



**Report on previously notified proposals under assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* for Australia's World Heritage properties**

For the period 1 December 2020 and 28 February 2021, two activities were granted regulatory approval with conditions following assessment under the EPBC Act, one proposal lapsed, and two were withdrawn.

**Approved (2):**

<b>World Heritage Property:</b>	Australian Convict Sites - Cascades Female Factory
<b>EPBC Number:</b>	2020/8662
<b>Title:</b>	Cascades Female Factory History and Interpretation Centre, Tasmania
<b>Category:</b>	Tourism and Recreation

The proposal by the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority is to construct a new History and Interpretation Centre and associated works at the Australian Convict Sites - Cascades Female Factory in South Hobart, Tasmania. Cascades Female Factory is one of the 11 sites that make up the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Property.

The World Heritage Centre was previously notified of the proposed action in September 2020. The proposal was assessed for likely impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), including aesthetic and construction impacts.

The proposal was approved on 6 January 2021, where the approval conditions include (but are not limited to):

- Implementing avoidance and mitigation measures such as managing impacts of demolition,
- Maintaining accurate and complete compliance records, and
- Preparing and publishing the compliance report after completion of the action.

The notice of the decision to approve with conditions can be viewed online:

<http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/entity/annotation/7d03cc4e-d74f-eb11-82c9-00505684324c/a71d58ad-4cba-48b6-8dab-f3091fc31cd5?t=1617234892190>



<b>World Heritage Property:</b>	Great Barrier Reef
<b>EPBC Number:</b>	2012/6558
<b>Title:</b>	Port of Gladstone Gatcombe and Golding Cutting Channel Duplication Project, Gladstone, Qld
<b>Category:</b>	Transport - Water

The proposal by Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited is to duplicate the existing Gatcombe and Golding Cutting shipping channel, dispose capital dredge spoil at land reclamation, and upgrade associated infrastructure in the Port of Gladstone, Queensland. The port of Gladstone is one of four priority ports areas as declared under the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015* (Qld). The *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015* restricts new port development in and adjoining the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area to within current port limits and outside Commonwealth and state marine parks.

The World Heritage Centre was previously notified of the proposed action in December 2012. The proposal assessed potential impacts to the OUV of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, including impacts to water quality and habitat for seagrasses, dugong, dolphin and turtle populations.

The proposal was approved on 24 December 2020, where the approval conditions include (but are not limited to):

- Minimise impacts to protected matters such as, ensuring the barge unloading facility does not exceed 2.1 hectares in area,
- Undertake monitoring programs and plans for turtles, birds, dolphins and seagrasses, and
- Submit an Environment Management Plan.

The notice of the decision to approve with conditions can be viewed online:

[http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/\\_entity/annotation/e5125dd9-8845-eb11-82c9-00505684324c/a71d58ad-4cba-48b6-8dab-f3091fc31cd5?t=1617240941394](http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/_entity/annotation/e5125dd9-8845-eb11-82c9-00505684324c/a71d58ad-4cba-48b6-8dab-f3091fc31cd5?t=1617240941394)



**Lapsed (1):**

<b>World Heritage Property:</b>	Great Barrier Reef
<b>EPBC Number:</b>	2014/7255
<b>Title:</b>	Bowen Basin Terminal, Hay Point, QLD
<b>Category:</b>	Transport - Water

In November 2014, the World Heritage Centre was advised that the proposal to construct and operate a barging and transshipping terminal at Hay Point on the Queensland coast was determined to be a controlled action and would not proceed unless approval was granted under the EPBC Act. On 25 February 2021 the proposal lapsed.

**Withdrawn (2):**

<b>World Heritage Property:</b>	The Ningaloo Coast
<b>EPBC Number:</b>	2017/8079
<b>Title:</b>	Learmonth Bundle Site and Launchway, WA
<b>Category:</b>	Manufacturing

In March 2018 we advised the World Heritage Centre that the proposal to construct and operate a pipeline fabrication facility on at Heron Point, near Learmonth, approximately 35 km south of Exmouth, Western Australia, and the transportation of the pipelines from the facility to the limit of Western Australian waters was determined to be a controlled action and would not proceed unless approval was granted under the EPBC Act. On 17 February 2021 the proposal was withdrawn.

<b>World Heritage Property:</b>	Great Barrier Reef
<b>EPBC Number:</b>	2020/8829
<b>Title:</b>	Aquatec Pty Ltd prawn farm redevelopment
<b>Category:</b>	Aquaculture

In December 2020 the proposal to redevelop and operate the Annan River prawn farm into an intensive prawn farm with a hatchery and processing facility located 7km South of Cooktown was determined to be a controlled action and would not proceed unless approval was granted under the EPBC Act. On 12 February 2021 the proposal was withdrawn.