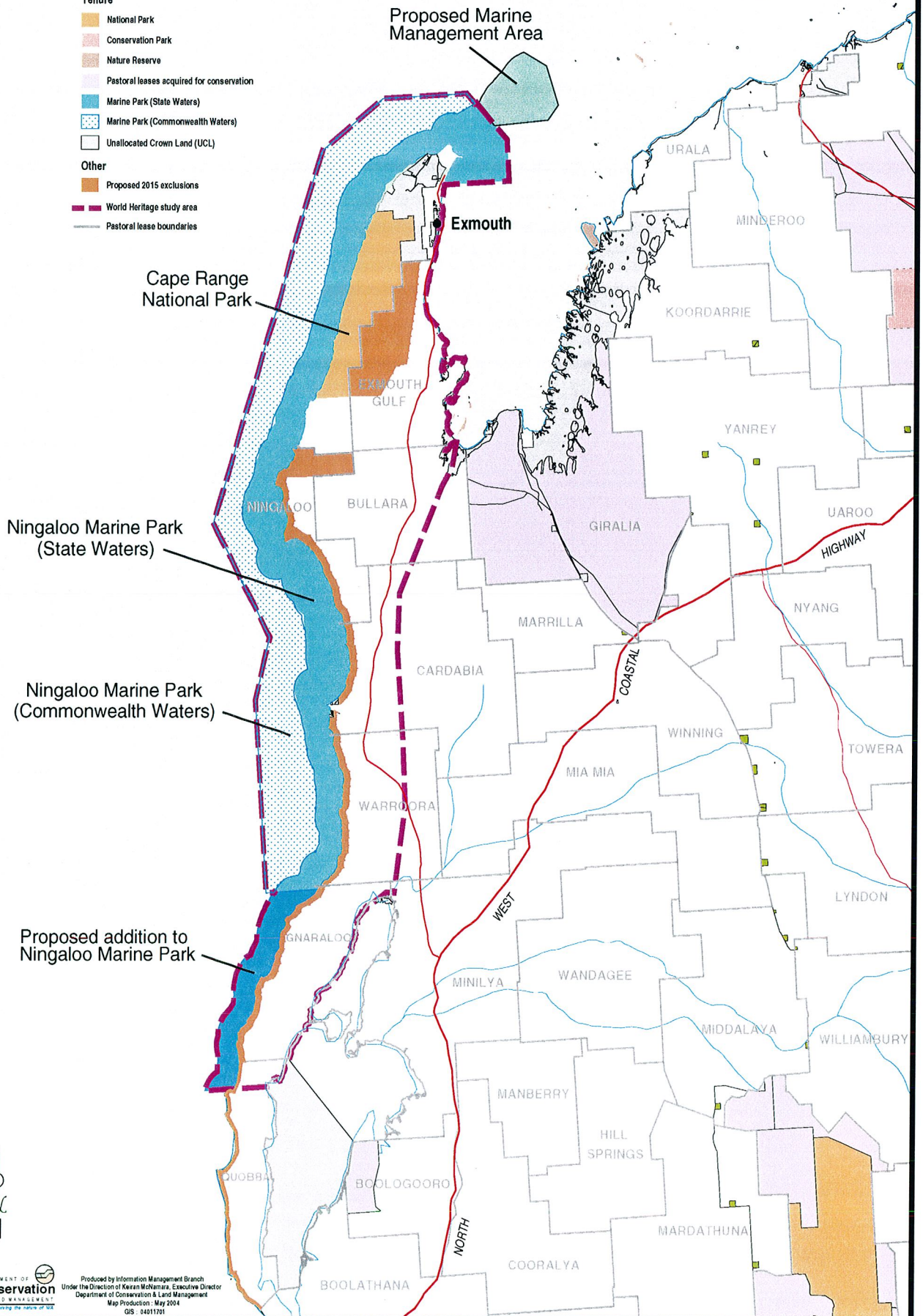
LEGEND

Tenure

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World Heritage Study Area

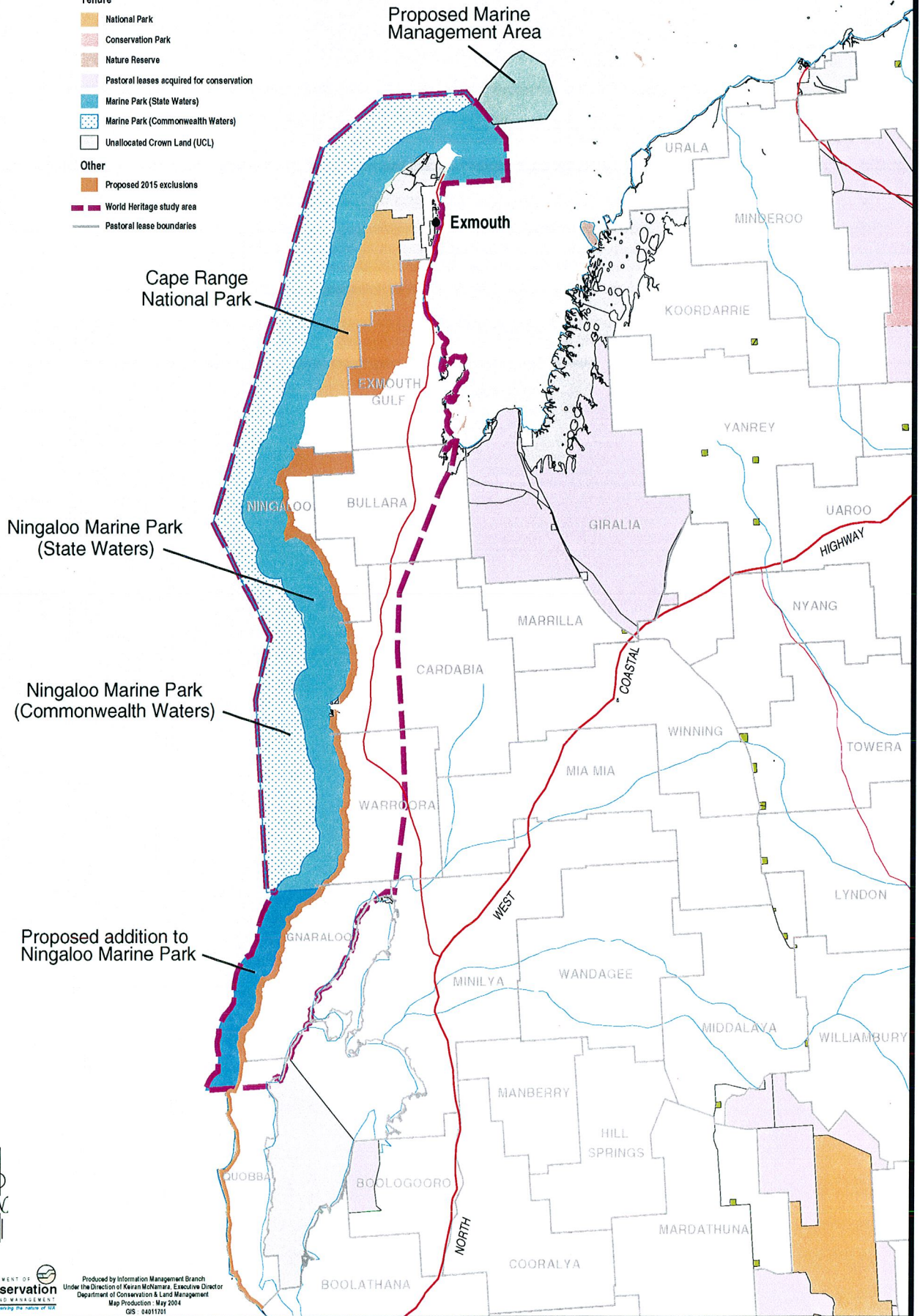
LEGEND

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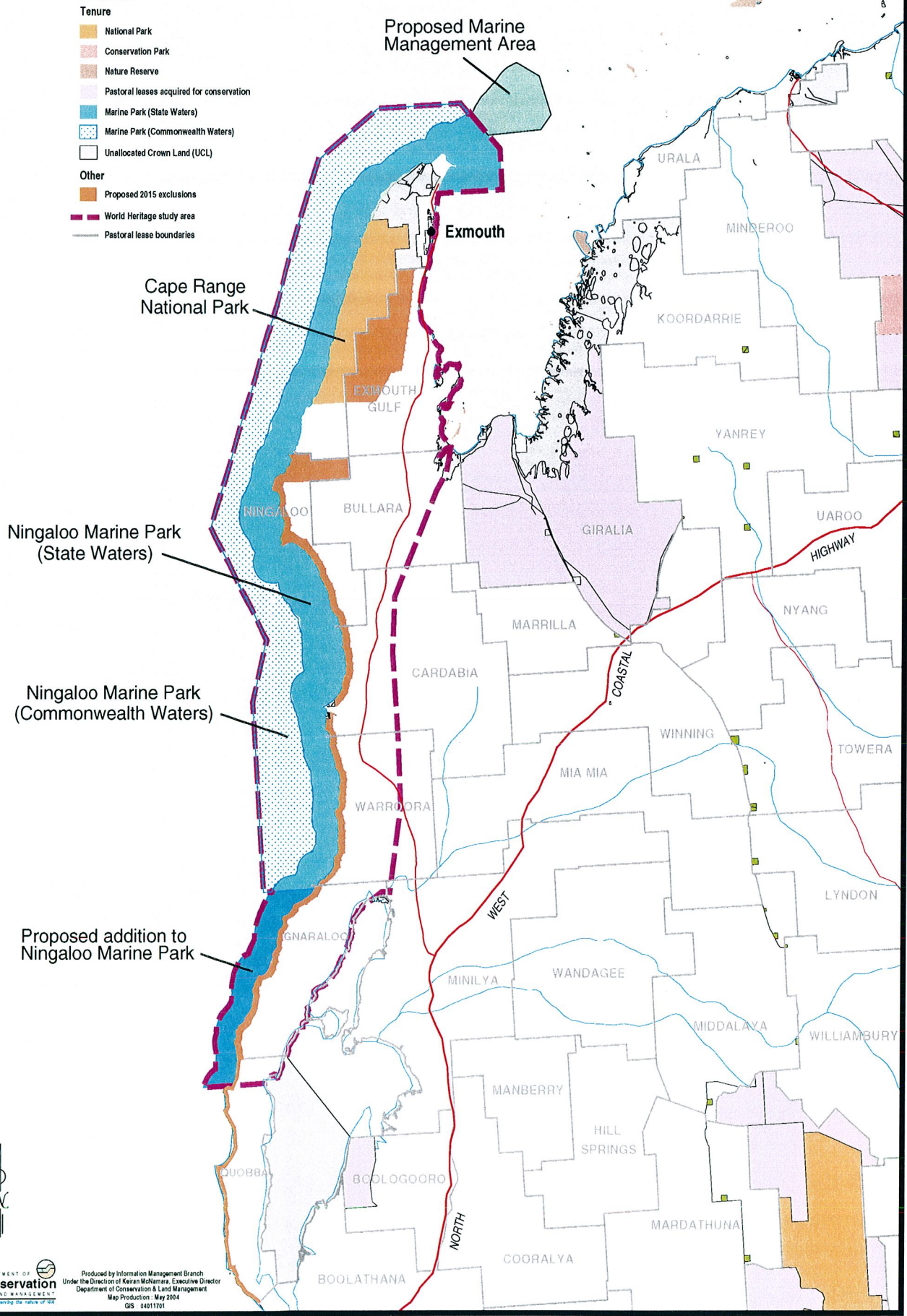


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World Heritage Study Area

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World Heritage Study Area

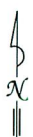
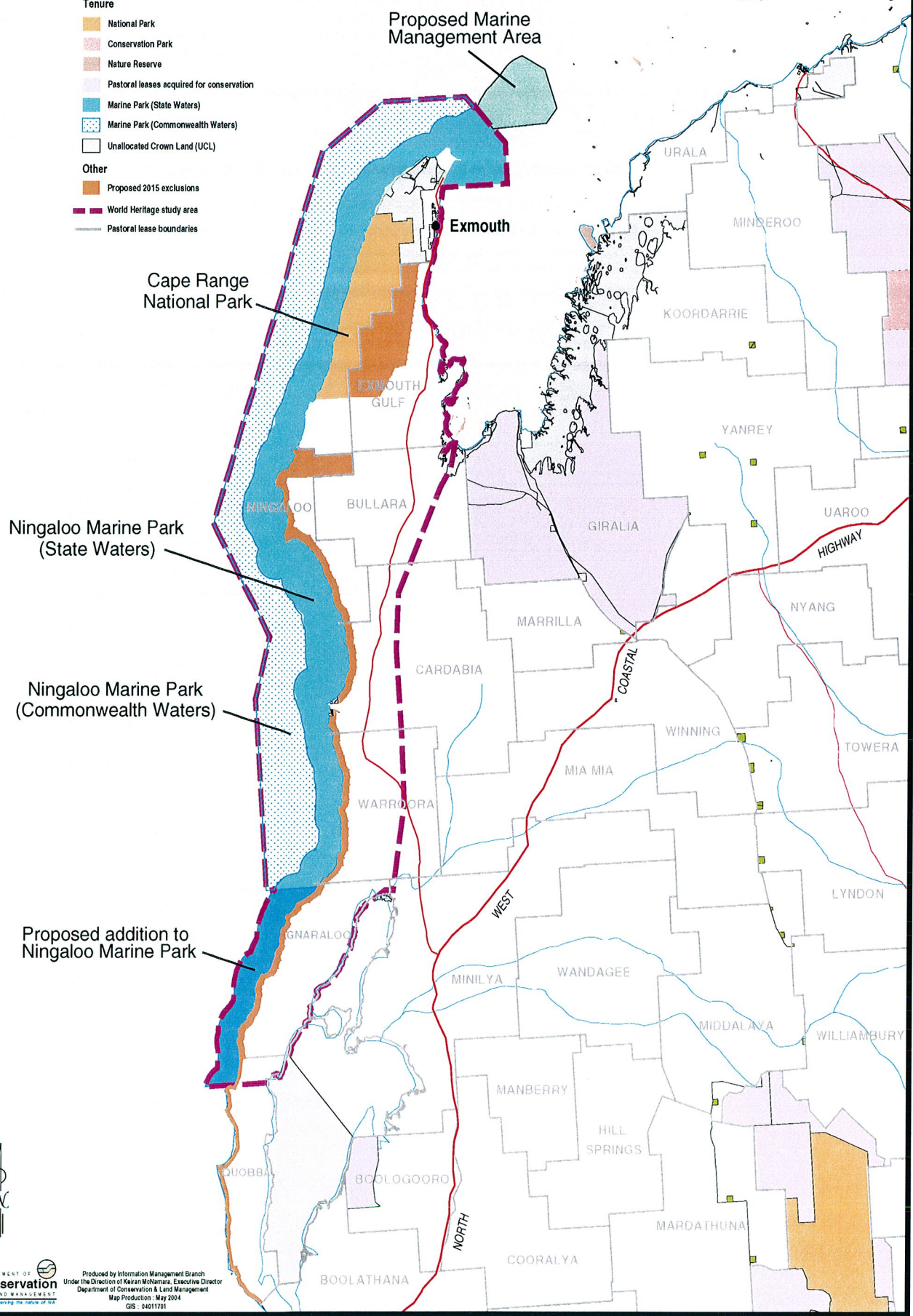
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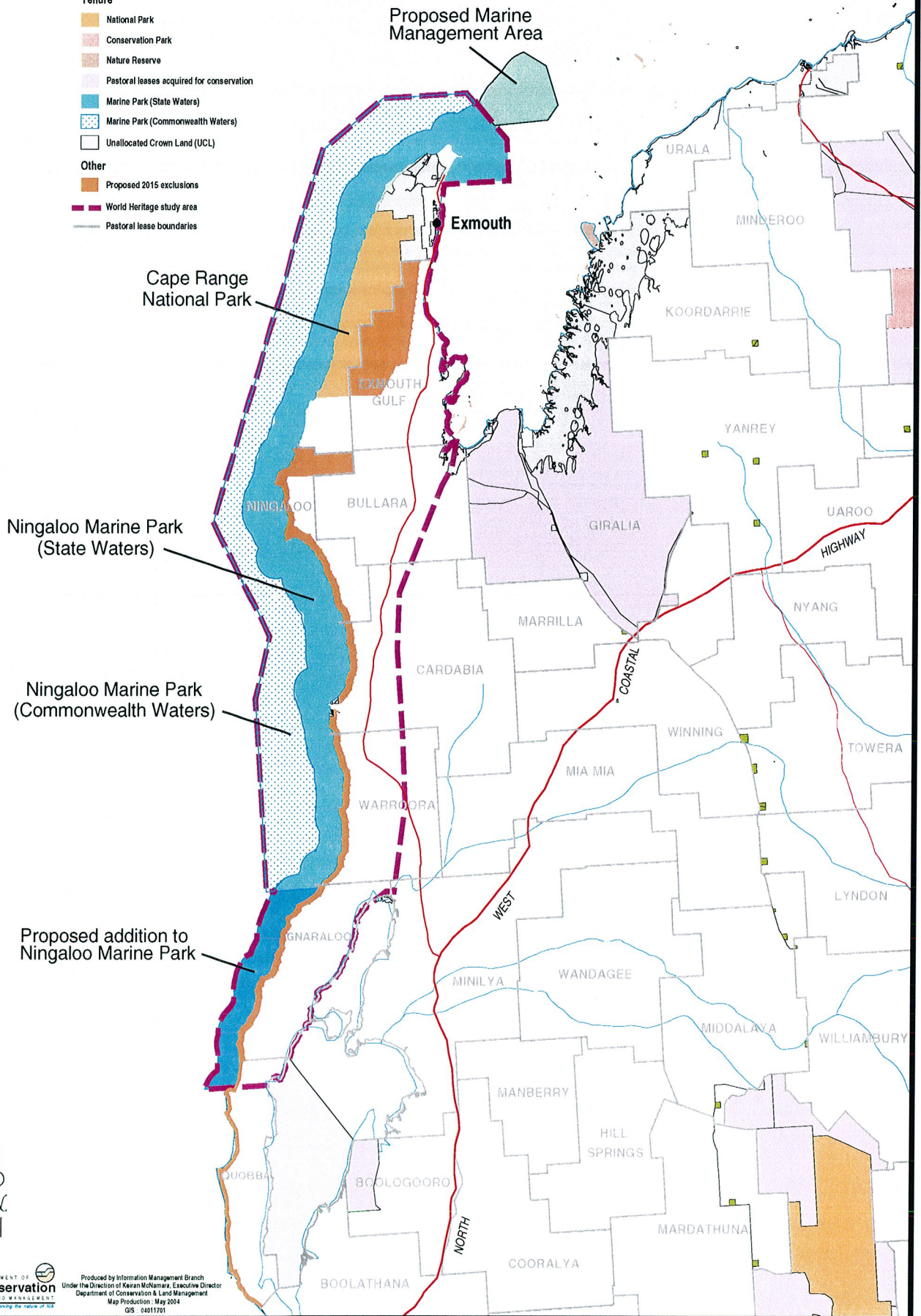
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World Heritage Study Area

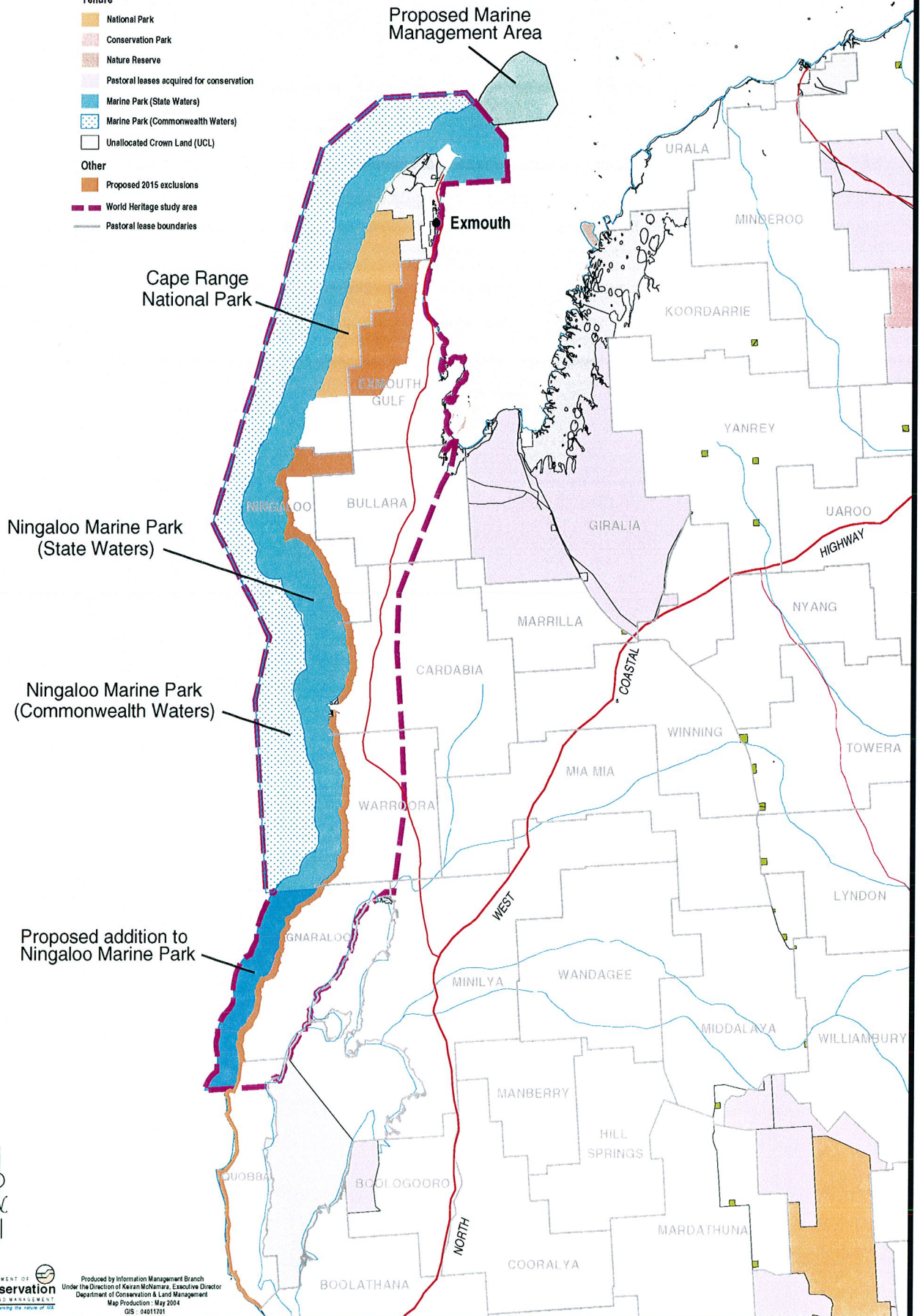
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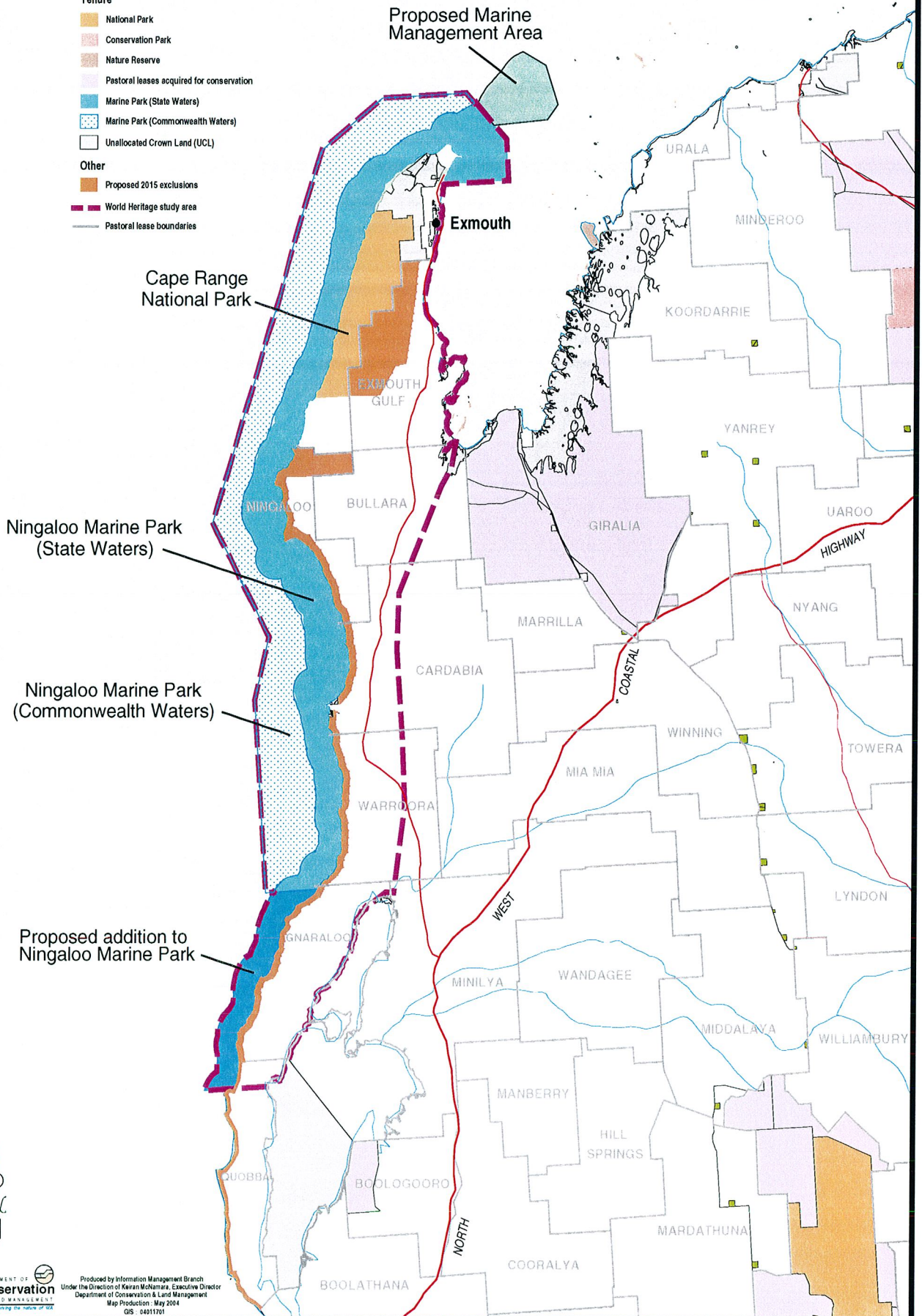
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World Heritage Study Area

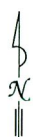
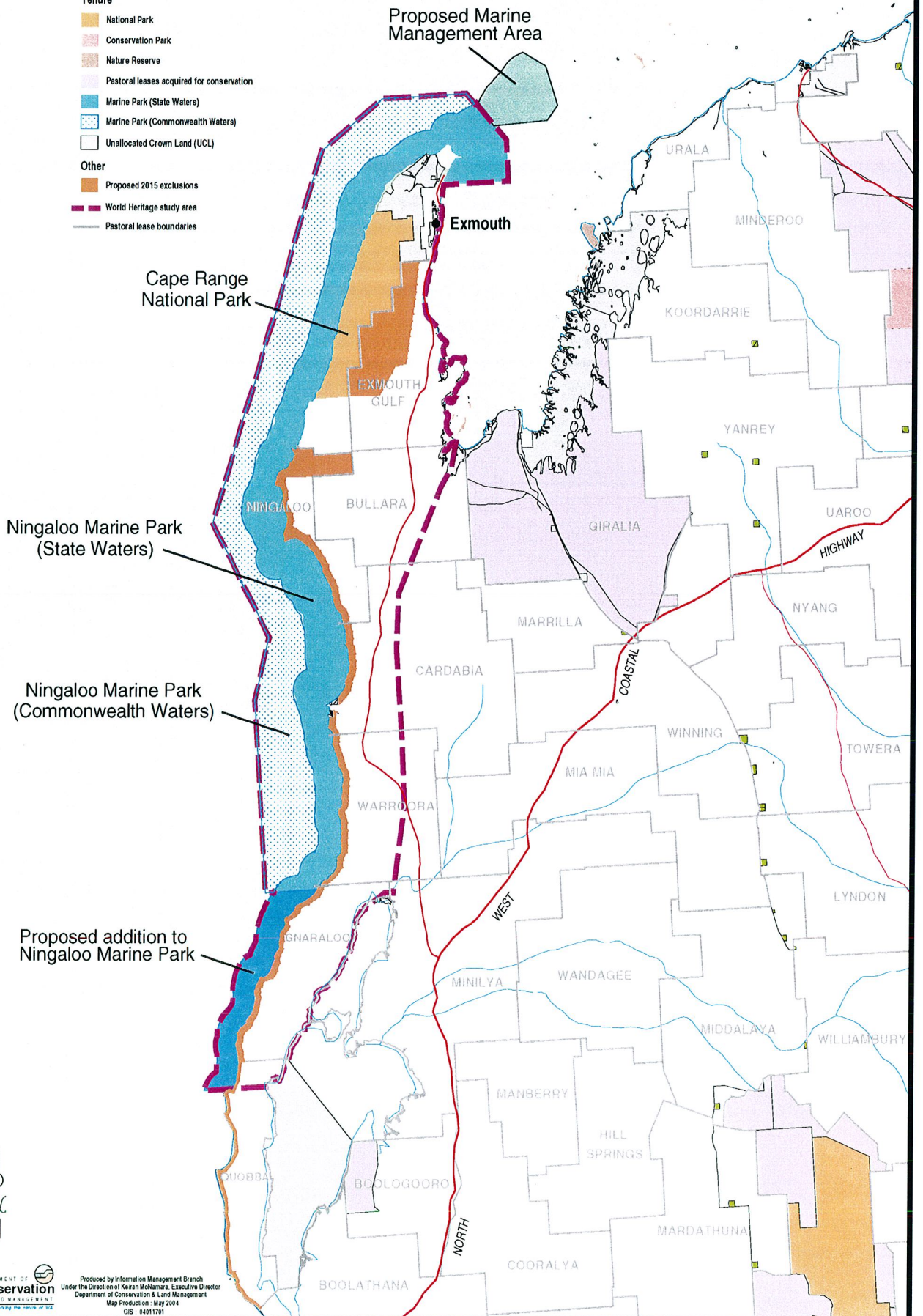
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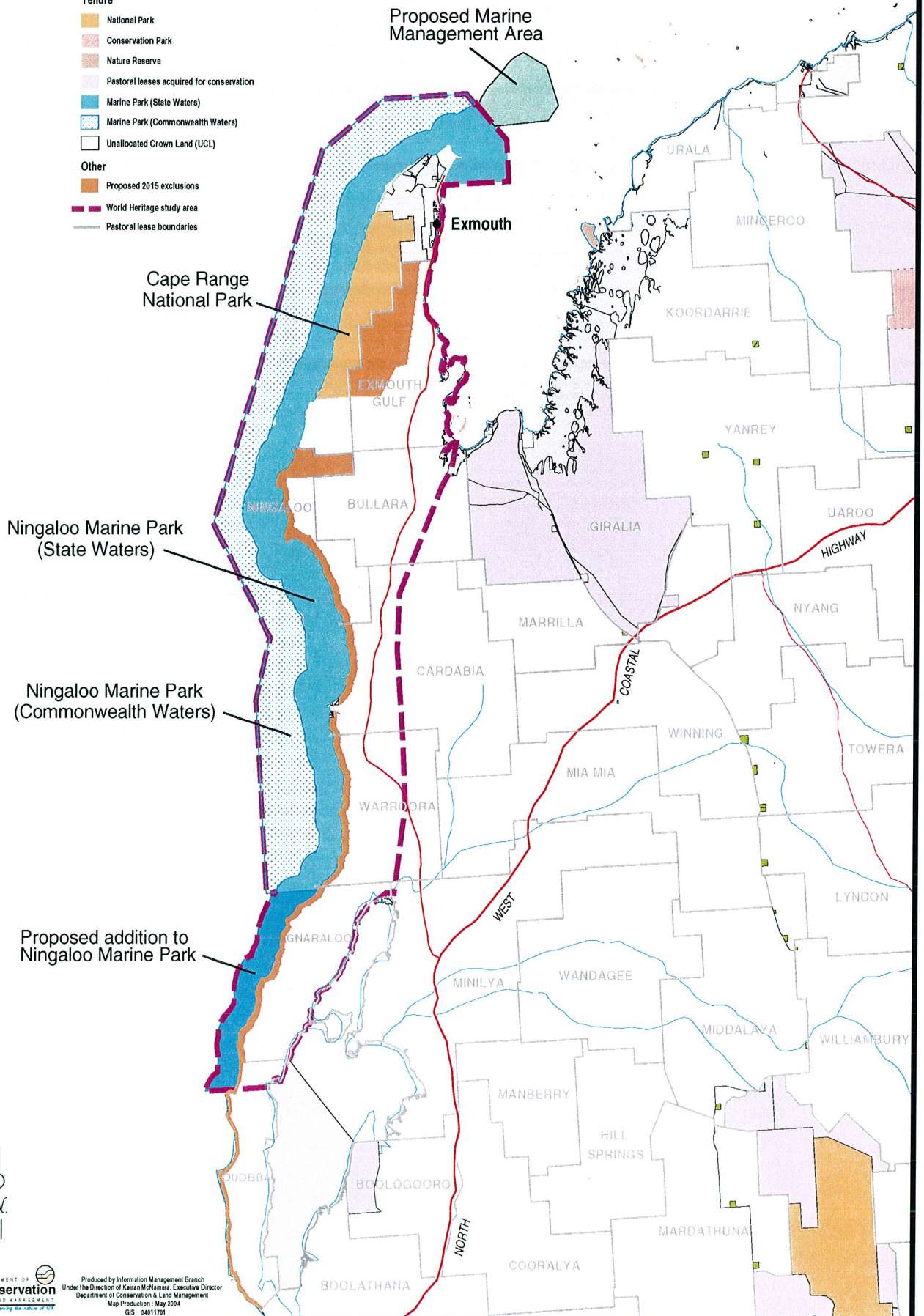
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