

Tantabiddi Boating Facility

Application Number: **02740**

Commencement Date:
10/01/2025

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Tantabiddi Boating Facility

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Transport - Water

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Terminal

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/07/2027

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2029

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

The proposal is for the development of the Tantabiddi Boating Facility (the proposal) is located approximately 15 km west of Exmouth, in the Shire of Exmouth. The proposal is located in the Jurabi Coastal Park, Ningaloo Marine Park (State Waters), Ningaloo Coast National Heritage Place and Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area.

The proposal requires a disturbance footprint of up to 22.6 ha within a 58.4 ha Development Envelope.

The proposal includes the construction of Rubble-mound breakwaters and revetments (3.5 ha) and dredging of the harbour basin and entrance channel (9.7 ha). Marine facilities will include up to six boat ramp, jetties and boat pens to service recreational and commercial boating. Land based facilities will include an entrance road, utilities area, parking, amenities and open space (9.0 ha, including 5.5 ha of vegetation clearing)

Once the new boat ramps are operational the existing Tantabiddi boat ramp will be decommissioned and a small area retained for day use to be managed as part of the Jurabi Coastal Park.

More details about the proposal, its potential impacts and their mitigation is provided in the attached Tantabiddi Environmental Review Summary Document (ERSD)_May 2025 and supporting appendices (A-O).

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

Authority under the *Environmental Protection (EP) Act 1986* is required in Western Australia for undertaking vegetation clearing and dredging activities. The proposal will be referred under section 38 of the *EP Act* in early 2025.

Licence under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (CALM Act)*.

Section 18 clearance under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* was granted in December 2023.

The EPBC Act is likely to be relevant given the proposals location in a National and World Heritage Place, and the potential to impact on other MNES.

Please refer to Section 2 and Tables 4 and 5 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 for more details.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed

consultation documentations, if relevant. *

The Department of Transport has undertaken stakeholder consultation in relation to the Proposal since 2018 with park managers, Traditional Owners, local government and user groups. This has resulted in the selection of the preferred site, the scale of the facility and agreement on the rehabilitation and use of the existing boat launching facility.

Please refer to Section 3 and Tables 6 and 7 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 for more details.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN	27285643255
Organisation name	Department of Transport WA
Organisation address	5 Newman Court, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6160

Referring party details

Name	Troy Sinclair
Job title	Principal Environmental Officer
Phone	0477688426
Email	troy.sinclair@transport.wa.gov.au
Address	5 Newman Court Fremantle WA

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN 27285643255

Organisation name Department of Transport WA

Organisation address 5 Newman Court, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6160

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Troy Sinclair

Job title Principal Environmental Officer

Phone 0477688426

Email troy.sinclair@transport.wa.gov.au

Address 5 Newman Court Fremantle WA

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

The Maritime division of the Department of Transport WA builds and operates boating facilities across Western Australia under various Commonwealth and State approvals.

The DoT are currently constructing the Casuarina Boat Harbour in Bunbury WA, which is a derived proposal of Ministerial Statement 1226 under Part IV of The Environmental Protection Act 1986. Dredge material disposal is occurring under a Sea Dumping Permit (SD2022-4034).

We also operate over 30 facilities across WA, these include facilities which have been authorised under the EPBC Act, such as the Port Hedland Spoilbank Marina (EPBC 2019/8520).

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

NA, but DoT operate under an Environmental Policy and Guideline which are currently under review. In addition to this a Maritime specific Environmental Management System is under development to support our divisions operations.

The DoT are the lead organisation for maritime environmental emergencies in WA.

see <https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imagine/maritime-environmental-emergencies.asp>

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details	
ABN/ACN	27285643255
Organisation name	Department of Transport WA
Organisation address	5 Newman Court, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6160
Proposed designated proponent details	
Name	Troy Sinclair
Job title	Principal Environmental Officer
Phone	0477688426
Email	troy.sinclair@transport.wa.gov.au
Address	5 Newman Court Fremantle WA

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	27285643255
Organisation name	Department of Transport WA
Organisation address	5 Newman Court, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6160
Representative's name	Troy Sinclair
Representative's job title	Principal Environmental Officer
Phone	0477688426
Email	troy.sinclair@transport.wa.gov.au
Address	5 Newman Court Fremantle WA

✔ Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

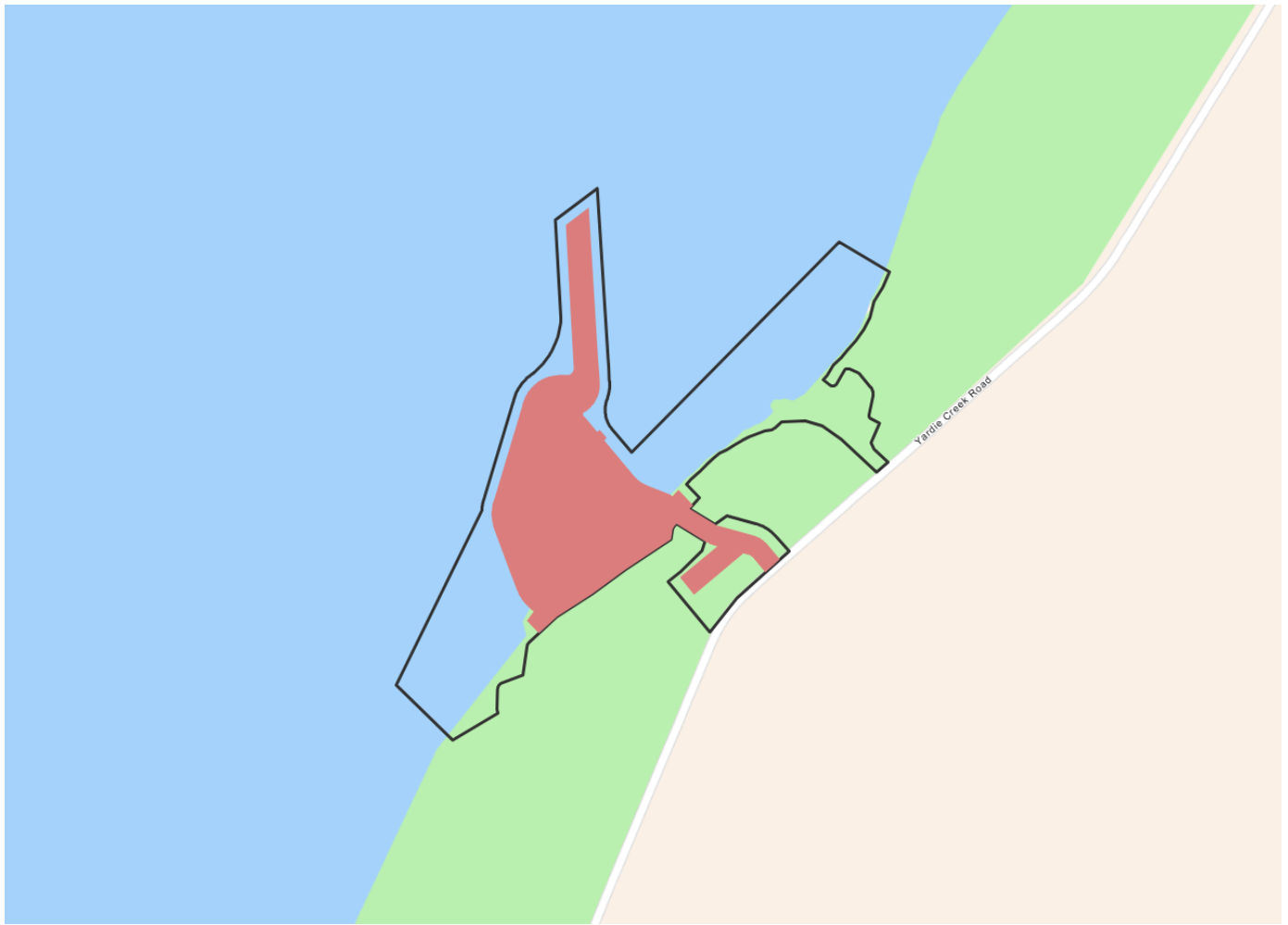
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Proposed designated proponent

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 58.45 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 22.64 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

The land-side of the TBF will be located on Lot 156 within Reserve 40729 (Jurabi Coastal Park)

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Western Australia

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

The land-side of the facility is on Crown Land which is managed as part of the Jurabi Coastal Park. This park was gazetted for the purpose of Recreation and Coastal Management and is jointly managed by the Shire of Exmouth and DBCA.

The marine component is located within Ningaloo Marine Park and Muiron Islands Marine Management Area and is managed by DBCA.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

Tantabiddi Boating Facility proposal is located in the Shire of Exmouth approximately 15 km west of the town of Exmouth (or about 40 km by road) on the western side of Cape Range.

Historically the land area was used as a pastoral lease, but it is now managed as part of the Jurabi Coastal Park which is jointly managed by Shire of Exmouth and Department for Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions [DBCA]) and the intended land use is for conservation and recreation. The sea area is part of Ningaloo Marine Park (managed by DBCA).

The landscape is largely intact and the vegetation is in mostly good condition. Being on the NW corner of WA it is exposed to the impacts of cyclones and occasional bushfires.

The majority of infrastructure on the western side of the Cape Range is tourism orientated, such as low-key accommodation; access roads; coastal access points; visitor centres; and boat ramps.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

The project area is currently the main boat access node for the northern section of Ningaloo Marine Park. This occurs via the existing boat ramp which is located 300 m to the north of the proposed facility. About 500 m offshore from the ramp is a mooring area where charter vessels are moored, and passengers are transferred to them via tender vessels. The existing ramp and many of the moorings are proposed to be decommissioned once the boating facility is completed. Section 1 (Introduction) and 1.1 (site history) of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 describes the usage of the Tantabiddi area.

The broader area is primarily used for conservation and recreation as part of the Jurabi Coastal Park and Ningaloo Marine Park. Section 1.3 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 describes the background on conservation reserves of the area with Figure 5 showing the proposed facility in reference to existing tenure.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

The proposal is located in the Jurabi Coastal Park, Ningaloo Marine Park (State Waters), Ningaloo Coast National Heritage Area and Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area.

A site selection process was undertaken with stakeholders to identify the best area to locate a boating facility. The proposed location was chosen as the preferred site as it is already used for boating activities, is well located in reference to the passages to oceanic waters that are currently used by boats and avoided key values such as turtle rookeries and bird aggregation/roosting areas.

Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 Section 4.5 Marine Environment and section 4.6 Terrestrial Environment summarise respective values.

More details are provided in the sections for Preliminary Key Environmental Factors (6.1 Benthic communities and Habitats, 6.2 coastal processes, 6.3 Marine environmental quality, 6.4 Marine Fauna, 6.5 Flora and Vegetation and 6.6 Social surroundings) of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The proposal is located on the shoreline and extends into the Ningaloo reef lagoon, which is generally around 1-3 m deep. The breakwaters will extend about 450 m offshore to water up to about 1 m deep and the channel will extend about 700 m offshore in waters up to about 2 m deep.

More details of the coastal processes and hydrodynamics of the lagoon are provided in Appen C- Tanatabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA

The sand dunes near the proposal are around 6 m in height, which is typical in the local area, but larger dunes occur along other parts of the coastline.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 Section 6.5 (Flora and Vegetation) describes the receiving environment and flora. The proposal has been designed to limit clearing to 5.5 ha, and to avoid impacts to any known or potential conservation significant flora species.

Appen I Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys and Appen J Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys Addendum have more details of the flora and vegetation surveys and values.

No significant terrestrial fauna species are known to rely on the project area and limited impacts to terrestrial fauna from the proposal are predicted, as such we consider it to be a potential other environmental factor (as per WA EPA guidance) (see Section 5.3 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025).

Appen M Tantabiddi Terrestrial Fauna and Stygofauna Assessment contains more details around terrestrial fauna.

Marine Fauna are described in Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA and the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 (section 6.4).

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 Section 6.5 (Flora and Vegetation) describes the receiving environment and vegetation types. The proposal has been designed to limit clearing to 5.5 ha, and to avoid impacts to any known or potential conservation significant vegetation communities.

Appen I Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys and Appen J Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys Addendum have more details of the flora and vegetation surveys and values.

The condition of vegetation in and around the proposal area is in good to very good condition, with only small areas poor to degraded condition (see Figure 37 and Table 26 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025).

Benthic Communities are described in Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA and the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 (section 6.1).

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

The proposal is located in the Ningaloo Coast National Heritage Area and Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area. Details around the heritage listing are provided in of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 Section 6.6.1 (Natural and Historical Heritage).

Commonwealth heritage places in the region are:

- Ningaloo Marine Area - Commonwealth Waters, offshore from the proposed facility
- Learmonth Air Weapons Range Facility, Learmonth, 55 km SW of the proposed facility

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

The project was introduced to the Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation (NTGAC) during a presentation in March 2021 and a site visit was subsequently undertaken with NTGAC representatives in August 2021. On 2–4 June 2022 a cultural heritage survey was undertaken of the site together with nominated members of the Bayungu and Yinnigurrura Peoples appointed by the NTGAC. A post-survey workshop with Traditional Owners was held on 20 October 2022 where it was agreed to proceed with project planning. Site surveys were undertaken in 2021 and 2022 with NTGAC representatives who later confirmed their support for the project to proceed this included support for the location of the access road going through an identified midden site (see also Section 6.6 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025).

During the cultural heritage survey the Traditional Owners expressed the wish that the existing Tantabiddi Boat Ramp be completely removed, that the site be rehabilitated and the mouth of Tantabiddi Creek be restored to its original state (Acacia Heritage, 2022). This is part of this proposal.

The access road through an identified midden site has received Section 18 Consent under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (see Append B Section 18 Consent)

See Section 4.8.1 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 for more information around aboriginal heritage. Four CONFIDENTIAL heritage reports are attached, which are not for public distribution.

There will be ongoing liaison with and involvement of Traditional Owners during the detailed design, construction and operational phases of the proposal.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 Section 4.3 (Hydrology) provides background on surface water flows of the region and includes studies on flooding events of Tantabiddi creek and the related sedimentation impacts which have on occasions rendered the current boat ramp inoperable until dredging is undertaken. The modelled frequency of events large enough to impact on the current boat ramp is 2 to 5 years recurrence, with a wider area of impact predicted for more severe rainfall events. The proposed facility has been located outside of the predicted and previously observed areas of siltation. More details around these studies are provided in Appen N, Tantabiddi Creek Hydrology Geomorphology Study.

Significant volumes of groundwater flow out of the Karst system. Estimates of discharge have been calculated to be between 40 m³day⁻¹ to 150m³day⁻¹ for every 155m of shoreline length.

More details on groundwater are provided in Appen K Tantabiddi Estimation of Groundwater Flows to Coast.

Details of the coastal processes and hydrodynamics of the lagoon are provided in Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA.

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	Yes	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	Yes	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	Yes	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	World heritage
Yes	Yes	The Ningaloo Coast

4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.1.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

The proposal has a footprint of 22.6 ha, with ephemeral macroalgae being the majority of impacted habitat, whilst 5.5 ha of terrestrial vegetation will be directly impacted. Direct impact to coral will be limited to 0.05 ha

Indirect impacts to marine habitats and species during construction due to short term turbidity, mobilisation of sediment and noise have been considered and predicted. These are described in Sections 6.1, 6.3 and 6.4 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025. More details are provided in Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA, whilst technical data and modelling to estimates are in Appen D, E, F and G.

No impacts to the fresh groundwater aquifer, karst system, or associated stygofauna are predicted as no groundwater will be abstracted, there is no significant excavation of the terrestrial environment, the footprint is largely over the saltwater portion of the aquifer and is down gradient of the freshwater aquifer. (see section 5.3, 6.3.2 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Appen C, K, M and N).

The landscapes and seascapes of the heritage area are comprised of mostly intact and large-scale marine, coastal and terrestrial environments. Construction of a 22.6 ha facility could be considered as compromising the intactness of the local area.

More details on the impacts on the Ningaloo Coast world Heritage listing and values impacts is provided in section 6.6 (social surroundings) and 6.6.1 (Natural and Historical Heritage) of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025.

4.1.1.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

Yes

4.1.1.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A number of world heritage values have the potential for significant direct and indirect impacts if not managed appropriately.

4.1.1.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.1.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

As the proposal is located in a listed heritage area, it is subject to the EPBC Act of 1999 according to all proposed activities with possible significant impacts on the values of the site require assessments.

4.1.1.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

The proposed location will be 300 m south of the existing Tantabiddi boat ramp which is the main access node to Ningaloo Reef. By locating close to an existing infrastructure node, the proposal does not further impact on the integrity/intactness of the landscape and ecosystems of areas that are free from previous human disturbances and infrastructure.

The facility has been sighted to minimise impacts on sensitive/high value habitats. Direct impact to coral will be limited to 0.05 ha and 0.07 ha of seagrass.

The height of the TBF breakwaters will not be significantly different to the Tantabiddi Boat Ramp so that the viewshed will align with the user's current perception of the area. The height of the structures associated with the TBF will be below that of the adjacent sand dunes so the TBF will be largely screened from the road and will also not be silhouetted against the horizon when viewed from offshore. The visual amenity is further aided through the use of natural limestone for the breakwaters which provides a visually similar appearance to that of the existing landscape elements such as limestone cliffs.

Materials for breakwater construction will be supplied from outside of the heritage area from existing quarries which have the capacity to produce the required materials (see CONFIDENTIAL Trinacria 2024 assessment of local quarries). This document is not publicly available due to it containing commercially sensitive information and does not provide information that informs the public about the proposal.

There are a variety of construction techniques that can be applied to minimise construction related impacts, such as reuse of dredge material for reclamation rather than sea dumping, dredging techniques suitable for the geology of the area. Management of construction impacts are summarised in pp 7-9, 48-51, 62-69, 77-84 of the Tantabiddi ERSD_May 2025, with more details on the technical aspects and geotechnical assessment of constructability provided in CONFIDENTIAL Tantabiddi Dredging and Coastal Structures Constructability Assessment. This document is not publicly available due to it containing commercially sensitive information and does not provide information that informs the public about the proposal.

Decommissioning of the existing Tantabiddi boat ramp reduces cumulative impacts on values of the area and returns the site to an end state that is aligned with the values and landuse of Jurabi Coastal Park.

Within this application see sections on Threatened Species and Ecological Communities, and migratory species for details of avoidance of impacts to fauna.

4.1.1.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Nil as no significant residual impacts are predicted.

The Resilience Strategy for the Ningaloo Coast identified the need for effective emergency planning and management to support the resilience of the ecosystem and community (DBCA, 2023). Whilst the world heritage listing stated “Potential off-shore hydrocarbon extraction in the region surrounding the property requires careful consideration in order to prevent potential pollution and disturbance. The coastline's significant length and remoteness poses major challenges to responses to pollution incidents suggesting a need for further investments in emergency response.”

The TBF will provide improved infrastructure for emergency and pollution response on the west side of the Cape Range peninsula, adjacent to offshore petroleum fields and busy shipping routes. DoT are the lead organisation for marine oil spills and hold response equipment in Exmouth townsite.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	National heritage
Yes	Yes	The Ningaloo Coast

4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.2.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

see previous responses to World Heritage Area

4.1.2.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

Yes

4.1.2.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

see previous responses to World Heritage Area

4.1.2.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.2.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

see previous responses to World Heritage Area

4.1.2.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

see previous responses to World Heritage Area

4.1.2.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

see previous responses to World Heritage Area

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

Not applicable. The nearest Ramsar Wetland is located at 80 Mile Beach, ~640 km northeast of the project area

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Aipysurus apraefrontalis</i>	Short-nosed Sea Snake, Short-nosed Seasnake
No	No	<i>Aipysurus foliosquama</i>	Leaf-scaled Sea Snake, Leaf-scaled Seasnake
No	No	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blue Whale
No	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Carcharias taurus</i> (west coast population)	Grey Nurse Shark (west coast population)
No	No	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	White Shark, Great White Shark
No	Yes	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle
No	No	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover, Large Sand Plover
No	No	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
No	No	<i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i>	Northern Quoll, Digul [Gogo-Yimidir], Wijingadda [Dambimangari], Wiminji [Martu]
No	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
No	Yes	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Turtle
No	No	<i>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</i>	Red Goshawk
No	No	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Southern Right Whale
No	No	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon
No	No	<i>Limosa lapponica menzbieri</i>	Northern Siberian Bar-tailed Godwit, Russkoye Bar-tailed Godwit
No	No	<i>Macroderma gigas</i>	Ghost Bat
No	No	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Milyeringa veritas	Cape Range Cave Gudgeon, Blind Gudgeon
No	No	Natator depressus	Flatback Turtle
No	No	Numenius madagascariensis	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
No	No	Ophisternon candidum	Blind Cave Eel
No	No	Orcaella heinsohni	Australian Snubfin Dolphin
No	No	Petrogale lateralis lateralis	Black-flanked Rock-wallaby, Moororong, Black-footed Rock Wallaby
No	No	Pezoporus occidentalis	Night Parrot
No	No	Phaethon lepturus fulvus	Christmas Island White-tailed Tropicbird, Golden Bosunbird
No	No	Phaethon rubricauda westralis	Red-tailed Tropicbird (Indian Ocean), Indian Ocean Red-tailed Tropicbird
No	No	Pristis clavata	Dwarf Sawfish, Queensland Sawfish
No	No	Pristis pristis	Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish
No	No	Pristis zijsron	Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish
No	Yes	Rhincodon typus	Whale Shark
No	No	Rhinonictoris aurantia (Pilbara form)	Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat
No	No	Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	Sousa sahalensis	Australian Humpback Dolphin
No	No	Sphyrna lewini	Scalloped Hammerhead
No	No	Sternula albifrons	Little Tern
No	No	Sternula nereis nereis	Australian Fairy Tern
No	No	Thalassarche carteri	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross

Ecological communities

—

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

The footprint is located in shallow water, that is a mixture of bare sand and limestone rubble with a low cover of algae. The proposal has a footprint of 22.6 ha, with ephemeral macroalgae being the majority of the habitat impacted, whilst 5.5 ha of terrestrial vegetation is predicted to be impacted.

Indirect impacts to marine habitats and species during construction due to short term turbidity, mobilisation of sediment and noise have been considered and predicted. These are described in Sections 6.1, 6.3 and 6.4 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025. More details are provided in Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA, whilst technical data and modelling of impacts are in Appen D-Dredge plume modelling report, Appen E- Tantabiddi underwater noise modelling report, and appen F-Tantabiddi Coastal processes study.

The proposal is adjacent to karst system which supports a variety of subterranean fauna. These are detailed in Appen M Terrestrial Fauna and Stygofauna assessment. No impacts to groundwater, the karst system or cave fauna they support are predicted.

A Biologically Important Area (BIA) for Whale Shark foraging is located offshore of the Ningaloo reef in the vicinity of the proposal

The proposal area is located within a Reproduction BIA for each of these turtle species

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

No

4.1.4.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

The area directly impacted by the Tantabiddi Boating Facility is not key habitat for any of the listed species.

Of the 51 vertebrate species of conservation significance recorded or that may be present in the project area, most are expected only as visitors or irregular visitors in small numbers. This includes migratory waterbirds and sea turtles, which make some use of the coastline in the immediate vicinity of Tantabiddi.

Indirect impacts from construction can be managed to minimise the extent and duration of impacts.

Key mitigation measures for marine fauna will be listed in a Construction EMP which is currently in developed, but are outlined in sections 6.4 (Marine Fauna) of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025. This will include seasonal controls to noise generated from external piling to reduce the interaction with the southbound humpback whale migrations.

Whale sharks are in relative high densities in waters outside of the reef and generally do not enter the inner lagoon. There will be very limited impacts to offshore waters during construction. Some residual noise and occasional low levels of turbidity could be expected but not beyond normal levels of variation or at levels which would cause harm.

No turtle nesting in the vicinity of the proposal. More details on turtles are provided on pp 75- 81 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and pp 159-167 of Appen C Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.4.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action.

*

Avoidance of impacts and mitigation of potential impacts to Threatened Species is expected to result in any significant residual impacts.

Invertebrate stygofauna of conservation significance are expected to be present but are poorly documented from Tantabiddi Sinkhole. The amphipod shrimp *Grandidierella* sp. nov. is known only from Tantabiddi Sinkhole and while not of listed conservation significance, can be assigned the informal 'locally significant' status. No impacts to the fresh groundwater aquifer, karst system, or associated stygofauna are predicted as no groundwater will be abstracted, there is no significant excavation of the terrestrial environment, the footprint is largely over the saltwater portion of the aquifer and is down gradient of the freshwater aquifer. (see section 5.3 and 6.3.2 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025).

Construction impacts offshore will be very limited in duration, extent and intensity. Whilst operational impacts offshore will be managed via other statutory processes. Whale Shark impacts are not expected and licenced tours will continue to operate.

No impact to turtle nesting and only short-term turbidity impacts on some foraging areas.

No impacts to Threatened Ecological Communities are predicted.

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

The site selection identified the proposed location as the preferred site as it is already used for boating activities and avoided values such as turtle rookeries and bird aggregation/roosting areas.

The proposal area has avoiding nesting areas for turtles. Turtles only occasionally use the proposal area for foraging, and it is unlikely these species rely solely on the habitats impacted.

Whale Sharks forage over a significant length of the Ningaloo Coast and are not reliant on the

Locating the proposal west (seaward) of the karst habitat has avoided impacted to this value and the species it supports.

Mitigation of impacts to Threatened Species that use the areas on occasions is not expected to result in any significant residual impacts. These measures are described in sections 6.1.4, 6.2.4, 6.3.4 and 6.4.4 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

No significant residual impacts are expected.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	Common Noddy
No	No	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	Bryde's Whale
No	No	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blue Whale
No	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic Whitetip Shark
No	No	<i>Carcharias taurus</i>	Grey Nurse Shark
No	No	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	White Shark, Great White Shark
No	Yes	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle
No	No	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover, Large Sand Plover
No	No	<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	Oriental Plover, Oriental Dotterel
No	Yes	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
No	No	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Salt-water Crocodile, Estuarine Crocodile
No	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
No	Yes	<i>Dugong dugon</i>	Dugong
No	Yes	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Turtle
No	No	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Southern Right Whale
No	No	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird
No	No	<i>Glareola maldivarum</i>	Oriental Pratincole

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow
No	No	Limosa lapponica	Bar-tailed Godwit
No	No	Macronectes giganteus	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel
No	Yes	Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback Whale
No	Yes	Mobula alfredi	Reef Manta Ray, Coastal Manta Ray
No	No	Mobula birostris	Giant Manta Ray
No	No	Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail
No	No	Motacilla flava	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	Natator depressus	Flatback Turtle
No	No	Numenius madagascariensis	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
No	No	Orcaella heinsohni	Australian Snubfin Dolphin
No	Yes	Orcinus orca	Killer Whale, Orca
No	Yes	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey
No	No	Phaethon lepturus	White-tailed Tropicbird
No	No	Pristis clavata	Dwarf Sawfish, Queensland Sawfish
No	No	Pristis pristis	Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish
No	No	Pristis zijsron	Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish
No	Yes	Rhincodon typus	Whale Shark
No	No	Sousa sahalensis	Australian Humpback Dolphin
No	No	Sternula albifrons	Little Tern
No	No	Thalassarche carteri	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross
No	No	Tursiops aduncus (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)	Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

See response to Threatened species for turtles and whale sharks

Short term construction related indirect impacts are possible to humpback whales, Dugongs, Orcas and Ospreys which have a high chance of occur in the vicinity at certain times of the year.

Humpback whales migrate past Ningaloo Reef on their north and southward migrations. The proposal is within a BIA migration corridor for Humpback Whales. Humpback whales very rarely enter the lagoon.

A pod of Orcas who seasonally reside in waters outside of the reef which primarily hunt on migrating humpback whales.

Dugongs may occur within the reef lagoon which will have some localised increases in turbidity and noise during construction.

Ospreys occasionally forage in the proposal area. The existing Tantabiddi boat ramp has an old standpipe structure which on occasions is used as a nesting site.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

*

No

4.1.5.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

see response to Threatened species for turtles and whale sharks

Humpback Whale northbound migration is generally more offshore than the southward migration, when mothers and calves often stay close to the reef for protection from predators. Potential construction impacts during their southbound migration will be carefully managed.

The pod of Orca's who seasonally reside in waters outside of the reef to hunt on migrating humpback whales. Construction will be managed in a manner where significant construction related noise (such as external impact piling) is avoided during the southward whale migration, which could otherwise disturb the humpback whale/Orca prey/predator interactions. These occur around 2 km from the boating facility and over a significant length of the offshore waters of Ningaloo Reef, rather than just offshore from Tantabiddi.

Dugongs occur within the reef lagoon which will have some localised increases in turbidity and noise during construction. There are no significant seagrass beds in the vicinity of the proposal, and dugongs are transitory through this area as they move from preferred foraging and nursery areas remote from the proposal area (see page 74 and 77-84 of Tantabiddi ERSD_May 2025).

The existing boat ramp has an old standpipe structure which on occasions is used by Osprey's for nesting will be retained in the rehabilitation of this area, with a reduced human activity in this area this could improve nesting conditions (see page 72,73 and 81 of Tantabiddi ERSD_May 2025).

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.5.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action.

*

see response to Threatened species for turtles and whale sharks

Humpback whale/Orca prey/predator interactions are not expected to be impacted. The highest chance of impacts is during piling activities outside of the breakwaters and these will be limited in number, duration and extent.

Dugongs will continue to transition through this area during operation. Potential impacts around boating activity already exist in the area due to the existing facility. Most boats will utilise the dredged channel to open water, rather than shallow lagoon waters

Osprey's foraging and nesting will continue around the proposal area both during construction and operations

Management of indirect operational impacts via other state based statutory processes such as marine park management, boating regulations, charter boat licencing and fishing regulations.

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

see response to Threatened species for turtles and whale sharks

Humpback whale/Orca prey/predator interactions are not expected to be impacted as hammer piling will not be used outside of the breakwaters during southward whale migration when whale calves are present.

Dugongs will continue to transition through this area during operation. Construction boating traffic will be slow moving and low risk to dugongs and Marine Fauna Observers will be used during construction of below the waterline infrastructure. Potential impacts around boating activity already exist in the area due to the existing facility. Most boats will utilise the dredged channel to open water, rather than shallow lagoon waters during operations.

Osprey impacts will be avoided by maintaining the existing nesting site and reducing future disturbance.

Management of indirect operational impacts via other state based statutory processes such as marine park management, boating regulations, charter boat licencing and fishing regulations.

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

not applicable to this proposal

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

the proposal does not relate to a nuclear action

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Ningaloo Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters) is located ~9 km offshore from the project area. Indirect impacts from potential increases in fishing pressures will be managed via other mechanisms by the relevant resource managers (DBCA and DPIRD). DoT will provide assistance via sharing of usage rates, monitoring of boat landings and on water collaboration between agencies.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

the proposal is remote from the GBR

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The proposal does not relate to coal related activities

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The closest commonwealth land is the Learmonth Air Weapons Range Facility, Learmonth, 55 km SW of the proposed facility. The proposed facility will have no impacts to this facility.

The boating facility will have limited lighting and is screened from view of the Space Surveillance Telescope located 12 km to the northeast at the Naval Communication Station at Harold E. Holt. No impacts to dark sky values are predicted.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

Remote from the proposal

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

Yes

4.3.2 Do you have an alternative timeline you are proposing for your proposed action? *

No

4.3.3 Briefly describe why an alternate timeline for your proposed action was not possible.

*

The “do nothing” alternative was considered but the existing boat ramp facility requires replacement as soon as possible for several reasons:

1. It was initially designed to support a low level of recreational use; however the facility now also accommodates commercial charter boats.
2. This facility is unable to meet the high level of demand during peak times.
3. It does not meet Australian Standard (AS3962) relating to the design of maritime infrastructure and the lack of segregation between pedestrians and vehicles creates significant safety risks.
4. It has reached the end of its design life, with the ramps requiring significant maintenance or replacement.

Note that there are some alternate construction timelines that will be implemented to reduce impacts to the environment such as, constructing the outer breakwater first, no dredging or internal piling until the breakwaters are built to above the water line and avoiding external impact piling during south bound humpback whale migration. More details on how these will be implemented is in section 6.4 of Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025.

4.3.4 Do you have an alternative location you are proposing for your proposed action? *

No

4.3.5 Briefly describe why an alternative location for your proposed action was not possible. *

Four potential redevelopment sites were identified in the 2018 study of usage, infrastructure needs and future requirements at Tantabiddi (see Figure 12 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025). These were the Tantabiddi Creek (the existing site), Tantabiddi Channel (Alternative Site 1), North of Jurabi Point (Alternative Site 2) and Wobiri Carpark (Alternative Site 3).

All sites were still located in the world heritage area and the alternatives held environmental values that were more significant than the area of the existing ramp.

Redeveloping the existing ramp site for the new facility was also considered but the siltation impacts from Tantabiddi Creek rules out this location, and the new proposal was recommended to be located 300 m south of the creek.

See pages 16 -17 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Appen O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation for more details around alternatives.

4.3.6 Do you have alternative activities you are proposing for your proposed action? *

No

4.3.7 Briefly describe why an alternative activity for your proposed action was not possible. *

A new boating facility is required for access to the waters of the Ningaloo Marine Park, so the “do nothing” alternative is not considered an acceptable.

A smaller facility was considered as an alternative, but this would not meet the needs of users. The community has been consulted on the proposal and which alternatives was preferred (see section 3 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025).

The scale of the facility has designed to meet demand and modern standards that prioritises users’ health and comfort. It will provide a significant access improvements to people with limited mobility who currently are not able to board boats at the existing boat ramp due to exposure to waves and the height difference between walkways and boats.

4.3.4 Alternatives: Impact and mitigation

4.3.4.1 Do these alternatives have a different impact, avoidance, or mitigation measure compared to what you have already provided? *

Yes

4.3.4.2 On World Heritage properties *

Yes

4.3.4.3 Describe how this alternative has different impacts or mitigations from the original proposal, on World Heritage properties. *

Alternative sites were considered to have a greater impact on World Heritage Values than the proposed location. See section 1.8 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Append O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation

4.3.4.4 On National Heritage places *

Yes

4.3.4.5 Describe how this alternative has different impacts or mitigations from the original proposal, on National Heritage places. *

Alternative sites were considered to have a greater impact on National Heritage Values than the proposed location. See section 1.8 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Append O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation

4.3.4.6 On the ecological character of a Ramsar wetland *

No

4.3.4.8 Listed threatened species, their habitat, or threatened ecological communities *

Yes

4.3.4.9 Describe how this alternative has different impacts or mitigations from the original proposal relating to listed threatened species, their habitat, or threatened ecological communities. *

Alternative sites were considered to have a greater impact on threatened species than the proposed location. See section 1.8 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Append O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation

4.3.4.10 Listed migratory species or their habitat *

Yes

4.3.4.11 Describe how this alternative has different impacts or mitigations from the original proposal relating to listed migratory species or their habitat. *

Alternative sites were considered to have a greater impact on migratory species than the proposed location. See section 1.8 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Append O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation

4.3.4.12 Is a Nuclear action *

No

4.3.4.14 On Commonwealth Marine Areas *

No

4.3.4.16 Taking place in or flowing into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park *

No

4.3.4.18 Impacts a water resource relating to a coal seam gas or large coal mining development *

No

4.3.4.20 On or near Commonwealth Land *

No

4.3.4.22 On Commonwealth heritage places overseas *

No

4.3.4.24 Action undertaken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency *

No

4.3.5 Alternatives: Considered alternatives

4.3.5.1 Do you have any other alternative actions, including not taking the action, that you have considered but are not proposing as part of this referral? *

Yes

4.3.5.2 Describe the details of this possible alternative that you have considered but are not proposing. *

A new boating facility is required for access to the waters of the Ningaloo Marine Park, so the “do nothing” alternative is not considered acceptable to the community or state of WA.

Four potential redevelopment sites were identified in the 2018 study of usage, infrastructure needs and future requirements at Tantabiddi. These were the Tantabiddi Creek (the existing site), Tantabiddi Channel (Alternative Site 1), North of Jurabi Point (Alternative Site 2) and Wobiri Carpark (Alternative Site 3). All sites were still located in the world heritage area and the alternatives held environmental values that were more significant than the area of the existing boat ramp.

Redeveloping the existing ramp site for the facility was also considered but the siltation impacts from Tantabiddi Creek rules out this location, and the new proposal was recommended to be 300 m south of the creek.

The scale of the facility has been designed to meet existing demand and modern standards that prioritises users' health and comfort. It will also provide significant access improvements to people with limited mobility who currently are not able to board boats at the existing boat ramp due to exposure to waves and the height difference between walkways and boats. A smaller facility was considered as an alternative, but this would not meet the needs of users.

See pages 15 -17 and Figure 12 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025 and Append O- Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation for more details around alternatives.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Appen A-Letters of Support.pdf letters from stakeholders showing personal details	03/02/2025	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Appen A-Letters of Support_Redacted.pdf letters from stakeholders	03/02/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Appen B-Section 18 Consent.pdf WA heritage consent showing personal contact details	03/02/2025	Yes	High
#4.	Document	Appen B-Section 18 Consent_Redacted.pdf WA heritage consent	05/12/2023	No	High
#5.	Document	Appen C- Tantabiddi Boating Facility Marine EIA.pdf Marine Impact Assessment	03/02/2025	No	High
#6.	Document	Appen D-Tantabiddi Dredge Plume Modelling Report.pdf dredge plume modelling	03/02/2025	No	High
#7.	Document	Appen E-Tantabiddi Under Water Noise Modelling Report.pdf underwater noise modelling	02/04/2024	No	High
#8.	Document	Appen F-part 1 Tantabiddi Coastal Processes Study R1518.pdf coastal processes study	02/01/2023	No	High
#9.	Document	Appen F-part 2_1 Tantabiddi Coastal Processes Study Append A-C.pdf supporting information to coastal processes study part 1 of 2 appendices A to C	03/01/2023	No	High
#10.	Document	Appen F-part 2_2 Tantabiddi Coastal Processes Study Append D-F.pdf supporting information to coastal processes study part 2 of 2 appendices D to F	03/01/2023	No	High
#11.	Document	Appen G-Tantabiddi Sampling Analysis and Quality Plan.pdf sampling plan	28/03/2022	No	High
#12.	Document	Appen H-Tantabiddi Geotechnical Interpretive Report.pdf Geotechnical interpretation	16/02/2022	No	High
#13.	Document	Appen I-Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys_Redacted.pdf	03/05/2021	No	High

Flora and Vegetation survey for publishing					
#14.	Document	Appen I-Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys.pdf Flora and Vegetation survey with sensitive positional information	03/05/2021	Yes	High
#15.	Document	Appen J-Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys Addendum.pdf Flora and Vegetation survey additional survey and addendum report CONFIDENTIAL	01/10/2021	Yes	High
#16.	Document	Appen J-Tantabiddi Flora and Vegetation Surveys Addendum_Redacted.pdf Flora and Vegetation survey additional survey and addendum report for publishing	01/10/2021	No	High
#17.	Document	Appen K-Tantabiddi Estimation of Groundwater Flows.pdf groundwater assessment	01/09/2021	No	High
#18.	Document	Appen L-Tantabiddi Geotechnical Investigation.pdf Geotechnical investigations	04/08/2021	No	High
#19.	Document	Appen M-Tantabiddi Terrestrial Fauna and Stygofauna Assessment.pdf Terrestrial Fauna and Stygofauna assessment	24/06/2021	No	High
#20.	Document	Appen N-Tantabiddi Creek Hydrology Geomorphology Study.pdf Tantabiddi creek hydrology and geomorphology	15/09/2020	No	High
#21.	Document	Appen O-Tantabiddi Boat Launching Facility Investigation.pdf site selection review and alternatives	01/07/2021	No	High
#22.	Document	Tantabiddi_ERSD_ May 2025.pdf Environmental Review Supporting Document	01/05/2025	No	High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Acacia 2022a Work Area Clearance Ethnographic Cultural Heritage Assessment.pdf Ethnographical assessment. This document is not publicly available as it	15/06/2022	Yes	High

		contains culturally sensitive information. A summary of key findings is provided in section 6.6.1 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025			
#2.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Acacia 2022b Site Identification Ethnographic Cultural Heritage Assessment.pdf site identification Ethnographical assessment, This document is not publicly available as it contains culturally sensitive information. A summary of key findings is provided in section 6.6.1 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025	16/12/2022	Yes	High
#3.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Big Island 2022a Work Area Archaeological Heritage Assessment.pdf archaeological assessment. This document is not publicly available as it contains culturally sensitive information. A summary of key findings is provided in section 6.6.1 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025	15/06/2022	Yes	High
#4.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Big Island 2022b Site Identification Archaeological Heritage Assessment.pdf site identification archaeological assessment, This document is not publicly available as it contains culturally sensitive information. A summary of key findings is provided in section 6.6.1 of the Tantabiddi_ERSD_May 2025	15/12/2022	Yes	High

4.1.1.10 (World Heritage) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Tantabiddi Dredging and Coastal Structures Constructability Assessment.pdf Provides technical information around geotechnical conditions and suitable construction techniques	01/08/2023	Yes	High
#2.	Document	CONFIDENTIAL Trinacria 2024 Assessment of Local Quarries.pdf Background on local quarry supplies and capacity to deliver suitable rock armour	24/04/2024	Yes	High

5.2 Declarations

✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	27285643255
Organisation name	Department of Transport WA
Organisation address	5 Newman Court, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6160
Representative's name	Troy Sinclair
Representative's job title	Principal Environmental Officer
Phone	0477688426
Email	troy.sinclair@transport.wa.gov.au
Address	5 Newman Court Fremantle WA

☒ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

☒ By checking this box, I, **Troy Sinclair of Department of Transport WA**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

✔ Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

☒ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

☒ I, **Troy Sinclair of Department of Transport WA**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

☒ I, **Troy Sinclair of Department of Transport WA**, the Person proposing the action, consent to the designation of **Troy Sinclair of Department of Transport WA** as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

☒ **Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration**

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

☒ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

☒ I, **Troy Sinclair of Department of Transport WA**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *