

Progress Report SP 2012-007

Review, assess and summarise historical data relevant to the management of the proposed Dampier Archipelago Marine Park and Regnard Marine Management Area

Marine Science

Project Core Team

Supervising Scientist

Kim Friedman

Data Custodian

Site Custodian

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Project Team

granted

Program Leader

granted

Directorate

granted

Review, assess and summarise historical data relevant to the management of the proposed Dampier Archipelago Marine Park and Regnard Marine Management Area

K Friedman, M Mohring, C Nutt, A Kendrick

Context

The Pluto LNG Project Offset D program includes the requirement to review, assess and summarise historical data relevant to the management of the proposed Dampier Archipelago Marine Park and Regnard Marine Management Area. Large volumes of marine environmental and social data have been collected by various agencies, institutions and companies in this area since the late 1970s. This project will collate and review these data to assist in providing a comprehensive understanding of the historical condition of biophysical assets and social values of the area.

Aims

- Identify, assess and collate existing biophysical and social datasets relevant to values listed in the indicative management plan for the Dampier Archipelago Marine Park and Cape Preston Marine Management Area.
- Construct historical time-series from data that is relevant to the conservation of marine ecological assets and social values in the Dampier Archipelago area.
- Ensure that the data identified in this review is summarised, archived and made accessible where possible to government, industry and the broader community.
- Assist the design and implementation of Pluto LNG Project Offset D projects (ii), (iii) and (iv).

Progress

- The final report for this project, titled *Report for Pluto Offset D Project 1 –Learn from the past to manage the future*, was completed.
- Information collected during this study has been used to plan other projects in Pluto Offset D.

Management implications

Understanding the effectiveness of current and past management relies on the ability to identify potential changes to asset condition over time. Access to historical data provides such an opportunity, with improved understanding of historical trends for environmental assets and social values helping to inform time-series baselines. This project has ensured that historical marine datasets collected in the Dampier Archipelago area are now documented and available to assist conservation management of the proposed marine reserves.

Future directions

Finalisation of the report means that this project has now been completed and will be closed.