



# **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**

**Act No. 91 of 1999 as amended**

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Notes

## **Chapter 5—Conservation of biodiversity and heritage**

### **Part 13—Species and communities**



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## **Division 5—Plans**

### **Subdivision A—Recovery plans and threat abatement plans**

#### **267 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

Recovery plans for listed threatened species and ecological communities and threat abatement plans for key threatening processes bind the Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies.

The Minister must ensure that a recovery plan is in force for each listed threatened species and ecological community.

The Minister need ensure a threat abatement plan is in force for a key threatening process only if the Minister decides that a plan is a feasible, effective and efficient way of abating the process. The Minister must consult before making such a decision.

A recovery plan or threat abatement plan can be made by the Minister alone or jointly with relevant States and Territories, or the Minister can adopt a State or Territory plan. There must be public consultation and advice from the Scientific Committee about the plan, regardless of how it is made or adopted.

#### **268 Compliance with recovery plans and threat abatement plans**

A Commonwealth agency must not take any action that contravenes a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan.

#### **269 Implementing recovery and threat abatement plans**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Commonwealth must implement a recovery plan or threat abatement plan to the extent to which it applies in Commonwealth areas.

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- (2) If a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan applies outside Commonwealth areas in a particular State or self-governing Territory, the Commonwealth must seek the co-operation of the State or Territory with a view to implementing the plan jointly with the State or Territory to the extent to which the plan applies in the State or Territory.

**269A Making or adopting a recovery plan**

*Ensuring recovery plan is always in force*

- (1) The Minister must exercise his or her powers under this section to ensure that there is always in force a recovery plan for:
- (a) each listed threatened species (except one that is extinct or is a conservation dependent species); and
  - (b) each listed threatened ecological community;
- once the first recovery plan for the species or community has come into force.

*Making a plan*

- (2) The Minister may make a written recovery plan for the purposes of the protection, conservation and management of:
- (a) a listed threatened species (except one that is extinct or is a conservation dependent species); or
  - (b) a listed threatened ecological community.

Note: Section 273 requires recovery plans to be made and in force by certain deadlines.

*Making a plan jointly with a State or Territory*

- (3) The Minister may make a written recovery plan for the purposes of the protection, conservation and management of a listed threatened species (except one that is extinct or is a conservation dependent species) or a listed threatened ecological community jointly with the States and self-governing Territories in which the species or community occurs, or with agencies of those States and Territories.



*Content of a plan*

- (4) The Minister must not make a recovery plan under subsection (2) or (3) unless the plan meets the requirements of section 270.

*Prerequisites to making a plan*

- (5) Before making a recovery plan under subsection (2) or (3) for a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community, the Minister must:
- (a) consult the appropriate Minister of each State and self-governing Territory in which the species or community occurs, with a view to:
    - (i) taking the views of each of those States and Territories into account in making the plan under subsection (2); or
    - (ii) making the plan jointly under subsection (3);unless the species or community occurs only in a Commonwealth area; and
  - (b) consider the advice of the Scientific Committee given under section 274; and
  - (c) consult about the plan and consider comments in accordance with sections 275 and 276.

*Limits on making a plan*

- (6) The Minister must not make a recovery plan under subsection (2) for a species or ecological community that occurs wholly or partly outside a Commonwealth area unless the Minister is satisfied that it is not reasonably practicable to make the plan under subsection (3):
- (a) with each of the States and self-governing Territories in which the species or community occurs; and
  - (b) in the case of a species or ecological community that occurs partly inside and partly outside a Commonwealth area—within the time required by subsection 273(2).

*Adopting a State or Territory plan*

- (7) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, adopt as a recovery plan a plan made by a State, a self-governing Territory or an

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agency of a State or self-governing Territory (whether or not the plan is in force in the State or Territory). The Minister may adopt the plan with such modifications as are specified in the instrument. This subsection has effect subject to section 277.

Note: Section 277 requires that:

- (a) an adopted plan have the content required for a recovery plan by section 270; and
- (b) there has been adequate consultation in making the plan adopted; and
- (c) the Minister consult the Scientific Committee about the content of the plan.

*Effect of adopting a plan*

- (8) A plan adopted under subsection (7) has effect as if it had been made under subsection (2) (whether it was adopted with modifications or not).

**270 Content of recovery plans**

- (1) A recovery plan must provide for the research and management actions necessary to stop the decline of, and support the recovery of, the listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community concerned so that its chances of long-term survival in nature are maximised.
- (2) In particular, a recovery plan must:
  - (a) state the objectives to be achieved (for example, removing a species or community from a list, or indefinite protection of existing populations of a species or community); and
  - (b) state criteria against which achievement of the objectives is to be measured (for example, a specified number and distribution of viable populations of a species or community, or the abatement of threats to a species or community); and
  - (c) specify the actions needed to achieve the objectives; and
  - (ca) identify threats to the species or community; and
  - (d) identify the habitats that are critical to the survival of the species or community concerned and the actions needed to protect those habitats; and

- (e) identify any populations of the species or community concerned that are under particular pressure of survival and the actions needed to protect those populations; and
  - (f) state the estimated duration and cost of the recovery process; and
  - (g) identify:
    - (i) interests that will be affected by the plan's implementation; and
    - (ii) organisations or persons who will be involved in evaluating the performance of the recovery plan; and
  - (h) specify any major benefits to native species or ecological communities (other than those to which the plan relates) that will be affected by the plan's implementation; and
  - (j) meet prescribed criteria (if any) and contain provisions of a prescribed kind (if any).
- (3) In making a recovery plan, regard must be had to:
- (a) the objects of this Act; and
  - (b) the most efficient and effective use of the resources that are allocated for the conservation of species and ecological communities; and
  - (c) minimising any significant adverse social and economic impacts, consistently with the principles of ecologically sustainable development; and
  - (d) meeting Australia's obligations under international agreements between Australia and one or more countries relevant to the species or ecological community to which the plan relates; and
  - (e) the role and interests of indigenous people in the conservation of Australia's biodiversity.

## **270A Decision whether to have a threat abatement plan**

### *Decision*

- (1) The Minister may at any time decide whether to have a threat abatement plan for a threatening process in the list of key

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threatening processes established under section 183. The Minister must do so:

- (a) within 90 days of the threatening process being included in the list; and
- (b) within 5 years of the last decision whether to have a threat abatement plan for the process, if that decision was not to have a threat abatement plan for the process.

*Basis for decision*

- (2) The Minister must decide to have a threat abatement plan for the process if he or she believes that having and implementing a threat abatement plan is a feasible, effective and efficient way to abate the process. The Minister must decide not to have a threat abatement plan if he or she does not believe that.

*Consultation before making a decision*

- (3) Before making a decision under this section, the Minister must:
  - (a) request the Scientific Committee to give advice within a specified period; and
  - (b) take reasonable steps to request any Commonwealth agency, any State, any self-governing Territory, and any agency of a State or self-governing Territory, that would be affected by or interested in abatement of the process to give advice within a specified period;

on the feasibility, effectiveness or efficiency of having and implementing a threat abatement plan to abate the process.

*Consulting others*

- (4) Subsection (3) does not prevent the Minister from requesting any other person or body to give advice within a specified period on the feasibility, effectiveness or efficiency of having and implementing a threat abatement plan to abate the process.

*Request may be made before listing*

- (5) A request for advice on the feasibility, effectiveness or efficiency of having and implementing a threat abatement plan to abate the

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process may be made before or after the process is included in the list of key threatening processes established under section 183.

*Time for giving advice*

- (6) The Minister must not make a decision whether to have a threat abatement plan for the process before the end of the period within which he or she has requested a person or body to give advice on the feasibility, effectiveness or efficiency of having and implementing a threat abatement plan to abate the process.

*Considering views expressed in consultation*

- (7) When the Minister is making a decision under this section, he or she must consider the advice that a person or body gave on request within the period specified in the request.

*Publishing decision and reasons*

- (8) The Minister must publish in accordance with the regulations (if any):
- (a) a decision whether or not to have a threat abatement plan for a key threatening process; and
  - (b) the Minister's reasons for the decision.

*Special rules for processes included in original list*

- (9) Subsections (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7) do not apply in relation to a decision about a process included in the list under section 183 as first established.

**270B Making or adopting a threat abatement plan***Application*

- (1) This section applies only if the Minister's most recent decision under section 270A in relation to a key threatening process is to have a threat abatement plan for the process.

Note: Section 273 sets a deadline of 3 years from the decision for ensuring that a threat abatement plan is in force for the process.

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*Making a plan*

- (2) The Minister may make a written threat abatement plan for the purposes of reducing the effect of the process.

*Making a plan jointly with a State or Territory*

- (3) The Minister may make a written threat abatement plan for the purposes of reducing the effect of the process, jointly with the States and self-governing Territories in which the process occurs or with agencies of those States and Territories.

*Content of a plan*

- (4) The Minister must not make a threat abatement plan under subsection (2) or (3) unless the plan meets the requirements of section 271.

*Prerequisites to making a plan*

- (5) Before making a threat abatement plan for the process under subsection (2) or (3), the Minister must:
- (a) consult the appropriate Minister of each State and self-governing Territory in which the process occurs, with a view to:
    - (i) taking the views of each of those States and Territories into account in making the plan under subsection (2); or
    - (ii) making the plan jointly under subsection (3);unless the process occurs only in a Commonwealth area; and
  - (b) consider the advice of the Scientific Committee given under section 274; and
  - (c) consult about the plan and consider comments in accordance with sections 275 and 276.

*Limits on making a plan*

- (6) The Minister must not make a threat abatement plan under subsection (2) for a process that occurs wholly or partly outside a Commonwealth area unless the Minister is satisfied that it is not reasonably practicable to make the plan:

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- (a) jointly with each of the States and self-governing Territories in which the process occurs; and
- (b) within 3 years of the decision to have the plan.

*Adopting a State or Territory plan*

- (7) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, adopt as a threat abatement plan for the process a plan made by a State, a self-governing Territory or an agency of a State or self-governing Territory (whether or not the plan is in force in the State or Territory). The Minister may adopt the plan with such modifications as are specified in the instrument. This subsection has effect subject to section 277.

Note: Section 277 requires that:

- (a) an adopted plan have the content required for a threat abatement plan by section 271; and
- (b) there has been adequate consultation in making the plan adopted; and
- (c) the Minister consult the Scientific Committee about the content of the plan.

*Effect of adopting a plan*

- (8) A plan adopted under subsection (7) has effect as if it had been made under subsection (2), whether it was adopted with modifications or not.

**271 Content of threat abatement plans**

- (1) A threat abatement plan must provide for the research, management and other actions necessary to reduce the key threatening process concerned to an acceptable level in order to maximise the chances of the long-term survival in nature of native species and ecological communities affected by the process.
- (2) In particular, a threat abatement plan must:
  - (a) state the objectives to be achieved; and
  - (b) state criteria against which achievement of the objectives is to be measured; and

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- (c) specify the actions needed to achieve the objectives; and
  - (d) state the estimated duration and cost of the threat abatement process; and
  - (e) identify organisations or persons who will be involved in evaluating the performance of the threat abatement plan; and
  - (f) specify any major ecological matters (other than the species or communities threatened by the key threatening process that is the subject of the plan) that will be affected by the plan's implementation; and
  - (g) meet prescribed criteria (if any) and contain provisions of a prescribed kind (if any).
- (3) In making a threat abatement plan, regard must be had to:
- (a) the objects of this Act; and
  - (b) the most efficient and effective use of the resources that are allocated for the conservation of species and ecological communities; and
  - (c) minimising any significant adverse social and economic impacts consistently with the principles of ecologically sustainable development; and
  - (d) meeting Australia's obligations under international agreements between Australia and one or more countries relevant to the species or ecological community threatened by the key threatening process that is the subject of the plan; and
  - (e) the role and interests of indigenous people in the conservation of Australia's biodiversity.

**272 Eradication of non-native species**

If:

- (a) the actions specified under paragraph 270(2)(c) in a recovery plan, or under paragraph 271(2)(c) in a threat abatement plan, include the eradication of a non-native species; and
- (b) the species is threatened in a country in which its native habitat occurs;



the recovery plan, or threat abatement plan, must require the Commonwealth to offer to provide stock of the species to that country before the eradication proceeds.

## **273 Ensuring plans are in force**

*When a plan comes into force*

- (1A) A recovery plan or a threat abatement plan comes into force on the day on which it is made or adopted, or on a later day specified by the Minister in writing.

*Recovery plan for species and communities in Commonwealth areas only*

- (1) A recovery plan for a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community that occurs only in Commonwealth areas must be made and come into force:
- (a) in the case of a native species listed in Schedule 1 to the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*, for which a recovery plan under that Act was not in force immediately before the commencement of this Act—within the remainder of the period allowed by section 36 of that Act for the preparation of the plan for that species; or
  - (b) in the case of a listed threatened species (other than a native species mentioned in paragraph (a)) in:
    - (i) the critically endangered category—within 2 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
    - (ii) the endangered category or the extinct in the wild category—within 3 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
    - (iii) the vulnerable category—within 5 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
  - (c) in the case of an ecological community (if any) listed in Schedule 2 to the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*, for which a recovery plan under that Act was not in force immediately before the commencement of this Act—within

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the remainder of the period allowed by section 36 of that Act for the preparation of the plan for that community; or

- (d) in the case of a listed threatened ecological community (other than a community mentioned in paragraph (c)) in:
  - (i) the critically endangered category—within 2 years after the community in question became included in that category; or
  - (ii) the endangered category—within 3 years after the community in question became included in that category; or
  - (iii) the vulnerable category—within 5 years after the community in question became included in that category.

*Recovery plan for species and communities partly in Commonwealth areas*

- (2) A recovery plan for a listed threatened species or a listed threatened ecological community that occurs in and outside a Commonwealth area must be made:
  - (a) in the case of a listed threatened species in:
    - (i) the critically endangered category—within 2 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
    - (ii) the endangered category or the extinct in the wild category—within 3 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
    - (iii) the vulnerable category—within 5 years after the species in question became included in that category; or
  - (b) in the case of a listed threatened ecological community in:
    - (i) the critically endangered category—within 2 years after the community in question became included in that category; or
    - (ii) the endangered category—within 3 years after the community in question became included in that category; or

- (iii) the vulnerable category—within 5 years after the community in question became included in that category.

*Recovery plan for species and communities wholly outside Commonwealth areas*

- (3) A recovery plan for a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community that occurs only outside Commonwealth areas must be made as soon as reasonably practicable after the species or ecological community is included in the list referred to in section 178 or 181 (as appropriate).

*Deadline for threat abatement plan*

- (4) A threat abatement plan for a key threatening process must be made and in force within 3 years of the decision under section 270A to have the plan.

*Ensuring threat abatement plan is in force*

- (5) Once the first threat abatement plan for a key threatening process is in force, the Minister must exercise his or her powers under this Subdivision to ensure that a threat abatement plan is in force for the process until the Minister decides under section 270A not to have a threat abatement plan for the process.

Note: The Minister may revoke a threat abatement plan for a key threatening process if the Minister decides under section 270A not to have a threat abatement plan for the process. See section 283A.

## **274 Scientific Committee to advise on plans**

- (1) The Minister must obtain and consider the advice of the Scientific Committee on:
- (a) the content of recovery and threat abatement plans; and
  - (b) the times within which, and the order in which, such plans should be made.
- (2) In giving advice about a recovery plan, the Scientific Committee must take into account the following matters:

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- (a) the degree of threat to the survival in nature of the species or ecological community in question;
  - (b) the potential for the species or community to recover;
  - (c) the genetic distinctiveness of the species or community;
  - (d) the importance of the species or community to the ecosystem;
  - (e) the value to humanity of the species or community;
  - (f) the efficient and effective use of the resources allocated to the conservation of species and ecological communities.
- (3) In giving advice about a threat abatement plan, the Scientific Committee must take into account the following matters:
  - (a) the degree of threat that the key threatening process in question poses to the survival in nature of species and ecological communities;
  - (b) the potential of species and ecological communities so threatened to recover;
  - (c) the efficient and effective use of the resources allocated to the conservation of species and ecological communities.

**275 Consultation on plans**

- (1) Before making a recovery plan or threat abatement plan under this Subdivision, the Minister must:
  - (a) take reasonable steps to ensure that copies of the proposed plan are available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at prescribed places in each State and self-governing territory; and
  - (b) give a copy of it, together with a notice of a kind referred to in subsection (2), to the Scientific Committee; and
  - (c) cause the notice to be published:
    - (i) in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) in a daily newspaper that circulates generally in each State, and self-governing Territory, in which the relevant listed threatened native species, listed threatened ecological community or key threatening process occurs; and

- (iii) in any other way required by the regulations (if any).
- (2) The notice must:
  - (a) specify the places where copies of the proposed plan may be purchased; and
  - (b) invite persons to make written comments about the proposed plan; and
  - (c) specify:
    - (i) an address for lodgment of comments; and
    - (ii) a day by which comments must be made.
- (3) The day specified must not be a day occurring within 3 months after the notice is published in the *Gazette*.

## **276 Consideration of comments**

The Minister:

- (a) must, in accordance with the regulations (if any), consider all comments on a proposed recovery plan or threat abatement plan made in response to an invitation under section 275; and
- (b) may revise the plan to take account of those comments.

## **277 Adoption of State plans**

- (1) The Minister must not adopt a plan as a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan under this Subdivision unless:
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied that an appropriate level of consultation has been undertaken in making the plan; and
  - (b) the plan meets the requirements of section 270 or 271, as the case requires.
- (2) Before adopting a plan, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the plan.

## **278 Publication, review and variation of plans**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the Minister makes or adopts a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan under this Subdivision, the Minister must:

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- (a) make copies of the plan available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at a prescribed place in each State and self-governing Territory; and
  - (b) give notice of the making or adopting of each such plan; and
  - (c) publish the notice:
    - (i) in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) in a daily newspaper that circulates generally in each State, and self-governing Territory; and
    - (iii) in any other way required by the regulations (if any).
- (2) The notice must:
- (a) state that the Minister has made or adopted the plan; and
  - (b) specify the day on which the plan comes into force; and
  - (c) specify the places where copies of the plan may be purchased.

**279 Variation of plans by the Minister**

- (1) The Minister may, at any time, review a recovery plan or threat abatement plan that has been made or adopted under this Subdivision and consider whether a variation of it is necessary.
- (2) Each plan must be reviewed by the Minister at intervals of not longer than 5 years.
- (3) If the Minister considers that a variation of a plan is necessary, the Minister may, subject to subsections (4), (5), (6) and (7), vary the plan.
- (4) The Minister must not vary a plan, unless the plan, as so varied, continues to meet the requirements of section 270 or 271, as the case requires.
- (5) Before varying a plan, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the variation.
- (6) If the Minister has made a plan jointly with, or adopted a plan that has been made by, a State or self-governing Territory, or an agency of a State or self-governing Territory, the Minister must seek the

co-operation of that State or Territory, or that agency, with a view to varying the plan.

- (7) Sections 275, 276 and 278 apply to the variation of a plan in the same way that those sections apply to the making of a recovery plan or threat abatement plan.

## **280 Variation by a State or Territory of joint plans and plans adopted by the Minister**

- (1) If a State or self-governing Territory varies a plan that:
- (a) the Minister has made jointly with the State or self-governing Territory, or an agency of the State or Territory; or
  - (b) has been adopted by the Minister as a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan;
- the variation is of no effect for the purposes of this Act unless it is approved by the Minister.
- (2) Before approving a variation, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the variation.
- (3) The Minister must not approve a variation unless satisfied that:
- (a) an appropriate level of consultation was undertaken in varying the plan; and
  - (b) the plan, as so varied, continues to meet the requirements of section 270 or 271, as the case requires.
- (4) If the Minister approves a variation of a plan, the plan has effect as so varied on and after the date of the approval, or such later date as the Minister determines in writing.
- (5) Section 278 applies to the variation of a plan in the same way that it applies to the making of a recovery plan or threat abatement plan.

## **281 Commonwealth assistance**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give to a State or self-governing Territory, or to an agency of a State or a self-governing Territory,

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financial assistance, and any other assistance, to make or implement a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan.

- (2) The Commonwealth may give to a person (other than a State or a self-governing Territory, or an agency of a State or Territory) financial assistance, and any other assistance, to implement a recovery plan or a threat abatement plan.
- (3) The giving of assistance may be made subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit. The Minister is to have regard to the advice of the Scientific Committee under section 282 before determining those conditions.

**282 Scientific Committee to advise on assistance**

- (1) The Scientific Committee is to advise the Minister on the conditions (if any) to which the giving of assistance under section 281 should be subject.
- (2) In giving advice about assistance for making or implementing a recovery plan, the Scientific Committee must take into account the following matters:
  - (a) the degree of threat to the survival in nature of the species or ecological community in question;
  - (b) the potential for the species or community to recover;
  - (c) the genetic distinctiveness of the species or community;
  - (d) the importance of the species or community to the ecosystem;
  - (e) the value to humanity of the species or community;
  - (f) the efficient and effective use of the resources allocated to the conservation of species and ecological communities.
- (3) In giving advice about assistance for making or implementing threat abatement plan, the Scientific Committee must take into account the following matters:
  - (a) the degree of threat that the key threatening process in question poses to the survival in nature of species and ecological communities;



- (b) the potential of species and ecological communities so threatened to recover;
- (c) the efficient and effective use of the resources allocated to the conservation of species and ecological communities.

**283 Plans may cover more than one species etc.**

- (1) A recovery plan made or adopted under this Subdivision may deal with one or more listed threatened species and/or one or more listed ecological communities.
- (2) A threat abatement plan made or adopted under this Subdivision may deal with one or more key threatening processes.

**283A Revoking a threat abatement plan**

- (1) The Minister may, by written instrument, revoke a threat abatement plan for a key threatening process if the Minister decides under section 270A not to have a threat abatement plan for the process.
- (2) The Minister must publish in accordance with the regulations (if any):
  - (a) the instrument revoking the threat abatement plan; and
  - (b) the Minister's reasons for revoking the plan.

**284 Reports on preparation and implementation of plans**

The Secretary must include in each annual report a report on the making and adoption under this Subdivision of each recovery plan and threat abatement plan during the year to which the report relates.

**Subdivision B—Wildlife conservation plans****285 Wildlife conservation plans**

- (1) Subject to this section, the Minister may make, by instrument in writing, and implement a wildlife conservation plan for the

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purposes of the protection, conservation and management of the following:

- (a) a listed migratory species that occurs in Australia or an external Territory;
  - (b) a listed marine species that occurs in Australia or an external Territory;
  - (c) a species of cetacean that occurs in the Australian Whale Sanctuary;
  - (d) a conservation dependent species.
- (2) The Minister must not make a wildlife conservation plan for a species that is a listed threatened species (except a conservation dependent species).
- (3) Subject to section 292, the Minister may, by instrument in writing, adopt a plan that has been made by a State or a self-governing Territory, or by an agency of a State or self-governing Territory, as a wildlife conservation plan. The Minister may adopt a plan with such modifications as are specified in the instrument.
- (4) A plan, as modified and adopted under subsection (2), has effect as if the plan had been made by the Minister under subsection (1).
- (5) The Minister must seek the co-operation of the States and self-governing Territories in which:
- (a) a listed migratory species occurs; or
  - (b) a listed marine species occurs; or
  - (c) a species of cetacean occurs; or
  - (d) a conservation dependent species occurs;
- with a view to making and implementing jointly with those States and Territories, or agencies of those States or Territories, a joint wildlife conservation plan unless the species occurs only in a Commonwealth area.
- (6) Before making a wildlife conservation plan under subsection (1) or (5), the Minister must:
- (a) consider the advice of the Scientific Committee given under section 289; and

- (b) consult about the plan in accordance with sections 290 and 291.
- (7) A wildlife conservation plan comes into force on the day on which it is made or adopted, or on such later day as the Minister specifies in writing.

## **286 Acting in accordance with wildlife conservation plans**

A Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to act in accordance with a wildlife conservation plan.

## **287 Content of wildlife conservation plans**

- (1) A wildlife conservation plan must provide for the research and management actions necessary to support survival of the migratory species, marine species, species of cetacean or conservation dependent species concerned.
- (2) In particular, a wildlife conservation plan must:
  - (a) state the objectives to be achieved; and
  - (b) state criteria against which achievement of the objectives is to be measured; and
  - (c) specify the actions needed to achieve the objectives; and
  - (d) identify the habitats of the species concerned and the actions needed to protect those habitats; and
  - (e) identify:
    - (i) interests that will be affected by the plan's implementation; and
    - (ii) organisations or persons who will be involved in evaluating the performance of the plan; and
  - (f) specify any major benefits to migratory species, marine species, species of cetacean or conservation dependent species (other than those to which the plan relates) that will be affected by the plan's implementation; and
  - (g) meet prescribed criteria (if any) and contain provisions of a prescribed kind (if any).

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- (3) In making a wildlife conservation plan, regard must be had to:
- (a) the objects of this Act; and
  - (b) the most efficient and effective use of the resources that are allocated for the conservation of migratory species, marine species, species of cetacean and conservation dependent species; and
  - (c) minimising any significant adverse social and economic impacts, consistently with the principles of ecologically sustainable development; and
  - (d) meeting Australia's obligations under international agreements between Australia and one or more countries relevant to the migratory species, marine species, species of cetacean or conservation dependent species to which the plan relates; and
  - (e) the role and interests of indigenous people in the conservation of Australia's biodiversity.

**288 Eradication of non-native species**

If:

- (a) the actions specified under section 287 in a wildlife conservation plan include the eradication of a non-native species; and
- (b) the species is threatened in a country in which its native habitat occurs;

the wildlife conservation plan must require the Commonwealth to offer to provide stock of the species to that country before the eradication proceeds.

**289 Scientific Committee to advise on scheduling of plans**

- (1) The Minister may seek advice from the Scientific Committee on the need for wildlife conservation plans and the order in which they should be made.
- (1A) The Scientific Committee may advise the Minister on its own initiative to make a wildlife conservation plan for a specified species described in subsection 285(1).

- (2) In giving advice under subsection (1) or (1A), the Scientific Committee must take into account the resources available for making plans.
- (3) Before making a plan, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the plan.

## **290 Consultation on plans**

- (1) Before making a wildlife conservation plan under subsection 285(1) or (5), the Minister must:
  - (a) take reasonable steps to ensure that copies of the proposed plan are available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at prescribed places in each State and self-governing Territory; and
  - (b) give a copy of it, together with a notice of a kind referred to in subsection (2), to the Scientific Committee; and
  - (c) cause the notice to be published:
    - (i) in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) in a daily newspaper that circulates generally in each State, and self-governing Territory; and
    - (iii) in any other way required by the regulations (if any).
- (2) The notice must:
  - (a) specify the places where copies of the proposed plan may be purchased; and
  - (b) invite persons to make written comments about the proposed plan; and
  - (c) specify:
    - (i) an address for lodgment of comments; and
    - (ii) a day by which comments must be made.
- (3) The day specified must not be a day occurring within 3 months after the notice is published in the *Gazette*.

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**291 Consideration of comments**

The Minister:

- (a) must, in accordance with the regulations (if any), consider all comments on a proposed wildlife conservation plan made in response to an invitation under section 290; and
- (b) may revise the plan to take account of those comments.

**292 Adoption of State plans**

- (1) The Minister must not adopt a plan as a wildlife conservation plan under subsection 285(3) unless:
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied that an appropriate level of consultation has been undertaken in making the plan; and
  - (b) the plan meets the requirements of section 287.
- (2) Before adopting a plan, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the plan.

**293 Publication, review and variation of plans**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the Minister makes or adopts a wildlife conservation plan under section 285, the Minister must:
  - (a) make copies of the plan available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at a prescribed place in each State and self-governing Territory; and
  - (b) give notice of the making or adoption of each such plan; and
  - (c) publish the notice:
    - (i) in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) in a daily newspaper that circulates generally in each State, and self-governing Territory; and
    - (iii) in any other way required by the regulations (if any).
- (2) The notice must:
  - (a) state that the Minister has made or adopted the plan; and
  - (b) specify the day on which the plan comes into force; and
  - (c) specify the places where copies of the plan may be purchased.

**294 Variation of plans by the Minister**

- (1) The Minister may, at any time, review a wildlife conservation plan that has been made or adopted under section 285 and consider whether a variation of it is necessary.
- (2) Each plan must be reviewed by the Minister at intervals of not longer than 5 years.
- (3) If the Minister considers that a variation of a plan is necessary, the Minister may, subject to subsections (4), (5), (6) and (7) vary the plan.
- (4) The Minister must not vary a plan, unless the plan, as so varied, continues to meet the requirements of section 287.
- (5) Before varying a plan, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the variation.
- (6) If the Minister has made a plan jointly with, or adopted a plan that has been made by, a State or self-governing Territory, or an agency of a State or self-governing Territory, the Minister must seek the co-operation of that State or Territory, or that agency, with a view to varying the plan.
- (7) Sections 290, 291 and 293 apply to the variation of a plan in the same way that those sections apply to the making of a wildlife conservation plan.

**295 Variation by a State or Territory of joint plans and plans adopted by the Minister**

- (1) If a State or self-governing Territory varies a plan that:
  - (a) the Minister has made jointly with the State or self-governing Territory, or an agency of the State or Territory; or
  - (b) has been adopted by the Minister as a wildlife conservation plan;the variation is of no effect for the purposes of this Act unless it is approved by the Minister.

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- (2) Before approving a variation, the Minister must obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the content of the variation.
- (3) The Minister must not approve a variation under subsection (1) unless satisfied:
  - (a) an appropriate level of consultation was undertaken in varying the plan; and
  - (b) the plan, as so varied, continues to meet the requirements of section 287.
- (4) If the Minister approves a variation of a plan, the plan has effect as so varied on and after the date of the approval, or such later date as the Minister determines in writing.
- (5) Section 293 applies to the variation of a plan in the same way that it applies to the making of a wildlife conservation plan.

**296 Commonwealth assistance**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give to a State or self-governing Territory, or to an agency of a State or a self-governing Territory, financial assistance, and any other assistance, to make a wildlife conservation plan.
- (2) The Commonwealth may give to a person (other than a State or a self-governing Territory, or an agency of a State or Territory) financial assistance, and any other assistance, to implement a wildlife conservation plan.
- (3) The giving of assistance may be made subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

**297 Plans may cover more than one species etc.**

A wildlife conservation plan made or adopted under this Subdivision may deal with all or any of the following:

- (a) one or more listed migratory species;
- (b) one or more listed marine species;
- (c) one or more species of cetacean;



- (d) one or more conservation dependent species.

## **298 Reports on preparation and implementation of plans**

The Secretary must include in each annual report a report on the making and adoption under section 285 of each wildlife conservation plan during the year to which the report relates.

## **Subdivision C—Miscellaneous**

## **299 Wildlife conservation plans cease to have effect**

If:

- (a) a wildlife conservation plan is in force for all or any of the following:
  - (i) a listed migratory species;
  - (ii) a listed marine species;
  - (iii) a species of cetacean; and
- (b) the species becomes a listed threatened species (except a conservation dependent species);

the wildlife conservation plan ceases to have effect in relation to the species on and from the day on which a recovery plan takes effect for the species.

## **300 Document may contain more than one plan**

- (1) All or any of the plans made under this Division may be included in the same document.
- (2) All or any of the plans adopted under this Division may be included in the same instrument of adoption.

## **300A State and Territory laws not affected**

Sections 269A, 270A, 270B, 273 and 285 do not exclude or limit the concurrent operation of a law of a State or self-governing Territory.

## **Division 6—Access to biological resources**

### **301 Control of access to biological resources**

- (1) The regulations may provide for the control of access to biological resources in Commonwealth areas.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the regulations may contain provisions about all or any of the following:
  - (a) the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of biological resources in Commonwealth areas;
  - (b) the facilitation of access to such resources;
  - (c) the right to deny access to such resources;
  - (d) the granting of access to such resources and the terms and conditions of such access.

## **Division 6A—Control of non-native species**

### **301A Regulations for control of non-native species**

The regulations may:

- (a) provide for the establishment and maintenance of a list of species, other than native species, whose members:
  - (i) do or may threaten biodiversity in the Australian jurisdiction; or
  - (ii) would be likely to threaten biodiversity in the Australian jurisdiction if they were brought into the Australian jurisdiction; and
- (b) regulate or prohibit the bringing into the Australian jurisdiction of members of a species included in the list mentioned in paragraph (a); and
- (c) regulate or prohibit trade in members of a species included in the list mentioned in paragraph (a):
  - (i) between Australia and another country; or
  - (ii) between 2 States; or
  - (iii) between 2 Territories; or
  - (iv) between a State and a Territory; or
  - (v) by a constitutional corporation; and
- (d) regulate and prohibit actions:
  - (i) involving or affecting members of a species included in the list mentioned in paragraph (a); and
  - (ii) whose regulation or prohibition is appropriate and adapted to give effect to Australia's obligations under an agreement with one or more other countries; and
- (e) provide for the making and implementation of plans to reduce, eliminate or prevent the impacts of members of species included in the list mentioned in paragraph (a) on biodiversity in the Australian jurisdiction.

**Division 7—Aid for conservation of species in foreign countries**

**302 Aid for conservation of species in foreign countries**

On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Minister may give financial assistance to the governments of foreign countries and organisations in foreign countries to help the recovery and conservation, in those countries, of species covered by international agreements to which Australia is a party.

## **Division 8—Miscellaneous**

### **303 Regulations**

- (1) The regulations may make provision for the conservation of biodiversity in Commonwealth areas.
- (2) In particular, the regulations may prohibit or regulate actions affecting a member of a native species in a Commonwealth area. This does not limit subsection (1).

### **303A Exemptions from this Part**

- (1) A person proposing to take an action that would contravene a provision of this Part apart from this section may apply in writing to the Minister for an exemption from the provision.
- (2) The Minister must decide within 20 business days of receiving the application whether or not to grant the exemption.
- (3) The Minister may, by written notice, exempt a specified person from the application of a specified provision of this Part in relation to a specified action.
- (4) The Minister may do so only if he or she is satisfied that it is in the national interest that the provision not apply in relation to the person or the action.
- (5) In determining the national interest, the Minister may consider Australia's defence or security or a national emergency. This does not limit the matters the Minister may consider.
- (6) A provision specified in the notice does not apply in relation to the specified person or action on or after the day specified in the notice. The Minister must not specify a day earlier than the day the notice is made.

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- (7) Within 10 business days after making the notice, the Minister must:
- (a) publish a copy of the notice and his or her reasons for granting the exemption in accordance with the regulations; and
  - (b) give a copy of the notice to the person specified in the notice.

## **Part 13A—International movement of wildlife specimens**

### **Division 1—Introduction**

#### **303BA Objects of Part**

- (1) The objects of this Part are as follows:
- (a) to ensure that Australia complies with its obligations under CITES and the Biodiversity Convention;
  - (b) to protect wildlife that may be adversely affected by trade;
  - (c) to promote the conservation of biodiversity in Australia and other countries;
  - (d) to ensure that any commercial utilisation of Australian native wildlife for the purposes of export is managed in an ecologically sustainable way;
  - (e) to promote the humane treatment of wildlife;
  - (f) to ensure ethical conduct during any research associated with the utilisation of wildlife;
  - (h) to ensure that the precautionary principle is taken into account in making decisions relating to the utilisation of wildlife.

Note: CITES means the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species—see section 528.

- (2) In order to achieve its objects, this Part includes special provisions to conserve the biodiversity of Australian native wildlife.

#### **303BAA Certain indigenous rights not affected**

To avoid doubt, nothing in this Part prevents an indigenous person from continuing in accordance with law the traditional use of an area for:

- (a) hunting (except for the purposes of sale); or
- (b) food gathering (except for the purposes of sale); or

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(c) ceremonial or religious purposes.

**303BB Simplified outline**

The following is a simplified outline of this Part:

- This Part sets up a system for regulating the international movement of wildlife specimens.
- A *CITES specimen* is a specimen of a species included in Appendix I, II or III to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).
- It is an offence to export or import a *CITES specimen* unless:
  - (a) the exporter or importer holds a permit; or
  - (b) an exemption applies.
- A *regulated native specimen* is a specimen of a native species subject to export control under this Part.
- It is an offence to export a *regulated native specimen* unless:
  - (a) the exporter holds a permit; or
  - (b) an exemption applies.
- A *regulated live specimen* is a live specimen of a species subject to import control under this Part.
- It is an offence to import a *regulated live specimen* unless the importer holds a permit.
- It is an offence to possess a specimen that was imported in contravention of this Part.



### 303BC Definitions

In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears:

***eligible listed threatened species*** means a listed threatened species other than a species in the conservation dependent category.

***engage in conduct*** means:

- (a) do an act; or
- (b) omit to perform an act.

***export*** means:

- (a) export from Australia or from an external Territory; or
- (b) export from the sea;

but does not include:

- (c) export from Australia to an external Territory; or
- (d) export from an external Territory to Australia; or
- (e) export from an external Territory to another external Territory.

***export from the sea***, in relation to a specimen, means take in a Commonwealth marine area and then take out of that area to another country without bringing into Australia or into an external Territory.

***import*** means:

- (a) import into Australia or into an external Territory; or
- (b) import by way of introduction from the sea;

but does not include:

- (c) import into Australia from an external Territory; or
- (d) import into an external Territory from Australia; or
- (e) import into an external Territory from another external Territory.

***import by way of introduction from the sea***, in relation to a specimen, means take in the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any country and then bring into Australia or into an external Territory without having been imported into any other country.

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***marine environment*** means the sea, and includes:

- (a) the air space above the sea; and
- (b) the seabed and subsoil beneath the sea.

***recipient*** means:

- (a) in relation to a specimen that is exported—the person in the country to which the specimen is exported who is to have the care and custody of the specimen after the export; and
- (b) in relation to a specimen that is imported into Australia or into an external Territory—the person in Australia or that Territory, as the case may be, who is to have the care and custody of the specimen after the import.

***relevant CITES authority***, in relation to a country, means:

- (a) if the country is a party to CITES—a Management Authority of that country; or
- (b) if the country is not a party to CITES—a competent authority of that country within the meaning of Article X of CITES.

***sender***, in relation to a specimen that is imported into Australia or an external Territory, means the person in the country from which the specimen is imported who exports it from that country to Australia or to that Territory, as the case may be.

***take*** includes:

- (a) in relation to an animal—harvest, catch, capture, trap and kill; and
- (b) in relation to a plant specimen—harvest, pick, gather and cut.

***trade*** means trade within the ordinary meaning of that expression.

Note: See also section 528.

## **Division 2—CITES species**

### **Subdivision A—CITES species and CITES specimens**

#### **303CA Listing of CITES species**

- (1) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, establish a list of CITES species for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) The Minister must ensure that the list is established on the commencement of this section.  
Note: See section 4 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
- (3) The list must include all species from time to time included in any of Appendices I, II and III to CITES. The list must not include any other species.
- (4) For each species included in the list, there is to be a notation:
  - (a) describing the specimens belonging to that species that are included in a particular Appendix to CITES; and
  - (b) identifying the Appendix in which the species is included; and
  - (c) identifying the date on which the provisions of CITES first applied to the specimens.
- (5) A description mentioned in paragraph (4)(a):
  - (a) may cover all specimens that belong to the species; or
  - (b) may cover specified kinds of specimens that belong to the species; or
  - (c) may state that the inclusion of a specimen in a particular Appendix to CITES is subject to restrictions or conditions.
- (6) A restriction or condition mentioned in paragraph (5)(c) may:
  - (a) impose a quantitative limit in relation to the export or import of a specimen; or
  - (b) relate to the imposition of a quota in relation to the export or import of specimens; or

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- (c) relate to a particular population of a species; or
  - (d) reflect any other restriction or condition set out in the relevant Appendix to CITES.
- (7) Subsection (6) does not limit paragraph (5)(c).
- (8) A notation in the list is to be consistent with CITES.
- (9) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*:
  - (a) correct an inaccuracy or update the name of a species; or
  - (b) amend the list, as necessary, so that it includes all species required to be included in the list under subsection (3); or
  - (c) amend the list, as necessary, so that the notations in the list are consistent with CITES.
- (10) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) or (9) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.
- (11) For the purposes of this section, it is to be assumed that the definition of *specimen* in CITES includes a reference to a thing that is a specimen for the purposes of this Act.

Note: See also section 303CB.

**303CB Stricter domestic measures**

- (1) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, declare that the list referred to in section 303CA has effect as if it were modified as set out in the declaration.

Note: For variation and revocation, see subsection 33(3) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
- (2) The Minister must not make a declaration under subsection (1) unless:
  - (a) the modification has the effect of treating a specified specimen that is included in Appendix II to CITES as if the specimen were included in Appendix I to CITES; or
  - (b) the modification has the effect of broadening the range of specimens included in a specified Appendix to CITES in relation to a specified species; or

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- (c) the modification has the effect of decreasing a quantitative limit in relation to the export or import of a specimen; or
  - (d) the modification has the effect of treating a specified specimen that is not included in Appendix I, II or III to CITES as if the specimen were included in Appendix I to CITES; or
  - (e) the modification has the effect of treating a specified specimen that is not included in Appendix I, II or III to CITES as if the specimen were included in Appendix II to CITES.
- (3) An instrument under subsection (1) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
  - (4) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.
  - (5) A reference in this Act to the *list referred to in section 303CA* is a reference to that list as modified under this section.

### **Subdivision B—Offences and permit system**

#### **303CC Exports of CITES specimens**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person exports a specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is a CITES specimen.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 10 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

#### *Authorised export—permit*

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the specimen is exported in accordance with a permit that was issued under section 303CG, 303GB or 303GC and is in force.

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*Authorised export—CITES exemptions*

- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply if the export of the specimen is an export that, in accordance with a determination made by the Minister under the regulations, is taken to be part of a registered, non-commercial exchange of scientific specimens between scientific organisations.
- (4) Subsection (1) does not apply if the Minister issues a certificate under subsection (5) in relation to the specimen.
- (5) If the Minister is satisfied that a specimen was acquired before the provisions of CITES applied to the specimen, the Minister may issue a certificate to that effect.
- (6) Subsection (1) does not apply if the export of the specimen is an export that, under the regulations, is taken to be an export of a personal or household effect.

Note 1: See paragraph 3 of Article VII of CITES.

Note 2: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsections (2), (3), (4) and (6) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

**303CD Imports of CITES specimens**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person imports a specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is a CITES specimen.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 10 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

*Authorised import—permit*

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the specimen is imported in accordance with a permit that was issued under section 303CG, 303GB or 303GC and is in force.

*Authorised import—CITES exemptions*

- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply if the import of the specimen is an import that, under the regulations, is taken to be an import of a personal or household effect.

Note: See paragraph 3 of Article VII of CITES.

- (4) Subsection (1) does not apply if:
- (a) the specimen is a CITES II specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is not a live specimen; and
  - (c) the specimen belongs to a species that is not specified in the regulations; and
  - (d) in a case where a quantitative limit is applicable to the specimen under a notation in the list referred to in section 303CA—the quantity of the specimen does not exceed that limit; and
  - (e) the specimen is within the personal baggage of a person entering Australia or an external Territory; and
  - (f) the specimen is not intended for sale or for any other commercial purpose; and
  - (g) both:
    - (i) the country from which the specimen is proposed to be imported has a relevant CITES authority; and
    - (ii) permission to export the specimen from that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country.
- (5) Subsection (1) does not apply if the import of the specimen is an import that, in accordance with a determination made by the Minister under the regulations, is taken to be part of a registered, non-commercial exchange of scientific specimens between scientific organisations.
- (6) Subsection (1) does not apply if:
- (a) the country from which the specimen is proposed to be imported has a relevant CITES authority; and

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- (b) a relevant CITES authority of that country has issued a certificate under paragraph 2 of Article VII of CITES in respect of the specimen.

Note 1: Paragraph 2 of Article VII of CITES deals with a specimen that was acquired before the provisions of CITES applied to the specimen.

Note 2: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsections (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

**303CE Applications for permits**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations, apply to the Minister for a permit to be issued under section 303CG.
- (2) The application must be accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed by the regulations.

**303CF Further information**

- (1) The Minister may, within 40 business days after the application is made, request the applicant to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, further information for the purpose of enabling the Minister to deal with the application.
- (2) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the applicant gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

**303CG Minister may issue permits**

- (1) The Minister may, on application made by a person under section 303CE, issue a permit to the person. This subsection has effect subject to subsection (3).
- (2) A permit authorises its holder to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303CC, 303CD, 303DD or 303EK.



- (3) The Minister must not issue a permit unless the Minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the action or actions specified in the permit will not be detrimental to, or contribute to trade which is detrimental to:
    - (i) the survival of any taxon to which the specimen belongs; or
    - (ii) the recovery in nature of any taxon to which the specimen belongs; or
    - (iii) any relevant ecosystem (for example, detriment to habitat or biodiversity); and
  - (b) the specimen was not obtained in contravention of, and the action or actions specified in the permit would not involve the contravention of, any law of the Commonwealth, of a State or of a Territory; and
  - (c) if the specimen is a live specimen that belongs to a taxon specified in the regulations—the conditions that, under the regulations, are applicable to the welfare of the specimen have been, or are likely to be, complied with; and
  - (d) if any restriction or condition is applicable to the specimen under a notation in the list referred to in section 303CA—that restriction or condition has been, or is likely to be, complied with; and
  - (e) if the permit authorises the export of a CITES specimen:
    - (i) the proposed export would be an eligible non-commercial purpose export (within the meaning of section 303FA); or
    - (ii) the relevant conditions set out in the table in section 303CH have been met; and
  - (f) if the permit authorises the import of a CITES specimen:
    - (i) the proposed import would be an eligible non-commercial purpose import (within the meaning of section 303FB); or
    - (ii) the relevant conditions set out in the table in section 303CH have been met; and
  - (g) if:
    - (i) the permit authorises the import of a CITES II specimen; and

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- (ii) the proposed import would be an eligible non-commercial purpose import (within the meaning of section 303FB);  
the country from which the specimen is proposed to be imported has a relevant CITES authority and permission to export the specimen from that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country; and
  - (h) if the permit authorises the export of a CITES specimen that is a regulated native specimen—the conditions set out in subsection 303DG(4) have been met; and
  - (i) if the permit authorises the import of a CITES specimen that is a regulated live specimen—the conditions set out in subsection 303EN(3) have been met.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply in relation to a permit to export from Australia or an external Territory a specimen (other than a live animal) that has been imported into Australia or that Territory, as the case may be.
- (5) The Minister must not issue a permit to export a specimen (other than a live animal) that has been imported into Australia or an external Territory, unless the Minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the specimen was lawfully imported (section 303GY); and
  - (b) if the specimen is a CITES I specimen:
    - (i) the country to which the specimen is proposed to be exported has a relevant CITES authority; and
    - (ii) permission to import that specimen into that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country.
- (6) This section has effect subject to section 303GA.

Note: Section 303GA deals with controlled actions, and actions for which a non-Part 13A permit is required.

**303CH Specific conditions relating to the export or import of CITES specimens for commercial purposes**

The following table sets out the conditions mentioned in paragraphs 303CG(3)(e) and (f):

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<b>Specific conditions</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Category of specimen</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Specific conditions</b>
1	CITES I	Import	(a) the proposed import would be an import from an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or (b) the specimen is, or is derived from, a plant that was artificially propagated (section 527C).
2	CITES I	Export	(a) the specimen is not a live native mammal, a live native amphibian, a live native reptile or a live native bird; and (b) the country to which the specimen is proposed to be exported has a relevant CITES authority, and permission to import that specimen into that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country; and (c) the proposed export would be an export from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or</li> <li>(ii) an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with section 303FL.</li> </ul>

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<b>Specific conditions</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Category of specimen</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Specific conditions</b>
3	CITES II	Import	<p>(a) the country from which the specimen is proposed to be imported has a relevant CITES authority and permission to export the specimen from that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country; and</p> <p>(b) any of the following subparagraphs applies:</p> <p>(i) the proposed import of the specimen would be an import from an approved commercial import program in accordance with section 303FU;</p> <p>(ii) the specimen is, or is derived from, an animal that was bred in captivity (section 527B);</p> <p>(iii) the specimen is, or is derived from, a plant that was artificially propagated (section 527C).</p>
4	CITES II	Export	<p>(a) the specimen is not a live native mammal, a live native amphibian, a live native reptile or a live native bird; and</p> <p>(b) the proposed export of the specimen would be:</p> <p>(i) an export from an approved captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or</p> <p>(ii) an export from an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with section 303FL; or</p> <p>(iii) an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade operation (section 303FN); or</p> <p>(iv) an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade management plan (section 303FO).</p>
5	CITES III	Import	<p>The country from which the specimen is proposed to be imported has a relevant CITES authority, and permission to export the specimen from that country has been given by a relevant CITES authority of that country.</p>

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<b>Specific conditions</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Category of specimen</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Specific conditions</b>
6	CITES III	Export	(a) the specimen is not a live native mammal, a live native amphibian, a live native reptile or a live native bird; and (b) the proposed export of the specimen would be: (i) an export from an approved captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or (ii) an export from an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with section 303FL; or (iii) an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade operation (section 303FN); or (iv) an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade management plan (section 303FO).

**303CI Time limit for making permit decision**

If an application for a permit is made under section 303CE, the Minister must either issue, or refuse to issue, the permit within 40 business days after whichever is the latest of the following days:

- (a) the day on which the application is made;
- (b) if a request for further information in relation to the application is made under section 303CF—the day on which the applicant complies with the request;
- (c) if section 303GA applies to the application—the day that is applicable under subsection 303GA(2).

**303CJ Duration of permits**

A permit under section 303CG:

- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
- (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
  - (i) a period of 6 months beginning on the date on which it is issued; or

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- (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.

**303CK Register of applications and decisions**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the commencement of this section, the Minister must cause to be established a register that sets out:
  - (a) prescribed particulars of applications made under section 303CE after the establishment of the register; and
  - (b) prescribed particulars of decisions made by the Minister under section 303CG after the establishment of the register.
- (2) The register may be maintained by electronic means.
- (3) The register is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**Subdivision C—Application of CITES**

**303CL Application of CITES—Management Authority and Scientific Authority**

For the purposes of the application of CITES to Australia:

- (a) the Minister is the Management Authority; and
- (b) the Secretary is the Scientific Authority.

**303CM Interpretation of CITES provisions**

- (1) Except so far as the contrary intention appears, an expression that:
  - (a) is used in the CITES provisions without definition; and
  - (b) is used in CITES (whether or not it is defined in, or a particular meaning is assigned to it by, CITES);has, in the CITES provisions, the same meaning as it has in CITES.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the *CITES provisions* consist of:
  - (a) this Division; and
  - (b) any other provision of this Act in so far as that other provision relates to, or to permits under, this Division.

**303CN Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES**

- (1) In making a decision under this Part in relation to a CITES specimen, the Minister may have regard to a relevant resolution of the Conference of the Parties under Article XI of CITES.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to a resolution, whether made before or after the commencement of this section.

## **Division 3—Exports of regulated native specimens**

### **Subdivision A—Regulated native specimens**

#### **303DA Regulated native specimens**

For the purposes of this Act, a *regulated native specimen* is a specimen that:

- (a) is, or is derived from, a native animal or a native plant; and
- (b) is not included in the list referred to in section 303DB.

#### **303DB Listing of exempt native specimens**

- (1) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, establish a list of exempt native specimens.
- (2) For each specimen included in the list, there is to be a notation that states whether the inclusion of the specimen in the list is subject to restrictions or conditions and, if so, the nature of those restrictions or conditions.
- (3) A restriction or condition mentioned in subsection (2) may:
  - (a) consist of a quantitative limit in relation to the export of the specimen; or
  - (b) relate to the circumstances of the export of the specimen; or
  - (c) relate to the source of the specimen; or
  - (d) relate to the circumstances in which the specimen was taken or, if the specimen is derived from another specimen that was taken, the circumstances in which the other specimen was taken; or
  - (e) relate to an expiry date for the inclusion of the specimen on the list.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not limit subsection (2).



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- (5) The list, as first established, must:
  - (a) contain the specimens referred to in Part I of Schedule 4 to the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*, as in force immediately before the commencement of this section; and
  - (b) reflect the restrictions and conditions that are applicable to the inclusion of those specimens in that Part of that Schedule.
- (6) The list must not include a specimen that belongs to an eligible listed threatened species unless:
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied that the export of the specimen will not:
    - (i) adversely affect the conservation status of the species concerned; and
    - (ii) be inconsistent with any recovery plan or wildlife conservation plan for that species; and
  - (b) the inclusion of the specimen on the list is subject to a restriction or condition to the effect that:
    - (i) the specimen must be, or be derived from, a plant that was artificially propagated (section 527C); and
    - (ii) the specimen was propagated in an operation that has derived its stock in a way that did not breach a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory.
- (7) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**303DC Minister may amend list**

- (1) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, amend the list referred to in section 303DB by:
  - (a) including items in the list; or
  - (b) deleting items from the list; or
  - (c) imposing a condition or restriction to which the inclusion of a specimen in the list is subject; or
  - (d) varying or revoking a condition or restriction to which the inclusion of a specimen in the list is subject; or
  - (e) correcting an inaccuracy or updating the name of a species.

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- (1A) In deciding whether to amend the list referred to in section 303DB to include a specimen derived from a commercial fishery, the Minister must rely primarily on the outcomes of any assessment in relation to the fishery carried out for the purposes of Division 1 or 2 of Part 10.
- (1B) Subsection (1A) does not apply to an amendment mentioned in paragraph (1)(e).
- (1C) Subsection (1A) does not limit the matters that may be taken into account in deciding whether to amend the list referred to in section 303DB to include a specimen derived from a commercial fishery.
- (1D) In this section:
- fishery* has the same meaning as in section 303FN.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(e), ***correcting an inaccuracy*** includes ensuring that the list complies with subsection 303DB(5).
- (3) Before amending the list referred to in section 303DB as mentioned in paragraph (1)(a), (b), (c) or (d) of this section, the Minister:
- (a) must consult such other Minister or Ministers as the Minister considers appropriate; and
  - (b) must consult such other Minister or Ministers of each State and self-governing Territory as the Minister considers appropriate; and
  - (c) may consult such other persons and organisations as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) An instrument under subsection (1) (other than an instrument mentioned in paragraph (1)(e)) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
- (5) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

## **Subdivision B—Offence and permit system**

### **303DD Exports of regulated native specimens**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person exports a specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is a regulated native specimen.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 10 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

#### *Exemption—permit*

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the specimen is exported in accordance with a permit that was issued under section 303CG, 303DG, 303GB or 303GC and is in force.

#### *Exemption—accredited wildlife trade management plan*

- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply if:
- (a) the export of the specimen would be an export in accordance with an accredited wildlife trade management plan (section 303FP); and
  - (b) the specimen is not a live native mammal, a live native reptile, a live native amphibian or a live native bird; and
  - (ba) either:
    - (i) the specimen is not a live terrestrial invertebrate, or a live freshwater fish, prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this subparagraph; or
    - (ii) the export is an export from an approved aquaculture program in accordance with section 303FM; and
  - (c) the specimen is not a CITES specimen; and
  - (d) the specimen does not belong to an eligible listed threatened species.

#### *Exemption—exchange of scientific specimens*

- (4) Subsection (1) does not apply if the export of the specimen is an export that, in accordance with a determination made by the

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Minister under the regulations, is taken to be part of a registered, non-commercial exchange of scientific specimens between scientific organisations.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsections (2), (3) and (4) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

**303DE Applications for permits**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations, apply to the Minister for a permit to be issued under section 303DG.
- (2) The application must be accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed by the regulations.

**303DF Further information**

- (1) The Minister may, within 40 business days after the application is made, request the applicant to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, further information for the purpose of enabling the Minister to deal with the application.
- (2) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the applicant gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

**303DG Minister may issue permits**

- (1) The Minister may, on application made by a person under section 303DE, issue a permit to the person. This subsection has effect subject to subsections (3), (3A) and (4).
- (2) A permit authorises its holder to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303DD.
- (3) The Minister must not issue a permit authorising the export of a live native mammal, a live native reptile, a live native amphibian or a live native bird unless the Minister is satisfied that the proposed export would be an eligible non-commercial purpose export (within the meaning of section 303FA).

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- (3A) The Minister must not issue a permit authorising the export of a live terrestrial invertebrate, or a live freshwater fish, prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of paragraph 303DD(3)(ba) unless the Minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the proposed export would be an eligible non-commercial purpose export (within the meaning of section 303FA); or
  - (b) the proposed export would be an export from an approved aquaculture program in accordance with section 303FM.
- (4) The Minister must not issue a permit unless the Minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the export of the specimen will not be detrimental to, or contribute to trade which is detrimental to:
    - (i) the survival of any taxon to which the specimen belongs; or
    - (ii) any relevant ecosystem (for example, detriment to habitat or biodiversity); and
  - (b) if the specimen is a live specimen that belongs to a taxon specified in the regulations—the conditions that, under the regulations, are applicable to the welfare of the specimen have been, or are likely to be, complied with; and
  - (c) the specimen was not obtained in contravention of, and the export would not involve the contravention of, any law of the Commonwealth, of a State or of a Territory; and
  - (d) if the specimen belongs to an eligible listed threatened species—the export of the specimen is covered by subsection (7) or (8), and the export would not be inconsistent with any recovery plan for that species; and
  - (e) if the specimen does not belong to an eligible listed threatened species:
    - (i) the proposed export would be an eligible non-commercial purpose export (within the meaning of section 303FA); or
    - (ii) the proposed export would be an eligible commercial purpose export (within the meaning of section 303FJ).

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- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply in relation to a permit to export from Australia or an external Territory a specimen (other than a live animal) that has been imported into Australia or that Territory, as the case may be.
- (6) The Minister must not issue a permit to export from Australia or an external Territory a specimen (other than a live animal) that has been imported into Australia or that Territory, as the case may be, unless the Minister is satisfied that the specimen was lawfully imported (section 303GY).

*Eligible listed threatened species*

- (7) This subsection covers the export of a specimen if:
  - (a) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or
  - (b) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with section 303FL; or
  - (c) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved aquaculture program in accordance with section 303FM;and the export of the specimen will not adversely affect the conservation status of the species concerned.

Note: See also subsection (3).

- (8) This subsection covers the export of a specimen if:
  - (a) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of research in accordance with section 303FC; or
  - (b) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of education in accordance with section 303FD; or
  - (c) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of exhibition in accordance with section 303FE; or
  - (d) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of conservation breeding or propagation in accordance with section 303FF.

*Section has effect subject to section 303GA*

- (9) This section has effect subject to section 303GA.

Note: Section 303GA deals with controlled actions, and actions for which a non-Part 13A permit is required.

### **303DH Time limit for making permit decision**

If an application for a permit is made under section 303DE, the Minister must either issue, or refuse to issue, the permit within 40 business days after whichever is the latest of the following days:

- (a) the day on which the application is made;
- (b) if a request for further information in relation to the application is made under section 303DF—the day on which the applicant complies with the request;
- (c) if section 303GA applies to the application—the day that is applicable under subsection 303GA(2).

### **303DI Duration of permits**

A permit under section 303DG:

- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
- (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
  - (i) a period of 3 years beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
  - (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.

### **303DJ Register of applications and decisions**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the commencement of this section, the Minister must cause to be established a register that sets out:
- (a) prescribed particulars of applications made under section 303DE after the establishment of the register; and
  - (b) prescribed particulars of decisions made by the Minister under section 303DG after the establishment of the register.

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- (2) The register may be maintained by electronic means.
- (3) The register is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.



## **Division 4—Imports of regulated live specimens**

### **Subdivision A—Regulated live specimens**

#### **303EA Regulated live specimens**

For the purposes of this Act, a *regulated live specimen* is a specimen that:

- (a) is a live animal or a live plant; and
- (b) is not included in Part 1 of the list referred to in section 303EB.

#### **303EB Listing of specimens suitable for live import**

- (1) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, establish a list of specimens that are taken to be suitable for live import.
- (2) The list is to be divided into 2 Parts, as follows:
  - (a) Part 1 is to be a list of unregulated specimens;
  - (b) Part 2 is to be a list of allowable regulated specimens.
- (3) The list may only contain specimens that are live animals or live plants.
- (4) Part 1 of the list, as first established, must contain only the specimens referred to in Part I of Schedule 5 or Part I of Schedule 6 to the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*, as in force immediately before the commencement of this section.
- (5) Part 1 of the list must not contain a CITES specimen.
- (6) Part 1 of the list is taken to include a live plant the introduction of which into Australia is in accordance with the *Quarantine Act 1908*.

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- (7) For each specimen included in Part 2 of the list, there is to be a notation that states whether the inclusion of the specimen in that part of the list is subject to restrictions or conditions and, if so, the nature of those restrictions or conditions.
- (8) A restriction or condition referred to in subsection (7) may:
  - (a) consist of a quantitative limit in relation to the import of the specimen; or
  - (b) relate to the circumstances of the import of the specimen; or
  - (c) relate to the source of the specimen; or
  - (d) relate to the circumstances in which the specimen was taken.
- (9) Subsection (8) does not limit subsection (7).
- (10) Part 2 of the list, as first established, must contain only specimens that were, at any time before the commencement of this section, the subject of an import permit granted under the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*.
- (11) For the purposes of subsection (10), a specimen is taken to have been the subject of an import permit if, and only if, the specimen was identified in the permit at the species or sub-species level.
- (12) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**303EC Minister may amend list**

- (1) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, amend the list referred to in section 303EB by:
  - (a) including items in a particular part of the list; or
  - (b) deleting items from a particular part of the list; or
  - (c) correcting an inaccuracy or updating the name of a species; or
  - (d) imposing a restriction or condition to which the inclusion of a specimen in Part 2 of the list is subject; or
  - (e) varying or revoking a restriction or condition to which the inclusion of a specimen in Part 2 of the list is subject.

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- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(c), *correcting an inaccuracy* includes ensuring that the list complies with subsections 303EB(4) and (10).
- (3) Before amending the list referred to in section 303EB as mentioned in paragraph (1)(a), (b), (d) or (e) of this section, the Minister:
  - (a) must consult such other Minister or Ministers as the Minister considers appropriate; and
  - (b) must consult such other Minister or Ministers of each State and self-governing Territory as the Minister considers appropriate; and
  - (c) may consult such other persons and organisations as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) An instrument under subsection (1) (other than an instrument mentioned in paragraph (1)(c)) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
- (5) The Minister must not amend the list referred to in section 303EB by including an item in the list, unless:
  - (a) the amendment is made following consideration of a relevant report under section 303ED or 303EE; or
  - (b) the amendment is made following consideration of a relevant review under section 303EJ.
- (6) A copy of an instrument under subsection (1) is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**Subdivision B—Assessments relating to the amendment of the list of specimens suitable for import**

**303ED Amendment of list on the Minister's own initiative**

- (1) The Minister may formulate a proposal for the list referred to in section 303EB to be amended by including an item.
- (2) The Minister must cause to be conducted an assessment of the potential impacts on the environment of the proposed amendment.

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- (3) The Minister must cause to be prepared a report on those impacts.  
The report must be prepared in accordance with section 303EF.
- (4) A report under subsection (3) is to be given to the Minister.

**303EE Application for amendment of list**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations, apply to the Minister for the list referred to in section 303EB to be amended by including an item.
- (2) The Minister must not consider the application unless:
  - (a) an assessment is made of the potential impacts on the environment of the proposed amendment; and
  - (b) a report on those impacts is given to the Minister.The report must be prepared in accordance with section 303EF.

**303EF Requirement for assessments**

An assessment under subsection 303ED(2) or 303EE(2) must provide for:

- (a) the preparation of draft terms of reference for a report on the relevant impacts; and
- (b) the publication of the draft terms of reference for public comment for a period of at least 10 business days that is specified by the Minister; and
- (c) the finalisation of the terms of reference, to the Minister's satisfaction, taking into account the comments (if any) received on the draft terms of reference; and
- (d) the preparation of a draft of a report on the relevant impacts; and
- (e) the publication of the draft report for public comment for a period of at least 20 business days that is specified by the Minister; and
- (f) the finalisation of the report, taking into account the comments (if any) received after publication of the draft report; and
- (g) any other matter prescribed by the regulations.

### **303EG Timing of decision about proposed amendment**

- (1) If the Minister receives a report under section 303ED or 303EE in relation to a proposed amendment, the Minister must decide whether or not to make the proposed amendment within:
  - (a) 30 business days; or
  - (b) if the Minister, by writing, specifies a longer period—that longer period;after the first business day after the day on which the report was received.

#### *Notice of extension of time*

- (2) If the Minister specifies a longer period for the purposes of subsection (1), he or she must:
  - (a) if section 303EE applies—give a copy of the specification to the applicant; and
  - (b) publish the specification in accordance with the regulations.

### **303EH Requesting further information**

- (1) If:
  - (a) section 303EE applies; and
  - (b) the Minister believes on reasonable grounds that he or she does not have enough information to make an informed decision whether or not to make the proposed amendment;the Minister may request the applicant to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, information relevant to making the decision.
- (2) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the applicant gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

### **303EI Notice of refusal of proposed amendment**

If section 303EE applies and the Minister refuses to make the proposed amendment, the Minister must give the applicant notice of the refusal.

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**303EJ Reviews**

If, following consideration of a relevant report under section 303ED or 303EE, the Minister has made a decision to include, or refusing to include, an item in the list referred to in section 303EB, the Minister may review that decision at any time during the period of 5 years after the decision was made.

**Subdivision C—Offence and permit system**

**303EK Imports of regulated live specimens**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person imports a specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is a regulated live specimen.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 10 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

*Exemption—permit*

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply if:
- (a) the specimen is included in Part 2 of the list referred to in section 303EB; and
  - (b) the specimen is imported in accordance with a permit that was issued under section 303CG, 303EN, 303GB or 303GC and is in force.

*Exemption—testing permit*

- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply if the specimen is imported in accordance with a permit that was issued under section 303GD and is in force.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsections (2) and (3) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

**303EL Applications for permits**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations, apply to the Minister for a permit to be issued under section 303EN.
- (2) The application must be accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed by the regulations.

**303EM Further information**

- (1) The Minister may, within 40 business days after the application is made, request the applicant to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, further information for the purpose of enabling the Minister to deal with the application.
- (2) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the applicant gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

**303EN Minister may issue permits**

- (1) The Minister may, on application made by a person under section 303EL, issue a permit to the person. This subsection has effect subject to subsection (3).
- (2) A permit authorises its holder to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303EK.
- (3) The Minister must not issue a permit unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) the proposed import would not be:
    - (i) likely to threaten the conservation status of a species or ecological community; or
    - (ii) likely to threaten biodiversity; and
  - (b) the specimen is included in Part 2 of the list referred to in section 303EB; and
  - (c) if any restriction or condition is applicable to the specimen under a notation in Part 2 of the list referred to in section 303EB—that restriction or condition has been, or is likely to be, complied with; and

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- (d) the specimen was not obtained in contravention of, and the import would not involve the contravention of, any law of the Commonwealth, of a State or of a Territory; and
  - (e) if the specimen belongs to a taxon specified in the regulations—the conditions that, under the regulations, are applicable to the welfare of the specimen have been, or are likely to be, complied with.
- (4) This section has effect subject to section 303GA.

Note: Section 303GA deals with controlled actions, and actions for which a non-Part 13A permit is required.

**303EO Time limit for making permit decision**

If an application for a permit is made under section 303EL, the Minister must either issue, or refuse to issue, the permit within 40 business days after whichever is the latest of the following days:

- (a) the day on which the application is made;
- (b) if a request for further information in relation to the application is made under section 303EM—the day on which the applicant complies with the request;
- (c) if section 303GA applies to the application—the day that is applicable under subsection 303GA(2).

**303EP Duration of permits**

A permit under section 303EN:

- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
- (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
  - (i) a period of 3 years beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
  - (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.



### **303EQ Register of applications and decisions**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the commencement of this section, the Minister must cause to be established a register that sets out:
  - (a) prescribed particulars of applications made under section 303EL after the establishment of the register; and
  - (b) prescribed particulars of decisions made by the Minister under section 303EN after the establishment of the register.
- (2) The register may be maintained by electronic means.
- (3) The register is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

### **Subdivision D—Marking of certain specimens for the purposes of identification**

#### **303ER Object**

The object of this Subdivision is:

- (a) to comply with Australia's obligations under:
    - (i) the Biodiversity Convention; and
    - (ii) CITES; and
  - (b) otherwise to further the protection and conservation of the wild fauna and flora of Australia and of other countries;
- by requiring the marking of certain live specimens for the purposes of identification.

Note: See Article 8 of the Biodiversity Convention.

#### **303ES Specimens to which Subdivision applies**

This Subdivision applies to a regulated live specimen if:

- (a) the specimen has been imported in accordance with:
  - (i) a permit under this Division; or
  - (ii) a permit or authority under the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; or
- (b) the specimen is the progeny of a specimen referred to in paragraph (a).

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**303ET Extended meaning of *marking***

A reference in this Subdivision to the *marking* of a specimen includes a reference to the following:

- (a) in the case of a live plant:
  - (i) the marking or labelling of a container in which the plant is kept or in which the plant is growing; and
  - (ii) the placement of a label or tag on the plant;
- (b) in the case of a live animal:
  - (i) the implantation of a scannable device in the animal; and
  - (ii) the placement of a band on any part of the animal; and
  - (iii) the placement (whether by piercing or otherwise) of a tag or ring on any part of the animal; and
  - (iv) the marking or labelling of a container within which the animal is kept.

**303EU Secretary may make determinations about marking of specimens**

*Determinations*

- (1) The Secretary may make a written determination about the marking of specified kinds of specimens for the purposes of identification.

*Matters that may be covered by determination*

- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a determination by the Secretary under that subsection may:
  - (a) require specimens to be marked; and
  - (b) deal with the manner in which specimens are to be marked; and
  - (c) deal with the times at which marking is to occur; and
  - (d) deal with the removal or destruction of marks; and
  - (e) deal with the replacement or modification of marks; and

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- (f) require that marking be carried out by persons approved in writing by the Secretary under that determination; and
- (g) deal with the circumstances in which marks may be, or are required to be, rendered useless; and
- (h) in the case of a mark that consists of a label, tag, band or device:
  - (i) set out specifications relating to the label, tag, band or device; and
  - (ii) require that any destruction or removal of the label, tag, band or device be carried out by a person approved in writing by the Secretary under that determination.

*Marking of animals not to involve undue pain etc.*

- (3) In the case of a live animal, a determination under subsection (1) must not require marking that involves:
  - (a) undue pain or distress to the animal; or
  - (b) undue risk of the death of the animal.

*Marking of plants not to involve undue risk of death*

- (4) In the case of a live plant, a determination under subsection (1) must not require marking that involves undue risk of the death of the plant.

*Disallowable instrument*

- (5) A determination under subsection (1) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

### **303EV Offences**

*Owner to ensure specimens marked etc.*

- (1) If a determination under section 303EU applies to a specimen, the owner of the specimen must comply with the determination.

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*Person not to remove or interfere with mark etc.*

- (2) A person contravenes this subsection if:
- (a) a specimen is marked in accordance with a determination under section 303EU; and
  - (b) the person engages in conduct; and
  - (c) the conduct causes the removal of the mark or interference with the mark, or renders the mark unusable.

*Offence*

- (3) A person who contravenes subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding 120 penalty units.
- (4) Subsection (2) does not apply if the person engages in the conduct in accordance with a determination under section 303EU.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matter in subsection (4). See subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*.

- (5) In subsections (1) and (2), strict liability applies to the circumstance that a determination was made under section 303EU.

Note: For *strict liability*, see section 6.1 of the *Criminal Code*.

**303EW This Subdivision does not limit conditions of permits**

This Subdivision does not limit section 303GE (which deals with conditions of permits).

## **Division 5—Concepts relating to permit criteria**

### **Subdivision A—Non-commercial purpose exports and imports**

#### **303FA Eligible non-commercial purpose exports**

For the purposes of this Part, the export of a specimen is an *eligible non-commercial purpose export* if, and only if:

- (a) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of research in accordance with section 303FC; or
- (b) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of education in accordance with section 303FD; or
- (c) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of exhibition in accordance with section 303FE; or
- (d) the export of the specimen would be an export for the purposes of conservation breeding or propagation in accordance with section 303FF; or
- (e) the export of the specimen would be an export of a household pet in accordance with section 303FG; or
- (f) the export of the specimen would be an export of a personal item in accordance with section 303FH; or
- (g) the export of a specimen would be an export for the purposes of a travelling exhibition in accordance with section 303FI.

#### **303FB Eligible non-commercial purpose imports**

For the purposes of this Part, the import of a specimen is an *eligible non-commercial purpose import* if, and only if:

- (a) the import of the specimen would be an import for the purposes of research in accordance with section 303FC; or
- (b) the import of the specimen would be an import for the purposes of education in accordance with section 303FD; or
- (c) the import of the specimen would be an import for the purposes of exhibition in accordance with section 303FE; or

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- (d) the import of the specimen would be an import for the purposes of conservation breeding or propagation in accordance with section 303FF; or
- (e) the import of the specimen would be an import of a household pet in accordance with section 303FG; or
- (f) the import of the specimen would be an import of a personal item in accordance with section 303FH; or
- (g) the import of a specimen would be an import for the purposes of a travelling exhibition in accordance with section 303FI.

**303FC Export or import for the purposes of research**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export for the purposes of research in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of scientific research; and
  - (b) the objects of the research are covered by any or all of the following subparagraphs:
    - (i) the acquisition of a better understanding, and/or increased knowledge, of a taxon to which the specimen belongs;
    - (ii) the conservation of biodiversity;
    - (iii) the maintenance and/or improvement of human health; and
  - (c) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (d) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (2) The import of a specimen is an import for the purposes of research in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of scientific research; and
  - (b) the objects of the research are covered by any or all of the following subparagraphs:
    - (i) the acquisition of a better understanding, and/or increased knowledge, of a taxon to which the specimen belongs;

- (ii) the conservation of biodiversity;
- (iii) the maintenance and/or improvement of human health;  
and
- (c) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
- (d) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

**303FD Export or import for the purposes of education**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export for the purposes of education in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of education or training; and
  - (b) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (2) The import of a specimen is an import for the purposes of education in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of education or training; and
  - (b) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

**303FE Export or import for the purposes of exhibition**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export for the purposes of exhibition in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of an exhibition;  
and
  - (b) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (2) The import of a specimen is an import for the purposes of exhibition in accordance with this section if:

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- (a) the specimen will be used for the purpose of an exhibition; and
  - (b) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (3) In this section:
- exhibition* includes a zoo or menagerie.

**303FF Export or import for conservation breeding or propagation**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export for the purposes of conservation breeding or propagation in accordance with this section if:
- (a) the specimen is a live animal or a live plant; and
  - (b) the specimen is for use in a program the object of which is the establishment and/or maintenance of a breeding population; and
  - (c) the program is a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved co-operative conservation program; and
  - (d) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (e) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (2) The import of a specimen is an import for the purposes of conservation breeding or propagation in accordance with this section if:
- (a) the specimen is a live animal or a live plant; and
  - (b) the specimen is for use in a program the object of which is the establishment and/or maintenance of a breeding population; and
  - (c) the program is a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved co-operative conservation program; and
  - (d) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (e) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.



### **303FG Export or import of household pets**

#### *Export of live native animals*

- (1) The export of a live native animal (other than a CITES specimen) is an export of a household pet in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the animal is included in the list referred to in subsection (4); and
  - (b) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) such other conditions as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

#### *Export of live CITES specimens*

- (2) The export of a CITES specimen is an export of a household pet in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen is a live animal; and
  - (b) if the animal is a native animal—the animal is included in the list referred to in subsection (4); and
  - (c) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (d) such other conditions as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

#### *Import of live animals*

- (3) The import of a live animal is an import of a household pet in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the conditions specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied; and
  - (b) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) the animal is included in Part 2 of the list referred to in section 303EB.

#### *Listing of native household pet animals*

- (4) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, establish a list of native household pet animals.

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- (5) The list, as first established, must contain the animals referred to in Schedule 7 to the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*, as in force immediately before the commencement of this section.
- (6) The Minister may, by instrument in the *Gazette*, amend the list referred to in subsection (4) by:
  - (a) including items in the list; or
  - (b) deleting items from the list; or
  - (c) correcting an inaccuracy or updating the name of a species.
- (7) An instrument under subsection (6) (other than an instrument mentioned in paragraph (6)(c)) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

**303FH Export or import of personal items**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export of a personal item in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen is not a live specimen; and
  - (b) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) the conditions specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (2) The import of a specimen is an import of a personal item in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the specimen is not a live specimen; and
  - (b) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (c) the conditions specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

**303FI Export or import for the purposes of a travelling exhibition**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export for the purposes of a travelling exhibition in accordance with this section if:
  - (a) the export is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (b) the conditions specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

- (2) The import of a specimen is an import for the purposes of a travelling exhibition in accordance with this section if:
- (a) the import is not primarily for commercial purposes; and
  - (b) the conditions specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.

## **Subdivision B—Commercial purpose exports and imports**

### **303FJ Eligible commercial purpose exports**

For the purposes of this Part, the export of a specimen is an *eligible commercial purpose export* if, and only if:

- (a) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved captive breeding program in accordance with section 303FK; or
- (b) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with section 303FL; or
- (c) the export of the specimen would be an export from an approved aquaculture program in accordance with section 303FM; or
- (d) the export of the specimen would be an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade operation (section 303FN); or
- (e) the export of the specimen would be an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade management plan (section 303FO).

Note: See also subsection 303DD(3), which deals with accredited wildlife trade management plans.

### **303FK Export or import from an approved captive breeding program**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export from an approved captive breeding program in accordance with this section if the specimen was sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved captive breeding program.

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- (2) The export of a specimen is an export from an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program in accordance with this section if the specimen was sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program.
- (3) The import of a specimen is an import from an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program in accordance with this section if the specimen was sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved CITES-registered captive breeding program.

**303FL Export from an approved artificial propagation program**

The export of a specimen is an export from an approved artificial propagation program in accordance with this section if the specimen was sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved artificial propagation program.

**303FM Export from an approved aquaculture program**

The export of a specimen is an export from an approved aquaculture program in accordance with this section if the specimen was sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved aquaculture program.

**303FN Approved wildlife trade operation**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade operation if the specimen is, or is derived from, a specimen that was taken in accordance with a wildlife trade operation declared by a declaration in force under subsection (2) to be an approved wildlife trade operation.
- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, declare that a specified wildlife trade operation is an ***approved wildlife trade operation*** for the purposes of this section.
- (3) The Minister must not declare an operation under subsection (2) unless the Minister is satisfied that:

- (a) the operation is consistent with the objects of this Part; and
  - (b) the operation will not be detrimental to:
    - (i) the survival of a taxon to which the operation relates; or
    - (ii) the conservation status of a taxon to which the operation relates; and
  - (ba) the operation will not be likely to threaten any relevant ecosystem including (but not limited to) any habitat or biodiversity; and
  - (c) if the operation relates to the taking of live specimens that belong to a taxon specified in the regulations—the conditions that, under the regulations, are applicable to the welfare of the specimens are likely to be complied with; and
  - (d) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (4) In deciding whether to declare an operation under subsection (2), the Minister must have regard to:
- (a) the significance of the impact of the operation on an ecosystem (for example, an impact on habitat or biodiversity); and
  - (b) the effectiveness of the management arrangements for the operation (including monitoring procedures).
- (5) In deciding whether to declare an operation under subsection (2), the Minister must have regard to:
- (a) whether legislation relating to the protection, conservation or management of the specimens to which the operation relates is in force in the State or Territory concerned; and
  - (b) whether the legislation applies throughout the State or Territory concerned; and
  - (c) whether, in the opinion of the Minister, the legislation is effective.
- (6) A declaration under subsection (2) ceases to be in force at the beginning of the third anniversary of the day on which the declaration took effect. However, this rule does not apply if a period of less than 3 years is specified in the declaration in accordance with subsection 303FT(4).

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- (7) If a declaration ceases to be in force, this Act does not prevent the Minister from making a fresh declaration under subsection (2).
- (8) A fresh declaration may be made during the 90-day period before the time when the current declaration ceases to be in force.
- (9) A fresh declaration that is made during that 90-day period takes effect immediately after the end of that period.
- (10) For the purposes of this section, an operation is a **wildlife trade operation** if, and only if, the operation is an operation for the taking of specimens and:
  - (a) the operation is an operation that, under the regulations, is taken to be a market-testing operation; or
  - (b) the operation is an operation that, under the regulations, is taken to be a small-scale operation; or
  - (c) the operation is an operation that, under the regulations, is taken to be a developmental operation; or
  - (d) the operation is a commercial fishery; or
  - (e) the operation is an operation that, under the regulations, is taken to be a provisional operation; or
  - (f) the operation is an operation of a kind specified in the regulations.
- (10A) In deciding whether to declare that a commercial fishery is an approved wildlife trade operation for the purposes of this section, the Minister must rely primarily on the outcomes of any assessment in relation to the fishery carried out for the purposes of Division 1 or 2 of Part 10.
- (10B) Subsection (10A) does not limit the matters that may be taken into account in deciding whether to declare that a fishery is an approved wildlife trade operation for the purposes of this section.
- (11) In this section:

**fish** includes all species of bony fish, sharks, rays, crustaceans, molluscs and other marine organisms, but does not include marine mammals or marine reptiles.

***fishery*** means a class of activities by way of fishing, including activities identified by reference to all or any of the following:

- (a) a species or type of fish;
- (b) a description of fish by reference to sex or any other characteristic;
- (c) an area of waters or of seabed;
- (d) a method of fishing;
- (e) a class of vessels;
- (f) a class of persons;
- (g) a purpose of activities.

### **303FO Approved wildlife trade management plan**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export in accordance with an approved wildlife trade management plan if the specimen is, or is derived from, a specimen that was taken in accordance with a plan declared by a declaration in force under subsection (2) to be an approved wildlife trade management plan.
- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, declare that a specified plan is an ***approved wildlife trade management plan*** for the purposes of this section.
- (3) The Minister must not declare a plan under subsection (2) unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) the plan is consistent with the objects of this Part; and
  - (b) there has been an assessment of the environmental impact of the activities covered by the plan, including (but not limited to) an assessment of:
    - (i) the status of the species to which the plan relates in the wild; and
    - (ii) the extent of the habitat of the species to which the plan relates; and
    - (iii) the threats to the species to which the plan relates; and
    - (iv) the impacts of the activities covered by the plan on the habitat or relevant ecosystems; and

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- (c) the plan includes management controls directed towards ensuring that the impacts of the activities covered by the plan on:
    - (i) a taxon to which the plan relates; and
    - (ii) any taxa that may be affected by activities covered by the plan; and
    - (iii) any relevant ecosystem (for example, impacts on habitat or biodiversity);are ecologically sustainable; and
  - (d) the activities covered by the plan will not be detrimental to:
    - (i) the survival of a taxon to which the plan relates; or
    - (ii) the conservation status of a taxon to which the plan relates; or
    - (iii) any relevant ecosystem (for example, detriment to habitat or biodiversity); and
  - (e) the plan includes measures:
    - (i) to mitigate and/or minimise the environmental impact of the activities covered by the plan; and
    - (ii) to monitor the environmental impact of the activities covered by the plan; and
    - (iii) to respond to changes in the environmental impact of the activities covered by the plan; and
  - (f) if the plan relates to the taking of live specimens that belong to a taxon specified in the regulations—the conditions that, under the regulations, are applicable to the welfare of the specimens are likely to be complied with; and
  - (g) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (4) In deciding whether to declare a plan under subsection (2), the Minister must have regard to:
- (a) whether legislation relating to the protection, conservation or management of the specimens to which the plan relates is in force in the State or Territory concerned; and
  - (b) whether the legislation applies throughout the State or Territory concerned; and



- (c) whether, in the opinion of the Minister, the legislation is effective.
- (5) A declaration under subsection (2) ceases to be in force at the beginning of the fifth anniversary of the day on which the declaration took effect. However, this rule does not apply if a period of less than 5 years is specified in the declaration in accordance with subsection 303FT(4).
- (6) If a declaration ceases to be in force, this Act does not prevent the Minister from making a fresh declaration under subsection (2).
- (7) A fresh declaration may be made during the 90-day period before the time when the current declaration ceases to be in force.
- (8) A fresh declaration that is made during that 90-day period takes effect immediately after the end of that period.

### **303FP Accredited wildlife trade management plan**

- (1) The export of a specimen is an export in accordance with an accredited wildlife trade management plan if the specimen is, or is derived from, a specimen that was taken in accordance with a plan declared by a declaration in force under subsection (2) to be an accredited wildlife trade management plan.
- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, declare that a specified plan is an ***accredited wildlife trade management plan*** for the purposes of this section.
- (3) The Minister must not declare a plan under subsection (2) unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) the plan is in force under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory; and
  - (b) the conditions set out in subsection 303FO(3) have been met in relation to the plan; and
  - (c) the plan imposes limits in relation to the taking of specimens; and

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- (d) the compliance and enforcement measures relating to the plan are likely to be effective in preventing specimens taken in breach of the plan from being traded or exported; and
  - (e) the plan provides for the monitoring of:
    - (i) the taking of specimens under the plan; and
    - (ii) the export of specimens taken under the plan; and
    - (iii) the status of the species to which the plan relates in the wild; and
    - (iv) the impacts of the activities under the plan on the habitat of the species to which the plan relates; and
  - (f) the plan provides for statistical reports about specimens taken under the plan to be given to the Minister on a regular basis; and
  - (g) such other conditions (if any) as are specified in the regulations have been, or are likely to be, satisfied.
- (4) A declaration under subsection (2) ceases to be in force at the beginning of the fifth anniversary of the day on which the declaration took effect. However, this rule does not apply if a period of less than 5 years is specified in the declaration in accordance with subsection 303FT(4).
- (5) If a declaration ceases to be in force, this Act does not prevent the Minister from making a fresh declaration under subsection (2).
- (6) A fresh declaration may be made during the 90-day period before the time when the current declaration ceases to be in force.
- (7) A fresh declaration that is made during that 90-day period takes effect immediately after the end of that period.
- (8) The Minister must publish on the Internet copies of reports given as mentioned in paragraph (3)(f).
- (9) The Minister is not required to comply with subsection (8) to the extent to which compliance could reasonably be expected to:
- (a) prejudice substantially the commercial interests of a person; or

- (b) be detrimental to:
  - (i) the survival of a taxon to which the plan relates; or
  - (ii) the conservation status of a taxon to which the plan relates.

### **303FQ Consultation with State and Territory agencies**

Before making a declaration under section 303FO or 303FP, the Minister must consult a relevant agency of each State and self-governing Territory affected by the declaration.

### **303FR Public consultation**

- (1) Before making a declaration under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP, the Minister must cause to be published on the Internet a notice:
  - (a) setting out the proposal to make the declaration; and
  - (b) setting out sufficient information to enable persons and organisations to consider adequately the merits of the proposal; and
  - (c) inviting persons and organisations to give the Minister, within the period specified in the notice, written comments about the proposal.
- (2) A period specified in a notice under subsection (1) must not be shorter than 20 business days after the date on which the notice was published on the Internet.
- (3) In making a decision about whether to make a declaration under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP, the Minister must consider any comments about the proposal to make the declaration that were given in response to an invitation under subsection (1).

### **303FRA Assessments**

- (1) The regulations may prescribe an assessment process that is to be used for the purposes of sections 303FN, 303FO and 303FP to assess the potential impacts on the environment of:
  - (a) a wildlife trade operation; or

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- (b) the activities covered by a plan;  
where the operation is, or the activities are, likely to have a significant impact on the environment.
- (2) If regulations made for the purposes of subsection (1) apply to a wildlife trade operation or to a plan, the Minister must not declare:
  - (a) the operation under subsection 303FN(2); or
  - (b) the plan under subsection 303FO(2) or 303FP(2);unless the assessment process prescribed by those regulations has been followed in relation to the assessment of the operation or plan, as the case may be.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), regulations made for the purposes of that subsection may make provision for:
  - (a) the application of Part 8 (except sections 82, 83 and 84) and the other provisions of this Act (so far as they relate to that Part) in relation to the assessment process, subject to such modifications as are specified in the regulations; and
  - (b) exemptions from the assessment process.

- (4) In this section:

*modifications* includes additions, omissions and substitutions.

*wildlife trade operation* has the same meaning as in subsection 303FN(10), but does not include an operation mentioned in paragraph 303FN(10)(d).

**303FS Register of declarations**

- (1) The Minister must cause to be maintained a register that sets out declarations made under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP.
- (2) The register may be maintained by electronic means.
- (3) The register is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**303FT Additional provisions relating to declarations**

- (1) This section applies to a declaration under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP.
- (2) A declaration may be made:
  - (a) on the Minister's own initiative; or
  - (b) on written application being made to the Minister.
- (3) The Minister may make a declaration about a plan or operation even though he or she considers that the plan or operation should be the subject of the declaration only to the extent that the plan or operation relates to a particular class of specimens. In such a case:
  - (a) the instrument of declaration is to specify that class of specimens; and
  - (b) the plan or operation is covered by the declaration only to the extent that the plan or operation relates to that class of specimens.
- (4) The Minister may make a declaration about a plan or operation even though he or she considers that the plan or operation should be the subject of the declaration only:
  - (a) during a particular period; or
  - (b) while certain circumstances exist; or
  - (c) while a certain condition is complied with.In such a case, the instrument of declaration is to specify the period, circumstances or condition.
- (5) If a declaration specifies a particular period as mentioned in subsection (4), the declaration ceases to be in force at the end of that period.
- (6) If a declaration specifies circumstances as mentioned in subsection (4), the Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, revoke the declaration if he or she is satisfied that those circumstances have ceased to exist.

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- (7) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, vary a declaration by:
  - (a) specifying one or more conditions (or further conditions) to which the declaration is subject; or
  - (b) revoking or varying a condition:
    - (i) specified in the instrument of declaration; or
    - (ii) specified under paragraph (a).
- (8) A condition may relate to reporting or monitoring.
- (9) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, revoke a declaration if he or she is satisfied that a condition of the declaration has been contravened.
- (10) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, revoke a declaration at any time.
- (11) A copy of an instrument under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP or this section is to be made available for inspection on the Internet.

**303FU Approved commercial import program**

The import of a specimen is an import from an approved commercial import program in accordance with this section if the specimen is sourced from a program that, under the regulations, is taken to be an approved commercial import program.

## **Division 6—Miscellaneous**

### **303GA Permit decision—controlled action, and action for which a non-Part 13A permit is required**

- (1) This section applies if:
- (a) an application is made under section 303CE, 303DE or 303EL for a permit (the *first permit*) to authorise the taking of an action (the *proposed action*); and
  - (b) the Minister considers that:
    - (i) the proposed action may be or is a controlled action; or
    - (ii) the proposed action is related to an action (the *related action*) that may be or is a controlled action; or
    - (iii) the proposed action is an action for which a non-Part 13A permit is required; or
    - (iv) the proposed action is related to an action (the *related action*) that is an action for which a non-Part 13A permit is required.

#### *Deferral of decision*

- (2) The Minister must neither issue, nor refuse to issue, the first permit before whichever is the latest of the following days:
- (a) if subparagraph (1)(b)(i) applies—the day on which the Minister makes a decision under section 75 about whether the proposed action is a controlled action;
  - (b) if subparagraph (1)(b)(i) applies and the Minister makes a decision under section 75 that the proposed action is a controlled action—the day on which the Minister makes a decision under section 133 approving, or refusing to approve, the taking of the controlled action;
  - (c) if subparagraph (1)(b)(ii) applies—the day on which the Minister makes a decision under section 75 about whether the related action is a controlled action;
  - (d) if subparagraph (1)(b)(ii) applies and the Minister makes a decision under section 75 that the related action is a

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controlled action—the day on which the Minister makes a decision under section 133 approving, or refusing to approve, the taking of the controlled action;

- (e) if subparagraph (1)(b)(iii) applies—the day on which a decision is made to issue, or to refuse to issue, the non-Part 13A permit referred to in that subparagraph;
- (f) if subparagraph (1)(b)(iv) applies—the day on which a decision is made to issue, or to refuse to issue, the non-Part 13A permit referred to in that subparagraph.

*Refusal of permit*

- (3) The Minister must not issue the first permit if:
  - (a) subparagraph (1)(b)(i) applies; and
  - (b) the Minister makes a decision under section 75 that the proposed action is a controlled action; and
  - (c) the Minister makes a decision under section 133 refusing to approve the taking of the controlled action.
- (4) The Minister must not issue the first permit if:
  - (a) subparagraph (1)(b)(ii) applies; and
  - (b) the Minister makes a decision under section 75 that the related action is a controlled action; and
  - (c) the Minister makes a decision under section 133 refusing to approve the taking of the controlled action.
- (5) The Minister must not issue the first permit if:
  - (a) subparagraph (1)(b)(iii) applies; and
  - (b) a decision is made to refuse to issue the non-Part 13A permit referred to in that subparagraph.
- (6) The Minister must not issue the first permit if:
  - (a) subparagraph (1)(b)(iv) applies; and
  - (b) a decision is made to refuse to issue the non-Part 13A permit referred to in that subparagraph.



*Action for which a non-Part 13A permit is required*

- (7) For the purposes of this section, an action that a person proposes to take is ***an action for which a non-Part 13A permit is required*** if the taking of the action by the person without a non-Part 13A permit would be prohibited by this Act or the regulations if it were assumed that this Part had not been enacted.
- (8) For the purposes of this section, a ***non-Part 13A permit*** is a permit issued under this Act (other than this Part) or the regulations.

*Related action*

- (9) For the purposes of this section, if a specimen was taken, the action of exporting or importing the specimen is related to:
  - (a) that taking; and
  - (b) any action that affected the specimen after that taking and before that export or import.
- (10) For the purposes of this section, if a specimen is derived from a specimen that was taken, the action of exporting or importing the first-mentioned specimen is related to:
  - (a) that taking; and
  - (b) any action that affected the first-mentioned specimen, or either of those specimens, after that taking and before that export or import.

**303GB Exceptional circumstances permit**

- (1) If:
  - (a) the Minister is considering an application by a person for a permit to be issued under section 303CG, 303DG or 303EN in relation to a specimen; and
  - (b) under this Part, the Minister is precluded from issuing that permit unless the Minister is satisfied in relation to a matter; and
  - (c) even though the Minister is not satisfied in relation to that matter, the Minister is satisfied that:

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- (i) the export or import of the specimen, as the case may be, would not be contrary to the objects of this Part; and
  - (ii) exceptional circumstances exist that justify the proposed export or import of the specimen; and
  - (iii) the export or import of the specimen, as the case may be, would not adversely affect biodiversity;
- the Minister may issue a permit to the person.
- (1A) The Minister must not issue a permit under this section unless the grant of that permit would not be contrary to CITES.
- (2) A permit under this section authorises the holder of the permit to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303CC, 303CD, 303DD or 303EK.

*Duration of permit*

- (3) A permit under this section that relates to a CITES specimen:
- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
  - (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
    - (i) a period of 6 months beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
    - (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.
- (4) A permit under this section that relates to a specimen other than a CITES specimen:
- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
  - (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
    - (i) a period of 12 months beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
    - (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.

*Further information*

- (5) The Minister may, within 40 business days after an application is made as mentioned in subsection (1), request the applicant to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, further

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information for the purpose of enabling the Minister to deal with the application.

- (6) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the applicant gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

*Public consultation*

- (7) Before issuing a permit under this section, the Minister must cause to be published on the Internet a notice:
- (a) setting out the proposal to issue the permit; and
  - (b) setting out sufficient information to enable persons and organisations to consider adequately the merits of the proposal; and
  - (c) inviting persons and organisations to give the Minister, within the period specified in the notice, written comments about the proposal.
- (8) A period specified in a notice under subsection (7) must not be shorter than 5 business days after the date on which the notice was published on the Internet.
- (9) In making a decision under subsection (1) about whether to issue a permit, the Minister must consider any comments about the proposal to issue the permit that were given in response to an invitation under subsection (7).

**303GC Permit authorising the Secretary to export or import specimens**

- (1) The Secretary may apply to the Minister for a permit to be issued under subsection (2).
- (2) The Minister may, on application made by the Secretary under subsection (1), issue a permit to the Secretary. This subsection has effect subject to subsections (4) and (5).
- (3) A permit under subsection (2) authorises the Secretary to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303CC, 303CD, 303DD or 303EK.

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- (4) The Minister must not issue a permit under this section to export a specimen unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) both:
    - (i) the recipient of the specimen will be a relevant CITES authority of a country; and
    - (ii) the specimen will be used by that relevant CITES authority for the purpose of the identification of a specimen and/or for the purpose of education or training; or
  - (b) both:
    - (i) the specimen has been seized under this Act; and
    - (ii) the specimen will be used to facilitate investigations in or outside Australia in relation to trade relating to wildlife.
- (5) The Minister must not issue a permit under this section to import a specimen unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) the specimen will be used by the Secretary for the purposes of the identification of a specimen; or
  - (b) both:
    - (i) the sender of the specimen will be a relevant CITES authority of a country; and
    - (ii) the specimen will be used for the purpose of the identification of a specimen and/or for the purpose of education or training; or
  - (c) the specimen was exported from Australia in contravention of:
    - (i) this Part; or
    - (ii) the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; or
  - (d) the specimen will be used to facilitate investigations in or outside Australia in relation to trade relating to wildlife.
- (6) A permit under this section:
  - (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
  - (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:

- (i) a period of 12 months beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
- (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.

### **303GD Testing permit—section 303EE assessments**

#### *Applications for permits*

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations, apply to the Minister for a permit to be issued under subsection (5).
- (2) The application must be accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed by the regulations.

#### *Further information*

- (3) The Minister may, within 40 business days after the application is made, request the person to give the Minister, within the period specified in the request, further information for the purpose of enabling the Minister to deal with the application.
- (4) The Minister may refuse to consider the application until the person gives the Minister the information in accordance with the request.

#### *Minister may issue permits*

- (5) The Minister may, on application made by a person under subsection (1), issue a permit to the person. This subsection has effect subject to subsections (7) and (8).
- (6) A permit authorises its holder to take the action or actions specified in the permit without breaching section 303EK.
- (7) The Minister must not issue a permit to a person unless the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) the person has made an application to the Minister under section 303EE for the list referred to in section 303EB to be amended by including an item; and

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- (b) if the proposed amendment were made, the specimen would be covered by the item; and
  - (c) the specimen is not a CITES specimen; and
  - (d) an assessment is to be made under section 303EE of the potential impacts on the environment of the proposed amendment, and the terms of reference for a report on the assessment have been finalised; and
  - (e) the person proposes to conduct tests on the specimen in Australia in order to obtain information for the assessment; and
  - (f) the information is required for the assessment; and
  - (g) it is not reasonably practicable for the person to obtain the information without conducting the tests in Australia; and
  - (h) the tests will be conducted in a controlled environment.
- (8) The Minister must not issue a permit under this section unless the permit is subject to one or more conditions about holding the specimen in quarantine.

*Duration of permit*

- (9) A permit under this section:
- (a) comes into force on the date on which it is issued; and
  - (b) unless it is sooner cancelled, remains in force for:
    - (i) a period of 6 months beginning on the date on which it is issued; or
    - (ii) if a shorter period is specified in the permit—that shorter period.

*Investigations*

- (10) A reference in this section to ***tests on the specimen*** includes a reference to investigations relating to the specimen.

**303GE Conditions of permits**

- (1) This section applies to a permit issued under this Part.

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- (2) A permit is subject to such conditions as are specified in the permit or as are imposed under subsection (3).
- (3) The Minister may, in accordance with the regulations:
  - (a) vary or revoke a condition of a permit; or
  - (b) impose further conditions of a permit.
- (4) The Minister's powers under subsection (3) may be exercised:
  - (a) on the Minister's own initiative; or
  - (b) on the application of the holder of the permit concerned.
- (5) If a permit authorises its holder to take a particular action, a condition of the permit may require the holder to do, or not do, an act or thing before, at or after the time when the action takes place.
- (6) If a person is given an authority under section 303GG by the holder of a permit, subsection (5) applies to the person in a corresponding way to the way in which it applies to the holder of the permit.
- (7) Subsections (4), (5) and (6) are to be disregarded in determining the meaning of a provision of this Act (other than a provision of this Part) that relates to conditions of permits issued otherwise than under this Part.

**303GF Contravening conditions of a permit**

- (1) This section applies to a permit issued under this Part.
- (2) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person is:
    - (i) the holder of a permit; or
    - (ii) a person to whom an authority under section 303GG has been given by the holder of a permit; and
  - (b) the person engages in conduct; and
  - (c) the conduct results in a contravention of a condition of the permit.

Penalty: 300 penalty units.

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- (3) The holder of a permit is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person is:
    - (i) the holder of a permit; or
    - (ii) a person to whom an authority under section 303GG has been given by the holder of a permit; and
  - (b) the person engages in conduct; and
  - (c) the conduct results in a contravention of a condition of the permit; and
  - (d) the condition relates to:
    - (i) the sale or other disposal of a live animal or a live plant; or
    - (ii) the sale or other disposal of the progeny of a live animal or a live plant; or
    - (iii) the release from captivity of a live animal; or
    - (iv) the release from captivity of the progeny of a live animal; or
    - (v) the escape of a live plant.

Penalty: 600 penalty units.

- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3), a person is taken to have released an animal from captivity if:
- (a) that animal has escaped from captivity; and
  - (b) either:
    - (i) the person allowed the animal to escape; or
    - (ii) the person failed to take all reasonable measures to prevent the animal from escaping.
- (4A) For the purposes of subsection (3), a person is taken to have allowed a plant to escape if:
- (a) the plant has grown or propagated in the wild; and
  - (b) either:
    - (i) the person allowed the plant to escape; or
    - (ii) the person failed to take all reasonable measures to prevent the plant from growing or propagating in the wild.



- (5) In subsections (2) and (3), strict liability applies to the circumstance that the person was given an authority under section 303GG.

Note: For *strict liability*, see section 6.1 of the *Criminal Code*.

### **303GG Authorities under permits**

- (1) This section applies to a permit issued under this Part.
- (2) Except as provided in this section, a permit does not authorise the taking of any action by a person for or on behalf of the holder of the permit.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), the holder of a permit may give a person written authority to take for or on behalf of the holder any action authorised by the permit. The authority may be given generally or as otherwise provided by the instrument of authority.
- (4) The holder of a permit must not give an authority unless:
- (a) the permit contains a condition permitting the holder to do so; and
  - (b) the authority is given in accordance with any requirements set out in the condition.
- (5) A permit is, for the purposes of this Act, taken to authorise the taking of a particular action by a person if the taking of that action by the person is authorised by an authority given by the holder of the permit.
- (6) The giving of an authority does not prevent the taking of any action by the holder of the permit.
- (7) A person who gives an authority must give to the Minister written notice of it within 14 days after giving the authority.

### **303GH Transfer of permits**

- (1) This section applies to a permit issued under this Part.

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- (2) On the application, in accordance with the regulations, of the holder of a permit, the Minister may, in accordance with the regulations, transfer the permit to another person.
- (3) In deciding whether to transfer the permit to another person, the Minister must consider whether the transferee is a suitable person to hold the permit, having regard to the matters set out in the regulations.

**303GI Suspension or cancellation of permits**

- (1) This section applies to a permit issued under this Part.
- (2) The Minister may, in accordance with the regulations:
  - (a) suspend a permit for a specified period; or
  - (b) cancel a permit.

**303GJ Review of decisions**

- (1) An application may be made to the Tribunal for review of a decision:
  - (a) to issue or refuse a permit; or
  - (b) to specify, vary or revoke a condition of a permit; or
  - (c) to impose a further condition of a permit; or
  - (d) to transfer or refuse to transfer a permit; or
  - (e) to suspend or cancel a permit; or
  - (f) to issue or refuse a certificate under subsection 303CC(5); or
  - (g) of the Secretary under a determination in force under section 303EU; or
  - (h) to make or refuse a declaration under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP; or
  - (i) to vary or revoke a declaration under section 303FN, 303FO or 303FP.
- (2) In giving a direction as to the persons who are to constitute the Tribunal for the purposes of a review of a decision of the Minister to issue or refuse a permit, where any of the following provisions are relevant for the purposes of the review:

- (a) paragraph 303CG(3)(a);
- (b) paragraph 303CG(3)(c);
- (c) paragraph 303DG(4)(a);
- (d) paragraph 303DG(4)(b);
- (e) paragraph 303EN(3)(e);

the President of the Tribunal must ensure that, for the purposes of the review, the Tribunal is constituted by, or includes, a member of the Tribunal who, in the opinion of the President, has special knowledge or skill in relation to environmental matters.

- (3) In this section:

***permit*** means a permit under this Part.

***Tribunal*** means:

- (a) before the commencement of Parts 4 to 10 of the *Administrative Review Tribunal Act 2001*—the Administrative Appeals Tribunal; and
- (b) after the commencement of Parts 4 to 10 of the *Administrative Review Tribunal Act 2001*—the Administrative Review Tribunal.

### **303GK Permit to be produced**

#### *Export permit*

- (1) For the purposes of this Part, if the holder of a permit to export a specimen exports that specimen, he or she is not to be taken to have exported that specimen in accordance with that permit unless, before exporting the specimen, he or she:
  - (a) produced the permit, or caused the permit to be produced, to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the export of the specimen; or
  - (b) received written notice from the Secretary authorising the export of the specimen without the production of the permit.
- (2) The Secretary must not give the notice referred to in paragraph (1)(b) unless he or she:

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- (a) is satisfied that the production of the permit is impracticable; and
- (b) endorses a copy of the permit to show that the notice is being given; and
- (c) makes that copy available to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the export of the specimen.

*Import permit*

- (3) For the purposes of this Part, if the holder of a permit to import a specimen imports that specimen, he or she is not to be taken to have imported that specimen in accordance with that permit unless, before or within a reasonable time after importing the specimen, he or she produced the permit, or caused the permit to be produced, to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the import of the specimen.

*Authorities under section 303GG*

- (4) If a person is given an authority under section 303GG by the holder of a permit, this section applies to the person in a corresponding way to the way in which it applies to the holder of the permit.

**303GL Pre-CITES certificate to be produced**

*Export certificate*

- (1) If a person exports a specimen and wishes to rely on a certificate issued under subsection 303CC(5), he or she is not entitled to rely on that certificate unless, before exporting the specimen, he or she:
  - (a) produced the certificate, or caused the certificate to be produced, to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the export of the specimen; or
  - (b) received written notice from the Secretary authorising the export of the specimen without the production of the certificate.
- (2) The Secretary must not give the notice referred to in paragraph (1)(b) unless he or she:

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- (a) is satisfied that the production of the certificate is impracticable; and
- (b) endorses a copy of the certificate to show that the notice is being given; and
- (c) makes that copy available to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the export of the specimen.

*Import certificate*

- (3) If a person imports a specimen and wishes to rely on a certificate referred to in paragraph 303CD(6)(b), he or she is not entitled to rely on the certificate unless, before or within a reasonable time after importing the specimen, he or she produced the certificate, or caused the certificate to be produced, to an authorised officer doing duty in relation to the import of the specimen.

**303GM Fees**

- (1) This section applies to a permit under this Part.
- (2) Such fees (if any) as are prescribed are payable in respect of the following:
  - (a) the issue or the transfer of a permit;
  - (b) the variation or revocation of a condition of a permit;
  - (c) the imposition of a further condition of a permit.

**303GN Possession of illegally imported specimens**

*Object*

- (1) The object of this section is:
  - (a) to comply with Australia's obligations under:
    - (i) the Biodiversity Convention; and
    - (ii) CITES; and
  - (b) to otherwise further the objects of this Part;by prohibiting the possession of illegally imported specimens and the progeny of such specimens.

Note: See Article 8 of the Biodiversity Convention.

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*Possession of CITES specimens and unlisted regulated live specimens*

- (2) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person has in the person's possession, in the Australian jurisdiction, a specimen; and
  - (b) the specimen is:
    - (i) a CITES specimen; or
    - (ii) a regulated live specimen that is not included in the list referred to in section 303EB;
- and the person is reckless as to that fact; and
- (c) the specimen does not belong to a native species.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 5 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if:
- (a) the specimen was lawfully imported; or
  - (b) the specimen was not imported, but all of the specimens of which it is the progeny were lawfully imported.

Note 1: For *lawfully imported*, see section 303GY.

Note 2: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsection (3) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

- (4) Subsection (2) does not apply if the specimen was neither imported, nor the progeny of any other specimen that was imported.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matters in subsection (4) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

- (5) Subsection (2) does not apply if the defendant has a reasonable excuse.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matter in subsection (5) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

*Possession of listed regulated live specimens*

- (6) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person has in the person's possession, in the Australian jurisdiction, a specimen; and

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- (b) the specimen is a regulated live specimen that is included in Part 2 of the list referred to in section 303EB, and the person is reckless as to that fact; and
- (c) the specimen does not belong to a native species; and
- (d) either:
  - (i) the specimen was unlawfully imported; or
  - (ii) the specimen was not imported, but any of the specimens of which it is the progeny was unlawfully imported.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 5 years or 1,000 penalty units, or both.

- (7) Subsection (6) does not apply if the defendant has a reasonable excuse.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matter in subsection (7) (see subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*).

*Unlawfully imported*

- (8) For the purposes of this section, a specimen is ***unlawfully imported*** if, and only if, it was imported, but was not lawfully imported (section 303GY).

**303GO Regulations relating to welfare**

- (1) This section applies to regulations made for the purposes of paragraph 303CG(3)(c), 303DG(4)(b), 303EN(3)(e), 303FN(3)(c) or 303FO(3)(f).
- (2) The conditions specified in those regulations in relation to a live animal may:
  - (a) deal with the welfare of the animal:
    - (i) when the animal is taken; or
    - (ii) when the animal is being held after it has been taken; or
    - (iii) when the animal is being prepared or shipped; or
    - (iv) when the animal is under the control of the proposed recipient; and
  - (b) may deal with eliminating or minimising the risk of:
    - (i) injury to the animal; or

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- (ii) adverse effects on the health of the animal; or
  - (iii) cruel treatment of the animal.
- (3) The conditions specified in those regulations in relation to a live plant may:
  - (a) deal with the welfare of the plant:
    - (i) when the plant is taken; or
    - (ii) when the plant is being held after it has been taken; or
    - (iii) when the plant is being prepared or shipped; or
    - (iv) when the plant is under the control of the proposed recipient; and
  - (b) may deal with eliminating or minimising the risk of:
    - (i) injury to the plant; or
    - (ii) adverse effects on the health of the plant.
- (4) Subsections (2) and (3) do not limit paragraph 303CG(3)(c), 303DG(4)(b), 303EN(3)(e), 303FN(3)(c) or 303FO(3)(f).

**303GP Cruelty—export or import of animals**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person exports or imports a live animal in a manner that subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (b) the person knows that, or is reckless as to whether, the export or import subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (c) the animal is a CITES specimen; and
  - (d) the person contravenes section 303CC or 303CD in relation to the export or import of the animal.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

- (2) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person exports a live animal in a manner that subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (b) the person knows that, or is reckless as to whether, the export subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (c) the animal is a regulated native specimen; and



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- (d) the person contravenes section 303DD in relation to the export of the animal.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

- (3) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person imports a live animal in a manner that subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (b) the person knows that, or is reckless as to whether, the import subjects the animal to cruel treatment; and
  - (c) the animal is a regulated live specimen; and
  - (d) the person contravenes section 303EK in relation to the import of the animal.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

- (4) This section does not limit section 303GE.

**303GQ Imports of specimens contrary to the laws of a foreign country**

- (1) A person must not intentionally import a specimen if the person knows that:
  - (a) the specimen was exported from a foreign country; and
  - (b) at the time the specimen was exported, the export of the specimen was prohibited by a law of the foreign country that corresponds to this Part.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 5 years.

- (2) A prosecution must not be instituted for an offence against this section unless a relevant CITES authority of the foreign country has requested:
  - (a) the investigation of the offence; or
  - (b) assistance in relation to a class of offences in which the offence is included.

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**303GR Evidence**

- (1) In any proceedings for an offence against this Part:
  - (a) any record kept in accordance with the regulations or another law of the Commonwealth or a law of a State or Territory is admissible as prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the record; and
  - (b) a copy of an entry in such a record, being a copy certified by the person by whom the record is kept to be a true copy of the entry, is admissible as prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the entry; and
  - (c) a document purporting to be a record kept in accordance with the regulations or another law of the Commonwealth, or a law of a State or Territory, or purporting to be such a certified copy as is referred to in paragraph (b), is taken, unless the contrary is established, to be such a record or certified copy, as the case may be.
- (2) If, in any proceedings for an offence against this Part, a record referred to in paragraph (1)(a) is tendered as prima facie evidence of a fact stated in the record, the person alleged to have committed the offence may require the person who kept that record to be called as a witness for the prosecution in the proceedings.

**303GS Evidence of examiner**

- (1) The Minister may, by writing, appoint appropriately qualified persons to be examiners for the purposes of this Part.
- (2) Subject to subsection (4), a certificate signed by an examiner appointed under subsection (1) setting out, in relation to a substance, matter, specimen or thing, one or more of the following:
  - (a) that he or she is appointed as the examiner under subsection (1);
  - (b) when and from whom the substance, matter, specimen or thing was received;
  - (c) what labels or other means of identification accompanied the substance, matter, specimen or thing when it was received;

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- (d) what container held the substance, matter, specimen or thing when it was received;
  - (e) a description, including the weight, of the substance, matter, specimen or thing when it was received;
  - (f) the name of any method used to analyse the substance, matter, specimen or thing or any portion of it;
  - (g) the results of any such analysis;
  - (h) how the substance, matter, specimen or thing was dealt with after handling by the examiner, including details of:
    - (i) the quantity of the substance, matter, specimen or thing retained after analysis; and
    - (ii) names of any persons to whom any of the substance, matter, specimen or thing was given after analysis; and
    - (iii) measures taken to secure any retained quantity of the substance, matter, specimen or thing after analysis;
- is admissible in any proceeding for an offence against this Part as prima facie evidence of the matters in the certificate and the correctness of the results of the analysis.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, a document purporting to be a certificate referred to in subsection (2) is taken to be such a certificate unless the contrary is established.
- (4) A certificate is not to be admitted in evidence in accordance with subsection (2) in proceedings for an offence against this Part unless:
- (a) the person charged with the offence; or
  - (b) a solicitor who has appeared for the person in those proceedings;
- has, at least 14 days before the certificate is sought to be admitted, been given a copy of the certificate together with reasonable notice of the intention to produce the certificate as evidence in the proceedings.
- (5) Subject to subsection (6), if, under subsection (2), a certificate is admitted in evidence in proceedings for an offence against this Part, the person charged with the offence may require the person giving the certificate to be called as a witness for the prosecution

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and cross-examined as if he or she had given evidence of the matters stated in the certificate.

- (6) Subsection (5) does not entitle the person charged to require the person giving a certificate to be called as a witness for the prosecution unless:
  - (a) the prosecutor has been given at least 4 days notice of the person's intention to require the examiner to be so called; or
  - (b) the court, by order, allows the person charged to require the person giving the certificate to be so called.
- (7) Any evidence given in support, or in rebuttal, of a matter stated in a certificate given under subsection (2) must be considered on its merits and the credibility and probative value of such evidence must be neither increased nor diminished by reason of this section.

**303GT Protection of witness**

- (1) A witness for the prosecution in any proceedings for an offence against this Part is not to be compelled to disclose:
  - (a) the fact that the witness received any information; or
  - (b) the nature of any information received by the witness; or
  - (c) the name of the person who gave the witness any information.
- (2) An authorised officer who is a witness in any proceedings for an offence against this Part is not to be compelled to produce any report:
  - (a) that was made or received by the authorised officer in confidence in his or her capacity as an authorised officer; or
  - (b) that contains information received by the authorised officer in confidence.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) are to be disregarded in determining the compellability of witnesses in proceedings for an offence against a provision of this Act other than this Part.

**303GU Forms and declarations—persons arriving in Australia or an external Territory**

The regulations may provide for forms to be completed, or declarations to be made, in relation to specimens by persons arriving in Australia or an external Territory.

**303GV Saving of other laws**

- (1) This Part is in addition to the following laws:
  - (a) the *Customs Act 1901*;
  - (b) the *Quarantine Act 1908*;
  - (c) any other law of the Commonwealth or of an external Territory, whether passed or made before or after the commencement of this Part.
- (2) The holder of a permit under this Part authorising the export or import of a specimen is not, by reason only of being the holder of the permit, exempt from compliance with any law referred to in paragraph (1)(a), (b) or (c) that applies in relation to that specimen.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), this Part, and regulations made for the purposes of this Part, do not authorise or permit the doing of any act in contravention of the *Quarantine Act 1908* or of a law of an external Territory relating to quarantine.

**303GW Part not to apply to certain specimens**

*Transshipment*

- (1) For the purposes of this Part, if a specimen is brought into Australia from a country:
  - (a) for the purpose of transshipment to another country; or
  - (b) as part of an aircraft's stores or ship's stores;that specimen:
  - (c) is taken not to have been imported into Australia; and
  - (d) when it leaves Australia, is taken not to be exported from Australia.

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- (2) For the purposes of this Part, if a specimen is brought into an external Territory:
  - (a) for the purpose of transshipment to another country; or
  - (b) as part of an aircraft's stores or ship's stores;that specimen:
  - (c) is taken not to have been imported into that Territory; and
  - (d) when it leaves that Territory, is taken not to be exported from that Territory.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), a specimen is to be taken to be brought into Australia for the purpose of transshipment to another country if, and only if:
  - (a) the specimen is brought into Australia in the course of being transported to an identified person in the other country; and
  - (b) any delay in its leaving Australia will be due solely to the arrangements for its transport; and
  - (c) it will be under the control of the Customs all the time that it is in Australia.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (2), a specimen is taken to be brought into an external Territory for the purpose of transshipment to another country if, and only if:
  - (a) the specimen is brought into that Territory in the course of being transported to an identified person in the other country; and
  - (b) any delay in its leaving that Territory will be due solely to the arrangements for its transport; and
  - (c) it will be under the control of an authorised officer all the time that it is in that Territory.

*Emergency*

- (5) For the purposes of this Part, if:
  - (a) the Minister, the Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine, a prescribed person or a prescribed organisation is satisfied that, in order to meet an emergency involving danger to the life or health of a human or an animal, it is necessary or desirable that a specimen that could be used in treating that

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person or animal should be sent out of, or brought into,  
Australia or an external Territory; and  
(b) that specimen is sent out of, or brought into, Australia or that  
Territory, as the case requires, to meet that emergency;  
that specimen is taken not to have been exported or imported, as  
the case may be.

*Quarantine*

- (6) Subject to subsections (1), (2) and (5), if, in accordance with the  
*Quarantine Act 1908* or a law of an external Territory relating to  
quarantine, a person exercising powers under that Act or law  
imports a specimen that is subject to quarantine, then, for the  
purposes of this Part, that specimen is taken to have been imported  
by:
- (a) if a person holds a permit to import that specimen—the  
holder of that permit; or
  - (b) in any other case—a person whose identity is not known;  
but this subsection does not affect the commission of any offence  
committed before the importation of that specimen.

*Definitions*

- (7) In this section:

*aircraft's stores* and *ship's stores* have the same meanings  
respectively as they have in Part VII of the *Customs Act 1901*.

**303GX Part not to apply to certain specimens used by traditional  
inhabitants**

- (1) In this section:

*area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone* means an area in respect  
of which a notice is in force under subsection (2).

*Australian place* means a place in Australia that is in the Protected  
Zone or in an area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone.

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***Papua New Guinea place*** means a place in Papua New Guinea that is in the Protected Zone or in an area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone.

***prescribed specimen*** means a specimen of a kind specified in a notice in force under subsection (3).

***Protected Zone*** means the zone established under Article 10 of the Torres Strait Treaty, being the area bounded by the line described in Annex 9 to that treaty.

***Torres Strait Treaty*** means the Treaty between Australia and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea that was signed at Sydney on 18 December 1978.

***traditional activities*** has the same meaning as in the Torres Strait Treaty.

***traditional inhabitants*** has the same meaning as in the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*.

- (2) The Minister may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, declare an area adjacent to the Protected Zone to be an area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone for the purposes of this section.
- (3) The Minister may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, declare that a specimen of a kind specified in the notice is a prescribed specimen for the purposes of this section.
- (4) For the purposes of this Part, if a prescribed specimen that is owned by, or is under the control of, a traditional inhabitant and that has been used, is being used or is intended to be used by him or her in connection with the performance of traditional activities in the Protected Zone or in an area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone, is:
  - (a) brought to an Australian place from a Papua New Guinea place; or
  - (b) taken from an Australian place to a Papua New Guinea place;then, subject to subsection (5), that specimen:



- (c) in the case where the specimen is brought into Australia as mentioned in paragraph (a)—is taken not to have been imported into Australia; and
  - (d) in the case where the specimen is taken from Australia as mentioned in paragraph (b)—is taken not to have been exported from Australia.
- (5) If:
- (a) a prescribed specimen that has been brought into Australia is, under subsection (4), taken not to have been imported into Australia; and
  - (b) that prescribed specimen is brought to a place in Australia that is not in the Protected Zone or in an area in the vicinity of the Protected Zone;
- the prescribed specimen is taken to have been imported into Australia upon being brought to the place referred to in paragraph (b).

### **303GY When a specimen is *lawfully imported***

For the purposes of this Part, a specimen is *lawfully imported* if, and only if, it was imported and:

- (a) in a case where the specimen was imported after the commencement of this Part—it was not imported in contravention of this Part; or
- (b) in a case where the specimen was imported when the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* was in force—it was not imported in contravention of that Act; or
- (c) in a case where the specimen was imported before the commencement of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*—it was not imported in contravention of:
  - (i) the Customs (Endangered Species) Regulations; or
  - (ii) the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations.

## **Part 14—Conservation agreements**

### **304 Object of this Part**

The object of this Part is to provide for:

- (a) conservation agreements between the Commonwealth and persons related to the protection and conservation of the following:
  - (i) biodiversity;
  - (ii) the world heritage values of declared World Heritage properties;
  - (iii) the National Heritage values of National Heritage places;
  - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of Commonwealth Heritage places; and
- (b) the effect of conservation agreements; and
- (c) the publication of conservation agreements.

Conservation agreements are agreements whose primary object is to enhance the conservation of biodiversity, those heritage values or both of those things. They may relate to private or public land, or to marine areas.

### **305 Minister may enter into conservation agreements**

- (1) The Minister may, on behalf of the Commonwealth, enter into an agreement (a ***conservation agreement***) with a person for the protection and conservation of all or any of the following:
  - (a) biodiversity in the Australian jurisdiction;
  - (b) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property in the Australian jurisdiction;
  - (c) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place (whether inside or outside the Australian jurisdiction);
  - (d) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place (whether inside or outside the Australian jurisdiction).

- (1A) The protection and conservation of the matters in subsection (1) include all or any of the following:
- (a) the protection, conservation and management of any listed species or ecological communities, or their habitats;
  - (b) the management of things in a way necessary for the protection and conservation of:
    - (i) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property; or
    - (ii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place; or
    - (iii) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place;
  - (c) the abatement of processes, and the mitigation or avoidance of actions, that might adversely affect:
    - (i) biodiversity; or
    - (ii) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property; or
    - (iii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place; or
    - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place.

Note: When the Minister is considering entering into a conservation agreement, the Minister must take into account any responsibilities of other Commonwealth Ministers that may be affected by the agreement.

- (2) However, the Minister must not enter into a conservation agreement unless satisfied that:
- (a) in the case of a proposed agreement wholly or partly for the protection and conservation of biodiversity—the agreement:
    - (i) will result in a net benefit to the conservation of biodiversity; and
    - (ii) is not inconsistent with a recovery plan, threat abatement plan or wildlife conservation plan; and
  - (b) in the case of a proposed agreement wholly or partly for the protection and conservation of heritage values—the agreement:

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- (i) will result in a net benefit to the conservation of those heritage values; and
  - (ii) is not inconsistent with at least one of the Australian World Heritage management principles, the National Heritage management principles and the Commonwealth Heritage management principles.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), in deciding whether a proposed agreement will result in a net benefit to the conservation of biodiversity or heritage values, the Minister must have regard to the matters (if any) prescribed by the regulations.
- (4) A conservation agreement must not cover all or part of a Commonwealth reserve.
- (5) Under subsection (1), the Minister may enter into a conservation agreement covering land with one of the following persons who has a usage right relating to the land:
  - (a) an indigenous person;
  - (b) a body corporate wholly owned by indigenous persons;
  - (c) a body corporate established by or under an Act for the purposes of holding for the benefit of indigenous persons land vested in it by or under that Act;
  - (d) the trustee of a trust that holds land for the benefit of indigenous persons.This does not limit subsection (1).
- (6) The Minister must take account of the following when entering into a conservation agreement that is wholly or partly for the protection and conservation of biodiversity as described in subsection (5):
  - (a) paragraph (j) of Article 8 of the Biodiversity Convention;
  - (b) paragraph (c) of Article 10 of the Biodiversity Convention;
  - (c) paragraph 4 of Article 18 of the Biodiversity Convention;
  - (d) objective 1.8.2 of the National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity, published by the Commonwealth in 1996.

### **306 Content of conservation agreements**

- (1) Without limiting section 305, a conservation agreement may provide, for example, for all or any of the following:
  - (a) activities that promote the protection and conservation of all or any of the following:
    - (i) biodiversity;
    - (ii) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property;
    - (iii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place;
    - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place;
  - (b) controlling or prohibiting, in any place covered by the agreement, actions or processes that might adversely affect:
    - (i) the species, ecological communities, habitats or potential habitats covered by the agreement; or
    - (ii) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property; or
    - (iii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place; or
    - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place;
  - (c) requiring a person bound by the agreement not to obstruct access by a person authorised under the agreement to places covered by the agreement for the purpose of monitoring compliance with the agreement;
  - (d) requiring a person bound by the agreement to give such an authorised person information requested by the authorised person that is in the first-mentioned person's control and is relevant to compliance with the agreement;
  - (e) requiring the Commonwealth to provide financial, technical or other assistance to a person bound by the agreement;
  - (g) the commencement and duration of the agreement.

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- (2) Without limiting section 305 or subsection (1) of this section, a conservation agreement entered into with the owner of a place may provide, for example, for all or any of the following:
- (a) requiring the owner to carry out specified activities, or to do specified things, that promote the conservation of all or any of the following:
    - (i) biodiversity;
    - (ii) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property;
    - (iii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place;
    - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place;
  - (b) restricting the use of the place, or requiring the owner to refrain from, control or refuse to permit, actions or processes that may adversely affect:
    - (i) the species, ecological communities, habitats or potential habitats covered by the agreement; or
    - (ii) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property; or
    - (iii) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place; or
    - (iv) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place;
  - (c) requiring the owner to permit access to the place by specified persons;
  - (d) requiring the owner to contribute towards costs incurred in implementing the agreement;
  - (e) specifying the manner in which any money paid to the owner under the agreement is to be applied by the owner;
  - (f) requiring the owner to repay to the Commonwealth any money paid to the owner under the agreement if the owner commits a specified breach of the agreement or in other specified circumstances;
  - (g) providing for any other matter relating to the conservation or enhancement of the place, including the preparation and implementation of a plan of management for the place.

### **307 Conservation agreements to be legally binding**

A conservation agreement is legally binding on:

- (a) the Commonwealth; and
- (b) the person or persons with whom the Minister entered into the agreement on behalf of the Commonwealth; and
- (c) anyone else who is a successor to the whole or any part of any interest that a person mentioned in paragraph (b) had, when the agreement was entered into, in any place covered by the agreement.

### **308 Variation and termination of conservation agreements**

- (1) A conservation agreement may be varied by a variation agreement entered into by the Minister, on behalf of the Commonwealth, and the person or persons bound by the conservation agreement under paragraph 307(b) or (c).
- (2) Sections 305 and 306 apply in relation to variation agreements in the same way as they apply in relation to conservation agreements.
- (3) A conservation agreement may be terminated:
  - (a) by agreement between the Minister, on behalf of the Commonwealth, and the person or persons bound by the conservation agreement under paragraph 307(b) or (c); or
  - (b) in such other manner, or in such circumstances (if any), as the agreement specifies.
- (4) If the Minister is satisfied that a conservation agreement is not capable of achieving its purpose, the Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, terminate the agreement or vary it in any way the Minister thinks necessary to ensure it becomes capable of achieving its purpose.
- (5) The Minister may make an order under subsection (4) in relation to a conservation agreement without the agreement of the person or persons bound by the conservation agreement under paragraph 307(b) or (c).

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- (6) The Minister must cause a copy of an order to be laid before each House of the Parliament within the prescribed period after the publication of the order.
- (7) If a conservation agreement is varied by an order, the person or persons bound by the conservation agreement under paragraph 307(b) or (c) may, by written notice given to the Minister, terminate the agreement.
- (8) If a conservation agreement is terminated or varied by an order, the person or persons bound by the conservation agreement under paragraph 307(b) or (c) are not entitled to any compensation in respect of the termination or variation.

Note: See Parts 17 and 18 for remedies for breach of conservation agreements.

**309 Publication of conservation agreements**

- (1) As soon as practicable after a conservation agreement has been entered into or varied, other than by an order under subsection 308(4), the Minister must:
  - (a) take reasonable steps to ensure that copies of the agreement or variation are available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at a prescribed place in each State and self-governing Territory; and
  - (b) cause a notice of the agreement or variation to be published:
    - (i) in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) in any other way required by the regulations.
- (2) The notice must:
  - (a) state that the agreement or variation has been entered into or made; and
  - (b) specify the places where copies of the agreement or variation may be purchased.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to a conservation agreement, or a variation of such an agreement, or any part of such an agreement or variation, if the Minister is satisfied that disclosure



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of the agreement or variation, or the part of the agreement or variation, as the case may be, would result in harm being done to:

- (a) components of biodiversity; or
  - (b) the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property; or
  - (c) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place; or
  - (d) the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place.
- (4) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to a conservation agreement, or a variation of such an agreement, or any part of such an agreement or variation, if the Minister is satisfied that disclosure of the agreement or variation, or the part of the agreement or variation, as the case may be, would disclose matters that the Minister is satisfied are commercial-in-confidence.
- (5) The Minister must not be satisfied that matter is commercial-in-confidence unless a person demonstrates to the Minister that:
- (a) release of information under subsection (1) about the matter would cause competitive detriment to the person; and
  - (b) the information is not in the public domain; and
  - (c) the information is not required to be disclosed under another law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; and
  - (d) the information is not readily discoverable.

### **310 List of conservation agreements**

The Minister must:

- (a) maintain an up-to-date list of conservation agreements that are in force; and
- (b) take reasonable steps to ensure that copies of the list are available for purchase, for a reasonable price, at a prescribed place in each State and self-governing Territory.

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**311 Commonwealth, State and Territory laws**

- (1) A provision of a conservation agreement has no effect to the extent (if any) to which it is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth, or of a State or Territory.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a provision of a conservation agreement is not taken to be inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth, or of a State or Territory, if both the provision and the law are capable of being complied with.

**312 Minister must not give preference**

The Minister must not, in exercising powers on behalf of the Commonwealth under this Part, give preference to one State or any part thereof within the meaning of section 99 of the Constitution.

## **Part 15—Protected areas**

### **Division 1—Managing World Heritage properties**

#### **Subdivision A—Simplified outline of this Division**

#### **313 Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Commonwealth may submit a property for inclusion in the World Heritage List only after seeking the agreement of relevant States, self-governing Territories and land-holders.

The Minister must make plans for managing properties on the World Heritage List that are entirely in Commonwealth areas. The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies must not contravene such plans.

The Commonwealth must try to prepare and implement management plans for other properties on the World Heritage List, in co-operation with the relevant States and self-governing Territories.

The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies have duties relating to World Heritage properties in States and Territories.

The Commonwealth can provide assistance for the protection or conservation of declared World Heritage properties.

Note: Section 12 prohibits an action that has a significant impact on the world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property, unless the person taking the action has the approval of the Minister administering that section or certain other requirements are met.

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**Subdivision B—Seeking agreement on World Heritage listing**

**314 Special provisions relating to World Heritage nominations**

- (1) The Commonwealth may submit to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List a property containing an area owned or occupied by another person only if the Minister is satisfied that the Commonwealth has used its best endeavours to reach agreement with the other person on:
  - (a) the proposed submission of the property (so far as it relates to the area); and
  - (b) management arrangements for the property (so far as they relate to the area).
- (2) The Commonwealth may submit to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List a property in a State or self-governing Territory only if the Minister is satisfied that the Commonwealth has used its best endeavours to reach agreement with the State or Territory on:
  - (a) the proposed submission of the property; and
  - (b) management arrangements for the property.
- (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the submission of a property to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List or the status of a property as a declared World Heritage property.

**Subdivision C—Notice of submission of property for listing**

**315 Minister must give notice of submission of property for listing etc.**

- (1) The Minister must give notice in the *Gazette* and in the way (if any) prescribed by the regulations of any of the following events as soon as practicable after the event occurs:
  - (a) the Commonwealth submits a property to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List;

- (b) the Commonwealth extends the boundaries of a property submitted to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List;
  - (c) the Commonwealth restricts the boundaries of a property submitted to the World Heritage Committee for inclusion in the World Heritage List;
  - (d) the Commonwealth withdraws the submission of a property for inclusion in the World Heritage List;
  - (e) a property submitted by the Commonwealth is included in the World Heritage List;
  - (f) all or part of a property is removed from the World Heritage List.
- (2) The notice must specify the area included in, or excluded or deleted from, the submission or World Heritage List as a result of the event.
  - (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the status of an area as a declared World Heritage property.

### **Subdivision D—Plans for listed World Heritage properties in Commonwealth areas**

#### **316 Making plans**

##### *Minister must make plan*

- (1) The Minister must make a written plan for managing a property that is included in the World Heritage List and is entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas. The Minister must do so as soon as practicable after the property:
  - (a) is included in the World Heritage List; or
  - (b) becomes entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas.

##### *Amending and replacing plan*

- (2) The Minister may make a written plan amending, or revoking and replacing, a plan made under subsection (1) or this subsection.

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*Requirements for plan*

- (3) A plan must not be inconsistent with:
- (a) Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention; or
  - (b) the Australian World Heritage management principles.

Note: Section 323 explains what Australian World Heritage management principles are.

*Ensuring plans reflect current management principles*

- (4) If the Australian World Heritage management principles change so that a plan (the ***earlier plan***) is inconsistent with them, the Minister must make another plan:
- (a) amending the earlier plan so it is not inconsistent with them; or
  - (b) revoking and replacing the earlier plan.

*Plan may be in same document as another plan*

- (5) To avoid doubt, a plan under this section for a property may be in the same document as:
- (a) a plan under this section for another property; or
  - (b) a plan that this Act or another law of the Commonwealth requires or permits to be prepared.

*Commonwealth reserves*

- (6) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Minister may not make a plan for so much of a property as is in a Commonwealth reserve.

Note: A management plan must be prepared under Division 4 for a Commonwealth reserve, taking account of Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.

*Heard Island and McDonald Islands*

- (7) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Minister may not make a plan for so much of a property as is in the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands and covered by a plan:

- (a) that is in operation under the *Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987* of that Territory; and
- (b) that the Minister is satisfied is not inconsistent with:
  - (i) Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention; or
  - (ii) the Australian World Heritage management principles.

### **317 Notice of plans**

The Minister must give notice of the making of a plan under section 316, in accordance with the regulations.

### **318 Commonwealth compliance with plans**

- (1) The Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not:
  - (a) contravene a plan made under section 316; or
  - (b) authorise another person to do, or omit to do, anything that, if it were done or omitted to be done by the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth agency (as appropriate), would contravene such a plan.
- (2) If there is no plan in force under section 316 for a particular property described in subsection (1) of that section, the Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that its acts (if any) relating to the property are not inconsistent with the Australian World Heritage management principles.

### **319 Review of plans every 5 years**

- (1) The Minister must cause a review of a plan made under section 316 to be carried out at least once in each period of 5 years after the plan is made.
- (2) The review must consider whether the plan is consistent with the Australian World Heritage management principles in force at the time.

Note: Section 323 explains what Australian World Heritage management principles are.

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**Subdivision E—Managing World Heritage properties in States  
and self-governing Territories**

**320 Application**

This Subdivision applies in relation to a property that:

- (a) is:
  - (i) in a State; or
  - (ii) in a self-governing Territory; or
  - (iii) on, over or under the seabed vested in a State by the *Coastal Waters (State Title) Act 1980* or in the Northern Territory by the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Title) Act 1980*; and
- (b) is not entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas.

**321 Co-operating to prepare and implement plans**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a property that is included in the World Heritage List.
- (2) The Commonwealth must use its best endeavours to ensure a plan for managing the property in a way that is not inconsistent with Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention or the Australian World Heritage management principles is prepared and implemented in co-operation with the State or Territory.

Note: The Commonwealth and the State or Territory could make a bilateral agreement adopting the plan and providing for its implementation.

**322 Commonwealth responsibilities**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a property that is a declared World Heritage property.
- (2) The Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure it exercises its powers and performs its functions in relation to the property in a way that is not inconsistent with:
  - (a) the World Heritage Convention; and



- (b) the Australian World Heritage management principles; and
- (c) if the property is on the World Heritage List and a plan for managing the property has been prepared as described in section 321—that plan.

### **Subdivision F—Australian World Heritage management principles**

#### **323 Australian World Heritage management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for the management of natural heritage and cultural heritage. The principles prescribed are the *Australian World Heritage management principles*.
- (2) Before the Governor-General makes regulations prescribing principles, the Minister must be satisfied that the principles to be prescribed are consistent with Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.
- (3) In this section:

*cultural heritage* has the meaning given by the World Heritage Convention.

*natural heritage* has the meaning given by the World Heritage Convention.

### **Subdivision G—Assistance for protecting World Heritage properties**

#### **324 Commonwealth assistance for protecting declared World Heritage properties**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give financial or other assistance for the protection or conservation of a declared World Heritage property to:
  - (a) a State or self-governing Territory in which the property occurs; or
  - (b) any other person.

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- (2) The giving of assistance may be made subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

## **Division 1A—Managing National Heritage places**

### **Subdivision A—Preliminary**

#### **324A Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Minister may only include a place in the National Heritage List if the Minister is satisfied that the place has one or more National Heritage values.

The Minister must ask the Australian Heritage Council for an assessment of the place's National Heritage values and may invite public comments on the proposed inclusion of the place in the National Heritage List.

The Minister must make plans to protect and manage the National Heritage values of National Heritage places. The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies must not contravene those plans.

The Commonwealth must try to prepare and implement plans for managing other National Heritage places, in co-operation with the States and self-governing Territories.

The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies have duties relating to National Heritage places in States and Territories.

The Commonwealth can provide assistance for the identification, promotion, protection or conservation of National Heritage places.

Note: Section 15B prohibits an action that has a significant impact on the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place, unless the person taking the action has the approval of the Minister or certain other requirements are met.

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**324B Extension to places etc. outside the Australian jurisdiction**

This Division extends to places, acts and omissions outside the Australian jurisdiction, except so far as the contrary intention appears.

**Subdivision B—The National Heritage List**

**324C The National Heritage List**

- (1) The Minister must keep a written record of places and their heritage values in accordance with this Subdivision. The record is called the *National Heritage List*.

Note: Later provisions of this Subdivision explain what places and heritage values are included in the National Heritage List.

- (2) A place may be included in the National Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that the place has one or more National Heritage values. A place that is included in the National Heritage List is called a *National Heritage place*.

**324D Meaning of *National Heritage values***

- (1) A place has a *National Heritage value* if and only if the place meets one of the criteria (the *National Heritage criteria*) prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this section. The *National Heritage value* of the place is the place's heritage value that causes the place to meet the criterion.
- (2) The *National Heritage values* of a National Heritage place are the National Heritage values of the place included in the National Heritage List for the place.
- (3) The regulations must prescribe criteria for the following:
  - (a) natural heritage values of places;
  - (b) indigenous heritage values of places;
  - (c) historic heritage values of places.The regulations may prescribe criteria for other heritage values of places.

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- (4) To avoid doubt, a criterion prescribed by the regulations may relate to one or more of the following:
- (a) natural heritage values of places;
  - (b) indigenous heritage values of places;
  - (c) historic heritage values of places;
  - (d) other heritage values of places.

**324E Nominations of places**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations (if any), nominate to the Minister a place for inclusion in the National Heritage List.
- (2) The Minister must give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 324G whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, unless the Minister rejects the nomination under this section.
- (3) If the Minister must give the Chair a request, he or she must give the request within 10 business days after receiving the nomination, unless:
- (a) the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction; or
  - (b) the Minister includes the place in the National Heritage List under section 324F (emergency listing) within that period.
- (3A) Within 10 business days after giving the request to the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council, the Minister must publish on the Internet a brief description of the nomination.

Note: Section 324Q may affect the amount of detail in the description.

- (4) The Minister may:
- (a) ask the person who nominated the place to provide additional information about the place within a specified period; and
  - (b) reject the nomination if the information is not provided within that period.

The period specified must be reasonable.

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- (5) If the Minister asks the person for additional information, the period in subsection (3) stops running on the day the Minister asks for that information until the day after that information is provided.
- (6) The Minister may also reject the nomination if satisfied that it is vexatious, frivolous or not made in good faith.
- (7) If the Minister rejects the nomination under this section, he or she must, as soon as reasonably practicable:
  - (a) advise the person of that fact; and
  - (b) give the person written reasons for the rejection.
- (7A) If the place is wholly or partly in a foreign country, the Minister must inform the following of the fact that the nomination has been made, unless the Minister rejects the nomination under this section:
  - (a) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs;
  - (b) if another Minister has administrative responsibilities relating to the place (if it is wholly in a foreign country) or to a part of the place that is in a foreign country—that other Minister.
- (8) To avoid doubt, a member of the Australian Heritage Council may make a nomination in accordance with this section on behalf of the Council. The Council may undertake research and investigations necessary for the purposes of nominating places to be included in the National Heritage List.
- (9) The Minister may, by publishing a notice in accordance with the regulations, invite nominations of places within a specified theme.

**324F Emergency listing**

- (1) This section applies (despite subsection 324C(2)) if the Minister believes that:
  - (a) a place wholly in the Australian jurisdiction has or may have one or more National Heritage values; and
  - (b) any of those values is under threat.
- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, include in the National Heritage List the place and the National Heritage values the Minister believes the place has or may have, whether or

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not the Minister has, under this Subdivision, given the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 324G whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria.

- (3) Within 10 business days after including the place in the National Heritage List under this section, the Minister must give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 324G whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria.
- (4) However, subsection (3) does not apply if the Minister has already received from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 324G whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria.
- (5) If the Minister includes the place in the National Heritage List under this section, he or she must:
  - (a) within 10 business days, publish, on the Internet and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a copy of the instrument published in the *Gazette*; and
  - (b) take all practicable steps to:
    - (i) identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
    - (ii) advise each person identified that the place has been included in the National Heritage List; and
  - (c) within 10 business days, advise each person (if any) who nominated the place or requested the Minister in writing to include the place in the List under this section that the place has been included in the List.
- (6) If a person requests the Minister in writing to include a place in the National Heritage List under this section and the Minister has not done so within 10 business days after receiving the request, the Minister must:
  - (a) publish on the Internet notice of those facts; and
  - (b) advise the person that the Minister has not included the place in the List; and

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- (c) give reasons why the Minister has not done so to the person and to anyone who requests them.

This subsection has effect (despite subsection (1)) whether or not the Minister has the belief described in that subsection in relation to the place and its heritage values (if any).

**324G Assessments by the Australian Heritage Council**

- (1) The Minister may give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, whether or not the place is the subject of a nomination.
- (2) The Australian Heritage Council must give the Minister a written assessment whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria:
  - (a) within 12 months after the Minister gives the Chair of the Council (under this section or section 324E) the request for the assessment; or
  - (b) if the place is included in the National Heritage List under section 324F (emergency listing)—within 40 business days after the Minister gives the Chair of the Council (under that section) the request for the assessment.
- (2A) If the Australian Heritage Council does not give the Minister the assessment within the period required by subsection (2) but makes all reasonable efforts to do so, the Minister may, by notice in writing, extend the period by up to 24 months.
- (2B) If the Australian Heritage Council does not give the Minister the assessment within the period as extended under subsection (2A) but makes all reasonable efforts to do so, the Minister may, by notice in writing, further extend the period by up to 24 months.
- (2C) Within 10 business days of extending the period by notice under subsection (2A) or (2B), the Minister must:
  - (a) publish on the Internet:
    - (i) a copy of the notice; and
    - (ii) the reasons for the extension; and



- (b) give a copy of the notice to each person (if any) who nominated the place being covered by the assessment.
- (3) The Australian Heritage Council, on its own initiative, may assess whether a place wholly in the Australian jurisdiction meets any of the National Heritage criteria, whether or not the place is the subject of a nomination. If the Council does so, it may give the assessment to the Minister.

*Requirements relating to assessments generally*

- (3A) Before giving the Minister an assessment under this section whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, the Australian Heritage Council:
  - (a) must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any), a notice:
    - (i) stating that the Council is assessing whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
    - (ii) inviting comments in writing, within a specified period that is reasonable having regard to the time by which the Council must give the assessment to the Minister, on whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria and whether the place should be included in the National Heritage List; and
  - (b) must consider, subject to subsection (5), the comments (if any) the Council receives within the period.

The Council must give the Minister a copy of the comments with the assessment.

- (4) If, in making an assessment, the Australian Heritage Council considers that a place within the Australian jurisdiction might have one or more National Heritage values, the Council must:
  - (a) take all practicable steps:
    - (i) to identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
    - (ii) if the Council considers the place might have an indigenous heritage value—to identify each indigenous person who has rights or interests in all or part of the place; and

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- (b) take all practicable steps to advise each person identified that the Council is assessing whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
- (c) give persons advised a reasonable opportunity to comment in writing whether the place should be included in the National Heritage List.

The Council must give the Minister a copy of the comments with the assessment.

Note: For *indigenous heritage value*, see section 528.

- (5) In assessing whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, the Australian Heritage Council must not consider any matter that does not relate to the question whether the place meets the National Heritage criteria.
- (6) If the Minister requests the Australian Heritage Council to assess whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, and the place is wholly or partly in a foreign country and not the subject of a nomination, the Minister must inform the following of the fact that the Council is making the assessment:
  - (a) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs;
  - (b) if another Minister has administrative responsibilities relating to the place (if it is wholly in a foreign country) or to a part of the place that is in a foreign country—that other Minister.

**324H Inviting public comments after assessment**

- (1A) This section applies if and only if, within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives from the Australian Heritage Council under section 324G an assessment whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, the Minister decides that this section should apply. This section continues to apply even if the Minister revokes the decision.
- (1) The Minister must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any), a notice inviting comments on the inclusion or proposed inclusion of the place in the National Heritage List. The notice may specify:

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- (a) that comments should address particular matters relating to the inclusion or proposed inclusion of the place in the List; or
  - (b) that comments are to be given to the Minister in a particular way.
- (2) The notice must be published within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 324G whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria.
- (3) The notice must state that comments are to be given to the Minister within:
  - (a) 40 business days after the notice is published; or
  - (b) if the place is included in the National Heritage List under section 324F (emergency listing)—20 business days after the notice is published.
- (4) The Minister may ask the Australian Heritage Council or a person with appropriate qualifications or expertise to assess the merits of any comments that are received by the Minister in accordance with the notice.
- (5) On the first day on which the Minister publishes the notice, the Minister must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any):
  - (a) the assessment given to the Minister under section 324G for the place; and
  - (b) a summary of the documents (if any), copies of which were given to the Minister by the Australian Heritage Council under that section with the assessment; and
  - (c) if the place has not been included in the National Heritage List—one of the following:
    - (i) a statement (the *listing proposal*) that the Minister proposes that the place be included in the National Heritage List;
    - (ii) a statement that the Minister proposes that the place not be included in the National Heritage List;
    - (iii) a statement that the Minister does not have a view whether or not the place should be included in the National Heritage List; and

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- (d) if the Minister publishes the listing proposal—a statement:
  - (i) identifying the National Heritage values that the Minister proposes be included in the National Heritage List for the place; and
  - (ii) explaining why the Minister believes the place has those values.

**324J Decision about inclusion of a place in the National Heritage List**

- (1) After receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 324G whether a place, except one that is or includes a place included in the National Heritage List under section 324F (whether before, on or after receipt of the assessment), meets any of the National Heritage criteria, the Minister must:
  - (a) by instrument published in the *Gazette*, include in the National Heritage List the place and its National Heritage values specified in the instrument; or
  - (b) decide not to include the place in the National Heritage List.

Note 1: Section 324F is about emergency listing.

Note 2: The Minister may include a place in the National Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that the place has one or more National Heritage values (see subsection 324C(2)).

Note 3: Section 324N deals with how additional National Heritage values may be included in the National Heritage List for a National Heritage place.

- (2) The Minister must comply with subsection (1):
  - (a) within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives the assessment; or
  - (b) if section 324H applies in relation to the place—within 60 business days after the end of the period mentioned in paragraph 324H(3)(a) for the place.

However, this subsection does not apply if the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

- (2A) The Minister must not include in the National Heritage List a place that is wholly or partly in a foreign country unless:

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- (a) the Minister is satisfied that the national government of the foreign country has agreed to the inclusion in the List of the place so far as it is in the country; and
  - (b) the Minister has informed:
    - (i) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs; and
    - (ii) if another Minister has administrative responsibilities relating to the place (if it is wholly in a foreign country) or to a part of the place that is in a foreign country—that other Minister;of the proposal to include the place in the List and given the Ministers informed a reasonable opportunity to comment in writing whether the place should be included in the List; and
  - (c) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs has agreed to the inclusion in the List of the place.
- (3) If the Minister includes the place in the National Heritage List, he or she must, within a reasonable time:
- (a) take all practicable steps to:
    - (i) identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place in the Australian jurisdiction; and
    - (ii) advise each person identified that the place has been included in the National Heritage List; and
  - (b) if the place was nominated by a person—advise the person that the place has been included in the National Heritage List; and
  - (c) publish a copy of the instrument published in the *Gazette* and the reasons for the decision on the Internet.
- (4) If the Minister decides not to include in the National Heritage List a place (whether the decision is made after publishing a notice under section 324H or not), the Minister must:
- (a) give written reasons for the decision to anyone who asks for them; and
  - (b) if the place was nominated by a person—advise the person within 10 business days of the decision and give the person written reasons for the decision; and
  - (c) within 10 business days publish the decision and the reasons for the decision on the Internet.

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*Dealing with an emergency listing*

- (5) After receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 324G whether a place that is or includes a place (the *listed place*) included in the National Heritage List under section 324F (whether before, on or after receipt of the assessment) meets any of the National Heritage criteria, the Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*:
- (a) do one of the following:
    - (i) state that the listed place remains in the National Heritage List with its boundary unaltered;
    - (ii) alter the boundary of the listed place described in the National Heritage List (whether or not the alteration results in an overall increase or decrease in the extent of the place included in the List);
    - (iii) remove from the National Heritage List the listed place and its National Heritage values; and
  - (b) if the listed place is not removed from the National Heritage List under subparagraph (a)(iii)—do all or any of the following:
    - (i) state that specified National Heritage values included in the List under section 324F for the place remain in the List for the place;
    - (ii) include in the List for the place specified National Heritage values of the place that were not included in the List under section 324F for the place;
    - (iii) remove from the List for the place specified National Heritage values that were included in the List under section 324F for the place.
- (5A) The Minister must comply with subsection (5):
- (a) within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives the assessment; or
  - (b) if section 324H applies in relation to the place covered by the assessment—within 15 business days after the end of the period mentioned in subsection 324H(3) for the place.
- However, this subsection does not apply if the place covered by the assessment is partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

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Note: Subsection (5) cannot apply to a place wholly outside the Australian jurisdiction, because a place wholly outside the Australian jurisdiction must not be included in the National Heritage List under section 324F.

- (5B) The Minister must not alter the boundary of the listed place under subparagraph (5)(a)(ii) so as to include within the altered boundary an area in a foreign country unless:
- (a) the Minister is satisfied that the national government of the foreign country has agreed to the inclusion in the List of the place including the area; and
  - (b) the Minister has informed:
    - (i) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs; and
    - (ii) if another Minister has administrative responsibilities relating to all or part of the area—that other Minister; of the proposal to alter the boundary in that way and given the Ministers informed a reasonable opportunity to comment in writing whether the boundary should be altered in that way; and
  - (c) the Minister responsible for foreign affairs has agreed to the inclusion in the List of the place including the area.
- (6) Section 324L does not apply to:
- (a) an alteration (under subparagraph (5)(a)(ii) of this section) of the boundary of a place included in the National Heritage List so as to exclude part of the place (as previously included) from the description of the place in the List (whether or not the alteration results in an overall increase or decrease in the extent of the place included in the List); or
  - (b) the removal of a place and its National Heritage values under subparagraph (5)(a)(iii) of this section; or
  - (c) the removal of a National Heritage value of a place under subparagraph (5)(b)(iii) of this section.
- (7) If, under subsection (5), the Minister removes from the National Heritage List a place or a National Heritage value of a place, or alters the boundary of a place included in the List, the Minister must:
- (a) within 10 business days, publish on the Internet:
    - (i) a copy of the instrument published in the *Gazette*; and

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- (ii) the reasons for the removal or alteration; and
- (b) within 10 business days, give written reasons for the removal or alteration to each person identified by the Minister as an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
- (c) give written reasons for the removal or alteration to anyone else who asks the Minister for them; and
- (d) if the place was included on the List following a nomination of it by a person—within 10 business days of the removal or alteration, advise the person of the removal or alteration and give the person written reasons for it.

*General requirements*

- (8) Before acting under subsection (1) or (5), the Minister must consider:
  - (a) the Australian Heritage Council's assessment whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
  - (b) the comments (if any), a copy of which was given to the Minister by the Council under section 324G with the assessment; and
  - (c) the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice (if any) published under section 324H in relation to the place; and
  - (d) the assessment (if any) requested under subsection 324H(4) of the merits of the comments received in accordance with the notice published under section 324H in relation to the place.
- (9) The Minister must publish in accordance with the regulations (if any) a copy or summary of an instrument published in the *Gazette* under this section.

**324K Listing process not affected by changing boundaries of a place**

- (1) This section is about compliance with a provision of this Subdivision that is before this section and that requires or permits an act to be done in relation to the place identified by express or implied reference to an earlier provision of this Subdivision.



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- (2) It is sufficient compliance with the provision if the act is done in relation to a place whose boundary overlaps the boundary of the place identified by reference to the earlier provision.
- (3) This section does not affect the validity of the act so far as that depends on something other than the act being done in relation to the place.

**324L Removal of places or National Heritage values from the National Heritage List**

- (1) The Minister may remove all or part of a place from the National Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) ignoring subsection 324D(2), the place no longer has any National Heritage values or the part no longer contributes to any of the National Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) it is necessary in the interests of Australia's defence or security to do so.

Note: A place or part of a place may also be removed from the National Heritage List under subsection 324J(5).

- (2) The Minister may remove one or more National Heritage values included in the National Heritage List for a National Heritage place only if the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) ignoring subsection 324D(2), the place no longer has the National Heritage value or values; or
  - (b) it is necessary in the interests of Australia's defence or security to do so.
- (3) The Minister may remove all or part of a place, or a National Heritage value of a place, only by instrument:
  - (a) published in the *Gazette*; and
  - (b) including a statement of the reasons for the removal.

Note: The Minister must first obtain and consider the advice of the Australian Heritage Council (see section 324M).

- (4) The instrument must deal with only one of the following kinds of removal:

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(a) removal (***removal for loss of value***) of a place, part or National Heritage value because of paragraph (1)(a) or (2)(a);

(b) removal of a place, part or National Heritage value because of paragraph (1)(b) or (2)(b).

If the instrument purports to deal with both kinds, it has no effect so far as it deals with a removal for loss of value.

(5) If the instrument deals only with removal for loss of value, the instrument:

(a) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*; and

(b) takes effect (despite section 48 of that Act) on the first day on which it is no longer liable to be disallowed, or to be taken to have been disallowed, under that section as it applies in relation to the instrument because of section 46A of that Act.

(6) Within 10 business days of publication of the instrument in the *Gazette*, the Minister must publish, on the Internet and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a copy of the instrument.

**324M Minister must consider advice of the Australian Heritage Council and public comments**

(1) Before the Minister removes from the National Heritage List under section 324L all or part of a place or one or more of a place's National Heritage values in a removal for loss of value, the Minister must:

(a) give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to give the Minister advice on the proposed removal; and

(b) publish, on the Internet, in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a notice:

(i) describing the proposed removal; and

(ii) inviting anyone to give the Minister comments, within 20 business days, on the proposed removal.

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The Minister must publish the notice within 20 business days of giving the request.

- (2) The Australian Heritage Council must give the advice to the Minister within the period specified by the Minister.
- (3) The Minister must consider the advice, if he or she receives it by the end of that period, and the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice.
- (4) In preparing the advice, the Australian Heritage Council must not consider any matter that does not relate to the National Heritage values of the place concerned.
- (5) The Minister must:
  - (a) decide whether to remove from the National Heritage List the place or part concerned, or the National Heritage value or values of the place concerned; and
  - (b) if the Minister decides to remove the place or part, or the National Heritage value or values of the place—ensure that an instrument removing the place, part or National Heritage value or values is published in the *Gazette* under subsection 324L(3);within 60 business days after the earlier of the advice being received by the Minister and the specified period for giving advice to the Minister ending.
- (6) However, the time limit in subsection (5) does not apply if the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

**324N Specifying one or more additional National Heritage values for a National Heritage place**

- (1) Subsection (2) has effect for the purposes of including in the National Heritage List for a National Heritage place one or more National Heritage values of the place that were not previously included in the List for the place.

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- (2) Sections 324E, 324F, 324G, 324H and 324J apply as if neither of the following had happened before the application of any of those sections because of this section:
  - (a) the Minister receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment whether the place meets the National Heritage criteria;
  - (b) the inclusion of the place in the National Heritage List.
- (3) However, this section does not affect the inclusion in the National Heritage List of the place or the National Heritage values that were included in the List for the place before the application of this section. In particular, subsection 324J(5) in its application because of this section does not allow the Minister to:
  - (a) remove from the List the place or any of its National Heritage values that were included in the List for the place before the application of section 324F because of this section; or
  - (b) alter the boundary of the place as included in the List before the application of section 324F because of this section so as to exclude from the description of the place in the List part of the place as so included.

**324P National Heritage List must be publicly available**

The Minister must ensure that:

- (a) up-to-date copies of the National Heritage List are available for free to the public on request; and
- (b) an up-to-date copy of the National Heritage List is available on the Internet.

Note: The copies of the National Heritage List made publicly available may not contain certain information kept confidential under section 324Q.

**324Q Certain information may be kept confidential**

- (1) This section applies if the Minister considers that the heritage values of a place could be significantly damaged by the disclosure of some or all of the following information, or by the presence or

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actions of persons if some or all of the following information were disclosed publicly:

- (a) the place's precise location;
  - (b) the place's heritage values;
  - (c) any other information about the place.
- (2) It is sufficient compliance with this Act if only a general description of the place, its location or its National Heritage values is included in:
- (a) the National Heritage List as made publicly available; or
  - (b) an instrument or other document created for the purposes of this Act.

### **324R Disclosure of Australian Heritage Council's assessments and advice**

- (1) A member of the Australian Heritage Council has a duty not to disclose the following to a person other than the Minister, an employee in the Department whose duties relate to the Council or another member of the Council:
- (a) an assessment under section 324G whether a place meets any of the National Heritage criteria, any information relating to the assessment or any information about the nomination (if any) that led to the making of the assessment;
  - (b) advice under section 324M concerning a place or any information relating to the advice.
- (2) However:
- (a) the duty not to disclose a thing described in paragraph (1)(a) in relation to a place does not exist after:
    - (ia) publication under section 324H of the assessment; or
    - (i) publication in the *Gazette* of an instrument under section 324J relating to the place; or
    - (ii) if the Minister is required by section 324J to do something in relation to the place by instrument published in the *Gazette* within a period specified in subsection 324J(2) or (5A) but does not—the end of that period; and

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- (b) the duty not to disclose a thing described in paragraph (1)(b) in relation to a place does not exist after:
    - (i) publication in the *Gazette* of an instrument under section 324L relating to the place; or
    - (ii) if the Minister is required by section 324M to do something in relation to the place by instrument published in the *Gazette* within the period specified in subsection 324M(5) but does not—the end of that period.
- (3) After a member of the Australian Heritage Council has ceased under subsection (2) to have a duty not to disclose:
  - (a) an assessment under section 324G whether a place meets the National Heritage criteria; or
  - (b) advice under section 324M concerning a place;the member must give a copy of the assessment or advice to anyone who asks for it.
- (4) If:
  - (a) a member of the Australian Heritage Council proposes to give a person under subsection (3) a copy of an assessment or advice relating to a place; and
  - (b) the member is aware that, under section 324Q, it would be sufficient compliance with this Act if the copy included only a general description of the place, its location or its National Heritage values;the member must take reasonable steps to ensure that the copy given to the person does not include a more detailed description than is necessary for sufficient compliance with this Act under that section.

**Subdivision C—Management plans for National Heritage places in Commonwealth areas****324S Management plans for National Heritage places in Commonwealth areas**

- (1) The Minister must make a written plan to protect and manage the National Heritage values of each National Heritage place:
- (a) that is entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas; or
  - (b) that is outside the Australian jurisdiction and is entirely owned or controlled by a Commonwealth agency.

The Minister must do so as soon as practicable after the first time the place is:

- (c) included in the National Heritage List; or
- (d) entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas; or
- (e) entirely owned or controlled by a Commonwealth agency.

Note: However, section 324T precludes the Minister from making plans for managing certain places.

- (2) The Minister may, in writing, amend a plan or revoke and replace a plan.
- (3) The Minister must give notice, in accordance with the regulations, if the Minister:
- (a) makes a plan for a National Heritage place; or
  - (b) amends such a plan; or
  - (c) revokes and replaces such a plan.
- (4) A plan must:
- (a) address the matters prescribed by the regulations; and
  - (b) not be inconsistent with the National Heritage management principles (see Subdivision E).
- (5) If the National Heritage management principles change so that a plan (the **earlier plan**) is inconsistent with them, the Minister must as soon as practicable make a written instrument:
- (a) amending the earlier plan to make it consistent with the principles; or

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- (b) revoking and replacing the earlier plan.
- (6) Before making, amending or revoking and replacing a plan, the Minister must:
  - (a) seek in accordance with the regulations, and consider, comments from anyone about the matters to be addressed by the proposed plan or amendment; and
  - (b) seek and consider comments from the Australian Heritage Council about those matters.

**324T Restriction on ability to make plans**

- (1) Despite section 324S, the Minister must not make a plan for managing so much of a National Heritage place as is in a Commonwealth reserve and covered by another plan under this Act.
- (2) Despite section 324S, the Minister must not make a plan for managing so much of a National Heritage place as is in the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands and covered by a plan in operation under the *Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987* of that Territory.

**324U Compliance with plans by the Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies**

- (1) The Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not:
  - (a) contravene a plan made under section 324S; or
  - (b) authorise another person to do, or omit to do, anything that, if it were done or omitted to be done by the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth agency (as appropriate), would contravene such a plan.
- (2) If there is no plan in force under section 324S for a particular National Heritage place described in subsection (1) of that section, the Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that its acts (if any) relating to the place are not inconsistent with the National Heritage management principles.



**324V Multiple plans in the same document**

To avoid doubt, a plan for managing a National Heritage place may be in the same document as:

- (a) one or more other plans for managing National Heritage places; or
- (b) one or more other plans that this Act or another law of the Commonwealth requires or permits to be prepared.

**324W Review of plans at least every 5 years**

- (1) At least once in every 5 year period after a plan for managing a National Heritage place is made under section 324S, the Minister must cause a review of the plan to be carried out.
- (2) The review must:
  - (a) assess whether the plan is consistent with the National Heritage management principles in force at the time; and
  - (b) assess whether the plan is effective in protecting and conserving the National Heritage values of the place; and
  - (c) make recommendations for the improved protection of the National Heritage values of the place.
- (3) The person carrying out the review must publish, on the Internet and in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory, a notice inviting anyone to give the person comments within 20 business days on:
  - (a) whether the plan is consistent with the National Heritage management principles; and
  - (b) the effectiveness of the plan in protecting and conserving the National Heritage values of the place.
- (4) In carrying out the review, the person must consider the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice.

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**Subdivision D—Management of National Heritage places in  
States and self-governing Territories**

**324X Plans and Commonwealth responsibilities**

- (1) This section applies to a National Heritage place that is not entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas and is:
  - (a) in a State; or
  - (b) in a self-governing Territory; or
  - (c) on, over or under the seabed vested in a State by the *Coastal Waters (State Title) Act 1980* or in the Northern Territory by the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Title) Act 1980*.
- (2) The Commonwealth must use its best endeavours to ensure a plan for managing the place, that is not inconsistent with the National Heritage management principles, is prepared and implemented in co-operation with the State or Territory.
- (3) The Commonwealth, and each Commonwealth agency, must take all reasonable steps to ensure it exercises its powers and performs its functions in relation to the place in a way that is not inconsistent with:
  - (a) the National Heritage management principles; or
  - (b) the plan for managing the place, if one has been prepared under subsection (2).

**Subdivision E—The National Heritage management principles**

**324Y National Heritage management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for managing National Heritage places. The principles prescribed are the *National Heritage management principles*.
- (2) The regulations may prescribe obligations to implement or give effect to the National Heritage management principles if the obligations relate to:

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- (a) a constitutional corporation, the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency; or
  - (b) trade or commerce:
    - (i) between Australia and another country; or
    - (ii) between 2 States; or
    - (iii) between a State and Territory; or
    - (iv) between 2 Territories; or
  - (c) all or any of the following:
    - (i) a Commonwealth area;
    - (ii) a Territory;
    - (iii) a place outside the Australian jurisdiction that is owned or controlled by a Commonwealth agency; or
  - (d) the National Heritage values, to the extent that they are indigenous heritage values, of a National Heritage place; or
  - (e) the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place in an area in respect of which Australia has obligations under Article 8 of the Biodiversity Convention.
- (3) A person must comply with the regulations to the extent that they impose obligations on the person.
- (4) Paragraph (2)(e) applies only to a prescribed obligation that is appropriate and adapted to give effect to Australia's obligations under Article 8 of the Biodiversity Convention.

**Subdivision F—Obligations of Commonwealth agencies****324Z Obligation to assist the Minister and the Australian Heritage Council**

- (1) A Commonwealth agency that owns or controls a place that has, or might have, one or more National Heritage values must take all reasonable steps to assist the Minister and the Australian Heritage Council in the identification, assessment and monitoring of the place's National Heritage values.

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- (2) A Commonwealth agency that owns or controls all or part of a National Heritage place must take all reasonable steps to assist the Minister to make a plan under section 324S for the place.

**324ZA Protecting National Heritage values of places sold or leased**

- (1) This section applies if a Commonwealth agency executes a contract for the sale or lease to someone else of a Commonwealth area in the Australian jurisdiction that is or includes all or part of a National Heritage place. It does not matter whether the agency executes the contract for the Commonwealth or on its own behalf.
- (1A) The Commonwealth agency must give the Minister at least 40 business days' notice before executing the contract.
- (2) The Commonwealth agency must ensure that the contract includes a covenant the effect of which is to protect the National Heritage values of the place, unless the agency is satisfied that:
  - (a) having regard to other means of protecting those values, including such a covenant in the contract is unnecessary to protect them or is unreasonable; or
  - (b) including such a covenant in the contract is impracticable.
- (3) The Commonwealth agency must inform the Minister before executing the contract if:
  - (a) such a covenant:
    - (i) would not, or could not be made to, bind the successors in title of the buyer or lessee; or
    - (ii) could be insufficient to ensure the ongoing protection of the National Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) the agency is satisfied as described in subsection (2).The information must include written reasons why paragraph (a) applies or why the agency is satisfied as described in subsection (2).
- (4) If the Minister is informed of a matter in paragraph (3)(a) or that the Commonwealth agency is satisfied that it is unreasonable or impracticable to include such a covenant in the contract, the Minister must:

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- (a) take all reasonable measures to enter into a conservation agreement with the prospective buyer or lessee for the protection and conservation of the National Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) advise the agency about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the National Heritage values of the place.
- (5) If the Minister is informed that the Commonwealth agency is satisfied that it is unnecessary to include such a covenant in the contract, the Minister may advise the agency about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the National Heritage values of the place.
- (6) If the Minister advises the Commonwealth agency under this section about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the National Heritage values of the place, the agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the measures are taken.

**Subdivision G—Assistance for protecting National Heritage places**

**324ZB Commonwealth assistance for protecting National Heritage places**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give financial or other assistance for the identification, promotion, protection or conservation of a National Heritage place to:
  - (a) a State or self-governing Territory in which the place or part of the place is located; or
  - (b) any other person.
- (2) The Commonwealth may give the assistance subject to conditions.

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**Subdivision H—Reviewing and reporting on the National Heritage List**

**324ZC Reviewing and reporting on the National Heritage List**

- (1) At least once in every 5 year period after the National Heritage List is established, the Minister must ensure that:
  - (a) a review of the National Heritage List is carried out; and
  - (b) a report of that review is tabled in each House of the Parliament.
- (2) The report must include details of:
  - (a) the number of places included in the National Heritage List; and
  - (b) any significant damage or threat to the National Heritage values of those places; and
  - (c) how many plans under Subdivisions C and D for managing National Heritage places have been made, or are being prepared, and how effectively the plans that have been made are operating; and
  - (d) the operation of any conservation agreements under Part 14 that affect National Heritage places; and
  - (e) all nominations, assessments and changes to the National Heritage List under this Division during the period of review; and
  - (f) compliance with this Act in relation to National Heritage places; and
  - (g) any other matters that the Minister considers relevant.

## **Division 2—Managing wetlands of international importance**

### **Subdivision A—Simplified outline of this Division**

#### **325 Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Commonwealth may designate a wetland for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention only after seeking the agreement of relevant States, self-governing Territories and land-holders.

The Minister must make plans for managing wetlands listed under the Ramsar Convention that are entirely in Commonwealth areas. The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies must not contravene such plans.

The Commonwealth must try to prepare and implement management plans for other wetlands listed under the Ramsar Convention, in co-operation with the relevant States and self-governing Territories.

The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies have duties relating to declared Ramsar wetlands in States and Territories.

The Commonwealth can provide assistance for the protection or conservation of declared Ramsar wetlands.

Note: Section 16 prohibits an action that has a significant impact on an internationally important wetland, unless the person taking the action has the approval of the Minister administering that section or certain other requirements are met.

## **Subdivision B—Seeking agreement on Ramsar designation**

### **326 Commonwealth must seek agreement before designation**

- (1) The Commonwealth may designate for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention a wetland containing an area owned or occupied by another person only if the Minister is satisfied that the Commonwealth has used its best endeavours to reach agreement with the other person on:
  - (a) the proposed designation of the wetland (so far as it relates to the area); and
  - (b) management arrangements for the wetland (so far as they relate to the area).
- (2) The Commonwealth may designate a wetland in a State or self-governing Territory for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention only if the Minister is satisfied that the Commonwealth has used its best endeavours to reach agreement with the State or Territory on:
  - (a) the proposed submission of the wetland; and
  - (b) management arrangements for the wetland.
- (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the designation of a wetland for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention or the status of a wetland as a declared Ramsar wetland.

## **Subdivision C—Notice of designation of wetland**

### **327 Minister must give notice of designation of wetland etc.**

- (1) The Minister must give notice in the *Gazette* and in the way (if any) prescribed by the regulations of any of the following events as soon as practicable after the event occurs:
  - (a) the Commonwealth designates a wetland for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention;



- (b) the Commonwealth extends the boundaries of a wetland it has included in the List;
  - (c) the Commonwealth restricts the boundaries of a wetland it has included in the List;
  - (d) the Commonwealth deletes from the List a wetland it previously included in the List.
- (2) The notice must specify the area included in, or excluded or deleted from, the List as a result of the event.
- (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the status of an area as a declared Ramsar wetland.

### **Subdivision D—Plans for listed wetlands in Commonwealth areas**

#### **328 Making plans**

##### *Minister must make plan*

- (1) The Minister must make a written plan for managing a wetland that is included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention and is entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas. The Minister must do so as soon as practicable after the wetland:
  - (a) is included in the List; or
  - (b) becomes entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas.

##### *Amending and replacing plan*

- (2) The Minister may make a written plan amending, or revoking and replacing, a plan made under subsection (1) or this subsection.

##### *Requirements for plan*

- (3) A plan must not be inconsistent with:
  - (a) Australia's obligations under the Ramsar Convention; or
  - (b) the Australian Ramsar management principles.

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Note: Section 335 explains what Australian Ramsar management principles are.

*Ensuring plans reflect current management principles*

- (4) If the Australian Ramsar management principles change so that a plan (the ***earlier plan***) is inconsistent with them, the Minister must make another plan:
- (a) amending the earlier plan so it is not inconsistent with them; or
  - (b) revoking and replacing the earlier plan.

*Plan may be in same document as another plan*

- (5) To avoid doubt, a plan under this section for a wetland may be in the same document as:
- (a) a plan under this section for another wetland; or
  - (b) a plan that this Act or another law of the Commonwealth requires or permits to be prepared.

*Commonwealth reserves*

- (6) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Minister may not make a plan for so much of a wetland as is in a Commonwealth reserve.

Note: A management plan must be prepared under Division 4 for a Commonwealth reserve, taking account of Australia's obligations under the Ramsar Convention.

*Heard Island and McDonald Islands*

- (7) Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Minister may not make a plan for so much of a wetland as is in the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands and covered by a plan:
- (a) that is in operation under the *Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987* of that Territory; and
  - (b) that the Minister is satisfied is not inconsistent with:
    - (i) Australia's obligations under the Ramsar Convention; or
    - (ii) the Australian Ramsar management principles.

### **329 Notice of plans**

The Minister must give notice of the making of a plan under section 328, in accordance with the regulations.

### **330 Commonwealth compliance with plans**

- (1) The Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not:
  - (a) contravene a plan made under section 328; or
  - (b) authorise another person to do, or omit to do, anything that, if it were done or omitted to be done by the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth agency (as appropriate), would contravene such a plan.
- (2) If there is no plan in force under section 328 for a particular wetland described in subsection (1) of that section, the Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that its acts (if any) relating to the wetland are not inconsistent with the Australian Ramsar management principles.

### **331 Review of plans every 5 years**

- (1) The Minister must cause a review of a plan made under section 328 to be carried out at least once in each period of 5 years after the plan is made.
- (2) The review must consider whether the plan is consistent with the Australian Ramsar management principles in force at the time.

Note: Section 335 explains what Australian Ramsar management principles are.

## **Subdivision E—Management of wetlands in States and self-governing Territories**

### **332 Application**

This Subdivision applies in relation to a wetland that:

- (a) is:

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- (i) in a State; or
  - (ii) in a self-governing Territory; or
  - (iii) on, over or under the seabed vested in a State by the *Coastal Waters (State Title) Act 1980* or in the Northern Territory by the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Title) Act 1980*; and
- (b) is not entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas.

**333 Co-operating to prepare and implement plans**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a wetland that is included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention.
- (2) The Commonwealth must use its best endeavours to ensure a plan for managing the wetland in a way that is not inconsistent with Australia's obligations under the Ramsar Convention or the Australian Ramsar management principles is prepared and implemented in co-operation with the State or Territory.

Note: The Commonwealth and the State or Territory could make a bilateral agreement adopting the plan and providing for its implementation.

**334 Commonwealth responsibilities**

- (1) This section applies in relation to a wetland that is a declared Ramsar wetland.
- (2) The Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure it exercises its powers and performs its functions in relation to the wetland in a way that is not inconsistent with:
  - (a) the Ramsar Convention; and
  - (b) the Australian Ramsar management principles; and
  - (c) if the wetland is included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention and a plan for managing the property has been prepared as described in section 333—that plan.

## **Subdivision F—Australian Ramsar management principles**

### **335 Australian Ramsar management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for the management of wetlands included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention. The principles prescribed are the *Australian Ramsar management principles*.
- (2) Before the Governor-General makes regulations prescribing principles, the Minister must be satisfied that the principles to be prescribed are consistent with Australia's obligations under the Ramsar Convention.

## **Subdivision G—Assistance for protecting wetlands**

### **336 Commonwealth assistance for protecting declared Ramsar wetlands**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give financial or other assistance for the protection or conservation of a declared Ramsar wetland to:
  - (a) a State or self-governing Territory in which the wetland occurs; or
  - (b) any other person.
- (2) The giving of assistance may be made subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

## **Division 3—Managing Biosphere reserves**

### **337 Definition of *Biosphere reserve***

A ***Biosphere reserve*** is an area designated for inclusion in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves by the International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

### **338 Planning for management of Biosphere reserves**

- (1) The Minister may make and implement a written plan for managing a Biosphere reserve, or a part of a Biosphere reserve, entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas. The plan must not be inconsistent with the Australian Biosphere reserve management principles.
- (2) The Commonwealth may co-operate with a State or self-governing Territory to prepare and implement a plan for managing a Biosphere reserve in the State or Territory. The plan must not be inconsistent with the Australian Biosphere reserve management principles.

### **339 Commonwealth activities in Biosphere reserves**

The Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that it exercises its powers and performs its functions in relation to a Biosphere reserve in a way that is not inconsistent with:

- (a) the Australian Biosphere reserve management principles; or
- (b) a plan prepared as described in section 338 for managing the Biosphere reserve.

### **340 Australian Biosphere reserve management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for the management of Biosphere reserves. The principles prescribed are the *Australian Biosphere reserve management principles*.
- (2) Before the Governor-General makes regulations prescribing principles, the Minister must be satisfied that the principles to be prescribed are consistent with the Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves established under the Man and the Biosphere program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

### **341 Commonwealth assistance for protecting Biosphere reserves**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give financial or other assistance for the protection or conservation of a Biosphere reserve to:
  - (a) a State or self-governing Territory in which the reserve or part of the reserve occurs; or
  - (b) any other person.
- (2) The giving of assistance may be made subject to such conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

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**Division 3A—Managing Commonwealth Heritage places**

**Subdivision A—Preliminary**

**341A Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Minister may only include a place in the Commonwealth Heritage List if the place is in a Commonwealth area, or is owned or leased by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency outside the Australian jurisdiction, and the Minister is satisfied that the place has one or more Commonwealth Heritage values.

The Minister must ask the Australian Heritage Council for an assessment of the place's Commonwealth Heritage values and may invite public comments on the proposed inclusion of the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

Commonwealth agencies must make plans to protect and manage the Commonwealth Heritage values of Commonwealth Heritage places. The Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies must not contravene those plans.

Commonwealth agencies also have other obligations.

The Commonwealth can provide assistance for the identification, promotion, protection or conservation of Commonwealth Heritage places.

**341B Extension to places etc. outside the Australian jurisdiction**

This Division extends to places, acts and omissions outside the Australian jurisdiction, except so far as the contrary intention appears.



## **Subdivision B—The Commonwealth Heritage List**

### **341C The Commonwealth Heritage List**

- (1) The Minister must keep a written record of places and their heritage values in accordance with this Subdivision. The record is called the ***Commonwealth Heritage List***.

Note: Later provisions of this Subdivision explain what places and heritage values are included in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

- (2) A place may be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that the place:
- (a) either:
    - (i) is entirely within a Commonwealth area; or
    - (ii) is outside the Australian jurisdiction and is owned or leased by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency; and
  - (b) has one or more Commonwealth Heritage values.

A place that is included in the Commonwealth Heritage List is called a ***Commonwealth Heritage place***.

### **341D Meaning of *Commonwealth Heritage values***

- (1) A place has a ***Commonwealth Heritage value*** if and only if the place meets one of the criteria (the ***Commonwealth Heritage criteria***) prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this section. The ***Commonwealth Heritage value*** of the place is the place's heritage value that causes the place to meet the criterion.
- (2) The ***Commonwealth Heritage values*** of a Commonwealth Heritage place are the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place included in the Commonwealth Heritage List for the place.
- (3) The regulations must prescribe criteria for the following:
- (a) natural heritage values of places;
  - (b) indigenous heritage values of places;
  - (c) historic heritage values of places.

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The regulations may prescribe criteria for other heritage values of places.

- (4) To avoid doubt, a criterion prescribed by the regulations may relate to one or more of the following:
- (a) natural heritage values of places;
  - (b) indigenous heritage values of places;
  - (c) historic heritage values of places;
  - (d) other heritage values of places.

**341E Nominations of places**

- (1) A person may, in accordance with the regulations (if any), nominate to the Minister a place for inclusion in the Commonwealth Heritage List.
- (2) The Minister must give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 341G whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, unless the Minister rejects the nomination under this section.
- (3) If the Minister must give the Chair a request, he or she must give the request within 10 business days after receiving the nomination, unless:
- (a) the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction; or
  - (b) the Minister includes the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341F (emergency listing) within that period.
- (3A) After giving the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request under subsection (2), the Minister must within 10 business days publish a brief description of the nomination on the Internet. In publishing the description, the Minister may have regard to section 341Q.

Note: The description published on the Internet may not contain certain information kept confidential under section 341Q.

- (4) The Minister may:
  - (a) ask the person who nominated the place to provide additional information about the place within a specified period; and
  - (b) reject the nomination if the information is not provided within that period.

The period specified must be reasonable.
- (5) If the Minister asks the person for additional information, the period in subsection (3) stops running on the day the Minister asks for that information until the day after that information is provided.
- (6) The Minister may also reject the nomination if satisfied that it is vexatious, frivolous or not made in good faith.
- (7) If the Minister rejects the nomination under this section, he or she must, as soon as reasonably practicable:
  - (a) advise the person of that fact; and
  - (b) give the person written reasons for the rejection.
- (8) To avoid doubt, a member of the Australian Heritage Council may make a nomination in accordance with this section on behalf of the Council. The Council may undertake research and investigations necessary for the purposes of nominating places to be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

### **341F Emergency listing**

- (1) This section applies (despite subsection 341C(2)) if the Minister believes that:
  - (a) a place either:
    - (i) is entirely within a Commonwealth area; or
    - (ii) is outside the Australian jurisdiction and is owned or leased by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency; and
  - (b) the place has or may have one or more Commonwealth Heritage values; and
  - (c) any of those values is under threat.

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- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, include in the Commonwealth Heritage List the place and the Commonwealth Heritage values the Minister believes the place has or may have, whether or not the Minister has, under this Subdivision, given the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 341G whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria.
- (3) Within 10 business days after including the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List under this section, the Minister must give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess under section 341G whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria.
- (4) However, subsection (3) does not apply if the Minister has already received from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 341G whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria.
- (5) If the Minister includes the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List under this section, he or she must:
  - (a) within 10 business days, publish, on the Internet and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a copy or summary of the instrument published in the *Gazette*; and
  - (b) take all practicable steps to:
    - (i) identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
    - (ii) advise each person identified that the place has been included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (c) within 10 business days, advise each person (if any) who nominated the place or requested the Minister in writing to include the place in the List under this section that the place has been included in the List.
- (6) If a person requests the Minister in writing to include a place in the Commonwealth Heritage List under this section and the Minister has not done so within 10 business days after receiving the request, the Minister must:

- (a) publish on the Internet notice of those facts; and
- (b) advise the person that the Minister has not included the place in the List; and
- (c) give reasons why the Minister has not done so to the person and to anyone who requests them.

This subsection has effect (despite subsection (1)) whether or not the Minister has the belief described in that subsection in relation to the place and its heritage values (if any).

### **341G Assessments by the Australian Heritage Council**

- (1) The Minister may give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to assess whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, whether or not the place is the subject of a nomination.
- (2) The Australian Heritage Council must give the Minister a written assessment whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria:
  - (a) within 12 months after the Minister gives the Chair of the Council (under this section or section 341E) the request for the assessment; or
  - (b) if the place is included in the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341F (emergency listing)—within 40 business days after the Minister gives the Chair of the Council (under that section) the request for the assessment.
- (2A) If the Australian Heritage Council does not give the Minister the assessment within the period required by subsection (2) but makes all reasonable efforts to do so, the Minister may, by notice in writing, extend the period by up to 24 months.
- (2B) If the Australian Heritage Council does not give the Minister the assessment within the period as extended under subsection (2A) but makes all reasonable efforts to do so, the Minister may, by notice in writing, further extend the period by up to 24 months.
- (2C) Within 10 business days of extending the period by notice under subsection (2A) or (2B), the Minister must:

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- (a) publish on the Internet:
    - (i) a copy of the notice; and
    - (ii) the reasons for the extension; and
  - (b) give a copy of the notice to each person (if any) who nominated the place being covered by the assessment.
- (3) The Australian Heritage Council, on its own initiative, may assess whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, whether or not the place is the subject of a nomination. If the Council does so, it may give the assessment to the Minister.

*Requirements relating to assessments generally*

- (3A) Before giving the Minister an assessment under this section whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, the Australian Heritage Council:
- (a) must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any), a notice:
    - (i) stating that the Council is assessing whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria; and
    - (ii) inviting comments in writing, within a specified period that is reasonable having regard to the time by which the Council must give the assessment to the Minister, on whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria and whether the place should be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (b) must consider, subject to subsection (5), the comments (if any) the Council receives within the period.
- The Council must give the Minister a copy of the comments with the assessment.
- (4) If, in making an assessment, the Australian Heritage Council considers that a place within the Australian jurisdiction might have one or more Commonwealth Heritage values, the Council must:
- (a) take all practicable steps:
    - (i) to identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and

- (ii) if the Council considers the place might have an indigenous heritage value—to identify each indigenous person who has rights or interests in all or part of the place; and
- (b) take all practicable steps to advise each person identified that the Council is assessing whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria; and
- (c) give persons advised a reasonable opportunity to comment in writing whether the place should be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

The Council must give the Minister a copy of the comments with the assessment.

Note: For *indigenous heritage value*, see section 528.

- (5) In assessing whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, the Australian Heritage Council must not consider any matter that does not relate to the question whether the place meets the Commonwealth Heritage criteria.

### **341H Inviting public comments after assessment**

- (1A) This section applies if and only if, within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives from the Australian Heritage Council under section 341G an assessment whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, the Minister decides that this section should apply. This section continues to apply even if the Minister revokes the decision.
- (1) The Minister must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any), a notice inviting comments on the inclusion or proposed inclusion of the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List. The notice may specify:
  - (a) that comments should address particular matters relating to the inclusion or proposed inclusion of the place in the List; or
  - (b) that comments are to be given to the Minister in a particular way.
- (2) The notice must be published within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives from the Australian Heritage

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Council an assessment under section 341G whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria.

- (3) The notice must state that comments are to be given to the Minister within:
  - (a) 40 business days after the notice is published; or
  - (b) if the place is included in the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341F (emergency listing)—20 business days after the notice is published.
- (4) The Minister may ask the Australian Heritage Council or a person with appropriate qualifications or expertise to assess the merits of any comments that are received by the Minister in accordance with the notice.
- (5) On the first day on which the Minister publishes the notice, the Minister must publish, in accordance with the regulations (if any):
  - (a) the assessment given to the Minister under section 341G for the place; and
  - (b) a summary of the documents (if any), copies of which were given to the Minister by the Australian Heritage Council under that section with the assessment; and
  - (c) if the place has not been included in the Commonwealth Heritage List—one of the following:
    - (i) a statement (the *listing proposal*) that the Minister proposes that the place be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List;
    - (ii) a statement that the Minister proposes that the place not be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List;
    - (iii) a statement that the Minister does not have a view whether or not the place should be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (d) if the Minister publishes the listing proposal—a statement:
    - (i) identifying the Commonwealth Heritage values that the Minister proposes be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List for the place; and
    - (ii) explaining why the Minister believes the place has those values.



**341J Decision about inclusion of a place in the Commonwealth Heritage List**

- (1) After receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 341G whether a place, except one that is or includes a place included in the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341F (whether before, on or after receipt of the assessment), meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, the Minister must:
- (a) by instrument published in the *Gazette*, include in the Commonwealth Heritage List the place and its Commonwealth Heritage values specified in the instrument; or
  - (b) decide not to include the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

Note 1: Section 341F is about emergency listing.

Note 2: The Minister may include a place in the Commonwealth Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that the place:

- (a) is entirely within a Commonwealth area or is both outside the Australian jurisdiction and owned or leased by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency; and
- (b) has one or more Commonwealth Heritage values.

See subsection 341C(2).

Note 3: Section 341N deals with how additional Commonwealth Heritage values may be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List for a Commonwealth Heritage place.

- (2) The Minister must comply with subsection (1):
- (a) within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives the assessment; or
  - (b) if section 341H applies in relation to the place—within 60 business days after the end of the period mentioned in paragraph 341H(3)(a) for the place.

However, this subsection does not apply if the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

- (3) If the Minister includes the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List, he or she must, within a reasonable time:
- (a) take all practicable steps to:

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- (i) identify each person who is an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
    - (ii) advise each person identified that the place has been included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (b) if the place was nominated by a person—advise the person that the place has been included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (c) publish on the Internet:
    - (i) a copy of the instrument published in the *Gazette* including the place and its Commonwealth Heritage values in the List; and
    - (ii) the Minister’s reasons for including the place and those values in the List.
- (4) If the Minister decides not to include in the Commonwealth Heritage List a place (whether the decision is made after publishing a notice under section 341H or not), the Minister must:
- (a) give written reasons for the decision to anyone who asks for them; and
  - (b) if the place was nominated by a person—advise the person of the decision within 10 business days and give the person written reasons for the decision; and
  - (c) within 10 business days, publish on the Internet notice of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

*Dealing with an emergency listing*

- (5) After receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment under section 341G whether a place that is or includes a place (the ***listed place***) included in the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341F (whether before, on or after receipt of the assessment) meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, the Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*:
- (a) do one of the following:
    - (i) state that the listed place remains in the Commonwealth Heritage List with its boundary unaltered;
    - (ii) alter the boundary of the listed place described in the Commonwealth Heritage List (whether or not the

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alteration results in an overall increase or decrease in the extent of the place included in the List);

- (iii) remove from the Commonwealth Heritage List the listed place and its Commonwealth Heritage values; and
- (b) if the listed place is not removed from the Commonwealth Heritage List under subparagraph (a)(iii)—do all or any of the following:
  - (i) state that specified Commonwealth Heritage values included in the List under section 341F for the place remain in the List for the place;
  - (ii) include in the List for the place specified Commonwealth Heritage values of the place that were not included in the List under section 341F for the place;
  - (iii) remove from the List for the place specified Commonwealth Heritage values that were included in the List under section 341F for the place.

(5A) The Minister must comply with subsection (5):

- (a) within 20 business days after the day on which the Minister receives the assessment; or
- (b) if section 341H applies in relation to the place covered by the assessment—within 15 business days after the end of the period mentioned in subsection 341H(3) for the place.

However, this subsection does not apply if the place covered by the assessment is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

(6) Section 341L does not apply to:

- (a) an alteration (under subparagraph (5)(a)(ii) of this section) of the boundary of a place included in the Commonwealth Heritage List so as to exclude part of the place (as previously included) from the description of the place in the List (whether or not the alteration results in an overall increase or decrease in the extent of the place included in the List); or
- (b) the removal of a place and its Commonwealth Heritage values under subparagraph (5)(a)(iii) of this section; or
- (c) the removal of a Commonwealth Heritage value of a place under subparagraph (5)(b)(iii) of this section.

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- (7) If, under subsection (5), the Minister removes from the Commonwealth Heritage List a place or a Commonwealth Heritage value of a place, or alters the boundary of a place included in the List, the Minister must:
- (a) within 10 business days, publish on the Internet:
    - (i) a copy of the instrument published in the *Gazette*; and
    - (ii) the reasons for the removal or alteration; and
  - (b) within 10 business days, give written reasons for the removal or alteration to each person identified by the Minister as an owner or occupier of all or part of the place; and
  - (c) give written reasons for the removal or alteration to anyone else who asks the Minister for them; and
  - (d) if the place was included on the List following a nomination of it by a person—within 10 business days of the removal or alteration, advise the person of the removal or alteration and give the person written reasons for it.

*General requirements*

- (8) Before acting under subsection (1) or (5), the Minister must consider:
- (a) the Australian Heritage Council's assessment whether the place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria; and
  - (b) the comments (if any), a copy of which was given to the Minister by the Council under section 341G with the assessment; and
  - (c) the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice (if any) published under section 341H in relation to the place; and
  - (d) the assessment (if any) requested under subsection 341H(4) of the merits of the comments received in accordance with the notice published under section 341H in relation to the place.
- (9) The Minister must publish in accordance with the regulations (if any) a copy or summary of an instrument published in the *Gazette* under this section.

**341K Listing process not affected by changing boundaries of a place**

- (1) This section is about compliance with a provision of this Subdivision that is before this section and that requires or permits an act to be done in relation to the place identified by express or implied reference to an earlier provision of this Subdivision.
- (2) It is sufficient compliance with the provision if the act is done in relation to a place whose boundary overlaps the boundary of the place identified by reference to the earlier provision.
- (3) This section does not affect the validity of the act so far as that depends on something other than the act being done in relation to the place.

**341L Removal of places or Commonwealth Heritage values from the Commonwealth Heritage List**

- (1) The Minister must remove all or part of a place from the Commonwealth Heritage List as soon as practicable after the Minister becomes aware that:
  - (a) the place or part is no longer in a Commonwealth area; or
  - (b) the place or part is no longer owned or leased by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency, if the place or part is outside the Australian jurisdiction.
- (2) The Minister may remove all or part of a place from the Commonwealth Heritage List only if the Minister is satisfied that:
  - (a) ignoring subsection 341D(2), the place no longer has any Commonwealth Heritage values or the part no longer contributes to any of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) it is necessary in the interests of Australia's defence or security to do so.

Note: A place or part of a place may also be removed from the Commonwealth Heritage List under subsection 341J(5).

- (3) The Minister may remove one or more Commonwealth Heritage values included in the Commonwealth Heritage List for a Commonwealth Heritage place only if the Minister is satisfied that:

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- (a) ignoring subsection 341D(2), the place no longer has the Commonwealth Heritage value or values; or
  - (b) it is necessary in the interests of Australia's defence or security to do so.
- (4) The Minister can remove all or part of a place, or a Commonwealth Heritage value of a place, only by instrument:
- (a) published in the *Gazette*; and
  - (b) including a statement of the reasons for the removal.

Note: The Minister must first obtain and consider the advice of the Australian Heritage Council (see section 341M).

- (5) The instrument must deal with only one of the following kinds of removal:
- (a) removal (***removal for loss of value***) of a place, part or Commonwealth Heritage value because of paragraph (2)(a) or (3)(a);
  - (b) removal of a place, part or Commonwealth Heritage value because of subsection (1) or paragraph (2)(b) or (3)(b).
- If the instrument purports to deal with both kinds, it has no effect so far as it deals with a removal for loss of value.

- (6) If the instrument deals only with removal for loss of value, the instrument:
- (a) is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*; and
  - (b) takes effect (despite section 48 of that Act) on the first day on which it is no longer liable to be disallowed, or to be taken to have been disallowed, under that section as it applies in relation to the instrument because of section 46A of that Act.
- (7) Within 10 business days of publication of the instrument in the *Gazette*, the Minister must publish, on the Internet and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a copy of the instrument.

**341M Minister must consider advice of the Australian Heritage Council and public comments**

- (1) Before the Minister removes from the Commonwealth Heritage List under section 341L all or part of a place or one or more of a place's Commonwealth Heritage values in a removal for loss of value, the Minister must:
  - (a) give the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council a written request for the Council to give the Minister advice on the proposed removal; and
  - (b) publish, on the Internet, in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory and in each other way required by the regulations (if any), a notice:
    - (i) describing the proposed removal; and
    - (ii) inviting anyone to give the Minister comments, within 20 business days, on the proposed removal.

The Minister must publish the notice within 20 business days of giving the request.
- (2) The Australian Heritage Council must give the advice to the Minister within the period specified by the Minister.
- (3) The Minister must consider the advice, if he or she receives it by the end of that period, and the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice.
- (4) In preparing the advice, the Australian Heritage Council must not consider any matter that does not relate to the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place concerned.
- (5) The Minister must:
  - (a) decide whether to remove from the Commonwealth Heritage List the place or part concerned, or the Commonwealth Heritage value or values of the place concerned; and
  - (b) if the Minister decides to remove the place or part, or the Commonwealth Heritage value or values of the place—ensure that an instrument removing the place, part or Commonwealth Heritage value or values is published in the *Gazette* under subsection 341L(4);

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within 60 business days after the earlier of the advice being received by the Minister and the specified period for giving advice to the Minister ending.

- (6) However, the time limit in subsection (5) does not apply if the place is wholly or partly outside the Australian jurisdiction.

**341N Specifying one or more additional Commonwealth Heritage values for a Commonwealth Heritage place**

- (1) Subsection (2) has effect for the purposes of including in the Commonwealth Heritage List for a Commonwealth Heritage place one or more Commonwealth Heritage values of the place that were not previously included in the List for the place.
- (2) Sections 341E, 341F, 341G, 341H and 341J apply as if neither of the following had happened before the application of any of those sections because of this section:
- (a) the Minister receiving from the Australian Heritage Council an assessment whether the place meets the Commonwealth Heritage criteria;
  - (b) the inclusion of the place in the Commonwealth Heritage List.
- (3) However, this section does not affect the inclusion in the Commonwealth Heritage List of the place or the Commonwealth Heritage values that were included in the List for the place before the application of this section. In particular, subsection 341J(5) in its application because of this section does not allow the Minister to:
- (a) remove from the List the place or any of its Commonwealth Heritage values that were included in the List for the place before the application of section 341F because of this section; or
  - (b) alter the boundary of the place as included in the List before the application of section 341F because of this section so as to exclude from the description of the place in the List part of the place as so included.



**341P Commonwealth Heritage List must be publicly available**

The Minister must ensure that:

- (a) up-to-date copies of the Commonwealth Heritage List are available for free to the public on request; and
- (b) an up-to-date copy of the Commonwealth Heritage List is available on the Internet.

Note: The copies of the Commonwealth Heritage List made publicly available may not contain certain information kept confidential under section 341Q.

**341Q Certain information may be kept confidential**

- (1) This section applies if the Minister considers that the heritage values of a place could be significantly damaged by the disclosure of some or all of the following information, or by the presence or actions of persons if some or all of the following information were disclosed publicly:
  - (a) the place's precise location;
  - (b) the place's heritage values;
  - (c) any other information about the place.
- (2) It is sufficient compliance with this Act if only a general description of the place, its location or its Commonwealth Heritage values is included in:
  - (a) the Commonwealth Heritage List as made publicly available; or
  - (b) an instrument or other document created for the purposes of this Act.

**341R Disclosure of Australian Heritage Council's assessments and advice**

- (1) A member of the Australian Heritage Council has a duty not to disclose the following to a person other than the Minister, an employee in the Department whose duties relate to the Council or another member of the Council:

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- (a) an assessment under section 341G whether a place meets any of the Commonwealth Heritage criteria, any information relating to the assessment or any information about the nomination (if any) that led to the making of the assessment;
  - (b) advice under section 341M concerning a place or any information relating to the advice.
- (2) However:
  - (a) the duty not to disclose a thing described in paragraph (1)(a) in relation to a place does not exist after:
    - (ia) publication under section 341H of the assessment; or
    - (i) publication in the *Gazette* of an instrument under section 341J relating to the place; or
    - (ii) if the Minister is required by section 341J to do something in relation to the place by instrument published in the *Gazette* within a period specified in subsection 341J(2) or (5A) but does not—the end of that period; and
  - (b) the duty not to disclose a thing described in paragraph (1)(b) in relation to a place does not exist after:
    - (i) publication in the *Gazette* of an instrument under section 341L relating to the place; or
    - (ii) if the Minister is required by section 341M to do something in relation to the place by instrument published in the *Gazette* within the period specified in subsection 341M(5) but does not—the end of that period.
- (3) After a member of the Australian Heritage Council has ceased under subsection (2) to have a duty not to disclose:
  - (a) an assessment under section 341G whether a place meets the Commonwealth Heritage criteria; or
  - (b) advice under section 341M concerning a place;the member must give a copy of the assessment or advice to anyone who asks for it.

(4) If:

- (a) a member of the Australian Heritage Council proposes to give a person under subsection (3) a copy of an assessment or advice relating to a place; and
- (b) the member is aware that, under section 341Q, it would be sufficient compliance with this Act if the copy included only a general description of the place, its location or its Commonwealth Heritage values;

the member must take reasonable steps to ensure that the copy given to the person does not include a more detailed description than is necessary for sufficient compliance with this Act under that section.

### **Subdivision C—Management plans for Commonwealth Heritage places**

#### **341S Management plans for Commonwealth Heritage places**

- (1) A Commonwealth agency must make a written plan to protect and manage the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place it owns or controls. The agency must do so within the period mentioned either:
  - (a) at the time the agency starts owning or controlling the place, in the agency's heritage strategy under section 341ZA; or
  - (b) after that time, in the agency's first such strategy.
- Note: However, a Commonwealth agency must not make plans for managing certain places (see section 341U).
- (2) The Commonwealth agency may, in writing, amend the plan or revoke and replace the plan.
- (3) A Commonwealth agency must give notice, in accordance with the regulations, if the agency:
  - (a) makes a plan for a Commonwealth Heritage place; or
  - (b) amends such a plan; or
  - (c) revokes and replaces such a plan.

Note: Subdivision E imposes other obligations on Commonwealth agencies.

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- (4) A plan must:
  - (a) address the matters prescribed by the regulations; and
  - (b) not be inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles (see Subdivision D).
- (5) If the Commonwealth Heritage management principles change so that a plan (the *earlier plan*) is inconsistent with them, the agency concerned must as soon as practicable make a written instrument:
  - (a) amending the earlier plan to make it consistent with the principles; or
  - (b) revoking and replacing the earlier plan.
- (6) Before making, amending or revoking and replacing a plan, the agency concerned must:
  - (a) ask the Minister for advice on the proposed plan or amendment and must take account of any such advice received from the Minister; and
  - (b) seek in accordance with the regulations, and consider, comments from anyone about the matters to be addressed by the proposed plan or amendment.
- (7) The Minister must consult with the Australian Heritage Council in preparing an advice for the purposes of this section.

**341T Endorsing management plans for Commonwealth Heritage places**

- (1) A Commonwealth agency that makes a plan for managing a Commonwealth Heritage place may ask the Minister to endorse the plan. If the Commonwealth agency does so, it must give the Minister a copy of the plan.

**Note:** An agency that has a plan endorsed under this section is not required to ask for advice under section 341ZD about taking certain actions.

- (1A) The Minister must decide within 60 business days of being given the copy of the plan whether or not to endorse the plan.
- (1B) Within 10 business days of making the decision, the Minister must inform the Commonwealth agency in writing of the decision and publish on the Internet a notice of the decision.

- (2) The Minister:
  - (a) may only endorse a plan that the Minister is satisfied provides for the conservation of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place concerned; and
  - (b) must not endorse a plan that the Minister considers is inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles (see Subdivision D).
- (3) The Minister may, at any time, revoke an endorsement of a plan if the Minister considers it appropriate to do so.

### **341U Restriction on ability to make plans**

- (1) Despite section 341S, a Commonwealth agency must not make a plan for managing so much of a Commonwealth Heritage place as is in a Commonwealth reserve and covered by another plan under this Act.
- (2) Despite section 341S, a Commonwealth agency must not make a plan for managing so much of a Commonwealth Heritage place as is in the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands and covered by a plan in operation under the *Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987* of that Territory.

### **341V Compliance with plans by the Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies**

- (1) The Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not:
  - (a) contravene a plan made under section 341S; or
  - (b) authorise another person to do, or omit to do, anything that, if it were done or omitted to be done by the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth agency (as appropriate), would contravene such a plan.
- (2) If there is no plan in force under section 341S for a particular Commonwealth Heritage place, the Commonwealth and each Commonwealth agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that its acts (if any) relating to the place are not inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles.

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**341W Multiple plans in the same document**

To avoid doubt, a plan for managing a Commonwealth Heritage place may be in the same document as:

- (a) one or more other plans for managing Commonwealth Heritage places; or
- (b) one or more other plans that this Act or another law of the Commonwealth requires or permits to be prepared.

**341X Review of plans at least every 5 years**

- (1) At least once in every 5 year period after a plan for managing a Commonwealth Heritage place is made under section 341S, the Commonwealth agency concerned must cause a review of the plan to be carried out.
- (2) The review must:
  - (a) assess whether the plan is consistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles in force at the time; and
  - (b) assess whether the plan is effective in protecting and conserving the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place; and
  - (c) make recommendations for the improved protection of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place.
- (3) The person carrying out the review must publish, on the Internet and in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory, a notice inviting anyone to give the person comments within 20 business days on:
  - (a) whether the plan is consistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles; and
  - (b) the effectiveness of the plan in protecting and conserving the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place.
- (4) In carrying out the review, the person must consider the comments (if any) received in accordance with the notice.

## **Subdivision D—The Commonwealth Heritage management principles**

### **341Y Commonwealth Heritage management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for managing Commonwealth Heritage places. The principles prescribed are the *Commonwealth Heritage management principles*.
- (2) The regulations may prescribe obligations to implement or give effect to the Commonwealth Heritage management principles.
- (3) A person must comply with the regulations to the extent that they impose obligations on the person.

## **Subdivision E—Obligations of Commonwealth agencies**

### **341Z Obligation to assist the Minister and the Australian Heritage Council**

A Commonwealth agency that owns or controls a place that has, or might have, one or more Commonwealth Heritage values must take all reasonable steps to assist the Minister and the Australian Heritage Council in the identification, assessment and monitoring of the place's Commonwealth Heritage values.

### **341ZA Heritage strategies**

- (1) If a Commonwealth agency owns or controls one or more places, the agency must:
  - (a) prepare a written heritage strategy for managing the places to protect and conserve their Commonwealth Heritage values;  
and
  - (b) give a copy of the strategy to the Minister;  
as soon as practicable and in any event within 2 years after the later of:
    - (c) the time the agency first owns or controls a place; and
    - (d) the commencement of this section.

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Note: The heritage strategy will apply to every place the agency owns or controls.

- (1A) Before making a heritage strategy, the Commonwealth agency must consult the Australian Heritage Council and take into account any advice the agency receives from the Council.
- (2) The Commonwealth agency may, in writing, amend the heritage strategy or revoke and replace the heritage strategy. The Commonwealth agency must give the Minister a copy of the amended or replacement strategy within 20 business days of the amendment or replacement.
- (3) A heritage strategy must:
  - (a) mention the period within which the Commonwealth agency must make a plan under section 341S; and
  - (b) mention the period within which the Commonwealth agency must do the things mentioned in subsection 341ZB(1); and
  - (c) address the matters prescribed by the regulations (if any); and
  - (d) not be inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles.
- (4) The Minister must advise the Commonwealth agency whether or not the agency's heritage strategy (whether original, amended or replacement) is inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles.
- (5) At least once in every 3 year period after a heritage strategy is made, the Commonwealth agency concerned must cause a review of the strategy to be carried out.
- (6) The agency must give the Minister a written report of the review. The report must address the matters prescribed by the regulations (if any).

**341ZB Heritage assessments and registers**

- (1) A Commonwealth agency must do all of the following within the period mentioned in its heritage strategy:
  - (a) conduct a program to identify Commonwealth Heritage values for each place it owns or controls;



- (b) produce a register that sets out, for each place it owns or controls, the Commonwealth Heritage values (if any) of that place;
  - (c) give the Minister a written report that includes:
    - (i) details of the program; and
    - (ii) a copy of the register.
- (2) The regulations may prescribe all or any of the following:
  - (a) how Commonwealth heritage values may be identified for a place;
  - (b) matters a register must address;
  - (c) matters a report to the Minister must address.
- (3) A Commonwealth agency must keep its register up to date.
- (4) A register may be kept electronically.
- (5) If a report under paragraph (1)(c) indicates that a place owned or controlled by a Commonwealth agency may have one or more Commonwealth Heritage values, information from the report may be used or referred to in a nomination of the place for inclusion in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

### **341ZC Minimising adverse impact on heritage values**

A Commonwealth agency must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have an adverse impact on the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place or the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place, unless:

- (a) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to taking the action; and
- (b) all measures that can reasonably be taken to mitigate the impact of the action on those values are taken.

### **341ZD Requirement to ask Minister for advice**

- (1) Before a Commonwealth agency takes an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on a Commonwealth

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Heritage place, the agency must ask the Minister for advice about taking the action.

- (2) However, the agency is not required to ask for the advice if:
  - (a) the agency has a plan for managing the place that is endorsed by the Minister under section 341T; and
  - (b) the action is provided for or taken in accordance with the plan.
- (3) Within 30 business days after an agency asks for advice under subsection (1), the Minister must give written advice to the agency. The Minister must consult with the Australian Heritage Council in preparing the advice.
- (4) The Minister may ask an agency to provide additional information about the action or place concerned. If the Minister does so, the period in subsection (3) stops on the day the Minister asks for that information until the day after that information is provided.

**341ZE Protecting Commonwealth Heritage values of places sold or leased**

- (1) This section applies if a Commonwealth agency executes a contract for the sale or lease to someone else of a Commonwealth area in the Australian jurisdiction that is or includes all or part of a Commonwealth Heritage place. It does not matter whether the agency executes the contract for the Commonwealth or on its own behalf.
- (1A) The Commonwealth agency must give the Minister at least 40 business days' notice before executing the contract.
- (2) The Commonwealth agency must ensure that the contract includes a covenant the effect of which is to protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place, unless the agency is satisfied that:
  - (a) having regard to other means of protecting those values, including such a covenant in the contract is unnecessary to protect them or is unreasonable; or
  - (b) including such a covenant in the contract is impracticable.

- (3) The Commonwealth agency must inform the Minister before executing the contract if:
- (a) such a covenant:
    - (i) would not, or could not be made to, bind the successors in title of the buyer or lessee; or
    - (ii) could be insufficient to ensure the ongoing protection of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) the agency is satisfied as described in subsection (2).
- The information must include written reasons why paragraph (a) applies or why the agency is satisfied as described in subsection (2).
- (4) If the Minister is informed of a matter in paragraph (3)(a) or that the Commonwealth agency is satisfied that it is unreasonable or impracticable to include such a covenant in the contract, the Minister must:
- (a) take all reasonable measures to enter into a conservation agreement with the prospective buyer or lessee for the protection and conservation of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place; or
  - (b) advise the agency about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place.
- (5) If the Minister is informed that the Commonwealth agency is satisfied that it is unnecessary to include such a covenant in the contract, the Minister may advise the agency about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place.
- (6) If the Minister advises the Commonwealth agency under this section about measures to ensure the ongoing protection of the Commonwealth Heritage values of the place, the agency must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the measures are taken.

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**Subdivision F—Advice for authorising actions in Indian Ocean Territories**

**341ZF Minister’s advice on authorisation of actions affecting Commonwealth Heritage places**

- (1) This section applies in relation to:
  - (a) an authority established for the government of the Territory of Christmas Island or the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands by or under a law applying in the Territory; and
  - (b) an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on a Commonwealth Heritage place in the Territory.
- (2) The authority must ask the Minister for advice about the action before the authority decides whether to give an authorisation (however described) under a law applying in the Territory, or under an instrument made under such a law, for a person to take the action.
- (3) The Minister must give the authority written advice about the action within a reasonable time of being asked. The Minister must consult the Australian Heritage Council in preparing the advice.
- (4) The Minister may ask the authority for extra information about the action before giving the advice.

**Subdivision G—Assistance for protecting Commonwealth Heritage places**

**341ZG Commonwealth assistance for protecting Commonwealth Heritage places**

- (1) The Commonwealth may give financial or other assistance for the identification, promotion, protection or conservation of a Commonwealth Heritage place to any person.
- (2) The Commonwealth may give the assistance subject to conditions.

## **Subdivision H—Reviewing and reporting on the Commonwealth Heritage List**

### **341ZH Reviewing and reporting on the Commonwealth Heritage List**

- (1) At least once in every 5 year period after the Commonwealth Heritage List is established, the Minister must ensure that:
  - (a) a review of the Commonwealth Heritage List is carried out;  
and
  - (b) a report of that review is tabled in each House of the Parliament.
- (2) The report must include details of:
  - (a) the number of places included in the Commonwealth Heritage List; and
  - (b) any significant damage or threat to the Commonwealth Heritage values of those places; and
  - (c) how many plans under Subdivision C for managing Commonwealth Heritage places have been made, or are being prepared, and how effectively the plans that have been made are operating; and
  - (d) the operation of any conservation agreements under Part 14 that affect Commonwealth Heritage places; and
  - (e) all nominations, assessments and changes to the Commonwealth Heritage List under this Division during the period of review; and
  - (f) compliance with this Act in relation to Commonwealth Heritage places; and
  - (g) any other matters that the Minister considers relevant.

## **Division 4—Commonwealth reserves**

### **Subdivision A—Simplified outline of this Division**

#### **342 Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

Commonwealth reserves can be declared over areas of land or sea:

- (a) that the Commonwealth owns or leases; or
- (b) that are in a Commonwealth marine area; or
- (c) outside Australia that the Commonwealth has international obligations to protect.

A Proclamation must assign the reserve to a particular category, that affects how the reserve is managed and used.

Some activities can be undertaken in a reserve only if a management plan provides for them. Commonwealth agencies must comply with a management plan. Regulations can be made to control a wide range of activities in reserves.

The Minister may approve a management plan prepared by the Director and any Board for a reserve.

In agreement with indigenous people, the Minister can set up a Board for a reserve including land leased from indigenous people.

### **Subdivision B—Declaring and revoking Commonwealth reserves**

#### **343 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

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The Governor-General can proclaim Commonwealth reserves over areas of land or sea:

- (a) that the Commonwealth owns; or
- (b) that the Commonwealth or the Director leases; or
- (c) that are in a Commonwealth marine area; or
- (d) outside Australia that the Commonwealth has international obligations to protect.

A Proclamation must assign the reserve to a particular category that affects how the reserve is managed and used.

Proclamations can be made to alter and revoke reserves.

The Director must consult publicly before some Proclamations are made.

### **344 Declaring Commonwealth reserves**

#### *Declaring a Commonwealth reserve*

- (1) The Governor-General may, by Proclamation, declare as a Commonwealth reserve:
  - (a) an area of land:
    - (i) that is owned by the Commonwealth in a Territory; or
    - (ii) that is owned by the Commonwealth outside a Territory; or
    - (iii) that is held under lease by the Commonwealth or the Director in a Territory; or
    - (iv) that is held under lease by the Commonwealth or the Director outside a Territory; or
    - (v) outside Australia and in respect of which Australia has obligations relating to biodiversity or heritage under an agreement with one or more other countries that may

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appropriately be met by declaring the area a Commonwealth reserve; or

(b) an area of sea:

- (i) in a Commonwealth marine area; or
- (ii) outside Australia and in respect of which Australia has obligations relating to biodiversity or heritage under an agreement with one or more other countries that may appropriately be met by declaring the area a Commonwealth reserve; or

(c) an area of land described in paragraph (a) and sea described in paragraph (b).

Note 1: Section 351 sets out some prerequisites for making Proclamations.

Note 2: A reference to Australia generally includes its coastal sea. See section 15B of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

*Limits on acquiring land for reservation*

(2) If land:

(a) is in:

- (i) a State or self-governing Territory (except the Northern Territory); or
- (ii) the Northern Territory outside both Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and the Alligator Rivers Region (as defined by the *Environment Protection (Alligator Rivers Region) Act 1978*); and

(b) is dedicated or reserved under a law of the State or Territory for purposes related to nature conservation or the protection of areas of historical, archaeological or geological importance or of areas having special significance in relation to indigenous persons;

the Commonwealth must not acquire the land for the purposes of declaring it a Commonwealth reserve, without the consent of the State or Territory.

*Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park*

(3) **Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park** is the Commonwealth reserve (as it exists from time to time) to which the name Uluru-Kata Tjuta



National Park was given by Proclamation continued in force by the *Environmental Reform (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999*.

### **345 Extent of Commonwealth reserve**

- (1) A Commonwealth reserve includes:
- (a) land or seabed to the depth stated in the Proclamation declaring the Commonwealth reserve; and
  - (b) the waters and seabed under any sea in the area declared as a Commonwealth reserve.

- (2) In this Act:

**land** includes subsoil of land and any body of water (whether flowing or not) except the sea.

**seabed** includes:

- (a) the surface of a coral formation; and
- (b) subsoil of seabed (including coral beneath the surface of a coral formation).

### **345A Commonwealth usage rights vest in Director**

- (1) When a Commonwealth reserve is declared, a usage right that relates to land or seabed in the reserve and is held by the Commonwealth vests in the Director, by force of this subsection.
- (2) If the Commonwealth acquires a usage right relating to land or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve, the usage right vests in the Director.
- (3) This section does not vest in the Director a usage right in respect of minerals, despite subsections (1) and (2).

### **346 Content of Proclamation declaring Commonwealth reserve**

*Content of Proclamation*

- (1) The Proclamation declaring an area to be a Commonwealth reserve must:

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- (a) give a name to the reserve; and
- (b) state the purposes for which the reserve is declared; and
- (c) state the depth of any land included in the reserve; and
- (d) state the depth of the seabed that is under any sea included in the reserve; and
- (e) assign the reserve to one of the following categories (the *IUCN categories*):
  - (i) strict nature reserve;
  - (ii) wilderness area;
  - (iii) national park;
  - (iv) natural monument;
  - (v) habitat/species management area;
  - (vi) protected landscape/seascape;
  - (vii) managed resource protected area.

*Assigning different zones of a reserve to different IUCN categories*

- (2) A Proclamation may also divide a reserve into zones and assign each zone to an IUCN category.

*Assigning leasehold land to IUCN categories*

- (3) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation assigning a Commonwealth reserve or zone including land or seabed held by the Commonwealth or the Director under lease to a particular IUCN category, the Minister must be satisfied that the category to which it is proposed to assign the reserve or zone is consistent with the terms of the lease.

**347 Assigning Commonwealth reserves and zones to IUCN categories**

*Prerequisite to making Proclamation*

- (1) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation assigning a Commonwealth reserve, or a zone within a Commonwealth reserve, to a particular IUCN category, the Minister must be satisfied:

- (a) that the reserve or zone:
  - (i) has the characteristics listed in subsection (2) for the category; and
  - (ii) meets the criteria (if any) prescribed by the regulations for the category; and
- (b) that the reserve or zone should be managed in accordance with the Australian IUCN reserve management principles for the category.

*Characteristics for IUCN categories*

- (2) The characteristics are as follows:
  - (a) for a strict nature reserve—the Commonwealth reserve or zone contains some outstanding or representative ecosystems, geological or physiological features or species;
  - (b) for a wilderness area—the Commonwealth reserve or zone consists of a large area of land, sea or both that:
    - (i) is unmodified, or only slightly modified, by modern or colonial society; and
    - (ii) retains its natural character; and
    - (iii) does not contain permanent or significant habitation;
  - (c) for a national park—the Commonwealth reserve or zone consists of an area of land, sea or both in natural condition;
  - (d) for a natural monument—the Commonwealth reserve or zone contains a specific natural feature, or natural and cultural feature, of outstanding value because of its rarity, representativeness, aesthetic quality or cultural significance;
  - (e) for a habitat/species management area—the Commonwealth reserve or zone contains habitat for one or more species; and
  - (f) for a protected landscape/seascape—the Commonwealth reserve or zone contains an area of land (with or without sea) where the interaction of people and nature over time has given the area a distinct character with significant aesthetic, cultural or ecological value;
  - (g) for a managed resource protected area—the Commonwealth reserve or zone contains natural systems largely unmodified by modern or colonial technology.

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**348 Australian IUCN reserve management principles**

- (1) The regulations must prescribe principles for each IUCN category. The principles prescribed for an IUCN category are the ***Australian IUCN reserve management principles*** for the category.
- (2) The principles prescribed for an IUCN category must identify the purpose or purposes for which a Commonwealth reserve, or zone of a Commonwealth reserve, assigned to the category is primarily to be managed.

**349 Proclamations assigning reserve or zone to wilderness area category may affect management**

A Proclamation assigning a Commonwealth reserve, or a zone of a Commonwealth reserve, to the IUCN category of wilderness area may contain provisions regulating the circumstances in which, and the manner in which, the Director may do one of the following acts if there is not a management plan in operation for the reserve:

- (a) kill, injure, take, trade, keep or move a member of a native species;
- (b) damage heritage;
- (c) carry on an excavation;
- (d) erect a building or other structure;
- (da) carry out works;
- (db) take an action for commercial purposes;
- (e) establish a track;
- (f) use a vehicle, aircraft or vessel;
- (g) inundate land by means of a dam or other works for affecting the flow of water (whether they are inside or outside the reserve or zone);
- (h) extract water by canals or other works for affecting the flow of water (whether they are inside or outside the reserve or zone).

**350 Revocation and alteration of Commonwealth reserves**

- (1) The Governor-General may revoke or amend a Proclamation under this Subdivision by another Proclamation.

Note: Section 351 sets out some prerequisites for making Proclamations.

- (2) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation that results in land, sea or seabed ceasing to be included in a Commonwealth reserve, the Minister must be satisfied:
- (a) that the Proclamation, if made, would be in accordance with a resolution passed by each House of Parliament on a motion; and
  - (b) that notice of the motion was given at least 15 sitting days of that House before the motion was moved.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a Proclamation that results in land, sea or seabed ceasing to be included in one Commonwealth reserve or zone and being included in another Commonwealth reserve or zone.
- (4) If the Director ceases to hold land or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve under lease:
- (a) the land or seabed ceases to be part of the reserve by force of this paragraph; and
  - (b) the Governor-General must make a Proclamation revoking or amending the Proclamation that included the land or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve, to reflect the fact that the land or seabed is no longer part of the reserve.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply if the Director ceases to hold the land or seabed under a lease because:
- (a) the Commonwealth becomes the owner of the land or seabed; or
  - (b) the Director surrenders the lease in consideration of the grant to the Director of another lease of that land or seabed.
- (6) Except as described in subsection (4), land, sea or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve does not cease to be within the reserve merely because a usage right relating to the land, sea or seabed is

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transferred, assigned, surrendered, extinguished or changed in any way.

- (7) A ***usage right*** is an estate or a legal or equitable charge, power, privilege, authority, licence or permit.

Note: Section 22 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* defines ***estate***.

**351 Report before making Proclamation**

*Minister must consider report before Proclamation made*

- (1) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation under this Subdivision, the Minister must consider a report prepared by the Director on the matter to be dealt with by the Proclamation.

*Procedure for preparing report*

- (2) In preparing a report, the Director must:
- (a) publish in the *Gazette* and in accordance with the regulations (if any) a notice:
    - (i) stating the matter to be dealt with by the Proclamation; and
    - (ii) inviting the public to comment on the matter to be dealt with by the Proclamation; and
    - (iii) specifying the address to which comments may be sent; and
    - (iv) specifying the day by which any comments must be sent; and
  - (b) consider any comments made in response to the invitation; and
  - (c) include in the report the comments and the Director's views on the comments.

*Content of notice inviting comments*

- (3) A notice stating the matter to be dealt with by a Proclamation to declare a Commonwealth reserve must include a statement of:
- (a) the proposed name of the reserve; and

- (b) the proposed boundaries of the reserve and of any zones into which the reserve is to be divided; and
- (c) the purpose for which the reserve is to be declared; and
- (d) which IUCN category the reserve (and, if applicable, each zone of the reserve) is to be assigned to; and
- (e) the purposes for which it is intended to manage and use the reserve.

*Content of notice relating to revocation of Commonwealth reserve*

- (4) A notice stating the matter to be dealt with by a Proclamation to cause any land, sea or seabed to cease to be part of a Commonwealth reserve must state the boundaries of that land, sea or seabed.

*Time for comment*

- (5) The day specified in the notice as the day by which any comments must be sent must be at least 60 days after the last day on which the notice is published in the *Gazette* or in accordance with any regulations.

*When this section does not apply*

- (6) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to a Proclamation that:
  - (a) declares an area in the Kakadu region to be a Commonwealth reserve; or
  - (b) has the effect of changing the name of a Commonwealth reserve in the Kakadu region; or
  - (c) results in land, sea or seabed ceasing to be included in one Commonwealth reserve and being included in another Commonwealth reserve without changing the IUCN category to which the land, sea or seabed is assigned.

### **352 What happens to Director's usage rights when Commonwealth reserve is revoked**

- (1) This section applies in relation to land or seabed that ceases to be included in a Commonwealth reserve because of a Proclamation

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made under section 350, except a Proclamation that causes the land or seabed:

- (a) to cease to be included in one Commonwealth reserve; and
  - (b) to be included in another Commonwealth reserve.
- (2) A usage right relating to the land or seabed that the Director held vests in the Commonwealth, by force of this subsection.
- (3) However, if the usage right is a lease of indigenous people's land, the usage right ceases to exist, by force of this subsection.
- (4) If the land is in a State or Territory:
- (a) the Director may give the officer of the State or Territory responsible for registering land titles a copy of the Proclamation, certified by the Director; and
  - (b) the officer may make an entry in his or her registers and do anything else needed to reflect the effect of this section.

**Subdivision C—Activities in Commonwealth reserves**

**353 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

Many works cannot be carried out in a Commonwealth reserve unless permitted by a management plan.

If there is not a management plan in force for a reserve, it must be managed in a way appropriate for the category it has been assigned to by a Proclamation or an earlier management plan.

Regulations can be made to control activities in reserves.

People who have rights relating to an area that is later included in a reserve can continue to exercise those rights in the reserve.



### **354 Activities that may be carried on only under management plan**

- (1) A person must not do one of the following acts in a Commonwealth reserve except in accordance with a management plan in operation for the reserve:
  - (a) kill, injure, take, trade, keep or move a member of a native species; or
  - (b) damage heritage; or
  - (c) carry on an excavation; or
  - (d) erect a building or other structure; or
  - (e) carry out works; or
  - (f) take an action for commercial purposes.

Civil penalty:

- (a) for an individual—500 penalty units;
- (b) for a body corporate—5,000 penalty units.

Note: These acts are totally prohibited in wilderness areas (except so far as the Director is concerned). See section 360.

- (2) However, if a management plan is not in operation for a Commonwealth reserve, the Director may do an act described in subsection (1) for:
  - (a) preserving or protecting the reserve; or
  - (b) protecting or conserving biodiversity or heritage in the reserve; or
  - (c) controlling authorised scientific research; or
  - (d) protecting persons or property in the reserve; or
  - (e) managing the effects of actions taken under a usage right described in section 359.

Note: The Director may only do these acts in a wilderness area under a management plan or Proclamation. See section 360.

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply in relation to so much of a Commonwealth reserve as is in the Kakadu region, the Uluru region or the Jervis Bay Territory.

Note: Section 385 sets out what the Director may do in a Commonwealth reserve in the Kakadu region, Uluru region or Jervis Bay Territory when there is not a management plan in operation for the reserve.

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- (4) This section has effect despite any other law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory, but:
- (a) subsections (1) and (2) are subject to:
    - (i) section 359 (about interests and rights existing before a Commonwealth reserve); and
    - (ii) section 360 (about wilderness areas); and
    - (iii) the *Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Act 1980*; and
  - (b) subsection (1) is also subject to section 385 (about activities in Commonwealth reserves in the Kakadu region, Uluru region or Jervis Bay Territory without management plans).

**355 Limits on mining operations in Commonwealth reserves**

- (1) A person must not carry on mining operations in a Commonwealth reserve unless:
- (a) the Governor-General has approved the operations; and
  - (b) the person carries them on in accordance with a management plan in operation for the reserve.

Note: Section 387 generally prohibits mining operations in Kakadu National Park.

- (2) The following are *mining operations*:
- (a) operations or activities connected with, or incidental to, the mining or recovery of minerals or the production of material from minerals, including:
    - (i) prospecting and exploration for minerals; and
    - (ii) milling, refining, treatment and processing of minerals; and
    - (iii) storage and disposal of minerals and materials produced from minerals;
  - (b) the construction and use of towns, camps, dams, pipelines power lines or other structures for the purposes of operations or activities described in paragraph (a);
  - (c) the performance of any other work for the purposes of operations or activities described in paragraph (a).

- (3) A *mineral* is a naturally occurring substance or mixture of substances.
- (4) Subsection (1) does not prevent the doing of anything for the purposes of building or construction, or the supply of water, in a Commonwealth reserve unless the purposes are connected with, or incidental to, mining operations.
- (5) This section is subject to:
  - (a) section 359 (about interests and rights existing before a Commonwealth reserve); and
  - (b) section 387 (about mining operations in Kakadu National Park); and
  - (c) the *Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Act 1980*; but has effect despite any other law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory.

### **356 Regulations controlling activities relating to Commonwealth reserves**

- (1) The regulations may:
  - (a) regulate or prohibit the pollution of soil, air or water in a manner that is, or is likely to be, harmful to:
    - (i) people, biodiversity or heritage in Commonwealth reserves; or
    - (ii) the natural features of Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (b) regulate or prohibit tourism in Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (c) provide for the protection and preservation of Commonwealth reserves and property and things in Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (d) provide for the protection and conservation of biodiversity in Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (e) regulate or prohibit access to all or part of a Commonwealth reserve by persons or classes of persons; and
  - (f) provide for the removal of trespassers from Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (g) regulate or prohibit camping in Commonwealth reserves; and

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- (h) provide for the safety of persons in Commonwealth reserves; and
- (i) regulate or prohibit the use of fire in Commonwealth reserves; and
- (j) regulate the conduct of persons in Commonwealth reserves; and
- (k) regulate or prohibit the carrying on of any trade or commerce in a Commonwealth reserve; and
- (l) regulate or prohibit the use of vehicles in Commonwealth reserves and provide for signs and road markings for those purposes; and
- (m) provide for:
  - (i) the removal of vehicles, aircraft or vessels from places in Commonwealth reserves where they have been left in contravention of the regulations or have been abandoned; and
  - (ii) the impounding of such vehicles, aircraft or vessels; and
- (n) provide that the person taken for the purposes of the regulations to be the owner of a motor vehicle involved in a contravention of a provision of the regulations relating to the parking or stopping of vehicles in a Commonwealth reserve is, except as provided otherwise, taken to commit an offence against the provision; and
- (o) provide for a person to be taken to be the owner of a motor vehicle for the purposes of regulations made under paragraph (n) (including a person in whose name the motor vehicle is registered under the law of a State or Territory); and
- (p) regulate or prohibit the use of vessels in, and the passage of vessels through, Commonwealth reserves; and
- (q) regulate or prohibit the landing and use of aircraft in, and the flying of aircraft over, Commonwealth reserves; and
- (r) provide for the giving of effect to management plans for Commonwealth reserves; and
- (s) regulate or prohibit the taking of animals or plants into or out of Commonwealth reserves; and

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- (t) provide for the impounding, removal, destruction or disposal of animals found straying in Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (u) regulate or prohibit the taking into Commonwealth reserves, and the use in Commonwealth reserves, of weapons, traps, nets, snares, fishing apparatus and other devices; and
  - (v) regulate or prohibit the laying of baits and the use of explosives and poisons in Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (w) provide for the collection of specimens and the pursuit of research in Commonwealth reserves for scientific purposes; and
  - (x) provide for the issue of licences, permits and authorities relating to activities in Commonwealth reserves, the conditions subject to which they are issued and the charging of fees by the Commonwealth in respect of such licences, permits and authorities; and
  - (y) provide for any matter incidental to or connected with a matter described in another paragraph.
- (2) A provision of the regulations regulating or prohibiting the flying of aircraft over a Commonwealth reserve does not have any effect so far as it is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth. For this purpose, a provision is not inconsistent with such a law if it can be complied with without contravention of the law.
- (3) A law of a Territory has effect so far as it is not inconsistent with a provision of the regulations having effect in that Territory. For this purpose, such a law is not inconsistent with the provision so far as it can operate concurrently with the provision.

**356A Charges for activities in Commonwealth reserves**

Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Director may determine and impose charges for:

- (a) entering or using a Commonwealth reserve or part of a Commonwealth reserve; and
- (b) using services or facilities provided by the Director in or in connection with a Commonwealth reserve; and
- (c) the parking or stopping of vehicles in a Commonwealth reserve; and

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- (d) the mooring or landing of vessels in a Commonwealth reserve; and
- (e) the landing of aircraft in a Commonwealth reserve; and
- (f) the use of vehicles and vessels in a Commonwealth reserve.

**357 Managing Commonwealth reserves while a management plan is not in operation**

- (1) While a management plan is not in operation for a Commonwealth reserve, the Director must exercise the Director's powers and perform the Director's functions in relation to the reserve or to a zone of the reserve so as to manage the reserve in accordance with:
  - (a) the Australian IUCN reserve management principles for the IUCN category to which the reserve or zone has most recently been assigned by:
    - (i) a Proclamation made under Subdivision B; or
    - (ii) a management plan that was in operation for the reserve (but is no longer); and
  - (b) if the Director holds land or seabed included in the reserve under lease—the Director's obligations under the lease.
- (2) While a management plan is not in operation for a Commonwealth reserve, the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not exercise its powers or perform its functions in relation to the reserve or a zone of the reserve inconsistently with either or both of the following:
  - (a) the Australian IUCN reserve management principles for the IUCN category to which the reserve or zone has most recently been assigned by:
    - (i) a Proclamation made under Subdivision B; or
    - (ii) a management plan that was in operation for the reserve (but is no longer);
  - (b) if the Director holds land or seabed included in the reserve under lease—the Director's obligations under the lease.

(3) If:

- (a) a zone of a Commonwealth reserve is assigned to an IUCN category at or after the time the reserve was most recently assigned to an IUCN category; and
- (b) the IUCN category for the zone is different from the IUCN category for the reserve;

disregard the IUCN category to which the reserve has been assigned for the purposes of the application of this section in relation to the zone.

### **358 Restriction on disposal of Director's interests in Commonwealth reserves**

- (1) The Director must not sell or otherwise dispose of a usage right the Director holds in relation to land, sea or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve.
- (2) However, the Director may grant a lease or sub-lease of, or a licence relating to, land or seabed in a Commonwealth reserve, but only in accordance with a management plan in operation for the reserve.
- (3) Despite subsection (1), the Director may surrender a lease of land or seabed within a Commonwealth reserve in consideration of the grant to the Director of a new lease of land or seabed that includes that land or seabed.
- (4) The *Lands Acquisition Act 1989* does not apply to the grant or surrender of a lease or sub-lease under this section.
- (5) This section has effect despite any law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

### **359 Prior usage rights relating to Commonwealth reserves continue to have effect**

- (1) None of the following provisions affect a usage right that was held by a person (other than the Commonwealth or the Director) in relation to land or seabed immediately before the land or seabed was included in a Commonwealth reserve:

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- (a) provisions of this Division that relate to the reserve (whether or not they also relate to another Commonwealth reserve);
  - (b) provisions of the regulations made for the purposes of this Division that relate to the reserve (whether or not they also relate to another Commonwealth reserve);
  - (c) provisions of a management plan for the reserve.
- (2) None of the provisions described in subsection (1) affect the application of a law of a State or Territory in relation to the usage right.
- (3) The usage right may be renewed or have its term extended only:
  - (a) with the Minister's written consent; and
  - (b) subject to any conditions determined by the Minister.This subsection has effect despite subsections (1) and (2) and any other law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory.
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) apply in relation to a usage right relating to minerals on, in or under land or seabed included in a Commonwealth reserve as if the usage right were a usage right relating to the land or seabed.
- (5) This section applies to a right arising out of a usage right in the same way as it applies to the usage right.
- (6) This section does not apply in relation to:
  - (a) a usage right relating to minerals in Kakadu National Park; or
  - (b) a usage right so far as it relates to mining operations for those minerals.

**359A Traditional use of Commonwealth reserves by indigenous persons**

- (1) This Division and regulations made for the purposes of this Division do not prevent an indigenous person from continuing in accordance with law the traditional use of an area in a Commonwealth reserve for:
  - (a) hunting or food-gathering (except for purposes of sale); or
  - (b) ceremonial and religious purposes.



- (2) However, regulations made for the purposes of this Division do affect an indigenous person's traditional use of an area in a Commonwealth reserve if they:
- (a) are made for the purpose of conserving biodiversity in the area; and
  - (b) expressly affect the traditional use of the area by indigenous persons.

### **360 Activities in wilderness areas**

- (1) This section applies only to a Commonwealth reserve, or a zone of a Commonwealth reserve, that is assigned by a Proclamation under Subdivision B or a management plan for the reserve to the IUCN category of wilderness area.
- (2) The Commonwealth reserve or zone must be maintained in its natural state.
- (3) A person may use the Commonwealth reserve or zone only for:
- (a) scientific research authorised by the Director; or
  - (b) a purpose (except recovery of minerals) specified in the provisions of the management plan for the reserve that relate to the zone.
- (4) A person other than the Director must not do any of the following acts in the Commonwealth reserve or zone:
- (a) kill, injure, take, trade, keep or move a member of a native species;
  - (b) damage heritage;
  - (c) carry on an excavation;
  - (d) erect a building or other structure;
  - (da) carry out works;
  - (db) take an action for commercial purposes;
  - (e) establish a track;
  - (f) use a vehicle, aircraft or vessel;
  - (g) inundate land by means of a dam or other works for affecting the flow of water (whether they are inside or outside the reserve or zone);

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- (h) extract water by canals or other works for affecting the flow of water (whether they are inside or outside the reserve or zone).

Civil penalty:

- (a) for an individual—500 penalty units;
  - (b) for a body corporate—5,000 penalty units.
- (5) The Director must not do an act described in subsection (4) in the Commonwealth reserve or zone, except for purposes essential to the management of the reserve or zone and in accordance with:
- (a) the provisions of the management plan in operation for the reserve or zone; or
  - (b) if there is not a management plan in operation for the reserve or zone and a Proclamation assigned the reserve or zone to the IUCN category of wilderness area—the provisions of the Proclamation.
- (6) This section has effect despite any other law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory, but is subject to section 359 (about usage rights existing before a Commonwealth reserve) and to the *Antarctic Treaty (Environment Protection) Act 1980*.

**Subdivision D—Complying with management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

**361 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

The Director must manage a Commonwealth reserve to give effect to a management plan for the reserve. If indigenous people think the Director is not doing this for a reserve including their land, they can take the matter up with the Minister.

Commonwealth agencies must act so as not to contravene a management plan.

**362 Commonwealth and Commonwealth agencies to comply with management plan for Commonwealth reserve**

- (1) The Director must exercise the Director's powers and perform the Director's functions to give effect to a management plan that is in operation for a Commonwealth reserve.
- (2) The Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency must not perform its functions or exercise its powers in relation to a Commonwealth reserve inconsistently with a management plan that is in operation for the reserve.
- (3) To avoid doubt, if a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve prohibits the exercise of a specified power, or the performance of a specified function, under an Act (including a power or function under an instrument made under an Act), the power or function must not be exercised in or in relation to the reserve while the plan is in operation.

**363 Resolving disagreement between land council and Director over implementation of plan***Minister to resolve disagreement*

- (1) If the Chair or Chairperson of a land council for indigenous people's land in a jointly managed reserve and the Director disagree about whether the Director is exercising the Director's powers and performing the Director's functions consistently with a management plan in operation for the reserve:
  - (a) the Director must inform the Minister; and
  - (b) the Minister must appoint a person the Minister considers to be suitably qualified and in a position to deal with the matter impartially to inquire into the matter; and
  - (c) the person appointed must inquire into the matter and give the Minister a report and recommendations; and
  - (d) the Minister must give the Director any directions the Minister thinks fit; and
  - (e) the Director must comply with any direction.

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*What is a **land council**?*

- (2) The **land council** for indigenous people's land in a Commonwealth reserve is:
- (a) if the land is in the area of an Aboriginal Land Council established by or under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*—that Aboriginal Land Council; and
  - (b) if the land is in Jervis Bay Territory—the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council established by the *Aboriginal Land Grant (Jervis Bay Territory) Act 1986*; and
  - (c) if the land is elsewhere—a body corporate that:
    - (i) is established by or under an Act; and
    - (ii) has functions relating to the indigenous people's land in the reserve; and
    - (iii) consists of indigenous persons who either live in an area to which one or more of the body's functions relate or are registered as traditional owners of indigenous people's land in an area to which one or more of the body's functions relate.

*What is **indigenous people's land**?*

- (3) Land is **indigenous people's land** if:
- (a) a body corporate holds an estate that allows the body to lease the land to the Commonwealth or the Director; and
  - (b) the body corporate was established by or under an Act for the purpose of holding for the benefit of indigenous persons title to land vested in it by or under that Act.

*Who is an **indigenous person**?*

- (4) A person is an **indigenous person** if he or she is:
- (a) a member of the Aboriginal race of Australia; or
  - (b) a descendant of an indigenous inhabitant of the Torres Strait Islands.

*What is a jointly managed reserve?*

- (5) A Commonwealth reserve is a *jointly managed reserve* if:
- (a) it includes indigenous people's land held under lease by the Director; and
  - (b) a Board is established for the reserve under Subdivision F.

**364 Resolving disagreement between Director and Board over implementation of plan**

- (1) The Director must inform the Minister if the Director believes that:
  - (a) a decision of a Board for a Commonwealth reserve is likely to be substantially detrimental to the good management of the reserve; or
  - (b) a decision of a Board for a Commonwealth reserve is contrary to a management plan in operation for the reserve.
- (2) The Minister must take the steps he or she thinks fit to resolve the matter.
- (3) If the Minister cannot resolve the matter, the Minister must appoint as an arbitrator to inquire into the matter a person whom the Minister thinks is suitably qualified and in a position to deal with the matter impartially.
- (4) The person appointed must inquire into the matter and give the Minister a report and recommendations.
- (5) After the Minister receives the report and recommendations, he or she must give the Director and the Board:
  - (a) the directions the Minister thinks appropriate; and
  - (b) a statement of reasons for giving the directions; and
  - (c) a copy of the report and recommendations.
- (6) The Director and the Board must comply with any directions given by the Minister.

## **Subdivision E—Approving management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

### **365 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

The Minister may approve a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve prepared by the Director and any Board for the reserve. Before the Minister approves a plan, he or she may modify it.

Before the Director gives a plan to the Minister for approval, there are 2 opportunities for the public and others with an interest in the reserve to comment.

The Minister can resolve any disagreements between the Director and a Board for a reserve over preparation of a plan for the reserve.

### **366 Obligation to prepare management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

#### *Plans required for Commonwealth reserves without Boards*

- (1) The Director must prepare management plans for each Commonwealth reserve for which there is not a Board to try to ensure that a management plan for the reserve is in operation:
  - (a) as soon as practicable after the reserve is declared; and
  - (b) at all times after the first plan for managing the reserve takes effect.

Note: Section 368 specifies steps to be taken in preparing a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve.

#### *Amending or replacing plans for reserves without Boards*

- (2) The Director may prepare a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve for which there is not a Board:

- (a) to amend a management plan that is in operation for the reserve; or
- (b) to revoke and replace a management plan that is in operation for the reserve.

*Plans required for Commonwealth reserves with Boards*

- (3) A Board for a Commonwealth reserve must prepare management plans for the reserve in conjunction with the Director, to try to ensure that a management plan for the reserve is in operation:
  - (a) as soon as practicable after the Board is established; and
  - (b) at all times after a plan for managing the reserve first takes effect after the establishment of the Board.

Note: Section 368 specifies steps to be taken in preparing a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve.

*Amending or replacing plans for reserves with Boards*

- (4) The Board for a Commonwealth reserve may prepare a management plan for the reserve in conjunction with the Director:
  - (a) to amend a management plan that is in operation for the reserve; or
  - (b) to revoke and replace a management plan that is in operation for the reserve.

### **367 Content of a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve**

*Mandatory content*

- (1) A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve must provide for the protection and conservation of the reserve. In particular, the plan must:
  - (a) assign the reserve to an IUCN category (whether or not a Proclamation has assigned the reserve or a zone of the reserve to that IUCN category); and
  - (b) state how the reserve, or each zone of the reserve, is to be managed; and
  - (c) state how the natural features of the reserve, or of each zone of the reserve, are to be protected and conserved; and

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- (d) if the Director holds land or seabed included in the reserve under lease—be consistent with the Director’s obligations under the lease; and
- (e) specify any limitation or prohibition on the exercise of a power, or performance of a function, under an Act in or in relation to the reserve; and
- (f) specify any mining operation, major excavation or other work that may be carried on in the reserve, and the conditions under which it may be carried on; and
- (g) specify any other operation or activity that may be carried on in the reserve; and
- (h) indicate generally the activities that are to be prohibited or regulated in the reserve, and the means of prohibiting or regulating them; and
- (i) indicate how the plan takes account of Australia’s obligations under each agreement with one or more other countries that is relevant to the reserve (including the World Heritage Convention and the Ramsar Convention, if appropriate); and
- (j) if the reserve includes a National Heritage place:
  - (i) not be inconsistent with the National Heritage management principles; and
  - (ii) address the matters prescribed by regulations made for the purposes of paragraph 324S(4)(a); and
- (k) if the reserve includes a Commonwealth Heritage place:
  - (i) not be inconsistent with the Commonwealth Heritage management principles; and
  - (ii) address the matters prescribed by regulations made for the purposes of paragraph 341S(4)(a).

*Plan may assign different zones to different IUCN categories*

- (2) A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve may divide the reserve into zones and assign each zone to an IUCN category (whether or not a Proclamation has assigned the reserve or each zone of the reserve to that IUCN category). The category to which a zone is assigned may differ from the category to which the reserve is assigned.



*Consistency with Australian IUCN reserve management principles*

- (3) The provisions of a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve that relate to the reserve or a particular zone of the reserve must not be inconsistent with the Australian IUCN reserve management principles for the IUCN category to which the reserve or zone is assigned by the plan.

*If zone is in different category from reserve*

- (4) If the management plan for a Commonwealth reserve assigns the reserve to one IUCN category and assigns a zone of the reserve to a different IUCN category, disregard the IUCN category to which the reserve is assigned for the purposes of the application of subsection (3) in relation to the zone.

*Plans for different reserves may appear together*

- (5) A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve may be in the same document as a management plan for another Commonwealth reserve.

*Plans for proposed extension of reserve*

- (6) A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve may include provisions relating to an area that is proposed to be included in the reserve, but they do not have effect until the area is included in the reserve.

**368 Steps in preparing management plans for Commonwealth reserves***Overview of process*

- (1) Before the Director gives the Minister a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve for approval:
- (a) the Director must publish under subsection (2) an invitation to comment on the proposal to prepare a draft of the plan; and

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- (b) the Director and the Board (if any) for the reserve must prepare a draft of the plan, taking into account any comments received in response to the invitation; and
- (c) the Director must publish under subsection (5) an invitation to comment on the draft; and
- (d) the Director must make publicly available copies of the draft free or for a reasonable fee determined by the Director; and
- (e) the Director and the Board (if any) must consider any comments received in response to the invitation to comment on the draft and may alter the draft.

*Notice inviting comments on proposal to prepare draft*

- (2) The Director must publish a notice in the *Gazette*, in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory and in accordance with the regulations (if any):
  - (a) stating that the Director proposes to prepare a draft of a management plan for the Commonwealth reserve; and
  - (b) inviting comments on the proposal from:
    - (i) members of the public; and
    - (ii) the Chair or Chairperson of any land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve; and
    - (iii) if the reserve is in a State or self-governing Territory—the agency (if any) of the State or Territory that is responsible for managing national parks established in the State or Territory under a law of the State or Territory; and
    - (iv) if the Minister has established under Division 4 of Part 19 an advisory committee with functions relating to the reserve—the committee; and
    - (v) if the Director holds any land or seabed in the reserve under lease—anyone the Director is obliged under the lease to consult about management of the land or seabed; and
  - (c) specifying the address to which comments may be sent; and
  - (d) specifying a day (at least 30 days after the last day on which the notice is published in the *Gazette* or in accordance with the regulations (if any)) by which comments must be sent.

*Considerations in preparing a management plan*

- (3) In preparing a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve, the Director and the Board (if any) for the reserve must take account of:
- (a) any report considered by the Minister under section 351 before a Proclamation declaring the reserve was made; and
  - (b) the regulation of the use of the reserve for the purpose for which it was declared; and
  - (c) the interests of:
    - (i) any owner of any land or seabed in the reserve; and
    - (ii) the traditional owners of any indigenous people's land in the reserve; and
    - (iii) any other indigenous persons interested in the reserve; and
    - (iv) any person who has a usage right relating to land, sea or seabed in the reserve that existed (or is derived from a usage right that existed) immediately before the reserve was declared; and
  - (d) the protection of the special features of the reserve, including objects and sites of biological, historical, palaeontological, archaeological, geological and geographical interest; and
  - (e) the protection, conservation and management of biodiversity and heritage within the reserve; and
  - (f) the protection of the reserve against damage; and
  - (g) Australia's obligations under agreements between Australia and one or more other countries relevant to the protection and conservation of biodiversity and heritage.

*Who are the **traditional owners** of indigenous people's land?*

- (4) The **traditional owners** of indigenous people's land are:
- (a) a local descent group of indigenous persons who:
    - (i) have common spiritual affiliations to a site on the land under a primary spiritual responsibility for that site and for the land; and
    - (ii) are entitled by indigenous tradition to forage as of right over the land; or

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- (b) if the land is in the Jervis Bay Territory—the members of the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council.

*Notice inviting comment on draft*

- (5) The Director must publish a notice in the *Gazette*, in a daily newspaper circulating in each State and self-governing Territory and in accordance with the regulations (if any):
  - (a) stating that the Director has prepared a draft of a management plan for the Commonwealth reserve; and
  - (b) stating how the draft can be obtained; and
  - (c) inviting comments on the draft from:
    - (i) members of the public; and
    - (ii) the Chair or Chairperson of any land council for any indigenous people's land in the reserve; and
    - (iii) if the reserve is in a State or self-governing Territory—the agency (if any) of the State or Territory that is responsible for managing national parks established in the State or Territory under a law of the State or Territory; and
    - (iv) if the Minister has established under Division 4 of Part 19 an advisory committee with functions relating to the reserve—the committee; and
    - (v) if the Director holds any land or seabed in the reserve under lease—anyone the Director is obliged under the lease to consult about management of the land or seabed; and
  - (d) specifying the address to which comments may be sent; and
  - (e) specifying a day (at least 30 days after the last day on which the notice is published in the *Gazette* or in accordance with the regulations (if any)) by which comments must be sent.

**369 Resolving disagreements between Director and Board in planning process**

- (1) The Director and the Board for a Commonwealth reserve must inform the Minister if they cannot agree on:

- (a) the content of a management plan they are preparing for the reserve; or
  - (b) any changes to be made following comment made in response to an invitation to comment on a draft management plan for the reserve; or
  - (c) whether the Director should give a management plan for the reserve to the Minister for approval (either initially or after the Minister has given the plan back to the Director with suggestions under paragraph 370(3)(b)).
- (2) If the Minister is advised by the Director and a Board of a disagreement, the Minister must take the steps the Minister thinks fit to resolve the disagreement.
- (3) If the Minister cannot resolve the disagreement, the Minister must appoint as an arbitrator to inquire into the matter a person whom the Minister thinks is suitably qualified and in a position to deal with the matter impartially.
- (4) The appointed arbitrator must inquire into the matter and give the Minister a report and recommendations.
- (5) After the Minister receives the report and recommendations, he or she must give the Director and the Board:
  - (a) the directions the Minister thinks appropriate; and
  - (b) a statement of reasons for giving the directions; and
  - (c) a copy of the report and recommendations.
- (6) The Director and the Board must comply with any directions given by the Minister.

### **370 Approval of management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

#### *Giving management plan to Minister for approval*

- (1) The Director must give the Minister a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve for approval, but only if the Board (if any) for the reserve agrees. The Director must do so as soon as practicable after considering under paragraph 368(1)(e) the comments (if any) on a draft of the management plan.

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*Things to be given to Minister with management plan*

- (2) When the Director gives the plan to the Minister, the Director must also give the Minister:
- (a) any comments received in response to the invitation to comment on a draft of the plan; and
  - (b) the views of the Director and any Board for the reserve on the comments.

*Minister's decision*

- (3) Within 60 days of the Director giving the plan, the Minister:
- (a) must consider the plan and any comments and views given to the Minister under subsection (2); and
  - (b) must either:
    - (i) approve the plan; or
    - (ii) give the plan back to the Director with suggestions for consideration by the Director and any Board for the reserve.

Note: There are some extra rules about giving back to the Director a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve in the Kakadu region, the Uluru region or Jervis Bay Territory. See section 390.

*Procedure if Minister gives plan back*

- (4) If the Minister gives the plan back to the Director with suggestions:
- (a) the Director and any Board for the Commonwealth reserve to which the plan relates must consider the suggestions; and
  - (b) the Director must give the Minister an identical or altered version of the plan, but only if any Board for the reserve agrees; and
  - (c) the Director must give the Minister, with the plan, the Director's views on the Minister's suggestions.

*Minister's decision on re-submitted plan*

- (5) As soon as practicable after the Director has given the Minister a version of the plan under subsection (4), the Minister:

- (a) must consider it and the views given to the Minister under subsection (4); and
- (b) must approve the plan with any modifications the Minister considers appropriate.

*Considerations for Minister assigning reserve to IUCN category*

- (6) When approving a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve to assign the reserve, or a zone of a reserve, to a particular IUCN category, the Minister must be satisfied of the matters specified in section 347 that he or she would have to be satisfied of before the Governor-General could make a Proclamation to assign the reserve or zone to that IUCN category.

### **371 Approved management plans are disallowable instruments**

- (1) A management plan approved for a Commonwealth reserve by the Minister is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Note: Section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* provides for the commencement, tabling and disallowance of disallowable instruments.

- (2) To avoid doubt, the provisions mentioned in section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* apply as if the approval of the management plan were the making of the plan.
- (3) When the management plan is laid before each House of the Parliament, there must also be laid before the House copies of any comments, views, report or recommendations given to the Minister under this Division in relation to the plan that have not been given effect to in the plan.

### **372 Amendment and revocation of management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve may amend or revoke and replace an earlier management plan for the reserve.

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**373 Expiry of management plans for Commonwealth reserves**

A management plan for a Commonwealth reserve ceases to have effect 7 years after it took effect (unless it has already been revoked).

**Subdivision F—Boards for Commonwealth reserves on indigenous people’s land**

**374 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

The Minister must establish a Board for a Commonwealth reserve that is wholly or partly on indigenous people’s land, if the land council for that land (or traditional owners) and the Minister agree that there should be a Board for the reserve.

The Board’s role is to make decisions and plans for management of the reserve, in conjunction with the Director.

A majority of Board members must be indigenous people nominated by traditional owners if the reserve is wholly or mostly on indigenous people’s land.

**375 Application**

This Subdivision provides for Boards for Commonwealth reserves that consist of, or include, indigenous people’s land held under lease by the Director.

**376 Functions of a Board for a Commonwealth reserve**

- (1) The functions of a Board established for a Commonwealth reserve are:
  - (a) to make decisions relating to the management of the reserve that are consistent with the management plan in operation for the reserve; and



- (b) in conjunction with the Director, to:
  - (i) prepare management plans for the reserve; and
  - (ii) monitor the management of the reserve; and
  - (iii) advise the Minister on all aspects of the future development of the reserve.
- (2) When performing its functions, a Board must comply with a direction given by the Minister to the Board under:
  - (a) section 364 (Resolving disagreement between Director and Board over implementation of plan); or
  - (b) section 369 (Resolving disagreements between Director and Board in planning process).

### **377 Minister must establish Board if land council or traditional owners agree**

- (1) The Minister must establish a Board for a specified Commonwealth reserve by notice published in the *Gazette* and in the way (if any) prescribed by the regulations if he or she agrees on the matters set out in subsection (2) with:
  - (a) the land council for the indigenous people's land in the reserve that the Director holds under lease; or
  - (b) if there is not such a land council—the traditional owners of the indigenous people's land in the reserve that the Director holds under lease.
- (2) The matters to be agreed on are:
  - (a) that a Board should be established for the reserve; and
  - (b) the name of the Board; and
  - (c) the number of positions of member of the Board; and
  - (d) the qualifications for appointment to each position of member of the Board.
- (3) The notice must specify each of the matters described in paragraphs (2)(b), (c) and (d).

Note: The notice may specify different qualifications for different positions. See subsection 33(3A) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

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- (4) If the reserve consists wholly or mostly of indigenous people's land held by the Director under lease, a majority of the members of the Board must be indigenous persons nominated by the traditional owners of the indigenous people's land.
- (5) If the reserve is in a State or self-governing Territory, at least one member of the Board must be a person nominated by the State or Territory.

Note: By agreement between the Minister and the land council or traditional owners, more than one member of a Board may be a person nominated by the State or Territory.

**378 Altering the constitution of a Board or abolishing a Board**

*Revoking and amending notice establishing Board*

- (1) The Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*:
  - (a) revoke a notice under section 377 relating to the Board for the reserve; or
  - (b) amend a notice under section 377 relating to the Board for the reserve so as to:
    - (i) change the specification of the name by which the Board is to be known; or
    - (ii) increase the number of members of the Board and specify the qualifications for appointment to each of the extra positions of member; or
    - (iii) decrease the number of positions of member of the Board and specify which positions are abolished; or
    - (iv) change the qualifications for appointment to a position of member of the Board.

Note: The Minister may exercise the power of amendment from time to time. See subsection 33(1) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

*Limits on changing composition of Board*

- (2) Paragraph (1)(b) has effect subject to subsections 377(4) and (5).

Note 1: Subsection 377(4) requires a majority of the members of the Board of a Commonwealth reserve consisting wholly or mostly of indigenous people's land held by the Director under lease to be indigenous persons nominated by the traditional owners of the land.

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Note 2: Subsection 377(5) requires at least one member of a Board for a reserve in a State or self-governing Territory to be a nominee of the State or Territory.

*Prerequisite to revoking or amending notice*

- (3) The Minister may revoke or amend a notice under section 377 relating to a Commonwealth reserve only if the Minister agrees on the revocation or amendment with:
- (a) the land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve, if the Board for the reserve was established with the agreement of the land council; or
  - (b) the traditional owners of indigenous people's land in the reserve, if the Board for the reserve was established with the agreement of the traditional owners.

*Board's identity not affected by name change*

- (4) If the Minister amends a notice published under section 377 so as to alter a Board's name or constitution, section 25B of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* applies in relation to the alteration as if it had been made by an Act.

Note: This ensures that the Board's identity and functions are not affected by the alteration, and that certain references to the Board under its old name are treated as references to the Board under its new name.

**379 Appointment of Board members***Appointment of qualified persons*

- (1) The Minister may appoint a person in writing on a part-time basis to a position of member of a Board if the person is qualified for appointment to the position.

Note: Subsection (1) is subject to section 390A, which deals with the appointment of a Northern Territory nominee as a member of the Board for a Commonwealth reserve consisting wholly or mostly of indigenous people's land held by the Director under lease in the Territory.

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*Replacement appointments*

- (2) As soon as practicable after a position of member of a Board becomes vacant, the Minister must appoint a person to the position under subsection (1).

*Validity of appointments*

- (3) A deficiency or irregularity relating to the nomination, selection or appointment of a member of a Board does not invalidate the member's appointment.

**380 Terms and conditions**

*Term of office*

- (1) A member of a Board holds office for the period specified in the instrument of appointment. The period must not exceed 5 years.

Note: Section 382 sets out the circumstances in which a member's appointment may be (or must be) terminated.

*Avoiding doubt—future terms of office*

- (1A) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) does not prevent a person from being appointed as a member of a Board again. This subsection does not affect the operation of subsection 33(4A) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* in relation to this Act.

*Resignation*

- (2) A member of a Board may resign his or her appointment by giving the Minister a written resignation.

*Other terms and conditions*

- (3) A member of a Board holds office on the terms and conditions (if any) that are determined by the Minister in relation to matters not covered by this Act or the regulations.

**381 Remuneration**

- (1) A member of a Board is to be paid the remuneration that is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. If no determination of that remuneration by the Tribunal is in operation, the member is to be paid the remuneration that is prescribed.
- (2) A member of a Board is to be paid the allowances that are prescribed.
- (3) This section has effect subject to the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*.

**382 Termination of appointments of Board members***Termination when person stops being qualified for appointment*

- (1) The appointment of a person to a position of member of a Board is terminated when the person ceases to be qualified for appointment to the position.

*Termination for misbehaviour or incapacity*

- (2) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Board for misbehaviour or physical or mental incapacity.

*Termination for failure to attend Board meetings*

- (3) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Board if the member is absent, except on leave of absence, from 3 consecutive meetings of the Board of which the member has had notice.

*Termination for engaging in conflicting work*

- (4) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Board if the member engages in paid employment that, in the Minister's opinion, conflicts or could conflict with the proper performance of the duties of the member.

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*Termination for conduct inimical to Board*

- (4A) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Board for a reserve if the Minister is satisfied that the person has acted in a way that is not in the interest of the Board as a whole. However, the Minister may not terminate under this subsection the appointment of a member nominated by traditional owners of indigenous people's land in the reserve.

*Termination for failure to disclose interests*

- (5) The Minister must terminate the appointment of a member of a Board if:
- (a) the member does not comply with any requirements prescribed by the regulations to disclose an interest the member has in a matter being considered or about to be considered by the Board; and
  - (b) the member does not have a reasonable excuse for not complying.

*Termination on request by nominator*

- (6) The Minister must terminate the appointment of a member of a Board if:
- (a) the member was appointed on the nomination of a particular person, body or group of persons; and
  - (b) the person, body or group gives the Minister a written request to terminate the appointment.

*Termination for bankruptcy or insolvency*

- (7) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of the Board if the member:
- (a) becomes bankrupt; or
  - (b) applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors; or
  - (c) compounds with his or her creditors; or
  - (d) makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for the benefit of his or her creditors.

**383 Procedure of a Board**

- (1) The regulations may provide for:
  - (a) matters relating to the operation of a Board, including:
    - (i) procedures for convening meetings of the Board; and
    - (ii) procedures for determining who is to preside at a meeting of the Board; and
    - (iii) determining who may attend a meeting of the Board; and
    - (iv) the constitution of a quorum for a meeting of the Board; and
    - (v) procedures relating to a member's interest in matters being dealt with by the Board; and
    - (vi) the way in which matters are to be resolved by the Board; and
  - (b) the appointment and rights of a deputy of a member of a Board.
- (2) The regulations may allow a Board to determine a matter relating to the operation of the Board for which the regulations may provide.
- (3) If there are no regulations in force, a Board may operate in the way it determines.
- (4) A meeting of a Board for a Commonwealth reserve consisting wholly of indigenous people's land:
  - (a) must not start; and
  - (b) must not continue;unless the majority of the members of the Board present are persons nominated by the traditional owners of the indigenous people's land for appointment as members.
- (5) Subsection (4) has effect despite subsections (1), (2) and (3).

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**Subdivision G—Special rules for some Commonwealth reserves  
in the Northern Territory or Jervis Bay Territory**

**384 Simplified outline of this Subdivision**

The following is a simplified outline of this Subdivision:

Special rules apply to Commonwealth reserves in the Kakadu region, Uluru region and Jervis Bay Territory, affecting the activities that can be carried on in those reserves.

Special procedures apply to planning for management of reserves in the Kakadu region, Uluru region and Jervis Bay Territory. These provide for extra involvement of indigenous people in the planning process.

**385 Activities in Commonwealth reserve without management plan**

When a management plan is not in operation for a particular Commonwealth reserve wholly or partly in the Kakadu region, Uluru region or Jervis Bay Territory, the Director may perform the Director's functions and exercise the Director's powers in and in relation to a part of the reserve in the region, subject to any directions of the Minister.

**386 What are the *Kakadu region* and the *Uluru region*?**

- (1) The ***Kakadu region*** is the part of the Alligator Rivers Region (as defined in the *Environment Protection (Alligator Rivers Region) Act 1978*) that excludes:
  - (a) the area shown as the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Reserve on the map mentioned in that definition; and
  - (b) the areas that are pastoral leases and are described on that map as Mount Bunday and Eva Valley.
- (2) The ***Uluru region*** is the area of land described under the heading "Uluru" in Schedule 1 to the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.



**387 No mining operations in Kakadu National Park**

- (1) A person must not carry out mining operations in Kakadu National Park.
- (2) Subsection (1) and subsection 355(1) do not prevent:
  - (a) the use, development or reconstruction of the township known as Jabiru; or
  - (b) the transportation of anything in Kakadu National Park along routes (including air routes) prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph; or
  - (c) the construction and use of pipelines and power lines in Kakadu National Park along routes prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph; or
  - (d) the doing of anything for the purposes of building or construction, or the supply of water, in Kakadu National Park as long as the purposes are not connected with, or incidental to, mining operations; and
  - (e) prescribed activities carried on in Kakadu National Park in connection with, or incidental to, mining operations carried on outside Kakadu National Park.
- (3) ***Kakadu National Park*** is the Commonwealth reserve (as it exists from time to time) to which the name Kakadu National Park was given by Proclamation continued in force by the *Environmental Reform (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999*.

**388 Establishment and development of townships in the Kakadu region and Uluru region**

- (1) A person may develop a township in a part of a Commonwealth reserve, but only if:
  - (a) the part is in the Kakadu region or the Uluru region; and
  - (b) the person does so in accordance with:
    - (i) subsection (2) or (3); and
    - (ii) the management plan for the reserve; and
    - (iii) a town plan prepared and approved in accordance with the regulations.

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- (2) A person (other than the Director) may develop a township only:
  - (a) on land that the person holds under lease or sub-lease from the Director; or
  - (b) on land that was developed before 9 June 1978, if the township was established before it was included in the reserve.
- (3) The Director may develop a township only if the township did not exist before its site became part of the Commonwealth reserve.
- (4) A person may only construct, alter or demolish a building or structure in a township in accordance with the management plan for the Commonwealth reserve and the town plan.

### **389 Planning for townships**

#### *Management plan provisions*

- (1) The provisions of a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve that relate to a township must include provisions for and in relation to:
  - (a) the site of the township and the general purposes of the township, if the township was not established before its site was included in the reserve; and
  - (b) the terms and conditions of any lease or sub-lease from the Director of land on which the township is to be established or developed; and
  - (c) the purposes of any zones into which the township is to be divided.

#### *Town plan provisions*

- (2) A town plan must make detailed provision relating to the proposed construction or development of the township, including, in particular, the provision (if any) to be made for:
  - (a) housing, shops, offices and other buildings and structures; and
  - (b) bridges, railways, roads, streets, footpaths and parking areas; and

- (c) the supply of water, electricity and gas; and
- (d) the standards to be maintained in the construction and alteration of buildings and structures; and
- (e) sewerage and drainage; and
- (f) public amenities for recreation and other purposes; and
- (g) any other matters that are specified for the purposes of this paragraph by:
  - (i) the management plan for the Commonwealth reserve containing the township; or
  - (ii) the regulations; or
  - (iii) any lease or sub-lease from the Director of land on which the township is to be established or developed.

*Town plans may adopt, apply or incorporate other instruments*

- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), a town plan may apply, adopt or incorporate, with or without modification:
  - (a) the provisions of any law of the Northern Territory (or a part of the Territory) that would not otherwise apply in relation to the township, as in force at a specified time or as in force from time to time; or
  - (b) any matter contained in any instrument or writing as in force or existing at a specified time.

*Town plans must not be inconsistent with other instruments*

- (4) A town plan must never be inconsistent with:
  - (a) the management plan for the Commonwealth reserve that includes the township; or
  - (b) any lease or sub-lease from the Director of land on which the township is to be established or developed.

*Revocation and variation of town plans*

- (5) A town plan may be revoked or amended in the manner provided by the regulations.

Note: Town plans are to be prepared and approved in accordance with the regulations. See subparagraph 388(1)(b)(iii).

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**390 Special rules to protect Aboriginal interests in planning process**

- (1) This section sets out some extra rules about the process of preparing management plans for a Commonwealth reserve wholly or partly within the Kakadu region, the Uluru region or Jervis Bay Territory.
- (2) The Minister must give a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve back to the Director with suggestions under paragraph 370(3)(b) if the Minister is satisfied that there is a substantial difference of opinion between:
  - (a) the Chair or Chairperson of a land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve, on the one hand; and
  - (b) the Director, or the Director and the Board for the reserve (if it is a jointly managed reserve), on the other hand.
- (3) If the Minister gives the plan back to the Director with suggestions under paragraph 370(3)(b) (whether because of subsection (2) or not), the Minister must:
  - (a) give a copy of the suggestions to:
    - (i) the Chair or Chairperson of each land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve; and
    - (ii) the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory, if the plan is for a Commonwealth reserve wholly or partly in the Territory; and
  - (b) invite each person to whom the Minister gave a copy of the suggestions to give the Director comments on the suggestions within 14 days.
- (4) When considering the Minister's suggestions as required by paragraph 370(4)(a), the Director and any Board for the reserve must also consider any comments made in response to the Minister's invitation.
- (5) When the Director gives the Minister an identical or altered version of the plan under paragraph 370(4)(b), the Director must also:
  - (a) give the Minister a copy of the comments (if any) made in response to the Minister's invitation, and the Director's views on those comments; and

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- (b) give the Chair or Chairperson of each land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve a copy of the version of the plan given to the Minister and of the comments and views (if any) being given to the Minister under paragraph (a).
- (6) The Chair or Chairperson of a land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve may make comments to the Minister relating to the version of the plan within 14 days of receiving the copy of it.
- (7) If the Minister receives comments from the Chair or Chairperson of a land council for indigenous people's land in the reserve and the Minister is satisfied that there is a substantial difference of opinion between the Chair or Chairperson and the Director over the plan:
  - (a) the Minister may appoint a person the Minister considers to be suitably qualified and in a position to deal with the matter impartially to inquire into the matter; and
  - (b) the person appointed must inquire into the matter and give the Minister a report and recommendations.
- (8) The Minister:
  - (a) must also consider:
    - (i) the comments (if any) made to the Minister by the Chair or Chairperson under subsection (6); and
    - (ii) the report and recommendations (if any) given to the Minister under subsection (7);when considering under subsection 370(5) the version of the plan given to the Minister under paragraph 370(4)(b); and
  - (b) must not approve the plan before the end of the period described in subsection (6).

**390A Appointment of Northern Territory nominee to Board**

- (1) This section makes special provision for the appointment of a person nominated by the Northern Territory as a member of the Board for a Commonwealth reserve consisting wholly or mostly of indigenous people's land held by the Director under lease in the Territory.

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- (2) Despite subsection 379(1), the Minister must not appoint the person unless:
  - (a) the members of the Board nominated by the traditional owners of the land consent to the appointment; or
  - (b) the appointment has been recommended under subsection (5).
- (3) The Northern Territory may inform the Minister if it believes that the members of the Board nominated by the traditional owners of the land are unreasonably withholding consent to the appointment.
- (4) If the Northern Territory informs the Minister, he or she must refer the matter to the person (the *Ombudsman*) holding the office of Commonwealth Ombudsman under the *Ombudsman Act 1976*.
- (5) If the Ombudsman is satisfied that the members of the Board nominated by the traditional owners of the land are unreasonably withholding consent to the appointment, the Ombudsman must recommend to the Minister that the Minister make the appointment.

## **Division 5—Conservation zones**

### **390B Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Governor-General can proclaim a Commonwealth area to be a conservation zone, to protect biodiversity in the area while it is being assessed for inclusion in a Commonwealth reserve.

Regulations can be made to regulate a wide range of activities in a conservation zone.

People who have rights relating to an area that is later included in a conservation zone can continue to exercise those rights in the zone.

A conservation zone can be revoked if the Minister is satisfied the area concerned should not be included in a Commonwealth reserve. It is revoked automatically if it is included in a Commonwealth reserve.

### **390C Object of this Division**

The object of this Division is to provide for the protection of biodiversity, other natural features and heritage in Commonwealth areas while they are being assessed for inclusion in a Commonwealth reserve.

### **390D Proclamation of conservation zones**

- (1) The Governor-General may, by Proclamation, declare a Commonwealth area outside a Commonwealth reserve to be a conservation zone.
- (2) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation declaring a Commonwealth area to be a conservation zone, the Minister must be satisfied that the area should be assessed to determine whether

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the biodiversity, other natural features and heritage in the area should be protected by including the area in a Commonwealth reserve.

**390E Regulating activities generally**

- (1) The regulations may:
  - (a) regulate or prohibit the pollution of soil, air or water in a manner that is, or is likely to be, harmful to:
    - (i) people, biodiversity or heritage in conservation zones; or
    - (ii) the natural features of conservation zones; and
  - (b) regulate tourism in conservation zones; and
  - (c) provide for the protection and preservation of conservation zones and property and things in conservation zones; and
  - (d) provide for the protection and conservation of biodiversity in conservation zones; and
  - (e) regulate or prohibit access to all or part of a conservation zone by persons or classes of persons; and
  - (f) provide for the removal of trespassers from conservation zones; and
  - (g) regulate camping in conservation zones; and
  - (h) provide for the safety of persons in conservation zones; and
  - (i) regulate the use of fire in conservation zones; and
  - (j) regulate the conduct of persons in conservation zones; and
  - (k) regulate the carrying on of any trade or commerce in a conservation zone; and
  - (l) regulate the use of vehicles in conservation zones and provide for signs and road markings for those purposes; and
  - (m) provide for:
    - (i) the removal of vehicles, aircraft or vessels from places in conservation zones where they have been left in contravention of the regulations or have been abandoned; and
    - (ii) the impounding of such vehicles, aircraft or vessels; and



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- (n) provide that the person taken for the purposes of the regulations to be the owner of a motor vehicle involved in a contravention of a provision of the regulations relating to the parking or stopping of vehicles in a conservation zone is, except as provided otherwise, taken to commit an offence against the provision; and
  - (o) provide for a person to be taken to be the owner of a motor vehicle for the purposes of regulations made under paragraph (n) (including a person in whose name the motor vehicle is registered under the law of a State or Territory); and
  - (p) regulate the use of vessels in, and the passage of vessels through, conservation zones; and
  - (q) regulate the landing and use of aircraft in, and the flying of aircraft over, conservation zones; and
  - (r) regulate or prohibit the taking of animals or plants into or out of conservation zones; and
  - (s) provide for the impounding, removal, destruction or disposal of animals found straying in conservation zones; and
  - (t) regulate or prohibit the taking into conservation zones, and the use in conservation zones, of weapons, traps, nets, snares, fishing apparatus and other devices; and
  - (u) regulate or prohibit the laying of baits and the use of explosives and poisons in conservation zones; and
  - (v) provide for the collection of specimens and the pursuit of research in conservation zones for scientific purposes; and
  - (w) provide for the issue of licences, permits and authorities relating to activities in conservation zones, the conditions subject to which they are issued and the charging of fees by the Commonwealth in respect of such licences, permits and authorities; and
  - (x) provide for any matter incidental to or connected with a matter described in another paragraph.
- (2) Regulations relating to conservation zones may also:
- (a) regulate the carrying on of mining operations, fishing, pastoral or agricultural activities for commercial purposes; and

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- (b) regulate the construction or alteration of buildings and structures; and
  - (c) regulate the construction or establishment of bridges, railways, roads, tracks, port facilities and air-strips and the carrying out of any other works; and
  - (d) regulate the felling or taking of timber; and
  - (e) provide for and in relation to the powers to be exercised, and the functions and duties to be performed, in and in relation to conservation zones by wardens, by rangers and by other persons included in specified classes of persons; and
  - (f) provide for and in relation to the giving of securities for compliance with regulations made for the purposes of this section by persons doing, or proposing to do, anything to which those regulations relate.
- (3) Regulations made for the purposes of this section have no effect to the extent that they are inconsistent with the terms and conditions of a right (however described) to explore for minerals, or to mine for or recover minerals, granted under section 124 of the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989*.

**390F Charges for activities in conservation zones**

Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Director may determine and impose charges for using services or facilities provided by the Director in or in connection with a conservation zone.

**390G Other laws and regulations made for this Division**

*Regulations regulating aircraft subject to other Commonwealth laws*

- (1) A provision of the regulations regulating the flying of aircraft over a conservation zone does not have any effect so far as it is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth. For this purpose, a provision is not inconsistent with such a law if it can be complied with without contravention of the law.

*Territory laws subject to regulations*

- (2) A law of a Territory has effect so far as it is not inconsistent with a provision of the regulations made for the purposes of this Division and having effect in that Territory. For this purpose, such a law is not inconsistent with the provision so far as it can operate concurrently with the provision.

**390H Prior usage rights relating to conservation zones continue to have effect**

- (1) None of the following provisions affect a usage right that was held by a person (other than the Commonwealth) in relation to land or seabed immediately before the land or seabed was included in a conservation zone:
- (a) provisions of this Division that relate to the zone (whether or not they also relate to another conservation zone);
  - (b) provisions of the regulations made for the purposes of this Division that relate to the zone (whether or not they also relate to another conservation zone).
- (2) None of the provisions covered by subsection (1) affect the application of a law of a State or Territory in relation to the usage right.
- (3) The usage right may be renewed or have its term extended only:
- (a) with the Minister's written consent; and
  - (b) subject to any conditions determined by the Minister.
- This subsection has effect despite subsections (1) and (2) and any other law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory.
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) apply in relation to a usage right relating to minerals on, in or under land or seabed included in a conservation zone as if the usage right were a usage right relating to the land or seabed.
- (5) This section applies to a right arising out of a usage right in the same way as it applies to the usage right.

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**390J Revoking and altering conservation zones**

*Proclamations to revoke or amend declaring Proclamation*

- (1) The Governor-General may, by Proclamation, revoke or amend a Proclamation made under section 390D (declaring a Commonwealth area to be a conservation zone).

*Limit on making Proclamations*

- (2) Before the Governor-General makes a Proclamation under subsection (1) causing a Commonwealth area to cease to be within a conservation zone, the Minister must be satisfied that the area should not be included in a Commonwealth reserve.

*Declaration of Commonwealth reserve revokes conservation zone*

- (3) A Commonwealth area ceases to be a conservation zone by force of this subsection if the area becomes or is included in a Commonwealth reserve.

*Conservation zone ends if it ceases to be in Commonwealth area*

- (4) If land, waters, seabed or airspace in a conservation zone cease to be a Commonwealth area, the land, waters, seabed or airspace cease to be (or be in) a conservation zone by force of this subsection.

*Proclamation to reflect cessation of conservation zone*

- (5) If land, waters, seabed or airspace cease to be a conservation zone by force of subsection (3) or (4), the Governor-General must make a Proclamation revoking or amending the Proclamation that included the land, waters, seabed or airspace in a conservation zone, to reflect the fact that the land, waters, seabed or airspace are no longer part of the conservation zone.

## Chapter 6—Administration

### Part 16—Precautionary principle and other considerations in making decisions

#### 391 Minister must consider precautionary principle in making decisions

##### *Taking account of precautionary principle*

- (1) The Minister must take account of the precautionary principle in making a decision listed in the table in subsection (3), to the extent he or she can do so consistently with the other provisions of this Act.

##### *Precautionary principle*

- (2) The ***precautionary principle*** is that lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing a measure to prevent degradation of the environment where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage.

##### *Decisions in which precautionary principle must be considered*

- (3) The decisions are:

Decisions in which precautionary principle must be considered		
Item	Section decision is made under	Nature of decision
1	75	whether an action is a controlled action
2	133	whether or not to approve the taking of an action
3	201	whether or not to grant a permit
4	216	whether or not to grant a permit

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<b>Decisions in which precautionary principle must be considered</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Section decision is made under</b>	<b>Nature of decision</b>
5	237	whether or not to grant a permit
6	258	whether or not to grant a permit
7	269A	about making a recovery plan or adopting a plan as a recovery plan
7A	270A	whether or not to have a threat abatement plan for a key threatening process
7B	270B	about making a threat abatement plan or adopting a plan as a threat abatement plan
8	280	about approving a variation of a plan adopted as a recovery plan or threat abatement plan
9	285	about making a wildlife conservation plan or adopting a plan as a wildlife conservation plan
10	295	about approving a variation of a plan adopted as a wildlife conservation plan
10A	303CG	whether or not to grant a permit
10AA	303DC	whether or not to amend the list of exempt native specimens
10B	303DG	whether or not to grant a permit
10C	303EC	about including an item in the list referred to section 303EB
10D	303EN	whether or not to grant a permit
10E	303FN	about declaring an operation to be an approved wildlife trade operation
10F	303FO	about declaring a plan to be an approved wildlife trade management plan
10G	303FP	about declaring a plan to be an accredited wildlife trade management plan
10H	303GB	whether or not to grant an exceptional circumstances permit

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<b>Decisions in which precautionary principle must be considered</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Section decision is made under</b>	<b>Nature of decision</b>
11	316	about making a plan for managing a property that is included in the World Heritage List and is entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas
11A	324S	about making a plan for managing a National Heritage place
12	328	about making a plan for managing a wetland that is designated for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance kept under the Ramsar Convention and is entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas
13	338	about making a plan for managing a Biosphere reserve entirely within one or more Commonwealth areas
13A	341T	about endorsing a plan for managing a Commonwealth Heritage place
14	370	about approving a management plan for a Commonwealth reserve

**391A Minister must consider information in the Register of the National Estate in making decisions**

Subject to this Act, the Minister must have regard to information in the Register of the National Estate kept under the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003* in making any decision under this Act to which the information is relevant.

## **Part 17—Enforcement**

### **Division 1—Wardens, rangers and inspectors**

#### **Subdivision A—Wardens and rangers**

##### **392 Appointment of wardens and rangers**

The Minister may, in writing, appoint:

- (a) an officer or employee of the Department; or
- (b) a person covered by an arrangement made under section 393;  
to be a warden or ranger.

##### **393 Arrangements for certain officers or employees to exercise powers etc. of wardens or rangers**

- (1) The Secretary may make arrangements with an Agency Head (within the meaning of the *Public Service Act 1999*), or with an authority of the Commonwealth, for the performance or exercise of all or any of the functions or powers of wardens and rangers under this Act or the regulations by officers or employees in that Agency or authority, as the case may be.
- (1A) However, an arrangement under subsection (1) must not provide for the performance or exercise of functions or powers under this Act or the regulations in relation to a Commonwealth reserve or conservation zone.
- (2) The Minister may enter into an arrangement with the appropriate Minister of a State or of the Australian Capital Territory or of the Northern Territory for:
  - (a) officers or employees in the Public Service of the State or Territory, or in an authority of the State or Territory (including a local government body); or
  - (b) members of the police force of the State or Territory;



to perform or exercise all or any of the functions or powers of wardens or rangers under this Act or the regulations.

- (3) The Minister may enter into an arrangement with the appropriate person holding an office under section 13 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* for persons appointed or employed under an enactment referred to in section 61 of that Act to perform or exercise all or any of the functions or powers of wardens or rangers under this Act or the regulations.
- (4) The Director may make arrangements with an Agency Head (within the meaning of the *Public Service Act 1999*), or with an authority of the Commonwealth, for the performance or exercise of all or any of the functions or powers of wardens and rangers under this Act or the regulations by officers or employees in that Agency or authority, as the case may be.

### **394 Wardens *ex officio***

By force of this section each member or special member of the Australian Federal Police is a warden.

### **395 Identity cards**

- (1) The Minister must issue to each warden (except a member of a police force) and to each ranger, an identity card, in a form approved by the Minister, containing a photograph of the person to whom it is issued.
- (2) If a person stops being a warden or ranger, the person must immediately return his or her identity card to the Minister.
- (3) A person who contravenes subsection (2) is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding one penalty unit.

## **Subdivision B—Inspectors**

### **396 Appointment of inspectors**

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, appoint a person to be an inspector.

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- (2) The Minister may make a written determination that a specified person, or a person included in a specified class of persons, does not have such of the powers conferred on an inspector by this Act as are specified in the determination. The determination has effect accordingly.
- (3) If the Minister makes a determination under subsection (2) about a named individual, the Minister must give the individual a copy of the determination.

**397 Inspectors *ex officio***

- (1) By force of this section each of the following is an inspector:
  - (a) each member or special member of the Australian Federal Police;
  - (b) each person appointed as an inspector under section 43 of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (other than such a person whose appointment relates only to the powers of an inspector under Part VIIA of that Act).
- (2) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply for the purposes of the application of this Act to an offence against, or a matter relating to, Part 13A.
- (3) By force of this section, for the purposes of the application of this Act to an offence against, or a matter relating to, Part 13A, each of the following is an inspector:
  - (a) each officer of Customs;
  - (b) each member of the police force of an external Territory;
  - (c) each quarantine officer (animals) (within the meaning of the *Quarantine Act 1908*);
  - (d) each quarantine officer (plants) (within the meaning of the *Quarantine Act 1908*).

Note: Part 13A deals with international movement of wildlife specimens.

**398 Arrangements for State and Territory officers to be inspectors**

- (1) The Minister may enter into an arrangement with the appropriate Minister of a State or of the Australian Capital Territory or of the Northern Territory for:

- (a) officers or employees of the Public Service of the State or Territory, or of an authority of the State or Territory (including a local government body); or
  - (b) members of the police force of the State or Territory; to be inspectors, and that arrangement has effect accordingly.
- (2) The Minister may enter into an arrangement with the appropriate person holding an office under section 13 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* for persons appointed or employed under an enactment referred to in section 61 of that Act to be inspectors, and that arrangement has effect accordingly.
  - (3) The Minister may make a written determination that a specified person, or a person included in a specified class of persons, who is an inspector because of this section does not have such of the powers conferred on an inspector by this Act as are specified in the determination. The determination has effect accordingly.
  - (4) If the Minister makes a determination under subsection (3) about a named individual, the Minister must give the individual a copy of the determination.

### **399 Identity cards**

- (1) The Minister must issue to an inspector, (except a member of a police force or an officer of Customs), an identity card in a form approved by the Minister, containing a photograph of the person to whom it is issued.
- (2) If a person stops being an inspector, the person must immediately return his or her identity card to the Minister.
- (3) A person who contravenes subsection (2) is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding one penalty unit.

## **Subdivision C—Miscellaneous**

### **400 Regulations may give wardens, rangers and inspectors extra powers, functions and duties**

The regulations may provide for functions and powers to be conferred, and duties to be imposed, on wardens, rangers and inspectors.

### **401 Impersonating authorised officers and rangers**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the person:
    - (i) impersonates an authorised officer or a ranger on an occasion; and
    - (ii) does so knowing it to be an occasion when the officer or ranger would be on duty and doing an act or attending a place; or
  - (b) the person:
    - (i) falsely represents himself or herself to be an authorised officer or a ranger; and
    - (ii) does an act or attends a place in the assumed character of that officer or ranger; or
  - (c) the person:
    - (i) impersonates an authorised officer or a ranger or falsely represents himself or herself to be an authorised officer or a ranger; and
    - (ii) does so with the intention of obtaining a gain, causing a loss or influencing the exercise of a public duty.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an authorised officer or a ranger.
- (3) An authorised officer or a ranger is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the officer or ranger:
    - (i) impersonates another authorised officer or ranger on an occasion; and

- (ii) does so knowing it to be an occasion when the other officer or ranger would be on duty and doing an act or attending a place; or
- (b) the officer or ranger:
  - (i) falsely represents himself or herself to be another authorised officer or a ranger; and
  - (ii) does an act or attends a place in the assumed character of the other officer or ranger; or
- (c) the officer or ranger:
  - (i) impersonates another authorised officer or a ranger or falsely represents himself or herself to be another authorised officer or a ranger; and
  - (ii) does so with the intention of obtaining a gain, causing a loss or influencing the exercise of a public duty.
- (4) An offence against this section is punishable, on conviction, by imprisonment for not more than 2 years or a fine not exceeding 120 penalty units, or both.

#### **402 Offences against authorised officers and rangers**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
  - (a) uses or threatens violence against another person; and
  - (b) does so knowing that the other person is an authorised officer or a ranger; and
  - (c) does so because of that other person's status as an authorised officer or ranger.
- (2) An offence against subsection (1) is punishable, on conviction, by imprisonment for not more than 7 years or a fine not exceeding 420 penalty units, or both.
- (3) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
  - (a) obstructs, intimidates, resists or hinders another person who is an authorised officer or a ranger exercising or performing his or her powers, duties or functions; and
  - (b) does so knowing that the other person is an authorised officer or ranger.

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- (4) An offence against subsection (3) is punishable, on conviction, by imprisonment for not more than 2 years or a fine not exceeding 120 penalty units, or both.
- (5) It is immaterial whether the defendant was aware that the authorised officer or ranger was engaged in the exercise or performance, or attempted exercise or performance of a power, duty or function of such officer or ranger.
- (6) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (3), if at the time of the conduct constituting the offence, the authorised officer or ranger was abusing his or her power.
- (7) This section does not limit the power of a court to punish a contempt of that court.
- (8) Subsections (1) and (3) are not intended to exclude or limit the concurrent operation of any law of the Australian Capital Territory in a case where the other person referred to in that subsection is a member or special member of the Australian Federal Police.

## **Division 2—Boarding of vessels etc. and access to premises by consent**

### **403 Boarding of vessels etc. by authorised officers**

- (1) This section applies to:
  - (a) any Australian vessel, Australian aircraft or Australian platform;
  - (b) any vehicle, vessel or aircraft that is in Australia or an external Territory;
  - (c) any vessel, or any aircraft capable of landing on water, that is in the territorial sea of Australia or an external Territory; and
  - (d) any aircraft that is over or in Australia or an external Territory.
- (2) If an authorised officer suspects on reasonable grounds that there is in, or on, a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform any evidential material, the authorised officer may, with such assistance as he or she thinks necessary:
  - (a) board the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform at any reasonable time for the purpose of exercising, and may exercise, the powers of an authorised officer under section 406; and
  - (b) in the case of a vehicle, vessel or aircraft—stop and detain the vehicle, vessel or aircraft for that purpose.
- (3) If an authorised officer or the person in command of a Commonwealth ship or of a Commonwealth aircraft suspects on reasonable grounds that a vessel which is in the territorial sea of Australia or an external Territory has been used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations, he or she may:
  - (a) bring the vessel to the nearest port in Australia or an external Territory to which it is safe and practicable to bring the vessel; or
  - (b) by means of an international signal code or other internationally recognised means of communication with a

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vessel, require the person in charge of the vessel to bring the vessel to that port.

- (4) If an authorised officer or the person in command of a Commonwealth ship or of a Commonwealth aircraft suspects on reasonable grounds that:
- (a) an aircraft has been used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations; and
  - (b) the aircraft is over or in Australia or an external Territory;
- he or she may, by means of an international signal code or other internationally recognised means of communication with an aircraft, require the person in charge of the aircraft to bring the aircraft to the nearest airport in Australia or an external Territory to which it is safe and practicable to bring the aircraft.
- (5) An authorised officer may, for the purposes of this Act, require the person in charge of a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform to give information concerning the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform and its crew and any other person on board the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform.
- (6) In this Act:

***Australian platform*** means a platform that:

- (a) is fixed to the continental shelf of Australia or of an external Territory, or to the sea-bed between Australian waters; or
- (b) is otherwise operating in that part of the sea above the continental shelf of Australia or of an external Territory, or in the territorial sea of Australia or an external Territory.

***Commonwealth aircraft*** means an aircraft in the service of the Commonwealth on which the prescribed ensign or prescribed insignia of the aircraft is displayed.

***Commonwealth ship*** means a ship in the service of the Commonwealth on which the prescribed ensign of the ship is flying.



#### **404 Authorised officers to produce identification**

- (1) If an authorised officer (other than a member of a police force, or an officer of Customs, who is in uniform) boards a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform to which section 403 applies, the authorised officer must:
  - (a) in the case of a member of a police force—produce, for inspection by the person in charge of that vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; or
  - (aa) in the case of an officer of Customs—produce, for inspection by the person in charge of that vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; or
  - (b) in any other case—produce his or her identity card for inspection by that person.
- (2) An authorised officer who does not comply with subsection (1) is not authorised to remain, or to require any person assisting the authorised officer to remain, on board the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform, or to detain the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.
- (3) If an authorised officer (other than a member of a police force, or an officer of Customs, who is in uniform) makes a requirement of a person under section 403 the authorised officer, unless it is impracticable to do so, must:
  - (a) in the case of a member of a police force—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; or
  - (aa) in the case of an officer of Customs—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; or
  - (b) in any other case—produce his or her identity card for inspection by that person;and, if the authorised officer fails to do so, that person is not obliged to comply with the requirement.

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- (4) A person must comply with a requirement made of the person under section 403.

Penalty: 50 penalty units.

**405 Access to premises**

- (1) An authorised officer may, with the consent of the occupier of any premises, enter the premises for the purpose of exercising the powers of an authorised officer under section 406 (except subsection 406(4)).
- (2) If an authorised officer enters any premises under subsection (1), he or she may exercise the powers of an authorised officer under section 406 (except subsection 406(4)).
- (3) An authorised officer who enters premises under subsection (1) must, if the occupier of the premises revokes his or her consent, leave the premises forthwith, and is not entitled to exercise, or continue to exercise, the powers of an authorised officer under section 406 in relation to the premises.

**406 Powers of authorised officers**

- (1) An authorised officer who boards a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform under section 403, or enters premises under section 405 may:
- (a) inspect and search the vehicle, vessel, aircraft, platform or premises, as the case may be; and
  - (aa) take photographs (including a video recording), and make sketches, of the premises or of any substance or thing on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft, platform or premises; and
  - (b) inspect, take extracts from, and make copies of, any document that is, or that the authorised officer suspects on reasonable grounds is, evidential material; and
  - (c) inspect, and take samples of, any other evidential material; and
  - (ca) take measurements of, and conduct tests on, the vehicle, vessel, aircraft, platform or premises or any substance or

- thing on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft, platform or premises;  
and
- (d) exercise powers of seizure conferred on the authorised officer by this Act; and
  - (e) take onto the vehicle, vessel, aircraft, platform or premises any equipment or material reasonably necessary for the purpose of exercising a power referred to in paragraph (a), (aa), (b), (c), (ca) or (d).
- (2) Each of the following things, including any such thing in electronic form, is ***evidential material***:
- (a) a thing with respect to which an offence against this Act or the regulations has been committed or is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to have been committed;
  - (b) a thing as to which there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that it will afford evidence as to the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations;
  - (c) a thing as to which there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that it is intended to be used for the purpose of committing an offence against this Act or the regulations.
- (3) For the purposes of exercising a power under subsection (1), an authorised officer may break open any hold or compartment, or any container or other receptacle (including any place that could be used as a receptacle), on a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform or on any premises.
- (4) An authorised officer who boards a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform under section 403 may require a person on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform to:
- (a) answer a question asked by the authorised officer; or
  - (b) give the authorised officer information requested by the authorised officer; or
  - (c) produce to the authorised officer records or documents kept on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform.
- (5) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) an authorised officer has boarded a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform under section 403; and

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- (b) the person is on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform; and
  - (c) the authorised officer requires the person to:
    - (i) answer a question asked by the authorised officer; or
    - (ii) give the authorised officer information requested by the authorised officer; or
    - (iii) produce to the authorised officer records or documents kept on the vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform; and
  - (d) the person contravenes the requirement.
- (6) The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not more than 6 months, a fine of not more than 30 penalty units, or both.

## **Division 3—Monitoring of compliance**

### **407 Monitoring powers**

For the purposes of this Division, each of the following powers is a ***monitoring power*** in relation to particular premises:

- (a) the power to inspect and search the premises;
- (b) the power to take photographs (including a video recording), or to make sketches, of the premises or of any substance or thing at the premises;
- (c) the power to inspect, examine and take samples of, any substance or thing on or in the premises;
- (ca) the power to take measurements of, and conduct tests on, the premises or any substance or thing on the premises;
- (d) the power to take extracts from, or make copies of, any document, book or record on the premises;
- (e) the power to take onto the premises any equipment or material reasonably necessary for the purpose of exercising a power referred to in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (ca) or (d).

### **408 Monitoring searches with occupier's consent**

#### *Entry by consent*

- (1) An authorised officer may, with the consent of the occupier of any premises, enter the premises for the purpose of finding out whether any or all of the provisions of this Act or the regulations are being complied with.

#### *Entry for monitoring purposes*

- (2) An authorised officer may only enter premises under subsection (1) to the extent that it is reasonably necessary for the purpose of finding out whether any or all of the provisions of this Act or the regulations are being complied with.

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*Exercise of monitoring powers*

- (3) If an authorised officer enters premises under subsection (1), the authorised officer may exercise monitoring powers in relation to those premises.

*Exercise of seizure powers*

- (4) If an authorised officer enters premises under subsection (1), the authorised officer may exercise powers of seizure conferred by section 444A or 445.

*Right to refuse to give consent*

- (5) Before obtaining the consent of a person for the purposes of this section, an authorised officer must tell the person that the person may refuse to give consent.

*Consent must be voluntary*

- (6) An entry by an authorised officer in consequence of the consent of a person is not lawful unless the person voluntarily consented to the entry.

*Production of identity card etc.*

- (7) An authorised officer is not entitled to:
- (a) enter premises under subsection (1); or
  - (b) exercise any powers referred to in subsection (3) or (4) in relation to premises;
- if the occupier of the premises has required the officer to produce written identification for inspection by the occupier and:
- (c) if the authorised officer is a member of a police force—the officer fails to produce, for inspection by the occupier, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; or
  - (ca) if the authorised officer is an officer of Customs—the officer fails to produce, for inspection by the occupier, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; or

- (d) in any other case—the officer fails to produce his or her identity card for inspection by the occupier.

*Extension to vehicles, vessels and aircraft*

- (8) Subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) and (7) apply in relation to:
  - (a) a vehicle, vessel or aircraft in the same way as they apply in relation to premises; and
  - (b) a person apparently in charge of a vehicle, vessel or aircraft in the same way as they apply in relation to the occupier of premises.

## **409 Monitoring warrants**

*Application for monitoring warrant*

- (1) An authorised officer may apply to a magistrate for a warrant under this section in relation to particular premises. The warrant is to be known as a **monitoring warrant**.

*Issue of monitoring warrant*

- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the magistrate may issue the monitoring warrant if satisfied, by information on oath or affirmation, that it is reasonably necessary that the authorised officer should have access to the premises for the purpose of finding out whether any or all of the provisions of this Act or the regulations are being complied with.

*Information about grounds for issue of monitoring warrant*

- (3) The magistrate must not issue the monitoring warrant unless the authorised person or another person has given the magistrate, either orally (on oath or affirmation) or by affidavit, such further information as the magistrate requires about the grounds on which the issue of the monitoring warrant is being sought.

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*Terms of warrant*

- (4) The monitoring warrant must:
- (a) authorise an authorised officer named in the monitoring warrant, with such assistance and by such force as is necessary and reasonable, from time to time while the monitoring warrant remains in force, to enter the premises and exercise monitoring powers; and
  - (b) state whether an entry under the monitoring warrant is authorised to be made at any time of the day or night or during specified hours of the day or night; and
  - (c) specify the day (not more than 6 months after the issue of the monitoring warrant) on which the monitoring warrant ceases to have effect; and
  - (d) state the purpose for which the monitoring warrant is issued.

*Seizure powers*

- (5) If an authorised officer enters premises under a monitoring warrant, he or she may exercise powers of seizure conferred by section 444A or 445.

**410 Details of monitoring warrant to be given to occupier etc.**

- (1) If a monitoring warrant in relation to premises is being executed and the occupier of the premises, or another person who apparently represents the occupier, is present at the premises, the authorised officer named in the monitoring warrant must make available to that person a copy of the monitoring warrant.
- (2) The authorised officer named in the monitoring warrant must identify himself or herself to that person at the premises.
- (3) The copy of the monitoring warrant referred to in subsection (1) need not include the signature of the magistrate or the seal of the relevant court.



#### **411 Occupier entitled to be present during search**

- (1) If a monitoring warrant in relation to premises is being executed and the occupier of the premises, or another person who apparently represents the occupier, is present at the premises, the person is, subject to Part IC of the *Crimes Act 1914*, entitled to observe the search being conducted.
- (2) The right to observe the search being conducted ceases if the person impedes the search.
- (3) This section does not prevent 2 or more areas of the premises being searched at the same time.

#### **412 Announcement before entry**

- (1) The authorised officer named in a monitoring warrant must, before any person enters premises under the monitoring warrant:
  - (a) announce that he or she is authorised to enter the premises; and
  - (b) give any person at the premises an opportunity to allow entry to the premises.
- (2) An authorised officer is not required to comply with subsection (1) if he or she believes on reasonable grounds that immediate entry to the premises is required to ensure:
  - (a) the safety of a person (including an authorised officer); or
  - (b) that the effective execution of the monitoring warrant is not frustrated.

#### **412A Other powers when on premises under monitoring warrant**

- (1) If the authorised officer named in a monitoring warrant enters premises under the warrant, he or she may require a person on the premises to:
  - (a) answer a question asked by the authorised officer; or
  - (b) give the authorised officer information requested by the authorised officer; or

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- (c) produce to the authorised officer records or documents kept on the premises.
- (2) A person is guilty of an offence if:
  - (a) the authorised officer named in a monitoring warrant has entered premises under the warrant; and
  - (b) the person is on the premises; and
  - (c) the authorised officer requires the person to:
    - (i) answer a question asked by the authorised officer; or
    - (ii) give the authorised officer information requested by the authorised officer; or
    - (iii) produce to the authorised officer records or documents kept on the premises; and
  - (d) the person contravenes the requirement.
- (3) The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not more than 6 months, a fine of not more than 30 penalty units, or both.

## **Division 4—Search warrants**

### **413 When search warrants can be issued**

- (1) A magistrate may issue a warrant authorising an authorised officer to search premises if the magistrate is satisfied by information on oath that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is, or there will be within the next 72 hours, any evidential material at the premises.
- (2) A magistrate may issue a warrant authorising an authorised officer to carry out an ordinary search or a frisk search of a person if the magistrate is satisfied by information on oath that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the person has in his or her possession, or will within the next 72 hours have in his or her possession, any evidential material.
- (3) For the purposes of this Act, *frisk search* means:
  - (a) a search of a person conducted by quickly running the hands over the person's outer garments; and
  - (b) an examination of anything worn or carried by the person that is conveniently and voluntarily removed by the person.
- (4) If the authorised officer applying for the warrant suspects that, in executing the warrant, it will be necessary to use firearms, the authorised officer must state that suspicion, and the grounds for that suspicion, in the information.
- (5) If the application for the warrant is made under section 416, this section applies as if subsections (1) and (2) referred to 48 hours rather than 72 hours.
- (6) If the applicant for a warrant is a member or special member of the Australian Federal Police and has, at any time previously, applied for a warrant relating to the same person or premises, the person must state particulars of those applications and their outcome in the information.

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**414 Statements in warrants**

- (1) If a magistrate issues a warrant under section 413, the magistrate is to state in the warrant:
  - (a) the offence to which the warrant relates; and
  - (b) a description of the premises to which the warrant relates or the name or description of a person to whom it relates; and
  - (c) the kinds of evidential material that are to be searched for under the warrant; and
  - (d) the name of the authorised officer who is to be responsible for executing the warrant; and
  - (e) the period for which the warrant remains in force, which must not be more than 7 days; and
  - (f) whether the warrant may be executed at any time or only during particular hours.
- (2) The magistrate is also to state, in a warrant in relation to premises:
  - (a) that the warrant authorises the seizure of a thing (other than evidential material of the kind referred to in paragraph (1)(c)) found at the premises in the course of the search that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be:
    - (i) evidential material in relation to an offence to which the warrant relates; or
    - (ii) evidential material in relation to another offence against this Act, where the other offence is an indictable offence;if the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that seizure of the thing is necessary to prevent its concealment, loss or destruction or its use in committing an offence against this Act or the regulations; and
  - (b) whether the warrant authorises an ordinary search or a frisk search of a person who is at or near the premises when the warrant is executed if the executing officer or an officer assisting suspects on reasonable grounds that the person has any evidential material or eligible seizable items in his or her possession.

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- (3) For the purposes of this Act, ***ordinary search*** means a search of a person or of articles in the possession of a person that may include:
  - (a) requiring the person to remove his or her overcoat, coat or jacket and any gloves, shoes and hat; and
  - (b) an examination of those items.
- (4) The magistrate is also to state, in a warrant in relation to a person:
  - (a) that the warrant authorises the seizure of a thing (other than evidential material of the kind referred to in paragraph (1)(c)) found, in the course of the search, on or in the possession of the person or in an aircraft, vehicle or vessel that the person had operated or occupied at any time within 24 hours before the search began, being a thing that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be:
    - (i) evidential material in relation to an offence to which the warrant relates; or
    - (ii) evidential material in relation to another offence against this Act, where the other offence is an indictable offence;if the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that seizure of the thing is necessary to prevent its concealment, loss or destruction or its use in committing an offence against this Act or the regulations; and
  - (b) the kind of search of a person that the warrant authorises.
- (5) Paragraph (1)(e) does not prevent the issue of successive warrants in relation to the same premises or person.
- (6) If the application for the warrant is made under section 416, this section applies as if paragraph (1)(e) referred to 48 hours rather than 7 days.

#### **415 Powers of magistrate**

- (1) A magistrate in a State or internal Territory may:
  - (a) issue a warrant in relation to premises or a person in that State or Territory; or

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- (b) issue a warrant in relation to premises or a person in an external Territory; or
  - (c) issue a warrant in relation to premises or a person in another State or internal Territory (including the Jervis Bay Territory) if he or she is satisfied that there are special circumstances that make the issue of the warrant appropriate; or
  - (d) issue a warrant in relation to a person wherever the person is in Australia or in an external Territory if he or she is satisfied that it is not possible to predict where the person may be.
- (2) A magistrate in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory may issue a warrant in relation to premises or a person in the Jervis Bay Territory.

**416 Warrants by telephone or other electronic means**

*Application*

- (1) An authorised person may make an application to a magistrate for a warrant by telephone, telex, facsimile or other electronic means:
- (a) in an urgent case; or
  - (b) if the delay that would occur if an application were made in person would frustrate the effective execution of the warrant.

*Voice communication*

- (2) The magistrate may require communication by voice to the extent that is practicable in the circumstances.

*Information*

- (3) An application under this section must include all information as required to be provided in an ordinary application for a warrant, but the application may, if necessary, be made before the information is sworn.

*Issue of warrant*

- (4) If an application is made to a magistrate under this section and the magistrate, after considering the information and having received

and considered such further information (if any) as the magistrate required, is satisfied that:

- (a) a warrant in the terms of the application should be issued urgently; or
  - (b) the delay that would occur if an application were made in person would frustrate the effective execution of the warrant;
- the magistrate may complete and sign the same form of warrant that would be issued under section 413.

*Notification*

- (5) If the magistrate decides to issue the warrant, the magistrate is to inform the applicant, by telephone, telex, facsimile or other electronic means, of the terms of the warrant and the day on which and the time at which it was signed.

*Form of warrant*

- (6) The applicant must then complete a form of warrant in terms substantially corresponding to those given by the magistrate, stating on the form the name of the magistrate and the day on which and the time at which the warrant was signed.

*Completed form of warrant to be given to magistrate*

- (7) The applicant must, not later than the day after the day of expiry of the warrant or the day after the day on which the warrant was executed, whichever is the earlier, give or transmit to the magistrate:
  - (a) the form of warrant completed by the applicant; and
  - (b) if the information referred to in subsection (3) was not sworn—that information duly sworn.

*Attachment*

- (8) The magistrate is to attach to the documents provided under subsection (7) the form of warrant completed by the magistrate.

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*Presumption*

- (9) If:
- (a) it is material, in any proceedings, for a court to be satisfied that the exercise of a power under a warrant issued under this section was duly authorised; and
  - (b) the form of warrant signed by the magistrate is not produced in evidence;
- the court is to assume, unless the contrary is proved, that the exercise of the power was not duly authorised.

**417 The things that are authorised by a search warrant**

*Search of premises*

- (1) A warrant that is in force in relation to premises authorises the executing officer or an officer assisting:
- (a) to enter the premises; and
  - (b) to search for and record fingerprints found at the premises and to take samples of things found at the premises for forensic purposes; and
  - (c) to search the premises for the kinds of evidential material specified in the warrant, and to seize things of that kind found at the premises; and
  - (d) to seize other things found at the premises in the course of the search that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be:
    - (i) evidential material in relation to an offence to which the warrant relates; or
    - (ii) evidential material in relation to another offence against this Act, where the other offence is an indictable offence;
- if the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that seizure of the thing is necessary to prevent its concealment, loss or destruction or its use in committing an offence against this Act or the regulations; and



- (e) to seize other things found at the premises in the course of the search that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be eligible seizable items; and
- (f) if the warrant so allows—to conduct an ordinary search or a frisk search of a person at or near the premises if the executing officer or an officer assisting suspects on reasonable grounds that the person has any evidential material or eligible seizable items in his or her possession.

*Search of a person*

- (2) A warrant that is in force in relation to a person authorises the executing officer or an officer assisting:
    - (a) to search:
      - (i) the person as specified in the warrant and things found in the possession of the person; and
      - (ii) any aircraft, vehicle or vessel that the person had operated or occupied at any time within 24 hours before the search began, for things specified in the warrant; and
    - (b) to:
      - (i) seize things of that kind; or
      - (ii) record fingerprints from things; or
      - (iii) take forensic samples from things; found in the course of the search; and
    - (c) to seize other things found on or in the possession of the person or in the aircraft, vehicle or vessel mentioned in subparagraph (a)(ii) in the course of the search that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be:
      - (i) evidential material in relation to an offence to which the warrant relates; or
      - (ii) evidential material in relation to another offence against this Act, where the other offence is an indictable offence;
- if the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that seizure of the thing is necessary to prevent its concealment, loss or destruction or its use in

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committing an offence against this Act or the regulations;  
and

- (d) to seize other things found in the course of the search that the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds to be eligible seizable items.

*Hours when search warrant may be executed*

- (3) If the warrant states that it may be executed only during particular hours, the warrant must not be executed outside those hours.

*Ordinary searches or frisk searches*

- (4) If the warrant authorises an ordinary search or a frisk search of a person, a search of the person different from that so authorised must not be done.

*Seized items may be made available to other agencies*

- (5) If things are seized under a warrant, the warrant authorises the executing officer to make the things available to officers of other agencies if it is necessary to do so for the purpose of investigating or prosecuting an offence to which the things relate.

**418 Availability of assistance, and use of force, in executing a warrant**

- (1) In executing a warrant:
- (a) the executing officer may obtain such assistance as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances; and
  - (b) the executing officer, or an authorised officer who is assisting in executing the warrant, may use such force against persons and things as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances; and
  - (c) a person who is not an authorised officer, but who has been authorised to assist in executing the warrant, may use such force against things as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances.

- (2) A person who is not an authorised officer must not take part in searching or arresting a person.

#### **419 Details of warrant to be given to occupier etc.**

- (1) If a warrant in relation to premises is being executed and the occupier of the premises or another person who apparently represents the occupier is present at the premises, the executing officer or an officer assisting must make available to that person a copy of the warrant.
- (2) If a warrant in relation to a person is being executed, the executing officer or an officer assisting must make available to that person a copy of the warrant.
- (3) If a person is searched under a warrant in relation to premises, the executing officer or an officer assisting must show the person a copy of the warrant.
- (4) The executing officer must identify himself or herself to the person at the premises or the person being searched, as the case may be.
- (5) The copy of the warrant referred to in subsections (1) and (2) need not include the signature of the magistrate who issued the warrant.

#### **420 Specific powers available to person executing warrant**

- (1) In executing a warrant in relation to premises, the executing officer or an officer assisting may take photographs (including video recordings) of the premises or of things at the premises:
  - (a) for a purpose incidental to the execution of the warrant; or
  - (b) if the occupier of the premises consents in writing.
- (2) If a warrant in relation to premises is being executed, the executing officer and all officers assisting may, if the warrant is still in force, complete the execution of the warrant after all of them temporarily cease its execution and leave the premises:
  - (a) for not more than one hour; or
  - (b) for a longer period if the occupier of the premises consents in writing.

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- (3) The execution of a warrant that is stopped by an order of a court may be completed if:
  - (a) the order is later revoked or reversed on appeal; and
  - (b) the warrant is still in force.

**421 Use of equipment to examine or process things**

- (1) The executing officer or an officer assisting may bring to the warrant premises any equipment reasonably necessary for the examination or processing of things found at the premises in order to determine whether they are things that may be seized under the warrant.
- (2) If:
  - (a) it is not practicable to examine or process the things at the warrant premises; or
  - (b) the occupier of the premises consents in writing;the things may be moved to another place so that the examination or processing can be carried out in order to determine whether they are things that may be seized under the warrant.
- (3) If things are moved to another place for the purpose of examination or processing under subsection (2), the executing officer must, if it is practicable to do so:
  - (a) inform the occupier of the address of the place and the time at which the examination or processing will be carried out; and
  - (b) allow the occupier or his or her representative to be present during the examination or processing.
- (4) The executing officer or an officer assisting may operate equipment already at the warrant premises to carry out the examination or processing of a thing found at the premises in order to determine whether it is a thing that may be seized under the warrant if the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that:
  - (a) the equipment is suitable for the examination or processing; and

- (b) the examination or processing can be carried out without damage to the equipment or thing.

## **422 Use of electronic equipment at premises**

### *Operation of equipment*

- (1) The executing officer or an officer assisting may operate electronic equipment at the premises to see whether evidential material is accessible by doing so if he or she believes on reasonable grounds that the operation of the equipment can be carried out without damage to the equipment.

### *Seizure etc.*

- (2) If the executing officer or an officer assisting, after operating the equipment, finds that evidential material is accessible by doing so, he or she may:
  - (a) seize the equipment and any disk, tape or other associated device; or
  - (b) if the material can, by using facilities at the premises, be put in documentary form—operate the facilities to put the material in that form and seize the documents so produced; or
  - (c) if the material can be transferred to a disk, tape or other storage device that:
    - (i) is brought to the premises; or
    - (ii) is at the premises and the use of which for the purpose has been agreed to in writing by the occupier of the premises;operate the equipment or other facilities to copy the material to the storage device and take the storage device from the premises.

### *Limitation on seizure*

- (3) A person may seize equipment under paragraph (2)(a) only if:
  - (a) it is not practicable to put the material in document form as mentioned in paragraph (2)(b) or to copy the material as mentioned in paragraph (2)(c); or

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- (b) possession of the equipment by the occupier could constitute an offence.

*Securing equipment*

- (4) If the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that:
  - (a) evidential material may be accessible by operating electronic equipment at the premises; and
  - (b) expert assistance is required to operate the equipment; and
  - (c) if he or she does not take action under this subsection, the material may be destroyed, altered or otherwise interfered with;he or she may do whatever is necessary to secure the equipment, whether by locking it up, placing a guard or otherwise.

*Notice about securing equipment*

- (5) The executing officer or an officer assisting must give notice to the occupier of the premises of his or her intention to secure equipment and of the fact that the equipment may be secured for up to 24 hours.

*Period for which equipment may be secured*

- (6) The equipment may be secured:
  - (a) for a period not exceeding 24 hours; or
  - (b) until the equipment has been operated by the expert;whichever happens first.

*Extension of period*

- (7) If the executing officer or an officer assisting believes on reasonable grounds that the expert assistance will not be available within 24 hours, he or she may apply to a magistrate for an extension of that period.

*Notice to occupier*

- (8) The executing officer or an officer assisting must give notice to the occupier of the premises of his or her intention to apply for an extension, and the occupier is entitled to be heard in relation to the application.

*Provisions relating to extensions*

- (9) The provisions of this Division relating to the issue of warrants apply, with such modifications as are necessary, to the issuing of an extension.

### **423 Compensation for damage to electronic equipment**

- (1) If:
  - (a) damage is caused to equipment as a result of it being operated as mentioned in section 421 or 422; and
  - (b) the damage was caused as a result of:
    - (i) insufficient care being exercised in selecting the person who was to operate the equipment; or
    - (ii) insufficient care being exercised by the person operating the equipment;compensation for the damage is payable to the owner of the equipment.
- (2) Compensation is payable out of money appropriated by the Parliament for the purpose.
- (3) In determining the amount of compensation payable, regard is to be had to whether the occupier of the premises and his or her employees and agents, if they were available at the time, had provided any warning or guidance as to the operation of the equipment that was appropriate in the circumstances.

### **424 Copies of seized things to be provided**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), if an authorised officer seizes, under a warrant relating to premises:

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(a) a document, film, computer file or other thing that can be readily copied; or

(b) a storage device the information in which can be readily copied;

the authorised officer must, if requested to do so by the occupier of the premises or another person who apparently represents the occupier and who is present when the warrant is executed, give a copy of the thing or the information to that person as soon as practicable after the seizure.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if:

(a) the thing that has been seized was seized under paragraph 422(2)(b) or (c); or

(b) possession of the document, film, computer file, thing or information by the occupier could constitute an offence.

**425 Occupier entitled to be present during search**

(1) If a warrant in relation to premises is being executed and the occupier of the premises or another person who apparently represents the occupier is present at the premises, the person is, subject to Part IC of the *Crimes Act 1914*, entitled to observe the search being conducted.

(2) The right to observe the search being conducted ceases if the person impedes the search.

(3) This section does not prevent 2 or more areas of the premises being searched at the same time.

**426 Receipts for things seized under warrant**

(1) If a thing is seized under a warrant or moved under subsection 421(2), the executing officer or an officer assisting must provide a receipt for the thing.

(2) If 2 or more things are seized or moved, they may be covered in the one receipt.



#### **427 Restrictions on personal searches**

A warrant can not authorise a strip search or a search of a person's body cavities.

#### **428 When a thing is in the possession of a person**

This Division applies to a person (the *possessor*) who has a thing under his or her control in any place (whether for the use or benefit of the possessor or of another person), even if another person has the actual possession or custody of the thing, as if the possessor has possession of the thing.

## **Division 5—Stopping and searching aircraft, vehicles or vessels**

### **429 Searches of aircraft, vehicles or vessels without warrant in emergency situations**

- (1) This section applies if an authorised officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, that:
  - (a) evidential material in relation to an indictable offence against this Act is in or on an aircraft, vehicle or vessel; and
  - (b) it is necessary to exercise a power under subsection (2) in order to prevent the thing from being concealed, lost or destroyed; and
  - (c) it is necessary to exercise the power without the authority of a search warrant because the circumstances are serious and urgent.
- (2) The authorised officer may:
  - (a) stop and detain the aircraft, vehicle or vessel; and
  - (b) search the aircraft, vehicle or vessel and any container in or on it, for the evidential material; and
  - (c) seize the evidential material if he or she finds it there.
- (3) If, in the course of searching for the evidential material, the authorised officer finds any other evidential material in relation to any other offence against this Act or the regulations, he or she may seize that material if he or she suspects, on reasonable grounds, that:
  - (a) it is necessary to seize it in order to prevent its concealment, loss or destruction; and
  - (b) it is necessary to seize it without the authority of a search warrant because the circumstances are serious and urgent.
- (4) When an authorised officer exercises a power under this section, he or she:
  - (a) may use such assistance as is necessary; and

- (b) must search the aircraft, vehicle or vessel in a public place or in some other place to which members of the public have ready access; and
- (c) must not detain the aircraft, vehicle or vessel for longer than is necessary and reasonable to search it and any container found in or on it; and
- (d) may use such force as is necessary and reasonable in the circumstances, but must not damage the aircraft, vehicle or vessel or any container found in or on it by forcing open a part of the aircraft, vehicle or vessel or container unless:
  - (i) the person (if any) apparently in charge of the aircraft, vehicle or vessel has been given a reasonable opportunity to open that part or container; or
  - (ii) it is not possible to give that person such an opportunity.

## **Division 6—Arrest and related matters**

### **430 Powers of arrest**

- (1) An authorised officer may, without warrant, arrest any person, if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that:
  - (a) the person is committing or has committed an offence against this Act or the regulations; and
  - (b) proceedings against the person by summons would not be effective.
- (2) If an authorised officer (other than a member of a police force, or an officer of Customs, who is in uniform) arrests a person under subsection (1), the authorised officer must:
  - (a) in the case of a member of a police force—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; and
  - (aa) in the case of an officer of Customs—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; and
  - (b) in any other case—produce his or her identity card for inspection by that person.
- (3) If a person is arrested under subsection (1), an authorised officer must without unreasonable delay bring the person, or cause the person to be brought, before a Justice of the Peace or other proper authority to be dealt with in accordance with law.

### **431 Power to conduct a frisk search of an arrested person**

An authorised officer who arrests a person for an offence against this Act or the regulations, or who is present at such an arrest, may, if the authorised officer suspects on reasonable grounds that it is prudent to do so in order to ascertain whether the arrested person is carrying any eligible seizable items:

- (a) conduct a frisk search of the arrested person at or soon after the time of arrest; and

- (b) seize any eligible seizable items found as a result of the search.

#### **432 Power to conduct an ordinary search of an arrested person**

An authorised officer who arrests a person for an offence against this Act or the regulations, or who is present at such an arrest, may, if the authorised officer suspects on reasonable grounds that the arrested person is carrying:

- (a) evidential material in relation to that or another offence against this Act or the regulations; or
- (b) an eligible seizable item;

conduct an ordinary search of the arrested person at or soon after the time of arrest, and seize any such thing found as a result of the search.

#### **433 Power to conduct search of arrested person's premises**

An authorised officer who arrests a person at premises for an offence against this Act or the regulations, or who is present at such an arrest, may seize a thing in plain view at those premises that the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds to be:

- (a) evidential material in relation to that or another offence against this Act or the regulations; or
- (b) an eligible seizable item.

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**Division 7—Miscellaneous provisions about searches, entry to premises, warrants etc.**

**434 Conduct of ordinary searches and frisk searches**

An ordinary search or a frisk search of a person under this Part must, if practicable, be conducted by a person of the same sex as the person being searched.

**435 Announcement before entry**

- (1) An authorised officer must, before any person enters premises under a warrant or to arrest a person under this Act:
  - (a) announce that he or she is authorised to enter the premises; and
  - (b) give any person at the premises an opportunity to allow entry to the premises.
- (2) An authorised officer is not required to comply with subsection (1) if he or she believes on reasonable grounds that immediate entry to the premises is required to ensure:
  - (a) the safety of a person (including an authorised officer); or
  - (b) that the effective execution of the warrant or the arrest is not frustrated.

**436 Offence of making false statements in warrants**

A person is guilty of an offence punishable upon conviction by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years if the person:

- (a) makes a statement in an application for a warrant; and
- (b) does so knowing the statement is false or misleading in a material particular.

**437 Offences relating to telephone warrants**

A person must not:

- (a) state in a document that purports to be a form of warrant under section 416 the name of a magistrate unless the magistrate issued the warrant; or
- (b) state on a form of warrant under that section a matter that, to the person's knowledge, departs in a material particular from the form authorised by the magistrate; or
- (c) purport to execute, or present to another person, a document that purports to be a form of warrant under that section that the person knows:
  - (i) has not been approved by a magistrate under that section; or
  - (ii) departs in a material particular from the terms authorised by a magistrate under that section; or
- (d) give to a magistrate a form of warrant under that section that is not the form of warrant that the person purported to execute.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

**438 Retention of things which are seized**

- (1) Subject to any contrary order of a court, if a person seizes a thing under Division 4, 5 or 6 the person must return it if:
    - (a) the reason for its seizure no longer exists or it is decided that it is not to be used in evidence; or
    - (b) if the thing was seized under section 429:
      - (i) the reason for its seizure no longer exists or it is decided that it is not to be used in evidence; or
      - (ii) the period of 60 days after its seizure ends;whichever first occurs;
- unless the thing is forfeited or forfeitable to the Commonwealth or is the subject of a dispute as to ownership.

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- (2) If a thing is seized by an authorised officer under section 429, at the end of the 60 days specified in subsection (1), he or she must take reasonable steps to return the thing to the person from whom it was seized (or to the owner if that person is not entitled to possess it) unless:
- (a) proceedings in respect of which the thing may afford evidence were instituted before the end of the 60 days and have not been completed (including an appeal to a court in relation to those proceedings); or
  - (b) the authorised officer may retain the thing because of an order under section 439; or
  - (c) the authorised officer is otherwise authorised (by a law, or an order of a court, of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory) to retain, destroy or dispose of the thing.

**439 Magistrate may permit a thing to be retained**

- (1) If a thing is seized under section 429, and:
- (a) before the end of 60 days after the seizure; or
  - (b) before the end of a period previously specified in an order of a magistrate under this section;
- proceedings in respect of which the thing may afford evidence have not commenced, the authorised officer may apply to a magistrate for an order that he or she may retain the thing for a further period.
- (2) If the magistrate is satisfied that it is necessary for the authorised officer to continue to retain the thing:
- (a) for the purposes of an investigation as to whether an offence against this Act or the regulations has been committed; or
  - (b) to enable evidence of an offence against this Act or the regulations to be secured for the purposes of a prosecution;
- the magistrate may order that the authorised officer may retain the thing for a period specified in the order.
- (3) Before making the application, the authorised officer must:
- (a) take reasonable steps to discover who has an interest in the retention of the thing; and



- (b) if it is practicable to do so, notify each person who the authorised officer believes to have such an interest in the proposed application.
- (4) A function of making an order conferred on a magistrate by this section is conferred on the magistrate in a personal capacity and not as a court or a member of a court.
- (5) Without limiting the generality of subsection (4), an order made by a magistrate under this section has effect only by virtue of this Act and is not taken, by implication, to be made by a court.
- (6) A magistrate performing a function of, or connected with, making an order under this section has the same protection and immunity as if he or she were performing that function as, or as a member of, a court (being the court of which the magistrate is a member).
- (7) The Governor-General may make arrangements with the Governor of a State, the Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory, the Administrator of the Northern Territory or the Administrator of Norfolk Island for the performance, by all or any of the persons who from time to time hold office as magistrates in that State or Territory, of the function of making orders under this section.

#### **440 Law relating to legal professional privilege not affected**

This Part does not affect the law relating to legal professional privilege.

#### **441 Other laws about search, arrest etc. not affected**

- (1) This Part is not intended to limit or exclude the operation of another law of the Commonwealth relating to:
  - (a) the search of persons or premises; or
  - (b) arrest and related matters; or
  - (c) the stopping, detaining or searching of aircraft, vehicles or vessels; or
  - (d) the seizure of things.

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- (2) To avoid doubt, it is declared that even though another law of the Commonwealth provides power to do one or more of the things referred to in subsection (1), a similar power conferred by this Part may be used despite the existence of the power under the other law.

**442 Persons to assist authorised officers**

- (1) Subject to subsection (5), the owner, or person in charge:
- (a) of any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or platform boarded by an authorised officer under section 403; or
  - (b) of any premises entered by an authorised officer under section 405;
- must, if requested by an authorised officer to do so, provide reasonable assistance to the authorised officer in the performance of the functions, or carrying out of the duties, or the exercise of the powers, conferred on the authorised officer under this Act.
- (2) A person must not contravene subsection (1).
- Penalty: Imprisonment for 12 months.
- (3) Subject to subsection (5), the owner, or the person in charge, of:
- (a) premises entered under a warrant; or
  - (b) an aircraft, vehicle or vessel stopped under section 429;
- must, if requested by an authorised officer to do so, provide reasonable assistance to the authorised officer in the performance of the functions, or carrying out of the duties, or the exercise of the powers, conferred on the authorised officer under this Act.
- (4) A person must not contravene subsection (3).
- Penalty: Imprisonment for 12 months.
- (5) Where an authorised officer (other than a member of a police force, or an officer of Customs, who is in uniform) makes a request of a person under this section, the authorised officer must:
- (a) in the case of a member of a police force—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; or

- (aa) in the case of an officer of Customs—produce, for inspection by that person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; or
  - (b) in any other case—produce his or her identity card for inspection by that person;
- and, if the authorised officer fails to do so, that person is not obliged to comply with the request.

## Division 8—Power to search goods, baggage etc.

### 443 Power to search goods, baggage etc.

- (1) This section applies to any goods that are to be, are being, or have been, taken on or off a ship that voyages, or an aircraft that flies, between:
  - (a) a place in Australia and a place outside Australia; or
  - (b) a place in an external Territory and a place outside that Territory.
- (2) If an authorised officer believes, on reasonable grounds that goods are goods to which this section applies, he or she may:
  - (a) examine the goods; or
  - (b) if the goods are baggage—open and search the baggage; or
  - (c) if the goods are in a container—open and search the container.
- (3) An authorised officer may ask a person who owns, is carrying or is otherwise associated with, or appears to the authorised officer to be associated with, goods to which this section applies any question in respect of the goods.
- (4) A person must not refuse or fail to answer a question put to the person under subsection (3).

Penalty: 60 penalty units.

- (5) In this Act:

***baggage*** includes any parcel or other goods that:

- (a) a passenger; or
- (b) the master, a mate, an engineer or any other member of the crew of a ship; or
- (c) the pilot or any other member of the crew of an aircraft; has had with him or her on the ship or aircraft.

***goods*** includes baggage.

## **Division 8A—Power to ask questions about specimens**

### **443A Authorised officer may ask questions about the nature or origin of specimens**

#### *When section applies*

- (1) This section applies if an authorised officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that:
- (a) a specimen has been exported, or is proposed to be exported, in contravention of section 303CC or 303DD; or
  - (b) a specimen has been imported, or is proposed to be imported, in contravention of section 303CD or 303EK; or
  - (c) a person has in the person's possession a specimen, and that possession contravenes section 303GN.

Note: Sections 303CC, 303CD, 303DD, 303EK and 303GN are included in Part 13A, which deals with international movement of wildlife specimens.

#### *Questions*

- (2) If the authorised officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that a person has information about the nature or origin of the specimen, the authorised officer may ask the person one or more questions about the nature or origin of the specimen.

#### *Answers to questions*

- (3) Subject to subsections (6) and (7), if a person is asked a question under subsection (2), the person must not intentionally refuse or intentionally fail to answer the question to the extent that the person is capable of doing so.
- (4) A person who contravenes subsection (3) is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding 10 penalty units.
- (5) In subsection (3), strict liability applies to the circumstance that the person was asked a question under subsection (2).

Note: For *strict liability*, see section 6.1 of the *Criminal Code*.

**Section 443A**

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*No requirement to give incriminating answers*

- (6) If a person is asked a question under subsection (2), the person is not required to answer the question if the answer might tend to incriminate the person or expose the person to a penalty.

*Identity cards etc.*

- (7) If a person is asked a question under subsection (2) by an authorised officer, the person is not required to answer the question unless:
- (a) if the authorised officer is a member of a police force—the authorised officer produces, for inspection by the person, written evidence of the fact that the authorised officer is a member of that police force; or
  - (b) if the authorised officer is an officer of Customs—the authorised officer produces, for inspection by the person, written evidence of the fact that the authorised officer is an officer of Customs; or
  - (c) if the authorised officer is neither a member of a police force nor an officer of Customs—the authorised officer produces the authorised officer's identity card for inspection by the person.

## **Division 9—Power to ask for names and addresses**

### **444 Authorised person may ask for person's name and address**

- (1) An authorised officer may ask an individual to tell the authorised officer the individual's name and address if the authorised officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that the individual has been involved in the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations.
- (2) Subject to subsection (4), a person must not refuse or fail to comply with a request under subsection (1).  
  
Penalty: 10 penalty units.
- (3) A person is guilty of an offence punishable upon conviction by a fine not exceeding 10 penalty units if the person:
  - (a) in purported compliance with a request under subsection (1), gives a name and address; and
  - (b) does so knowing the name or address is false or misleading.
- (4) If an authorised officer makes a request of a person under subsection (1), the person is not required to comply with the request unless:
  - (a) if the authorised officer is a member of a police force—he or she produces, for inspection by the person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is a member of that police force; or
  - (aa) if the authorised officer is an officer of Customs—he or she produces, for inspection by the person, written evidence of the fact that he or she is an officer of Customs; or
  - (b) in any other case—the authorised officer produces his or her identity card for inspection by the person.

## **Division 10—Seizure and forfeiture etc.**

### **Subdivision AA—Seizure of specimens involved in a contravention of Part 13A**

#### **444A Seizure of specimens involved in a contravention of Part 13A**

An authorised officer may seize a specimen if he or she has reasonable grounds to suspect that the specimen has been used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against Part 13A.

Note: Part 13A deals with international movement of wildlife specimens.

#### **444B Notice about seizure**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), if a specimen is seized by an authorised officer under section 444A, the authorised officer must give:
  - (a) the owner of the specimen; or
  - (b) the person who had possession, custody or control of the specimen immediately before it was seized;a written notice:
  - (c) identifying the specimen; and
  - (d) stating that it has been seized under section 444A and giving the reason for the seizure; and
  - (e) setting out the terms of sections 444C and 444D.The notice must be given as soon as practicable after the seizure.
- (2) An authorised officer is not required to give a notice under subsection (1) about a specimen if, after making such inquiries as the authorised officer thinks appropriate, the authorised officer does not, within 30 days after the seizure, have sufficient information to enable the authorised officer to give the notice. In that event, the authorised officer must keep a written record of the seizure.



#### **444C Applications for return of specimen**

- (1) If a specimen is seized under section 444A, the owner of the specimen may apply in writing to the Secretary for the delivery to the owner of the specimen.
- (2) The application must be made:
  - (a) within 30 days after the seizure; or
  - (b) if a notice is given under subsection 444B(1) in relation to the specimen—within 30 days after the giving of the notice.
- (3) The application must be made on the ground that the specimen was not used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against Part 13A.
- (4) If the applicant satisfies the Secretary that the ground has been established, the Secretary must grant the application.

Note: Under section 444G, the Secretary may retain the specimen for up to 30 days after making a decision on the application.

#### **444D Court action for return of specimen**

- (1) If a specimen is seized under section 444A, the owner of the specimen may bring an action against the Commonwealth in a court of competent jurisdiction for the delivery of the specimen to the owner on the ground that the specimen was not used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against Part 13A.
- (2) An action under subsection (1) must be brought:
  - (a) within 30 days after the seizure; or
  - (b) if a notice is given under subsection 444B(1) in relation to the specimen—within 30 days after the giving of the notice.
- (3) If:
  - (a) an action is brought under subsection (1); and
  - (b) the court finds that the specimen was used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence concerned;the court must order the specimen to be forfeited to the Commonwealth.

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- (4) If:
- (a) an action is brought under subsection (1); and
  - (b) the action is discontinued by the owner otherwise than because of:
    - (i) the delivery of the specimen to the owner; or
    - (ii) the forfeiture of the specimen to the Commonwealth; or
    - (iii) the disposal of the specimen under section 449;
- the specimen is forfeited to the Commonwealth.

**444E Consignment of specimen with consent of owner**

- (1) If:
- (a) a specimen is seized under section 444A; and
  - (b) the specimen was imported from a particular foreign country; and
  - (c) the export of the specimen from the foreign country was not in contravention of a law of the foreign country that corresponds to Part 13A; and
  - (d) if the importer had applied for a permit authorising the import of the specimen, there is no reasonable likelihood that the permit would have been granted; and
  - (e) the importer produces written evidence from the relevant CITES authority of the foreign country that the specimen may be returned to the foreign country without contravening such a law;
- the Secretary may, with the consent of the owner of the specimen, consign the specimen to a place in the foreign country.
- (2) The consignment is to be at the expense of the owner of the specimen.

**444F Release of specimen**

If a specimen is seized under section 444A, the Secretary may release the specimen to the owner, or to the person from whose possession the specimen was seized, either:

- (a) unconditionally; or

- (b) on such conditions as the Secretary thinks fit (including conditions about the giving of security for payment of its value if it is forfeited).

#### **444G Retention of specimen**

- (1) If a specimen is seized under section 444A, the specimen may be retained until the end of 30 days after whichever is the latest of the following events:
    - (a) the seizure;
    - (b) if a notice is given under subsection 444B(1) in relation to the specimen—the giving of the notice;
    - (c) if an application is made under subsection 444C(1) in relation to the specimen—the making of a decision on that application;
    - (d) if:
      - (i) proceedings for an offence against Part 13A are instituted during the period within which an application may be made under subsection 444C(1) in relation to the specimen; and
      - (ii) the specimen may have been used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence or the specimen may afford evidence of the commission of the offence;the termination of the proceedings (including any appeal to a court in relation to those proceedings);
  - (e) if proceedings under section 444K are instituted during the period within which an application may be made under subsection 444C(1) in relation to the specimen—the termination of the proceedings (including any appeal to a court in relation to those proceedings).
- (2) The rule in subsection (1) does not authorise the retention of the specimen if the owner of the specimen succeeds in an action under subsection 444D(1) for the delivery of the specimen to the owner. Nor does that rule require the return of the specimen if proceedings under subsection 444D(1) relating to the specimen are pending.

Section 444H

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**444H Forfeiture of specimen after end of retention period**

- (1) If:
- (a) a specimen is seized under section 444A; and
  - (b) none of the following happens before the end of the period for which the specimen may be retained:
    - (i) proceedings are instituted for an offence against Part 13A, where the specimen is alleged to have been used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence;
    - (ii) the specimen is delivered to the owner;
    - (iii) the owner of the specimen brings an action under subsection 444D(1) for the delivery of the specimen to the owner;
    - (iv) proceedings are instituted under section 444K in relation to the specimen;
    - (v) the specimen is disposed of under section 449;
- the specimen is forfeited to the Commonwealth at the end of that period.
- (2) Subsection (1) has effect only to the extent (if any) to which it gives effect to paragraph 1(b) of Article VIII of CITES.

**444J Forfeiture of specimen by consent etc.**

- (1) If:
- (a) a specimen is seized under section 444A; and
  - (b) the owner of the specimen agrees to transfer ownership of the specimen to the Commonwealth, either:
    - (i) unconditionally; or
    - (ii) in the event that a future contingency happens; and
  - (c) if subparagraph (b)(ii) applies—that contingency happens;
- then:
- (d) the specimen becomes the property of the Commonwealth; and

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- (e) the provisions of this Part relating to forfeiture apply as if the specimen had been forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act.
- (2) If:
  - (a) a specimen is seized under section 444A; and
  - (b) the owner of the specimen agrees to transfer ownership of the specimen to the Commonwealth in the event that a future contingency happens;the Secretary may retain the specimen:
  - (c) until the specimen becomes the property of the Commonwealth; or
  - (d) if the specimen does not become the property of the Commonwealth—until the occurrence of the last day on which that contingency could have happened.
- (3) Subsection (2) has effect despite anything in section 444G.

**444K Forfeiture of specimen by order of a civil court**

- If:
- (a) a specimen is seized under section 444A; and
  - (b) the specimen has been used or otherwise involved in a contravention of Part 13A;
- a court may, on the application of the Secretary, order the forfeiture to the Commonwealth of the specimen.

**Subdivision A—Seizure of goods**

**445 Seizure of goods**

- (1) This section applies to any goods, including vehicles, vessels, aircraft, platforms, documents and organisms.
- (2) An authorised officer may seize goods if he or she has reasonable grounds to suspect that:

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- (a) the goods have been used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations; or
- (b) the goods will afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations.

**446 Retention of goods that have been seized**

- (1) Goods seized under section 445 may be retained until:
  - (a) the end of the period of 60 days after the seizure or the end of such extended period as is, or such extended periods as are, determined under subsection (3); or
  - (b) if:
    - (i) proceedings for an offence against this Act or the regulations are instituted within that period; and
    - (ii) the goods may have been used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence or the goods may afford evidence of the commission of the offence;the proceedings (including any appeal to a court in relation to those proceedings) are terminated.
- (2) An authorised officer may apply to a magistrate for an extension of the period during which the authorised officer is entitled to retain particular goods seized under section 445.
- (3) If the magistrate is satisfied that the retention of the goods for an extended period is warranted, the magistrate may make an order extending the period during which the goods may be retained. The maximum period of an individual extension is 30 days.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not prevent a magistrate from granting 2 or more successive extensions under that subsection of the period during which particular goods may be retained.
- (5) A function of making an order conferred on a magistrate by subsection (3) is conferred on the magistrate in a personal capacity and not as a court or a member of a court.

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- (6) Without limiting the generality of subsection (5), an order made by a magistrate under subsection (3) has effect only by virtue of this Act and is not taken, by implication, to be made by a court.
- (7) A magistrate performing a function of, or connected with, making an order under subsection (3) has the same protection and immunity as if he or she were performing that function as, or as a member of, a court (being the court of which the magistrate is a member).
- (8) The Governor-General may make arrangements with the Governor of a State, the Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory, the Administrator of the Northern Territory or the Administrator of Norfolk Island for the performance, by all or any of the persons who from time to time hold office as magistrates in that State or Territory, of the function of making orders under subsection (3).

**447 Disposal of goods if there is no owner or owner cannot be located**

If:

- (a) goods are seized under section 445; and
- (b) apart from this section, the Commonwealth is required to return the goods to the owner; and
- (c) there is no owner or the Secretary cannot, despite making reasonable efforts, locate the owner;

the Secretary may dispose of the goods in such manner as the Secretary thinks appropriate.

**448 Release of goods that have been seized**

The Secretary may authorise goods seized under section 445 or anything in, on or attached to such goods to be released to their owner, or to the person from whose possession they were seized, either:

- (a) unconditionally; or
- (b) on such conditions as the Secretary thinks fit (including conditions about the giving of security for giving payment of their value if they are forfeited).

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**Subdivision B—Immediate disposal of seized items**

**449 Immediate disposal of seized items**

- (1) If:
- (a) a thing is seized under this Division; and
  - (b) it is reasonably likely that the retention of the thing would:
    - (i) constitute a serious threat to the environment; or
    - (ii) constitute a serious threat to the continued existence, in the wild, of a particular species of animal or of a particular species of plant; or
    - (iii) result in the introduction of an alien species that represents a threat to ecosystems, habitats or other species; or
    - (iv) constitute a danger to public health; or
    - (v) in the case of a live organism—constitute a significant threat to the health of the organism;
- the Secretary may cause the thing to be dealt with in such manner as the Secretary considers appropriate (including the destruction of the thing).
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), if a thing is dealt with in accordance with subsection (1), the Secretary must give to:
- (a) the owner of the thing; or
  - (b) the person who had possession, custody or control of the thing immediately before it was seized;
- a written notice:
- (c) identifying the thing; and
  - (d) stating that the thing has been seized under this Division and giving the reason for the seizure; and
  - (e) stating that the thing has been dealt with under subsection (1) and specifying the manner in which it has been so dealt with and the reason for doing so; and
  - (f) setting out the terms of subsection (4).
- The notice must be given as soon as practicable after the thing is so dealt with.



- (3) The Secretary need not give a notice under subsection (2) about a thing if, after making such inquiries as the Secretary thinks appropriate, the Secretary does not, within 20 days after dealing with the thing, have sufficient information to enable the notice to be given.
- (4) If a thing is dealt with in accordance with subsection (1), the owner of the thing may bring an action against the Commonwealth in a court of competent jurisdiction for the recovery of the market value of the thing at the time it was so dealt with. The action must be brought on the ground that the thing was not used or otherwise involved in the commission of an offence against this Act or the regulations.

### **Subdivision C—Court-ordered forfeiture**

#### **450 Court-ordered forfeiture**

- (1) If a court convicts a person of an offence against this Act or the regulations, the court may order the forfeiture to the Commonwealth of any thing used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence.
- (1A) If a court convicts a person of an offence against Part 13A, the court must order the forfeiture to the Commonwealth of any specimen used or otherwise involved in the commission of the offence.

Note: Part 13A deals with the international movement of wildlife specimens.

- (2) A court may make an order under subsection (1) or (1A) even if the thing or specimen has been seized under this Act.

### **Subdivision D—Dealings in forfeited items**

#### **451 Dealings in forfeited items**

- (1) A thing forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act becomes the property of the Commonwealth.

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- (2) A thing forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act is to be dealt with in such manner as the Secretary considers appropriate.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), the Secretary may sell a thing forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act.
- (4) The Secretary must not sell a specimen forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act unless, in the opinion of the Secretary, the buyer will use the specimen for scientific or educational purposes.

**Subdivision E—Delivery of forfeited items to the Commonwealth**

**452 Delivery of forfeited items to the Commonwealth**

- (1) If:
  - (a) a thing is forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act; and
  - (b) the thing has not been dealt with under section 451; and
  - (c) the thing is in the possession, custody or control of a person other than:
    - (i) the Commonwealth; or
    - (ii) an agency of the Commonwealth;the person must deliver the thing to the Secretary.

- (2) A person must not contravene subsection (1).

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

**Subdivision F—Keeping of organisms that have been seized**

**453 Keeping of organisms retained under this Part**

If a person is authorised under this Part to retain an organism, the person may do so by causing the organism to be taken to, and kept at, a place approved by the Secretary for the purpose of keeping organisms seized under this Division.

#### **454 Recovery of costs of storing or keeping organisms**

- (1) If an organism is seized under this Division, the owner is liable to pay to the Commonwealth an amount equal to the sum of the following costs:
  - (a) reasonable costs incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to the custody of the organism;
  - (b) reasonable costs incurred by the Commonwealth in transporting the organism;
  - (c) reasonable costs incurred by the Commonwealth in maintaining the organism.
- (2) If:
  - (a) an organism is seized under this Division; and
  - (b) the organism is disposed of;the owner is liable to pay to the Commonwealth an amount equal to the reasonable costs incurred by the Commonwealth in disposing of the organism.
- (3) An amount payable by a person under this section is a debt due by the person to the Commonwealth.
- (4) An amount payable by a person to the Commonwealth under this section may be recovered by action in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (5) The Secretary may remit an amount payable by a person under this section.
- (6) In addition to its effect apart from this subsection, this section also has the effect it would have if a liability under this section were, by express provision, confined to the case of an organism that:
  - (a) is forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act; or
  - (b) would have been forfeited to the Commonwealth under this Act if it had not been disposed of.

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**Subdivision G—Rescuing goods**

**455 Rescuing goods**

A person is guilty of an offence punishable upon conviction by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years if:

- (a) the person rescues any goods; and
- (b) the goods have been, or are about to be, seized under this Act.

**456 Breaking or destroying goods or documents to prevent seizure etc.**

- (1) A person must not:
  - (a) stave, break or destroy any goods in order to prevent the seizure of goods, the securing of goods, or the proof of any offence under this Act; or
  - (b) destroy any documents relating to any goods in order to prevent the seizure of goods, the securing of goods, or the proof of any offence under this Act.

Penalty: Imprisonment for 2 years.

- (2) This section applies to vehicles, vessels, aircraft, platforms, documents and organisms in the same way as it applies to goods.

## **Division 11—Powers of pursuit**

### **457 Power to pursue persons etc.**

- (1) An authorised officer may exercise in relation to vessels (other than Australian vessels) and foreign nationals in any place (except the territorial sea of another country) a power conferred on the authorised officer under section 403, 406 or 430 if:
  - (a) one or more authorised officers (whether or not including the authorised officer exercising the power) have pursued the person or vessel from a place within the Australian jurisdiction to such a place; and
  - (b) the pursuit was not terminated or interrupted at any time before the authorised officer concerned arrived at such a place with a view to exercising that power.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b), a pursuit of a person or vessel is not taken to be terminated or interrupted only because the authorised officer or officers concerned lose sight of the person or vessel.
- (3) A reference in subsection (2) to losing sight of a person or vessel includes losing output from a radar or other sensing device.

## **Division 12—Environmental audits**

### **458 Directed environmental audits**

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice given to the holder of an environmental authority, require the holder to carry out an environmental audit if the Minister believes or suspects on reasonable grounds:
  - (a) that the holder has contravened, or is likely to contravene, a condition of the authority; or
  - (b) the impacts that the action authorised by the authority has, has had or is likely to have on the matter dealt with by the provision for which the authority authorises the action are significantly greater than was indicated in the information available to the Minister when the authority was granted.
- (2) The notice must specify:
  - (a) the matters to be covered by the audit; and
  - (b) the form of the audit report and the kinds of particulars it is to contain; and
  - (c) the date on or before which the report must be given to the Minister.
- (3) Without limiting the matters that may be specified under paragraph (2)(a), those matters may include all or any of the following:
  - (a) an evaluation of the nature of the environment that is or will be affected by the holder's activities; and
  - (b) an assessment of the risks to the environment resulting from the activities; and
  - (c) an assessment of the holder's existing capacity to comply with the authority and the requirements of this Act and the regulations in carrying on the activities; and
  - (d) an assessment of what the holder will need to do, or continue to do, so to comply.

- (4) For the purposes of this Act, an *environmental authority* is:
- (a) an approval under Part 9; or
  - (b) a permit issued under Chapter 5.

#### **459 Appointment of auditor and carrying out of audit**

- (1) If the Minister gives the holder of an environmental authority a notice under section 458, the holder must appoint an environmental auditor and arrange for the auditor to carry out an environmental audit in accordance with the notice.
- (2) The holder of an environmental authority must not contravene subsection (1).
- Civil penalty:        500 penalty units.
- (3) The holder must not appoint an officer or employee of the holder to be an environmental auditor.
- (4) The holder must not appoint a person to be an environmental auditor unless the Minister has approved the person for such appointment before the appointment is made.
- (5) An appointment of a person as an environmental auditor made otherwise than in accordance with subsections (3) and (4) has no effect.

#### **460 Nature of directed environmental audit**

- (1) If:
- (a) an environmental auditor carries out a directed environmental audit; and
  - (b) in the course of carrying out the audit, the auditor does not deal with a particular matter; and
  - (c) the matter is specified in the Minister's notice under section 458 as a matter that is to be covered by the audit;
- the auditor is guilty of an offence, punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding 30 penalty units.

Note:        Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibilities.

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(2) If:

- (a) an environmental auditor carries out a directed environmental audit; and
  - (b) in the course of carrying out the audit, the auditor conceals, or does not take into account, any information or document; and
  - (c) the information or document is relevant to the audit;
- the auditor is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not more than 6 months.

Note 1: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility.

Note 2: Subsection 4B(2) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court that convicts an individual of an offence impose a fine instead of, or as well as, imprisonment. The maximum fine (in penalty units) the court can impose is 5 times the maximum term of imprisonment (in months).

(3) In carrying out a directed environmental audit, the environmental auditor may, if:

- (a) an environmental audit (including an environmental audit carried out in accordance with a condition of the relevant authority) was completed within the last preceding 2 years; and
- (b) the auditor is satisfied that the previous audit is still relevant; have regard to the results of the previous audit.

(4) For the purposes of this Act, a ***directed environmental audit*** is an audit required by a notice under section 458.

**461 Audit reports**

- (1) After completing a directed environmental audit, the environmental auditor must prepare, and give the holder of the relevant environmental authority, a written report setting out the results of the audit.
- (2) The holder must give the report to the Minister:
  - (a) on or before the date specified by the Minister under paragraph 458(2)(c); or



- (b) on or before such later date as the Minister, on application by the holder, determines.
- (3) If the holder fails to comply with subsection (2), the holder is guilty of an offence, punishable on conviction by a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

Note: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibilities.

- (4) If:
- (a) the environmental auditor includes a statement in the report; and
  - (b) the statement is false or misleading in a material particular; the auditor is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not more than 6 months.

Note 1: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility.

Note 2: Subsection 4B(2) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court that convicts an individual of an offence impose a fine instead of, or as well as, imprisonment. The maximum fine (in penalty units) the court can impose is 5 times the maximum term of imprisonment (in months).

#### **462 Directed environmental audits do not affect other audit obligations**

This Division does not affect any obligation of a holder of an environmental authority to carry out an environmental audit in accordance with a condition of the authority.

## **Division 13—Conservation orders**

### **Subdivision A—Simplified outline**

#### **463 Simplified outline of this Division**

The following is a simplified outline of this Division:

The Minister may make conservation orders controlling activities, and requiring specified people to take specified actions, in Commonwealth areas to protect listed threatened species or ecological communities.

A person who contravenes a conservation order commits an offence.

Before the Minister makes a conservation order, he or she must consult various Commonwealth agencies.

The Secretary must publicise conservation orders, and may give assistance to a person to comply with a conservation order.

### **Subdivision B—Making and reviewing conservation orders**

#### **464 Minister may make conservation orders**

##### *Making conservation orders*

- (1) The Minister may make a written order (a **conservation order**):
  - (a) prohibiting or restricting specified activities on or in:
    - (i) all Commonwealth areas; or
    - (ii) specified Commonwealth areas; or
  - (b) requiring specified persons to take specified action on or in:
    - (i) all Commonwealth areas; or
    - (ii) specified Commonwealth areas.

Note: Section 470 makes contravening a conservation order an offence.

*Prerequisite to making conservation order*

- (2) The Minister may only make a conservation order if he or she reasonably believes that it is necessary to make the order to protect a listed threatened species or a listed threatened ecological community.

*Minister must consider economic and social matters*

- (3) In considering whether to make a conservation order, the Minister must be satisfied that making the order is justified, having regard to economic and social considerations that are consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

*Minister must consult before making conservation order*

- (4) Before making a conservation order, the Minister:
  - (a) must seek the Secretary's advice on whether it should be made; and
  - (b) must consult each Commonwealth agency that may be affected by the order, and any other Commonwealth agency the Minister thinks appropriate, unless delay in making the order would result in significant, irreparable damage to a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community.

## **465 Duration of conservation orders**

- (1) A conservation order comes into force:
  - (a) if a commencement day is specified in the order—on that day; or
  - (b) otherwise—immediately after it is made.
- (2) The order remains in force:
  - (a) for the period (if any) specified in the order; or
  - (b) until it is revoked by the Minister.

#### **466 Reviews of conservation orders**

- (1) The Minister must:
  - (a) at intervals of not more than 5 years, review the conservation order; and
  - (b) after each review, confirm, vary or revoke the order by instrument in writing.
- (2) Before reviewing the order, the Minister must seek the Secretary's advice on the review.
- (3) The Minister must not revoke the order unless he or she is satisfied that the order is no longer needed to protect the listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community the order was made to protect.
- (4) The Minister must not vary the order unless he or she is satisfied that the order as varied adequately protects the listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community the order was first made to protect.
- (5) Immediately after a variation of the order, the order continues in force as so varied.

#### **467 Publication of conservation orders**

- (1) As soon as practicable after making or reviewing a conservation order, the Minister must cause the Secretary to be informed of the making of the order, or the decision on the review, as the case requires.
- (2) The Secretary must, as soon as practicable after being so informed:
  - (a) cause to be published in the *Gazette*, in a daily newspaper circulating in each State or self-governing Territory in which are located Commonwealth areas to which the order relates and in any other way required by the regulations, a notice containing:
    - (i) a copy of the order; and
    - (ii) a statement to the effect that contravention of the order is an offence against this Act; and

- (iii) if applicable, a statement of the decision on the review; and
  - (iv) a statement to the effect that a person affected by the order may apply to the Minister, within 28 days of the publication (or within such further period as the Minister allows), for a reconsideration of the order by the Minister; and
- (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that each person who the Secretary knows would be affected by the order is given a notice containing:
  - (i) a copy of the order; and
  - (ii) if applicable, a statement of the decision on the review; and
  - (iii) unless the person is a Commonwealth agency or an agency of a State or self-governing Territory—a statement to the effect that contravention of the order is an offence against this Act; and
  - (iv) a statement to the effect that the person may apply to the Minister, within 28 days of being given the notice (or within such further period as the Minister allows), for a reconsideration of the order by the Minister.
- (3) Failure to comply with this section does not affect the validity of the order.

#### **468 Application for reconsideration of conservation orders or decisions on review**

- (1) A person affected by a conservation order, or by the decision on a review of a conservation order, may apply to the Minister to reconsider the order or the decision, as the case requires.
- (2) The application must be in writing.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), the application must be made within 28 days, or within such further period as the Minister allows, after the publication under paragraph 467(2)(a) of the notice relating to the making of the order or conduct of the review.

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- (4) If the person is given a copy of the order after that publication, the period of 28 days within which that person must make the application is taken to commence on the day on which the person received the notice.

**469 Reconsideration of conservation orders and decisions on review**

- (1) Upon receiving the application, the Minister must:
  - (a) seek the Secretary's advice on the application; and
  - (b) reconsider the conservation order or the decision on review, as the case requires; and
  - (c) by written instrument:
    - (i) confirm, vary or revoke the order; or
    - (ii) confirm or vary the decision on review; and
  - (d) cause the Secretary to be informed accordingly.
- (2) As soon as practicable after being so informed, the Secretary must:
  - (a) notify the applicant in writing of the result of the reconsideration; and
  - (b) if the order is revoked or varied or the decision on review is varied—cause to be published in the *Gazette*, and in any other way required by the regulations, a notice:
    - (i) stating that fact; and
    - (ii) in the case of a variation—setting out a copy of the order or decision as so varied.
- (3) Immediately after a variation of the order, the order continues in effect as so varied.

**Subdivision C—Complying with conservation orders**

**470 Contravening conservation orders is an offence**

- (1) A person must not take an action reckless as to whether the action contravenes a conservation order.

Penalty: 500 penalty units.

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- (2) If a person believes that taking an action that he or she proposes to take may contravene a particular conservation order, the person may seek the Minister's advice under subsection 471(3) on whether the order would be contravened by taking that action.
- (3) The person does not contravene the order if he or she acts in accordance with advice given to him or her under subsection 471(3) to the effect that the order would not be contravened.

**471 Minister to consider proposed actions etc.**

- (1) This section applies to a proposed action if it is referred to the Minister under section 470 for the Minister's advice on whether it would contravene a conservation order.
- (2) A person who proposes to take the action may make written submissions to the Minister about the proposed action.
- (3) The Minister must:
  - (a) refer the proposed action, together with any submissions received by the Minister about the proposed action, to the Secretary; and
  - (b) after considering the Secretary's advice on the matter, give the person who sought the Minister's advice under section 470 a written notice of the minister's advice on the proposed action.

**472 Contents of notices of advice**

- (1) The notice of advice must state whether the Minister thinks that the proposed action would contravene a conservation order.
- (2) If the notice of advice is given to a person who is not a Commonwealth agency, it must include:
  - (a) a statement to the effect that, if the person is dissatisfied with the Minister's decision to give that advice, application may, subject to the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975*, be made to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for review of the decision; and

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- (b) a statement to the effect that the person may request a statement under section 28 of that Act in relation to the decision.

**473 Review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal**

- (1) Applications may be made to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for review of the Minister's decision to give the advice.
- (2) Despite section 27 of the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975*, applications are not to be made by or on behalf of Commonwealth agencies.

**474 Assistance in complying with conservation orders**

- (1) On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Secretary may provide assistance to a person (other than a Commonwealth agency) to comply with prohibitions, restrictions or requirements imposed on a person by a conservation order.
- (2) The assistance may take any one or more of the following forms:
  - (a) payment of money;
  - (b) provision of goods;
  - (c) provision of labour;
  - (d) provision of other services.
- (3) The value of the assistance must not exceed that which the Secretary thinks are the reasonable and direct costs of complying with the prohibitions, restrictions or requirements in question.
- (4) Assistance given under this section must be taken into account in determining compensation payable under section 519.



## **Division 14—Injunctions**

### **475 Injunctions for contravention of the Act**

#### *Applications for injunctions*

- (1) If a person has engaged, engages or proposes to engage in conduct consisting of an act or omission that constitutes an offence or other contravention of this Act or the regulations:
  - (a) the Minister; or
  - (b) an interested person (other than an unincorporated organisation); or
  - (c) a person acting on behalf of an unincorporated organisation that is an interested person;may apply to the Federal Court for an injunction.

#### *Prohibitory injunctions*

- (2) If a person has engaged, is engaging or is proposing to engage in conduct constituting an offence or other contravention of this Act or the regulations, the Court may grant an injunction restraining the person from engaging in the conduct.

#### *Additional orders with prohibitory injunctions*

- (3) If the court grants an injunction restraining a person from engaging in conduct and in the Court's opinion it is desirable to do so, the Court may make an order requiring the person to do something (including repair or mitigate damage to the environment).

#### *Mandatory injunctions*

- (4) If a person has refused or failed, or is refusing or failing, or is proposing to refuse or fail to do an act, and the refusal or failure did, does or would constitute an offence or other contravention of this Act or the regulations, the Court may grant an injunction requiring the person to do the act.

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*Interim injunctions*

- (5) Before deciding an application for an injunction under this section, the Court may grant an interim injunction:
- (a) restraining a person from engaging in conduct; or
  - (b) requiring a person to do an act.

*Meaning of interested person—individuals*

- (6) For the purposes of an application for an injunction relating to conduct or proposed conduct, an individual is an ***interested person*** if the individual is an Australian citizen or ordinarily resident in Australia or an external Territory, and:
- (a) the individual's interests have been, are or would be affected by the conduct or proposed conduct; or
  - (b) the individual engaged in a series of activities for protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment at any time in the 2 years immediately before:
    - (i) the conduct; or
    - (ii) in the case of proposed conduct—making the application for the injunction.

*Meaning of interested person—organisations*

- (7) For the purposes of an application for an injunction relating to conduct or proposed conduct, an organisation (whether incorporated or not) is an ***interested person*** if it is incorporated (or was otherwise established) in Australia or an external Territory and one or more of the following conditions are met:
- (a) the organisation's interests have been, are or would be affected by the conduct or proposed conduct;
  - (b) if the application relates to conduct—at any time during the 2 years immediately before the conduct:
    - (i) the organisation's objects or purposes included the protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment; and
    - (ii) the organisation engaged in a series of activities related to the protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment;

- (c) if the application relates to proposed conduct—at any time during the 2 years immediately before the making of the application:
  - (i) the organisation's objects or purposes included the protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment; and
  - (ii) the organisation engaged in a series of activities related to the protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment.

## **476 Injunctions for contraventions of conservation agreements**

### *Applications for injunctions*

- (1) If a person bound by a conservation agreement engages or proposes to engage in conduct consisting of an act or omission that constitutes a contravention of the agreement, another person bound by the agreement or the Minister may apply to the Federal Court for an injunction.

Note: Section 307 explains who is bound by a conservation agreement.

### *Prohibitory injunctions*

- (2) If a person has engaged, is engaging or is proposing to engage in conduct contravening the agreement, the Court may grant an injunction restraining the person from engaging in the conduct.

### *Additional orders with prohibitory injunctions*

- (3) If the court grants an injunction restraining a person from engaging in conduct and in the Court's opinion it is desirable to do so, the Court may make an order requiring the person to do something (including repair or mitigate damage to the environment).

### *Mandatory injunctions*

- (4) If a person has refused or failed, or is refusing or failing, or is proposing to refuse or fail to do an act, and the refusal or failure was, is or would be a contravention of the agreement, the Court may grant an injunction requiring the person to do the act.

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*Interim injunctions*

- (5) Before deciding an application for an injunction under this section the Court may grant an interim injunction:
- (a) restraining a person from engaging in conduct; or
  - (b) requiring a person to do an act.

**477 Discharge of injunctions**

On application, the Federal Court may discharge or vary an injunction.

**478 No undertakings as to damages**

The Federal Court is not to require an applicant for an injunction to give an undertaking as to damages as a condition of granting an interim injunction.

**479 Certain considerations for granting injunctions not relevant**

*Prohibitory injunctions*

- (1) The Federal Court may grant an injunction restraining a person from engaging in conduct:
- (a) whether or not it appears to the Court that the person intends to engage again, or to continue to engage, in conduct of that kind; and
  - (b) whether or not the person has previously engaged in conduct of that kind; and
  - (c) whether or not there is a significant risk of injury or damage to human beings or the environment if the person engages, or continues to engage, in conduct of that kind.

*Mandatory injunctions*

- (2) The Federal Court may grant an injunction requiring a person to do a particular act or thing:
- (a) whether or not it appears to the Court that the person intends to refuse or fail again, or to continue to refuse or fail, to do the act or thing; and
  - (b) whether or not the person has previously refused or failed to do the act or thing; and
  - (c) whether or not there is a significant risk of injury or damage to human beings or the environment if the person refuses or fails, or continues to refuse or fail, to do the act or thing.

**480 Powers conferred are in addition to other powers of the Court**

The powers conferred on the Federal Court by this Division are in addition to (and do not limit) any other powers of the Court.

## Division 15—Civil penalties

### Subdivision A—Obtaining an order for a civil penalty

#### 481 Federal Court may order person to pay pecuniary penalty for contravening civil penalty provision

##### *Application for order*

- (1) Within 6 years of a person (the **wrongdoer**) contravening a civil penalty provision, the Minister may apply on behalf of the Commonwealth to the Federal Court for an order that the wrongdoer pay the Commonwealth a pecuniary penalty.

##### *Court may order wrongdoer to pay pecuniary penalty*

- (2) If the Court is satisfied that the wrongdoer has contravened a civil penalty provision, the Court may order the wrongdoer to pay to the Commonwealth for each contravention the pecuniary penalty that the Court determines is appropriate (but not more than the relevant amount specified for the provision).

##### *Determining amount of pecuniary penalty*

- (3) In determining the pecuniary penalty, the Court must have regard to all relevant matters, including:
  - (a) the nature and extent of the contravention; and
  - (b) the nature and extent of any loss or damage suffered as a result of the contravention; and
  - (c) the circumstances in which the contravention took place; and
  - (d) whether the person has previously been found by the Court in proceedings under this Act to have engaged in any similar conduct.

##### *Conduct contravening more than one civil penalty provision*

- (4) If conduct constitutes a contravention of 2 or more civil penalty provisions, proceedings may be instituted under this Act against a

person in relation to the contravention of any one or more of those provisions. However, the person is not liable to more than one pecuniary penalty under this section in respect of the same conduct.

**482 What is a *civil penalty provision*?**

A subsection of this Act (or a section of this Act that is not divided into subsections) is a *civil penalty provision* if:

- (a) the words “civil penalty” and one or more amounts in penalty units are set out at the foot of the subsection (or section); or
- (b) another provision of this Act specifies that the subsection (or section) is a civil penalty provision.

**483 Contravening a civil penalty provision is not an offence**

A contravention of a civil penalty provision is not an offence.

**484 Persons involved in contravening civil penalty provision**

- (1) A person must not:
  - (a) aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of a civil penalty provision; or
  - (b) induce (by threats, promises or otherwise) a contravention of a civil penalty provision; or
  - (c) be in any way directly or indirectly knowingly concerned in, or party to, a contravention of a civil penalty provision; or
  - (d) conspire to contravene a civil penalty provision.
- (2) This Division applies to a person who contravenes subsection (1) in relation to a civil penalty provision as if the person had contravened the provision.

**485 Recovery of a pecuniary penalty**

If the Federal Court orders a person to pay a pecuniary penalty:

- (a) the penalty is payable to the Commonwealth; and

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- (b) the Commonwealth may enforce the order as if it were a judgment of the Court.

**486 Gathering information for application for pecuniary penalty**

- (1) This section applies if it appears to the Minister that a person (the *wrongdoer*) may have contravened a civil penalty provision.
- (2) If the Minister, on reasonable grounds, suspects or believes that a person other than the wrongdoer can give information relevant to an application for a civil penalty order in relation to the contravention, whether or not such an application has been made, the Minister may, by writing given to the person, require the person to give all reasonable assistance in connection with such an application.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply in relation to a duly qualified legal practitioner who is acting, or has acted, for the wrongdoer.
- (4) If a person fails to give assistance as required under subsection (2):
  - (a) the person contravenes this subsection; and
  - (b) the Federal Court may, on the application of the Minister, order the person to comply with the requirement as specified in the order.

**Subdivision B—Civil penalty proceedings and criminal proceedings**

**486A Civil proceedings after criminal proceedings**

The Federal Court must not make a pecuniary penalty order against a person for a contravention of a civil penalty provision if the person has been convicted of an offence constituted by conduct that is substantially the same as the conduct constituting the contravention.



**486B Criminal proceedings during civil proceedings**

- (1) Proceedings for a pecuniary penalty order against a person for a contravention of a civil penalty provision are stayed if:
  - (a) criminal proceedings are started or have already been started against the person for an offence; and
  - (b) the offence is constituted by conduct that is substantially the same as the conduct alleged to constitute the contravention.
- (2) The proceedings for the order may be resumed if the person is not convicted of the offence. Otherwise, the proceedings for the order are dismissed.

**486C Criminal proceedings after civil proceedings**

Criminal proceedings may be started against a person for conduct that is substantially the same as conduct constituting a contravention of a civil penalty provision regardless of whether a pecuniary penalty order has been made against the person.

**486D Evidence given in proceedings for penalty not admissible in criminal proceedings**

Evidence of information given or evidence of production of documents by an individual is not admissible in criminal proceedings against the individual if:

- (a) the individual previously gave the evidence or produced the documents in proceedings for a pecuniary penalty order against the individual for a contravention of a civil penalty provision (whether or not the order was made); and
- (b) the conduct alleged to constitute the offence is substantially the same as the conduct that was claimed to constitute the contravention.

However, this does not apply to a criminal proceeding in respect of the falsity of the evidence given by the individual in the proceedings for the pecuniary penalty order.

## Division 16—Review of administrative decisions

### 487 Extended standing for judicial review

- (1) This section extends (and does not limit) the meaning of the term *person aggrieved* in the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977* for the purposes of the application of that Act in relation to:
  - (a) a decision made under this Act or the regulations; or
  - (b) a failure to make a decision under this Act or the regulations; or
  - (c) conduct engaged in for the purpose of making a decision under this Act or the regulations.
- (2) An individual is taken to be a person aggrieved by the decision, failure or conduct if:
  - (a) the individual is an Australian citizen or ordinarily resident in Australia or an external Territory; and
  - (b) at any time in the 2 years immediately before the decision, failure or conduct, the individual has engaged in a series of activities in Australia or an external Territory for protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment.
- (3) An organisation or association (whether incorporated or not) is taken to be a person aggrieved by the decision, failure or conduct if:
  - (a) the organisation or association is incorporated, or was otherwise established, in Australia or an external Territory; and
  - (b) at any time in the 2 years immediately before the decision, failure or conduct, the organisation or association has engaged in a series of activities in Australia or an external Territory for protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment; and
  - (c) at the time of the decision, failure or conduct, the objects or purposes of the organisation or association included

protection or conservation of, or research into, the environment.

- (4) A term (except *person aggrieved*) used in this section and in the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977* has the same meaning in this section as it has in that Act.

#### **488 Applications on behalf of unincorporated organisations**

- (1) A person acting on behalf of an unincorporated organisation that is a person aggrieved (for the purposes of the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977*) by:
- (a) a decision made under this Act or the regulations; or
  - (b) a failure to make a decision under this Act or the regulations; or
  - (c) conduct engaged in for the purpose of making a decision under this Act or the regulations;
- may apply under that Act for a review of the decision, failure or conduct.
- (2) The *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977* applies in relation to the person as if he or she were a person aggrieved.

## Division 17—Duty to provide accurate information

### 489 Providing false or misleading information to obtain approval or permit

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person provides information in response to a requirement or request under Part 7, 8, 9, 13 or 13A; and
  - (b) the person is reckless as to whether the information is false or misleading in a material particular.

Note: The fault element in paragraph (1)(b) can be demonstrated by proof of knowledge. See subsection 5.4(4) of the *Criminal Code*.

- (2) An offence against subsection (1) is punishable on conviction by:
- (a) imprisonment for a term not more than 2 years, a fine not more than 120 penalty units, or both, if it is proved the person knew the information was false or misleading; or
  - (b) imprisonment for a term not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both, if it is proved the person was reckless as to whether the information was false or misleading.

Note: Subsection 4B(3) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court fine a body corporate up to 5 times the maximum amount the court could fine a person under this subsection.

- (2A) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person provides information in response to a requirement or request under Part 7, 8, 9, 13 or 13A; and
  - (b) the person is negligent as to whether the information is false or misleading in a material particular.

Note: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility.

- (2B) An offence against subsection (2A) is punishable on conviction by a fine not more than 30 penalty units.

Note: Subsection 4B(3) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court fine a body corporate up to 5 times the maximum amount the court could fine a person under this subsection.

- (3) Subsections (1) and (2A) do not apply to a requirement to provide information that is imposed by a condition attached to an environmental authority.

Note: The defendant bears an evidential burden in relation to the matter in subsection (3). See subsection 13.3(3) of the *Criminal Code*.

#### **490 Providing false or misleading information in response to a condition on an approval or permit**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the person is the holder of an environmental authority; and
  - (b) a condition attached to the environmental authority requires the person to provide information; and
  - (c) the person provides information in response (or purportedly in response) to the requirement; and
  - (d) the person is reckless as to whether the information is false or misleading in a material particular.

Note: The fault element in paragraph (1)(d) can be demonstrated by proof of knowledge. See subsection 5.4(4) of the *Criminal Code*.

- (2) The offence is punishable on conviction by:
- (a) imprisonment for a term not more than 2 years, a fine not more than 120 penalty units, or both, if it is proved the person knew the information was false or misleading; or
  - (b) imprisonment for a term not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both, if it is proved the person was reckless as to whether the information was false or misleading.

Note: Subsection 4B(3) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court fine a body corporate up to 5 times the maximum amount the court could fine a person under this subsection.

#### **491 Providing false or misleading information to authorised officer etc.**

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
- (a) provides information or a document to another person (the *recipient*); and

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- (b) knows the recipient is:
    - (i) an authorised officer; or
    - (ii) the Minister; or
    - (iii) an employee or officer in the Department; or
    - (iv) a commissioner;  
performing a duty or carrying out a function under this Act or the regulations; and
  - (c) knows the information or document is false or misleading in a material particular.
- (2) The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both.

Note: Subsection 4B(3) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court fine a body corporate up to 5 times the maximum amount the court could fine a person under this subsection.

## **Division 18—Liability of executive officers for corporations**

### **493 Who is an *executive officer* of a body corporate?**

In this Act:

*executive officer* of a body corporate means a person, by whatever name called and whether or not a director of the body, who is concerned in, or takes part in, the management of the body.

### **494 Civil penalties for executive officers of bodies corporate**

- (1) If:
- (a) a body corporate contravenes a provision of Part 3 that is a civil penalty provision or section 142; and
  - (b) an executive officer of the body knew that, or was reckless or negligent as to whether, the contravention would occur; and
  - (c) the officer was in a position to influence the conduct of the body in relation to the contravention; and
  - (d) the officer failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent the contravention;
- the officer contravenes this subsection.
- (2) Subsection (1) is a civil penalty provision. Under section 481, the Federal Court may order a person contravening subsection (1) to pay a pecuniary penalty not more than the pecuniary penalty the Court could order an individual to pay for contravening the civil penalty provision contravened by the body corporate.

### **495 Criminal liability of executive officers of bodies corporate**

- (1) If:
- (a) a body corporate contravenes:
    - (i) section 489 (Providing false or misleading information to obtain approval or permit); or

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- (ii) section 490 (Providing false or misleading information in response to a condition on an approval or permit); or
- (iii) section 491 (Providing false or misleading information to authorised officer etc.); and
- (b) an executive officer of the body knew that, or was reckless or negligent as to whether, the contravention would occur; and
- (c) the officer was in a position to influence the conduct of the body in relation to the contravention; and
- (d) the officer failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent the contravention;

the officer is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

Note 1: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility.

Note 2: Subsection 4B(2) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court that convicts an individual of an offence impose a fine instead of, or as well as, imprisonment. The maximum fine (in penalty units) the court can impose is 5 times the maximum term of imprisonment (in months).

(2) If:

- (a) a body corporate contravenes:
  - (i) section 15A (Offences relating to declared World Heritage properties); or
  - (ia) section 15C (Offences relating to National Heritage places); or
  - (ii) section 17B (Offences relating to declared Ramsar wetlands); or
  - (iii) section 18A (Offences relating to threatened species etc.); or
  - (iv) section 20A (Offences relating to listed migratory species); or
  - (v) section 22A (Offences relating to nuclear actions); or
  - (vi) section 24A (Offences relating to marine areas); or
  - (vii) section 27A (Offences relating to Commonwealth land); or
  - (viii) section 142A (Offence of breaching conditions on approval); and



- (b) an executive officer of the body was reckless as to whether the contravention would occur; and
  - (c) the officer was in a position to influence the conduct of the body in relation to the contravention; and
  - (d) the officer failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent the contravention;
- the officer is guilty of an offence.

Note: Chapter 2 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the general principles of criminal responsibility.

- (3) An offence against subsection (2) is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not exceeding the term specified in the provision contravened by the body corporate.

Note: Subsection 4B(2) of the *Crimes Act 1914* lets a court that convicts an individual of an offence impose a fine instead of, or as well as, imprisonment. The maximum fine (in penalty units) the court can impose is 5 times the maximum term of imprisonment (in months).

#### **496 Did an executive officer take reasonable steps to prevent contravention?**

- (1) For the purposes of sections 494 and 495, in determining whether an executive officer of a body corporate failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent the contravention, a court is to have regard to:
  - (a) what action (if any) the officer took directed towards ensuring the following (to the extent that the action is relevant to the contravention):
    - (i) that the body arranges regular professional assessments of the body's compliance with this Act and the regulations;
    - (ii) that the body implements any appropriate recommendations arising from such an assessment;
    - (iii) that the body has an appropriate system established for managing the effects of the body's activities on the environment;
    - (iv) that the body's employees, agents and contractors have a reasonable knowledge and understanding of the requirements to comply with this Act and the

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regulations, in so far as those requirements affect the employees, agents or contractors concerned; and

- (b) what action (if any) the officer took when he or she became aware that the body was contravening:
  - (i) this Act; or
  - (ii) the regulations; or
  - (iii) if the body contravened Part 3 or section 142 or 142A—any environmental management plan that was prepared by the body, and approved by the Minister, as required by a condition attached to an approval under Part 9 for the purposes of a provision of Part 3 of the body's taking of an action.
- (2) This section does not, by implication, limit the generality of sections 494 and 495.

## **Division 19—Infringement notices**

### **497 Infringement notices**

- (1) The regulations may make provision enabling a person who is alleged to have committed an offence against the regulations to pay a penalty to the Commonwealth as an alternative to prosecution.
- (2) The penalty must equal one-fifth of the maximum fine that a court could impose on the person as a penalty for that offence.

## **Division 20—Publicising contraventions**

### **498 Minister may publicise contraventions of this Act or the regulations**

- (1) The Minister may publicise, in any way he or she thinks appropriate, a contravention of this Act or the regulations for which a person has been convicted or ordered to pay a pecuniary penalty.
- (2) This Division does not:
  - (a) limit the Minister's powers to publicise a contravention of this Act or the regulations; or
  - (b) prevent anyone else from publicising a contravention of this Act or the regulations; or
  - (c) affect any obligation (however imposed) on anyone to publicise a contravention of this Act or the regulations.

## **Division 21—Immunity of officers**

### **498A Immunity of officers and assistants**

- (1) An authorised officer or ranger is not liable to any proceedings relating to an act done, or omitted to be done, in good faith in the exercise or purported exercise of any power conferred on the officer or ranger by this Part or regulations made for the purposes of this Part or Division 5 of Part 15.
- (2) A person requested by an authorised officer or ranger to assist the officer or ranger in the exercise or purported exercise of any power conferred on the officer or ranger by this Part, or by regulations made for the purposes of this Part or Division 5 of Part 15, is not liable to any proceedings relating to an act done, or omitted to be done, in good faith for the purpose of assisting the officer or ranger.

## **Part 18—Remedying environmental damage**

### **499 Commonwealth powers to remedy environmental damage**

- (1) This section applies if the Minister suspects that an act or omission constitutes a contravention of this Act or the regulations (whether or not the act or omission is an offence against this Act or the regulations).
- (2) On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Minister may cause to be taken such steps as he or she thinks proper:
  - (a) to repair or remove any condition that arises from the act or omission and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or
    - (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision; or
  - (b) to mitigate any damage that arises from the act or omission and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or
    - (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision; or
  - (c) to prevent any damage that is likely to arise from the act or omission and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or
    - (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision.
- (3) If:
  - (a) a person provided false or misleading information in contravention of section 489; and
  - (b) as a result of the contravention the Minister granted an environmental authority to a person, or set conditions relating to the environmental authority, unaware of the certainty or likelihood of the action covered by the authority:

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- (i) resulting in damage to the environment or to a matter protected by a provision of Part 3; or
  - (ii) giving rise to a condition relating to the environment or to a matter protected by a provision of Part 3; and
  - (c) the action results in damage to the environment or gives rise to a condition relating to the environment;
- then, for the purposes of this section and section 500, the damage or condition is taken to arise from the provision of false or misleading information in contravention of section 489.
- (4) This section does not affect the exercise by the Commonwealth or the Minister of powers under another provision of this Act or under any other law.

**500 Liability for loss or damage caused by contravention**

- (1) A person (the *wrongdoer*) who contravenes this Act or the regulations is liable to pay to another person (the *affected party*) who suffers loss or damage arising from the contravention an amount equal to the other person's loss or damage.
- (2) Without limiting the amount payable under subsection (1), the loss or damage a person suffers from a contravention of this Act or the regulations includes the expenses and liabilities (if any) reasonably incurred by the affected party to:
  - (a) repair or remove any condition that arises from the act or omission constituting the contravention and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or
    - (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision; or
  - (b) mitigate any damage that arises from the act or omission constituting the contravention and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or
    - (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision; or
  - (c) prevent any damage likely to arise from the act or omission constituting the contravention and relates to:
    - (i) the environment; or

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- (ii) if the contravention was of a provision of Part 3—the matter protected by the provision.

Note: This makes the person who contravenes the Act liable to pay the Commonwealth the expenses reasonably incurred in taking steps under section 499 in relation to the contravention.

- (3) An amount payable under subsection (1) is a debt due to the affected party, recoverable in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (4) If 2 or more persons are liable under subsection (1) to pay an amount in respect of the same loss or damage, those persons are jointly and severally liable to pay the sum.
- (5) A finding by a court in criminal proceedings or civil proceedings that the wrongdoer contravened this Act or the regulations is admissible as evidence of that fact in proceedings to recover an amount payable under subsection (1).
- (6) This section applies:
  - (a) whether or not the contravention was an offence; and
  - (b) whether or not the provision contravened is a civil penalty provision.
- (7) This section does not apply to a decision (or a failure to make a decision or conduct for the purposes of making a decision) purportedly under this Act or the regulations that contravenes this Act or the regulations.

**501 Other powers not affected**

This Division does not affect any other powers or rights under this Act, the regulations or any other law.



## **Part 19—Organisations**

### **Division 1—Establishment and functions of the Threatened Species Scientific Committee**

#### **502 Establishment**

- (1) The Threatened Species Scientific Committee is established.
- (2) The Minister is to determine in writing the composition of the Committee, including the qualifications of its members.
- (3) The Minister is to appoint the members of the Committee on a part-time basis, and must appoint one of the members to chair the Committee.

#### **503 Functions of the Committee**

The functions of the Committee are:

- (a) to advise the Minister in accordance with Division 5 of Part 13 in relation to the making of recovery plans and threat abatement plans; and
- (b) to advise the Minister (on the Minister's request or on the Committee's initiative) on the amendment and updating of the lists established under Part 13; and
- (c) to advise the Minister, at his or her request, on matters relating to the administration of this Act; and
- (d) to give the Minister such other advice as is provided for in this Act; and
- (e) to perform such other functions as are conferred on the Committee by this Act.

## **Division 2—Establishment and functions of the Biological Diversity Advisory Committee**

### **504 Establishment**

- (1) The Biological Diversity Advisory Committee is established.
- (2) The Minister is to determine in writing the composition of the Committee, including the qualifications of its members.
- (3) The Minister is to appoint the members of the Committee on a part-time basis, and must appoint one of the members to chair the Committee.
- (4) The Minister must ensure that the membership includes members who are appointed to represent the following:
  - (a) the body known as the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council;
  - (b) conservation organisations that are not authorities of the Commonwealth or of any State or Territory;
  - (c) the scientific community (including both that part of the scientific community concerned with marine species and that part of the scientific community concerned with terrestrial species);
  - (d) the rural community;
  - (e) the business community;
  - (ea) indigenous peoples;
  - (f) the Commonwealth.
- (5) The Minister must ensure that, as far as practicable, each one of at least 5 members:
  - (a) possess scientific qualifications that the Minister thinks relevant to the performance of the Committee's functions; and
  - (b) is appointed to represent the scientific community and is not appointed to represent any of the other bodies, groups of bodies or communities referred to in subsection (4).

- (6) The Minister must ensure that a majority of the members are not persons employed by the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies.

### **505 Functions of the Committee**

The functions of the Committee are:

- (a) to advise the Minister, at his or her request, on matters relating to the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of biological diversity; and
- (b) to perform such other functions as are conferred on the Committee by this Act or the regulations.

## **Division 2A—Indigenous Advisory Committee**

### **505A Establishment**

- (1) The Indigenous Advisory Committee is established.
- (2) The Minister is to determine in writing the composition of the Committee, including the qualifications of its members.
- (3) The Minister is to appoint the members of the Committee on a part-time basis, and must appoint one of the members to chair the Committee.

### **505B Functions of the Committee**

- (1) The function of the Committee is to advise the Minister on the operation of the Act, taking into account the significance of indigenous peoples' knowledge of the management of land and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- (2) The Minister may give the Committee written guidelines about its function.

## **Division 3—Members and procedures of Committees**

### **506 Application**

This Division applies to the following Committees:

- (a) the Threatened Species Scientific Committee;
- (b) the Biological Diversity Advisory Committee;
- (c) the Indigenous Advisory Committee.

### **507 Terms and conditions**

#### *Term of office*

- (1) A member of a Committee holds office for the period specified in the instrument of appointment. The period must not exceed 5 years.

Note: Section 509 sets out the circumstances in which a member's appointment may be (or must be) terminated.

#### *Resignation*

- (2) A member of a Committee may resign his or her appointment by giving the Minister a written resignation.

#### *Other terms and conditions*

- (3) A member of a Committee holds office on the terms and conditions (if any) that are determined by the Minister in relation to matters not covered by this Act or the regulations.

### **508 Remuneration**

- (1) A member of a Committee is to be paid the remuneration that is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. If no determination of that remuneration by the Tribunal is in operation, the member is to be paid the remuneration that is prescribed.
- (2) A member of a Committee is to be paid the allowances that are prescribed.

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- (3) This section has effect subject to the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*.

**509 Termination of appointments of Committee members**

*Termination when person stops being qualified for appointment*

- (1) The appointment of a person to a position of member of a Committee is terminated when the person ceases to be qualified for appointment to the position.

*Termination for misbehaviour or incapacity*

- (2) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Committee for misbehaviour or physical or mental incapacity.

*Termination for failure to attend Committee meetings*

- (3) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Committee if the member is absent, except on leave of absence, from 3 consecutive meetings of the Committee of which the member has had notice.

*Termination for engaging in conflicting work*

- (4) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Committee if the member engages in paid employment that, in the Minister's opinion, conflicts or could conflict with the proper performance of the duties of the member.

*Termination for failure to disclose interests*

- (5) The Minister must terminate the appointment of a member of a Committee if:
- (a) the member does not comply with any requirements prescribed by the regulations to disclose an interest the member has in a matter being considered or about to be considered by the Committee; and
  - (b) the member does not have a reasonable excuse for not complying.

*Termination for bankruptcy or insolvency*

- (6) The Minister may terminate the appointment of a member of a Committee if the member:
- (a) becomes bankrupt; or
  - (b) applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors; or
  - (c) compounds with his or her creditors; or
  - (d) makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for the benefit of his or her creditors.

**510 Procedure of a Committee**

- (1) The regulations may provide for:
- (a) matters relating to the operation of a Committee, including:
    - (i) procedures for convening meetings of the Committee; and
    - (ii) procedures for determining who is to preside at a meeting of the Committee; and
    - (iii) determining who may attend a meeting of the Committee; and
    - (iv) the constitution of a quorum for a meeting of the Committee; and
    - (v) procedures relating to a member's interest in matters being dealt with by the Committee; and
    - (vi) the way in which matters are to be resolved by the Committee; and
  - (b) the appointment and rights of a deputy of a member of a Committee.
- (2) The regulations may allow a Committee to determine a matter relating to the operation of the Committee for which the regulations may provide.
- (3) If there are no regulations in force, a Committee may operate in the way it determines.

## **Division 4—Advisory committees**

### **511 Minister may establish advisory committees**

- (1) The Minister may by written instrument establish an advisory committee to advise the Minister on specified matters relating to the administration of this Act.
- (2) However, the Minister must not specify that an advisory committee is to advise the Minister on the management of a jointly managed reserve.
- (3) The Minister is to determine in writing the composition of an advisory committee, including qualifications of its members.

### **512 Appointments**

- (1) The Minister may appoint a person on a part-time basis to be a member of an advisory committee.
- (2) The Minister must appoint one of the members to chair the committee.

### **513 Members of advisory committees**

The regulations may provide for the terms and conditions applicable to members of an advisory committee, including terms and conditions relating to:

- (a) term of office; and
- (b) remuneration; and
- (c) allowances; and
- (d) leave of absence; and
- (e) disclosure of interests; and
- (f) termination of membership.



### **514 Committee procedure**

- (1) An advisory committee may operate in the way it determines, subject to any regulations.
- (2) The regulations may provide for the operation and procedures of an advisory committee. The regulations may allow a committee to determine its own procedure on any matter.

## **Division 5—Director of National Parks**

### **Subdivision A—Establishment, functions and powers**

#### **514A Continuation**

The corporation sole that existed under section 15 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975* immediately before the commencement of this Act continues in existence as the Director of National Parks.

Note: Subject to section 514U, the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* applies to the Director. That Act deals with matters relating to Commonwealth authorities, including reporting and accountability, banking and investment, and conduct of officers.

#### **514B Functions**

- (1) The functions of the Director are:
- (a) to administer, manage and control Commonwealth reserves and conservation zones; and
  - (b) to protect, conserve and manage biodiversity and heritage in Commonwealth reserves and conservation zones; and
  - (c) to co-operate with any country in matters relating to the establishment and management of national parks and nature reserves in that country; and
  - (d) to provide, and assist in the provision of, training in the knowledge and skills relevant to the establishment and management of national parks and nature reserves; and
  - (e) to carry out alone or in co-operation with other institutions and persons, and to arrange for any other institution or person to carry out, research and investigations relevant to the establishment and management of Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (f) to make recommendations to the Minister in relation to the establishment and management of Commonwealth reserves; and
  - (g) to administer the Australian National Parks Fund; and

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- (h) any other functions conferred on the Director under any other Act; and
- (i) to do anything incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the functions mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (h) (inclusive).

Note: Section 514D sets out requirements relating to the performance of the Director's functions.

- (2) The Director may perform any of the Director's functions in co-operation with a State, a self-governing Territory, an agency of a State or self-governing Territory or a Commonwealth agency.

### **514C Powers**

- (1) The Director has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of the Director's functions.
- (2) The Director's powers include, but are not limited to, the following powers:
  - (a) to enter into contracts; and
  - (b) to erect buildings and structures and carry on works; and
  - (c) to occupy, use and control any land or building owned or held under lease by the Commonwealth and made available for the purposes of the Director; and
  - (d) to acquire, hold and dispose of real or personal property; and
  - (e) despite section 514D, obtain goods or services on credit from any person by the use of a credit card; and
  - (f) to accept gifts, devises and bequests made to the Director whether on trust or otherwise, and to act as trustee of moneys or other property vested in the Director upon trust.

Note: Section 514D sets out limits on the Director's powers.

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**514D Requirements relating to functions and powers**

*Ministerial directions*

- (1) The Director must perform the Director's functions and exercise the Director's powers in accordance with any directions given by the Minister, unless this Act provides otherwise.

*Consultation*

- (2) The Director must consult and have regard to the views of the following persons in relation to the performance of the Director's functions and the exercise of the Director's powers in relation to a Commonwealth reserve or conservation zone:
  - (a) if the reserve or zone is wholly or partly in a State or self-governing Territory—the agency (if any) of the State or Territory responsible for managing national parks established under the law of the State or Territory;
  - (b) if the reserve or zone is wholly or partly in an area for which an Aboriginal Land Council has been established under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*—the Chairperson of the Council;
  - (c) if the reserve is Booderee National Park—the Chairperson of the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council.

*Australian National Botanic Gardens in Jervis Bay Territory*

- (3) The Director must consult and have regard to the views of the Chairperson of the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council in relation to the performance of the Director's functions and the exercise of the Director's powers in relation to the part of the Commonwealth reserve known as the Australian National Botanic Gardens that is in the Jervis Bay Territory.

*Trust property*

- (4) The Director must deal with any money or property vested in the Director on trust in accordance with the powers and duties of the Director as trustee, despite the other provisions of this Act.

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*Limits on contracts and leases*

- (5) The Director must not:
- (a) enter into a contract involving the payment or receipt of an amount more than:
    - (i) \$250,000; or
    - (ii) if the regulations prescribe a greater amount—that greater amount; or
  - (b) take land (except indigenous people's land) on lease for more than 10 years;
- without the Minister's approval.

*No borrowing*

- (6) The Director must not borrow money in the performance of the Director's functions.

**Subdivision B—Constitution of Director of National Parks**

**514E Constitution**

- (1) The Director:
- (a) is a body corporate with perpetual succession; and
  - (b) must have a seal; and
  - (c) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.
- (2) All courts, judges and persons acting judicially must:
- (a) take judicial notice of the imprint of the seal of the Director appearing on a document; and
  - (b) presume that the document was duly sealed.

**514F Appointment**

- (1) A person is to be appointed as the Director by the Governor-General by written instrument.
- (2) Before the Governor-General appoints a person as the Director, the Minister must be satisfied that the person has qualifications and experience in connection with national parks or the conservation

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and management of biodiversity that make the person suitable for the appointment.

- (3) The appointment is on a full-time basis. However, a person appointed as the Director may also hold an office or be employed in the Australian Public Service on a part-time basis, subject to this Division.

### **514G Acting appointments**

- (1) The Minister may appoint a person to act as the Director:
  - (a) during a vacancy in the office of Director; or
  - (b) during any period, or during all periods, when the person appointed as the Director is absent from duty or from Australia, or is, for any reason, temporarily unable to perform the duties of the office.
- (2) A person acting as the Director is taken to constitute the corporation mentioned in section 514A while the person is acting.
- (3) Anything done by or in relation to a person purporting to act under an appointment is not invalid merely because:
  - (a) the occasion for the appointment had not arisen; or
  - (b) there was a defect or irregularity in connection with the appointment; or
  - (c) the appointment had ceased to have effect; or
  - (d) the occasion to act had not arisen or had ceased.

### **Subdivision C—Terms and conditions of appointment**

#### **514H Term of office**

The person appointed as the Director holds office for the period specified in the instrument of appointment. The period must not exceed 7 years.

### **514J Remuneration**

- (1) The person appointed as the Director is to be paid the remuneration that is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. If no determination of that remuneration by the Tribunal is in operation, the person is to be paid the remuneration that is prescribed.
- (2) The person is to be paid the allowances that are prescribed by the regulations.
- (3) This section has effect subject to the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*.

### **514K Outside employment**

The person appointed as the Director must not engage in paid employment outside the duties of the Director's office without the Minister's approval.

### **514L Disclosure of interests**

If the person appointed as the Director has a material personal interest in a matter that he or she is considering or is about to consider as the Director, the person must give written notice of the interest to the Minister.

### **514M Leave of absence**

- (1) The person appointed as the Director has the recreation leave entitlements that are determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (2) The Minister may grant the person appointed as the Director leave of absence, other than recreation leave, on the terms and conditions as to remuneration or otherwise that the Minister determines.

### **514N Resignation**

The person appointed as the Director may resign his or her appointment by giving the Governor-General a written resignation.

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**514P Termination**

- (1) The Governor-General may terminate the appointment of a person as the Director for misbehaviour or physical or mental incapacity.
- (2) The Governor-General may terminate the appointment of a person as the Director if:
  - (a) the person:
    - (i) becomes bankrupt; or
    - (ii) applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors; or
    - (iii) compounds with his or her creditors; or
    - (iv) makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for the benefit of his or her creditors; or
  - (b) the person is absent, except on leave of absence, for 14 consecutive days or for 28 days in any 12 months; or
  - (c) the person engages, except with the Minister's approval, in paid employment outside the duties of the office of Director; or
  - (d) the person fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with section 514L.

**514Q Other terms and conditions**

The person appointed as the Director holds office on the terms and conditions (if any) in relation to matters not covered by this Act that are determined by the Governor-General.

**Subdivision D—Australian National Parks Fund**

**514R Australian National Parks Fund**

The fund established by section 45 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975* continues in existence as the Australian National Parks Fund, vested in the Director.



### **514S Payments to Australian National Parks Fund**

The following amounts are to be paid into the Australian National Parks Fund:

- (a) any money appropriated by the Parliament for the purposes of the Department and allocated by the Secretary for the management of Commonwealth reserves or conservation zones;
- (b) the proceeds of the sale of any property acquired out of money standing to the credit of the Fund;
- (c) any amounts paid to the Director in respect of leases, licences, permits and other authorities granted by the Director in relation to Commonwealth reserves or conservation zones;
- (d) any other amount paid by a person to the Director if:
  - (i) payment of the amount into the Fund would be consistent with the purposes for which the amount was paid; and
  - (ii) the Minister administering the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* considers it appropriate that the amount should be paid into the Fund;
- (e) any charges paid under section 356A or section 390F;
- (f) any other money received by the Director in the performance of his or her functions.

### **514T Application of money**

- (1) The money of the Australian National Parks Fund may be applied only:
  - (a) in payment or discharge of the costs, expenses and other obligations incurred by the Director in the performance of the Director's functions; and
  - (b) in payment of any remuneration, allowances and compensation payable under this Division or Division 4 of Part 15.

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- (2) Subsection (1) does not prevent investment of surplus money of the Fund under section 18 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

**Subdivision E—Accountability**

**514U Modification of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997***

- (1) Sections 514A and 514E provide that the Director is a corporation. The *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* applies (subject to subsections (2) and (3)) in relation to the corporation as if the person holding, or performing the duties of, the office of Director were a director of the corporation for the purposes of that Act.
- (2) Sections 27G, 27H, 27J and 27K of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* do not apply in relation to the Director.
- (3) To avoid doubt, the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* applies to the Australian National Parks Fund as though the Fund were money of the Director.

**514V Extra matters to be included in annual report**

The annual report prepared by the Director under section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* must also include particulars of any directions given by the Minister under subsection 514D(1) of this Act during the year to which the report relates.

**Subdivision F—Miscellaneous**

**514W Exemption from taxation**

The income of the Australian National Parks Fund and the property and transactions of the Director are not subject to taxation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

**514X Changes in office of Director**

An authority given, or a delegation or appointment made, by a person for the time being holding or acting in the office of Director continues in force despite the person ceasing to hold or act in that office, but may be revoked by a person later holding or acting in that office.

## **Part 20—Delegation**

### **515 Delegation**

- (1) The Minister may, by signed instrument, delegate all or any of his or her powers or functions under this Act to an officer or employee in the Department or to the Director. The delegate is, in the exercise or performance of a delegated power or function, subject to the directions of the Minister.
- (2) The Secretary may, by signed instrument, delegate all or any of his or her powers or functions under this Act to an officer or employee in the Department or to the Director. The delegate is, in the exercise or performance of a delegated power or function, subject to the directions of the Secretary.
- (3) The Director may, by sealed instrument, delegate all or any of the Director's powers or functions under this Act to a person. The delegate is, in the exercise of a delegated power or function, subject to the directions of the Director.

## **Part 20A—Publication of information on the Internet**

### **515A Publication of information on the Internet**

Without limiting the operation of section 170A, the Secretary must publish on the Internet each week a list of:

- (a) all permits issued or granted under this Act in the immediately preceding week; and
- (b) all matters required by this Act to be made available to the public in the immediately preceding week.

## **Part 21—Reporting**

### **Division 1—Annual reports**

#### **516 Annual report on operation of Act**

- (1) The Secretary must, as soon as practicable after 30 June in each year, prepare and give to the Minister a report on the operation of this Act (except Divisions 4 and 5 of Part 15 and Division 5 of Part 19) for the 12 months ending on that 30 June.

Note 1: Other provisions of this Act require the report to include certain matters.

Note 2: Section 34C of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* sets out rules about the time within which annual reports must be given to the Minister.

- (2) The Minister must cause a copy of the report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which he or she receives the report.

#### **516A Annual reports to deal with environmental matters**

##### *Agency annual reports*

- (1) The Head of an Agency (as defined in the *Public Service Act 1999*) must ensure that an annual report under that Act on the Agency's activities complies with subsection (6).

##### *Annual reports of Commonwealth authorities*

- (3) The directors of a Commonwealth authority (as defined in the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*) must ensure that an annual report relating to the authority prepared under that Act complies with subsection (6).

*Annual reports of Commonwealth companies*

- (4) A Commonwealth company (as defined in the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*) that is a Commonwealth agency must ensure that the documents given to the responsible Minister (as defined in that Act) under section 36 of that Act include a report complying with subsection (6).

*Annual reports of other Commonwealth agencies*

- (5) A Commonwealth agency that is:
- (a) established by or under a law of the Commonwealth; and
  - (b) required by law to give the Minister responsible for it an annual report; and
  - (c) not described in subsection (3) or (4);
- must ensure that the annual report complies with subsection (6).

*Content of report*

- (6) A report described in subsection (1), (3), (4) or (5) relating to a body or person (the **reporter**) for a period must:
- (a) include a report on how the activities of, and the administration (if any) of legislation by, the reporter during the period accorded with the principles of ecologically sustainable development; and
  - (b) identify how the outcomes (if any) specified for the reporter in an Appropriations Act relating to the period contribute to ecologically sustainable development; and
  - (c) document the effect of the reporter's activities on the environment; and
  - (d) identify any measures the reporter is taking to minimise the impact of activities by the reporter on the environment; and
  - (e) identify the mechanisms (if any) for reviewing and increasing the effectiveness of those measures.

Note: The *Auditor-General Act 1997* lets the Auditor-General audit a reporter's compliance with these requirements.

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(7) In subsection (6):

*activities* includes:

- (a) developing and implementing policies, plans, programs and legislation; and
- (b) the operations of a department, authority, company or agency referred to in this section.



## **Division 2—State of the environment reports**

### **516B State of the environment reports**

- (1) The Minister must cause a report on the environment in the Australian jurisdiction to be prepared in accordance with the regulations (if any) every 5 years. The first report must be prepared by 31 December 2001.
- (2) The report must deal with the matters prescribed by the regulations.
- (3) The Minister must cause a copy of the report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which he or she receives the report.

## Chapter 7—Miscellaneous

### Part 22—Miscellaneous

#### 517 Determinations of species

- (1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, determine that a distinct population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) A determination is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
- (3) A determination does not apply for the purposes of:
  - (a) Part 13A; or
  - (b) the definitions of *CITES I species*, *CITES II species* and *CITES III species* in section 528.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not affect the meaning of the expression *listed threatened species* when used in Part 13A.

#### 518 Non-compliance with time limits

- (1) Anything done by the Commonwealth, the Minister or the Secretary under this Act or the regulations is not invalid merely because it was not done within the period required by this Act or the regulations.
- (2) If, during a financial year, one or more things required to be done under this Act or the regulations were not done within the period required by this Act or the regulations, the Minister must:
  - (a) cause to be prepared a statement setting out the reasons why each of those things was not done within the period required by this Act or the regulations; and

- (b) cause a copy of the statement to be laid before each House of the Parliament as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not reduce or remove an obligation under this Act or the regulations to do a thing within a particular period.

## **519 Compensation for acquisition of property**

### *When compensation is necessary*

- (1) If, apart from this section, the operation of this Act would result in an acquisition of property from a person that would be invalid because of paragraph 51(xxxi) of the Constitution (which deals with acquisition of property on just terms) the Commonwealth must pay the person a reasonable amount of compensation.

### *Definition*

- (2) In this Act:

***acquisition of property*** has the same meaning as in paragraph 51(xxxi) of the Constitution.

### *Court can decide amount of compensation*

- (3) If the Commonwealth and the person do not agree on the amount of compensation to be paid, the person may apply to the Federal Court for the recovery from the Commonwealth of a reasonable amount of compensation fixed by the Court.

### *Other compensation to be taken into account*

- (4) In assessing compensation payable by the Commonwealth, the Court must take into account any other compensation or remedy arising out of the same event or situation.

## **520 Regulations**

- (1) The Governor-General may make regulations prescribing all matters:

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- (a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed; or
  - (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.
- (2) The regulations may prescribe penalties for offences against the regulations. A penalty must not be more than 50 penalty units.
- (3) Regulations may be made for and in relation to giving effect to any of the following agreements:
  - (a) the Apia Convention;
  - (b) the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific (the SPREP Convention) signed at Noumea on 24 November 1986;
  - (c) the Bonn Convention;
  - (d) CAMBA;
  - (e) JAMBA;
  - (f) an agreement between the Commonwealth and one or more other countries relating to whales;
  - (g) the World Heritage Convention;
  - (h) the Ramsar Convention;
  - (i) the Biodiversity Convention;
  - (j) CITES;
  - (k) the Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992.
- (4) Regulations made in relation to an agreement that has not entered into force for Australia are not to come into operation on a day earlier than the day on which the agreement enters into force for Australia.
- (5) Subsection (3) does not limit subsection (1).
- (6) The regulations may prohibit or regulate the export from an external Territory to Australia or another external Territory of:
  - (a) CITES specimens; and
  - (b) regulated native specimens.
- (7) The regulations may prohibit or regulate the import into an external Territory from Australia or another external Territory of:

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- (a) CITES specimens; and
  - (b) regulated live specimens.
- (8) The regulations may prohibit or regulate the possession in an external Territory of:
- (a) specimens that have been imported into that Territory in contravention of regulations made for the purposes of subsection (7); or
  - (b) the progeny of such specimens.

**521 Fees and charges must not be taxes**

A fee or charge provided for by or under this Act, and whether prescribed by the regulations or not, must be reasonably related to the expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to the matters to which the fee or charge relates and must not be such as to amount to taxation.

**522 Financial assistance etc. to be paid out of appropriated money**

Payment of amounts of financial assistance under this Act, and of any amounts that the Commonwealth is required to pay to a person under this Act or an agreement made under this Act, are to be made out of money appropriated by the Parliament for the purpose.

**522A Review of operation of Act**

- (1) The Minister must cause independent reviews to be undertaken by a person or body of:
  - (a) the operation of this Act; and
  - (b) the extent to which the objects of this Act have been achieved.
- (2) The first review must be undertaken within 10 years of the commencement of this Act. Later reviews must be undertaken at intervals of not more than 10 years.
- (3) The person or body undertaking a review must give a report of the review to the Minister.

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- (4) The Minister must cause a copy of the report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the Minister receives it.

## Chapter 8—Definitions

### Part 23—Definitions

#### Division 1—Some definitions relating to particular topics

##### Subdivision A—Actions

###### **523** *Actions*

- (1) Subject to this Subdivision, ***action*** includes:
- (a) a project; and
  - (b) a development; and
  - (c) an undertaking; and
  - (d) an activity or series of activities; and
  - (e) an alteration of any of the things mentioned in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d).

###### **524** *Things that are not actions*

- (1) This section applies to a decision by each of the following kinds of person (***government body***):
- (a) the Commonwealth;
  - (b) a Commonwealth agency;
  - (c) a State;
  - (d) a self-governing Territory;
  - (e) an agency of a State or self-governing Territory;
  - (f) an authority established by a law applying in a Territory that is not a self-governing Territory.
- (2) A decision by a government body to grant a governmental authorisation (however described) for another person to take an action is not an ***action***.

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- (3) To avoid doubt, a decision by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency to grant a governmental authorisation under one of the following Acts is not an ***action***:
- (a) the *Customs Act 1901*;
  - (b) the *Export Control Act 1982*;
  - (c) the *Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1991*;
  - (d) the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*;
  - (e) the *Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975*;
  - (f) the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967*;
  - (g) the *Quarantine Act 1908*;
  - (h) the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.

This subsection does not limit this section.

**524A Provision of grant funding is not an *action***

Provision of funding by way of a grant by one of the following is not an ***action***:

- (a) the Commonwealth;
- (b) a Commonwealth agency;
- (c) a State;
- (d) a self-governing Territory;
- (e) an agency of a State or self-governing Territory;
- (f) an authority established by a law applying in a Territory that is not a self-governing Territory.

**Subdivision B—Areas**

**525 Commonwealth areas**

*What is a **Commonwealth area**?*

- (1) Each of the following, and any part of it, is a ***Commonwealth area***:
- (a) land owned by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency (including land owned in Norfolk Island) and airspace over the land;



- (b) an area of land held under lease by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency (including an area held under lease in Norfolk Island) and airspace over the land;
- (c) land in:
  - (i) an external Territory (except Norfolk Island); or
  - (ii) the Jervis Bay Territory;and airspace over the land;
- (d) the coastal sea of Australia or an external Territory;
- (e) the continental shelf, and the waters and airspace over the continental shelf;
- (f) the waters of the exclusive economic zone, the seabed under those waters and the airspace above those waters;
- (g) any other area of land, sea or seabed that is included in a Commonwealth reserve.

*Territory Land in ACT is not a Commonwealth area*

- (2) Despite paragraph (1)(a), an area of land that is Territory Land, within the meaning of the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* is not a **Commonwealth area** merely because of that paragraph, unless it is held under lease by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency.

*Coastal waters of States and NT are not Commonwealth areas*

- (3) Despite paragraphs (1)(d), (e) and (f), none of the following areas (or parts of them) are **Commonwealth areas**:
  - (a) the seabed vested in a State under section 4 of the *Coastal Waters (State Title) Act 1980*; and
  - (b) the seabed vested in the Northern Territory under section 4 of the *Coastal Waters (Northern Territory Title) Act 1980*; and
  - (c) the subsoil under the seabed described in paragraph (a) or (b); and
  - (d) any water and airspace over seabed described in paragraph (a) or (b).

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**Subdivision C—Entities**

**526 Subsidiaries of bodies corporate**

The question whether a body corporate is a subsidiary of a body or company is to be determined in the same way as the question whether a body corporate is a subsidiary of another body corporate is determined for the purposes of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

**Subdivision D—Criminal law**

**527 Convictions**

A reference in this Act to a conviction of a person of an offence includes a reference to making an order under section 19B of the *Crimes Act 1914* in relation to the person in respect of the offence.

**Subdivision E—Specimens**

**527A Specimens**

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a *specimen* is:
  - (a) an animal; or
  - (b) animal reproductive material; or
  - (c) the skin, feathers, horns, shell or any other part of an animal; or
  - (d) any article wholly produced by or from, or otherwise wholly derived from, a single animal; or
  - (e) a plant; or
  - (f) plant reproductive material; or
  - (g) any part of a plant; or
  - (h) any article wholly produced by or from, or otherwise wholly derived from, a single plant.
- (2) However, a fossil, or a mineralised deposit, is not a *specimen* for the purposes of this Act.

- (3) In any provision of this Act, references to a *specimen* are to be read as including references to an article that consists of, or is derived from:
- (a) a specimen and material other than a specimen; or
  - (b) 2 or more specimens; or
  - (c) 2 or more specimens and material other than a specimen.
- (4) If an article consists of, or is derived from, 2 or more specimens, either with or without any material other than a specimen, then this Act applies to and in relation to that article separately in so far as it consists of, or is derived from, each of those specimens.
- (5) For the purposes of this Act:
- (a) if a live animal (other than animal reproductive material) that was bred in captivity dies, the dead animal and specimens derived from the dead animal are taken to be specimens derived from that live animal; and
  - (b) if a live plant (other than plant reproductive material) that was artificially propagated dies, the dead plant and specimens derived from the dead plant are taken to be specimens derived from that live plant; and
  - (c) a specimen covered by paragraph (1)(b), (c) or (d) is taken to be derived from the animal concerned; and
  - (d) a specimen covered by paragraph (1)(f), (g) or (h) is taken to be derived from the plant concerned; and
  - (e) if a specimen is derived from an animal that belongs to a particular species or taxon, the specimen is taken to belong to that species or taxon; and
  - (f) if a specimen is derived from a plant that belongs to a particular species or taxon, the specimen is taken to belong to that species or taxon.
- (6) In this section:
- this Act* does not include sections 356 and 390E.

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**527B Breeding in captivity**

For the purposes of this Act, a live animal of a particular kind is taken to have been ***bred in captivity*** if, and only if, it was bred in circumstances declared by the regulations to be circumstances the breeding in which of:

- (a) any live animal; or
  - (b) any live animal of that kind; or
  - (c) any live animal included in a class of live animals that includes live animals of that kind;
- would constitute breeding in captivity.

**527C Artificial propagation**

For the purposes of this Act, a live plant of a particular kind is taken to have been ***artificially propagated*** if, and only if, it was propagated in circumstances declared by the regulations to be circumstances the propagation in which of:

- (a) any live plant; or
  - (b) any live plant of that kind; or
  - (c) any live plant included in a class of live plants that includes live plants of that kind;
- would constitute artificial propagation.

**527D Things represented to be CITES specimens**

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, if a thing is represented by an accompanying document, the package or a mark or label, or from any other circumstances, to be:
  - (a) the skin, feathers, horns, shell or any other part of a CITES listed animal; or
  - (b) part of a CITES listed plant; or
  - (c) reproductive material from a CITES listed animal or a CITES listed plant; or
  - (d) an article produced by or from, or derived from, one or more CITES listed animals or one or more CITES listed plants, whether with or without any other material;

then the thing is taken to be a CITES specimen.

Note: This subsection has the effect (among other things) of widening the scope of sections 303CC, 303CD and 303GN, which are offence provisions relating to the export, import and possession of specimens.

- (2) The Minister must not issue a permit under section 303CG authorising the export or import of a thing that is taken under subsection (1) to be a CITES specimen unless the thing is a CITES specimen apart from subsection (1).

- (3) In this section:

***CITES listed animal*** means an animal of a species included in Appendix I, II or III to CITES.

***CITES listed plant*** means a plant of a species included in Appendix I, II or III to CITES.

***export*** has the same meaning as in Part 13A.

***import*** has the same meaning as in Part 13A.

## Division 2—General list of definitions

### 528 Definitions

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears:

***accredited management plan*** has the meaning given by subsection 33(2).

***acquisition of property*** has the meaning given by subsection 519(2).

***action*** has the meaning given by Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 23.

***agency*** of a State or self-governing Territory means:

- (a) a Minister of the State or Territory; or
- (b) a body corporate established for a public purpose by a law of the State or Territory; or
- (c) a body corporate established by:
  - (i) the Governor of the State; or
  - (ii) if the Territory is the Australian Capital Territory—the Governor-General acting in relation to the Australian Capital Territory; or
  - (iii) if the Territory is the Northern Territory or Norfolk Island—the Administrator of the Territory; or
  - (iv) a Minister of the State or Territory;otherwise than by or under a law of the State or Territory; or
- (d) a company in which the whole of the shares or stock, or shares or stock carrying more than one-half of the voting power, is or are owned by or on behalf of the State or Territory; or
- (e) a body corporate that is a subsidiary of:
  - (i) a body or company referred to in paragraph (b), (c) or (d); or
  - (ii) a body corporate that, because of a previous application or previous applications of this paragraph, is taken to be

an agency of the State or Territory for the purposes of this definition; or

- (f) a person holding, or performing the duties of:
  - (i) an office established by or under a law of the State or Territory (except a judicial office or an office of member of a tribunal); or
  - (ii) an appointment made under a law of the State or Territory (except appointment to a judicial office or an office of member of a tribunal); or
- (g) a person holding, or performing the duties of, an appointment made by:
  - (i) the Governor of the State; or
  - (ii) if the Territory is the Australian Capital Territory—the Governor-General acting in relation to the Australian Capital Territory; or
  - (iii) if the Territory is the Northern Territory or Norfolk Island—the Administrator of the Territory; or
  - (iv) a Minister of the State or Territory;otherwise than by or under a law of the State or Territory.

***aircraft*** means an apparatus that can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air.

***animal*** means any member, alive or dead, of the animal kingdom (other than a human being).

***animal reproductive material*** means:

- (a) an embryo, an egg or sperm of an animal; or
- (b) any other part, or product, of an animal from which another animal could be produced.

***Apia Convention*** means the Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific, done at Apia, Western Samoa, on 12 June 1976, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of the Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1990 No. 41.

***article*** includes a substance or a mixture of substances.

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***artificially propagated***, in relation to a plant or plant reproductive material, has the meaning given by section 527C.

***assess*** an action includes assess the impacts that the action:

- (a) has or will have; or
- (b) is likely to have.

***assessment report*** has the meaning given by subsection 130(2).

***Australian aircraft*** has the meaning given by subsection 5(5).

***Australian Biosphere reserve management principles*** has the meaning given by section 340.

***Australian Heritage Council*** means the body established by the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*.

***Australian IUCN reserve management principles*** has the meaning given by subsection 348(1).

***Australian jurisdiction*** has the meaning given by subsection 5(5).

***Australian platform*** has the meaning given by section 403.

***Australian Ramsar management principles*** has the meaning given by section 335.

***Australian vessel*** has the meaning given by subsection 5(5).

***Australian World Heritage management principles*** has the meaning given by section 323.

***authorised officer*** means:

- (a) a warden; or
- (b) an inspector.

***baggage*** has the meaning given by section 443.

***bilateral agreement*** has the meaning given by subsection 45(2).

***bilaterally accredited management plan*** has the meaning given by subsection 46(2).



**biodiversity** means the variability among living organisms from all sources (including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part) and includes:

- (a) diversity within species and between species; and
- (b) diversity of ecosystems.

**Biodiversity Convention** means the Convention on Biological Diversity done at Rio de Janeiro on 5 June 1992, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of this Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1993 No. 32.

**biological resources** includes genetic resources, organisms, parts of organisms, populations and any other biotic component of an ecosystem with actual or potential use or value for humanity.

**Biosphere reserve** has the meaning given by section 337.

**Board** means a Board established under section 377.

**Bonn Convention** means the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals done at Bonn on 23 June 1979, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of the Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1991 No. 32.

**bred in captivity**, in relation to an animal or animal reproductive material, has the meaning given by section 527B.

**business day** means a day that is not:

- (a) a Saturday or a Sunday; or
- (b) a public holiday or bank holiday in the place concerned.

**CAMBA** means the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China for the protection of Migratory Birds and their Environment done at Canberra on 20 October 1986, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of the Agreement is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1988 No. 22.

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***cetacean*** means a member of the sub-order Mysticeti or Odontoceti of the Order Cetacea, and includes a part of such a member and any product derived from a such a member.

***CITES*** means the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora done at Washington on 3 March 1973, as amended and in force for Australia from time to time.

Note: The English text of the Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1976 No. 29.

***CITES I species*** means a species included in the list referred to in section 303CA, where there is a notation to the effect that the species is included in Appendix I to CITES.

***CITES I specimen*** means a specimen that belongs to a CITES I species, where there is a notation in the list referred to in section 303CA that describes the specimen.

***CITES II species*** means a species included in the list referred to in section 303CA, where there is a notation to the effect that the species is included in Appendix II to CITES.

***CITES II specimen*** means a specimen that belongs to a CITES II species, where there is a notation in the list referred to in section 303CA that describes the specimen.

***CITES III species*** means a species included in the list referred to in section 303CA, where there is a notation to the effect that the species is included in Appendix III to CITES.

***CITES III specimen*** means a specimen that belongs to a CITES III species, where there is a notation in the list referred to in section 303CA that describes the specimen.

***CITES specimen*** means:

- (a) a CITES I specimen; or
- (b) a CITES II specimen; or
- (c) a CITES III specimen.

***civil penalty provision*** has the meaning given by section 482.

**coastal sea** of Australia or an external Territory has the same meaning as in subsection 15B(4) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

**coastal waters** of a State or the Northern Territory has the meaning given by section 227.

**commissioner** means a person holding an appointment under paragraph 107(1)(a).

**Commonwealth agency** means:

- (a) a Minister; or
- (b) a body corporate established for a public purpose by a law of the Commonwealth; or
- (c) a body corporate established by a Minister otherwise than under a law of the Commonwealth; or
- (d) a company in which the whole of the shares or stock, or shares or stock carrying more than one-half of the voting power, is or are owned by or on behalf of the Commonwealth; or
- (e) a body corporate that is a subsidiary of:
  - (i) a body or company referred to in paragraph (b), (c) or (d); or
  - (ii) a body corporate that, because of a previous application or previous applications of this paragraph, is taken to be a Commonwealth agency for the purposes of this definition; or
- (f) a person holding, or performing the duties of:
  - (i) an office established by or under a law of the Commonwealth (except a judicial office or office of member of a tribunal); or
  - (ii) an appointment made under a law of the Commonwealth (except an appointment to a judicial office or office of member of a tribunal); or
- (g) a person holding, or performing the duties of, an appointment made by the Governor-General, or by a Minister, otherwise than under a law of the Commonwealth;

but does not include:

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- (h) a person holding an office established by or under any of the following Acts, or holding an appointment made under any of them:
  - (i) the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978*;
  - (ii) the *Norfolk Island Act 1979*;
  - (iii) the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988*; or
- (i) any of the following:
  - (i) an Aboriginal Land Trust, or an Aboriginal Land Council, established under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*;
  - (ii) an Aboriginal corporation within the meaning of the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976*;
  - (iii) the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council established by the *Aboriginal Land Grant (Jervis Bay Territory) Act 1986*; or
- (j) a company prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph.

***Commonwealth aircraft*** has the meaning given by section 403.

***Commonwealth area*** has the meaning given by section 525.

***Commonwealth Heritage criteria*** has the meaning given by subsection 341D(1).

***Commonwealth Heritage List*** means the list kept under Subdivision B of Division 3A of Part 15.

***Commonwealth Heritage management principles*** has the meaning given by section 341Y.

***Commonwealth Heritage place*** has the meaning given by subsection 341C(2).

***Commonwealth Heritage value*** has the meaning given by section 341D.

***Commonwealth land*** has the meaning given by section 27.

***Commonwealth marine area*** has the meaning given by section 24.

**Commonwealth reserve** means a reserve declared under Division 4 of Part 15.

**Commonwealth ship** has the meaning given by section 403.

**components of biodiversity** has the meaning given by subsection 171(3).

**conservation agreement** means an agreement made under section 305.

**conservation dependent**: a native species may be included in the **conservation dependent** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

**conservation dependent species** means a listed threatened species that is included in the conservation dependent category of the list referred to in section 178.

**conservation order** means an order made under section 464 (with variations (if any) under section 466 or 469).

**conservation zone** means a Commonwealth area that is declared to be a conservation zone under Division 5 of Part 15.

**constitutional corporation** means a corporation to which paragraph 51(xx) of the Constitution applies.

**continental shelf** means the continental shelf (as defined in the *Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973*) of Australia (including its external Territories).

**continuation** of a use of land, sea or seabed has the meaning given by section 43B.

**controlled action** has the meaning given by section 67.

**controlling provision** has the meaning given by section 67.

**Convict** a person of an offence has a meaning affected by section 527.

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**country** includes a place that is a territory, dependency or colony (however described) of a foreign country.

**critical habitat** for a listed threatened species or a listed threatened ecological community has the meaning given by subsection 207A(4).

**critically endangered:**

- (a) a native species may be included in the **critically endangered** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13; and
- (b) an ecological community may be included in the **critically endangered** category of the list of threatened ecological communities in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

**daily newspaper** means a newspaper that is ordinarily published on each day that is a business day in the place where the newspaper is published, whether or not the newspaper is ordinarily published on other days.

**declared Ramsar wetland** has the meaning given by section 17.

**declared World Heritage property** has the meaning given by section 13.

**designated proponent** of an action means the person designated under Division 2 of Part 7 as the proponent of the action.

**directed environmental audit** has the meaning given by subsection 460(4).

**Director** means the Director of National Parks referred to in section 514A.

**disease** means:

- (a) a disease, parasite or pest that, for the purposes of the *Quarantine Act 1908*, is a disease in relation to animals; or
- (b) a disease, pest or plant that, for the purposes of that Act, is a disease in relation to plants.

**ecological character** has the meaning given by subsection 16(3).

***ecological community*** means an assemblage of native species that:

- (a) inhabits a particular area in nature; and
- (b) meets the additional criteria specified in the regulations (if any) made for the purposes of this definition.

***ecologically sustainable use*** of natural resources means use of the natural resources within their capacity to sustain natural processes while maintaining the life-support systems of nature and ensuring that the benefit of the use to the present generation does not diminish the potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.

***ecosystem*** means a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

***eligible seizable item*** means anything that would present a danger to a person or that could be used to assist a person to escape from lawful custody.

***endangered:***

- (a) a native species may be included in the ***endangered*** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13; and
- (b) an ecological community may be included in the ***endangered*** category of the list of threatened ecological communities in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

***environment*** includes:

- (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and
- (b) natural and physical resources; and
- (c) the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas; and
- (d) heritage values of places; and
- (e) the social, economic and cultural aspects of a thing mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c).

Note: The places mentioned in paragraph (d) of the definition of ***environment*** include places included in the Register of the National Estate kept under the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*.

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***environmental authority*** has the meaning given by subsection 458(4).

***evidential material*** has the meaning given by subsection 406(2).

***exclusive economic zone*** means the exclusive economic zone (as defined in the *Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973*) of Australia (including its external Territories).

***executing officer***, for a warrant, means the person named in the warrant as being responsible for executing the warrant.

***executive officer*** of a body corporate has the meaning given by section 493.

***export***, in relation to a cetacean, means:

- (a) export from Australia or from an external Territory; or
- (b) export from the sea;

but does not include:

- (c) export from Australia to an external Territory; or
- (d) export from an external Territory to Australia; or
- (e) export from an external Territory to another external Territory.

***export from the sea***, in relation to a cetacean, means take in a Commonwealth marine area and then take out of that area to another country without bringing into Australia or into an external Territory.

***extinct***: a native species may be included in the ***extinct*** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

***extinct in the wild***: a native species may be included in the ***extinct in the wild*** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

***Federal Court*** means the Federal Court of Australia.

***foreign whaling vessel*** has the meaning given by subsection 236(5).



***frisk search*** has the meaning given by subsection 413(3).

***genetic resources*** means any material of plant, animal, microbial or other origin that contains functional units of heredity and that has actual or potential value for humanity.

***goods*** has the meaning given by section 443.

***habitat*** means the biophysical medium or media:

- (a) occupied (continuously, periodically or occasionally) by an organism or group of organisms; or
- (b) once occupied (continuously, periodically or occasionally) by an organism, or group of organisms, and into which organisms of that kind have the potential to be reintroduced.

***heritage value*** of a place includes the place's natural and cultural environment having aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance, or other significance, for current and future generations of Australians.

***holder*** means:

- (a) in the case of a permit issued under Chapter 5—the person to whom the permit was issued or transferred, as the case may be; or
- (b) in the case of an approval under Part 9—the person to whom the approval applies.

***imported*** in relation to a cetacean or foreign whaling vessel means brought into the Australian jurisdiction.

***indigenous heritage value*** of a place means a heritage value of the place that is of significance to indigenous persons in accordance with their practices, observances, customs, traditions, beliefs or history.

***indigenous people's land*** has the meaning given by subsection 363(3).

***Indigenous person*** has the meaning given by subsection 363(4).

***Indigenous tradition*** has the meaning given by section 201.

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***inspector*** means:

- (a) a person appointed as an inspector under section 396;
- (b) a person who is an inspector because of section 397; or
- (c) a person who is an inspector because of an arrangement entered into under section 398.

***interested person*** has the meaning given by section 475.

***Interfere*** with a cetacean has the meaning given by subsection 229B(4).

***IUCN category*** has the meaning given by subsection 346(1).

***JAMBA*** means the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of Australia for the Protection of Migratory Birds and Birds in Danger of Extinction and their Environment done at Tokyo on 6 February 1974, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of the Agreement is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1981 No. 6.

***Jointly managed reserve*** has the meaning given by subsection 363(5).

***Kakadu National Park*** has the meaning given by subsection 387(3).

***Kakadu region*** has the meaning given by subsection 386(1).

***keep*** a cetacean or member of a listed threatened species, listed migratory species, listed marine species or listed threatened ecological community means:

- (a) in the case of a cetacean, or a species of animal or community of animals—have charge or possession of the cetacean or member, either in captivity or in a domesticated state; and
- (b) in the case of a species of plant or community of plants—have possession of the member.

***key threatening process*** means a threatening process included in the list referred to in section 183.

**land** has the meaning given by subsection 345(2).

**land council** for indigenous people's land has the meaning given by subsection 363(2).

**large-scale disposal facility** for radioactive waste has a meaning affected by subsection 22(2).

**list** includes a list containing no items.

**listed marine species** means a marine species included in the list referred to in section 248.

**listed migratory species** means a migratory species included in the list referred to in section 209.

**listed threatened ecological community** means an ecological community included in the list referred to in section 181.

**listed threatened species** means a native species included in the list referred to in section 178.

**live animal** includes animal reproductive material.

**live plant** includes plant reproductive material.

**magistrate** means a magistrate who is remunerated by salary or otherwise.

**master** of a foreign whaling vessel has the meaning given by subsection 236(5).

**matter protected** by a provision of Part 3 has the meaning given by section 34.

**member** of a listed threatened species, listed migratory species, listed marine species or listed threatened ecological community, includes, in the case of a species of animal or community of animals, the whole or part of the dead body of the member.

**mineral** has the meaning given by subsection 355(3).

**mining operations** has the meaning given by subsection 355(2).

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***monitoring power*** relating to premises has the meaning given by section 407.

***monitoring warrant*** has the meaning given by section 409.

***National Heritage criteria*** has the meaning given by subsection 324D(1).

***National Heritage List*** means the list kept under Subdivision B of Division 1A of Part 15.

***National Heritage management principles*** has the meaning given by section 324Y.

***National Heritage place*** has the meaning given by subsection 324C(2).

***National Heritage value*** has the meaning given by section 324D.

***native amphibian*** means an amphibian of a native species.

***native animal*** means an animal of a native species.

***native bird*** means a bird of a native species.

***native mammal*** means a mammal of a native species.

***native plant*** means a plant of a native species.

***native reptile*** means a reptile of a native species.

***native species*** means a species:

- (a) that is indigenous to Australia or an external Territory; or
- (b) that is indigenous to the seabed of the coastal sea of Australia or an external Territory; or
- (c) that is indigenous to the continental shelf; or
- (d) that is indigenous to the exclusive economic zone; or
- (e) members of which periodically or occasionally visit:
  - (i) Australia or an external Territory; or
  - (ii) the exclusive economic zone; or
- (f) that was present in Australia or an external Territory before 1400.

Note: A reference to Australia or an external Territory includes a reference to the coastal sea of Australia or the Territory. See section 15B of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

**nuclear action** has the meaning given by subsection 22(1).

**nuclear installation** has the meaning given by subsection 22(1).

**occupier** of premises means the person apparently in charge of the premises.

**officer assisting**, in relation to a warrant, means:

- (a) an authorised officer who is assisting in executing the warrant; or
- (b) a person who is not an authorised officer, but who has been authorised by the relevant executing officer to assist in executing the warrant.

**officer of Customs** has the same meaning as it has in the *Customs Act 1901*.

**ordinary search** has the meaning given in subsection 414(3).

**organism** includes:

- (a) a virus; and
- (b) the reproductive material of an organism; and
- (c) an organism that has died.

**place** includes:

- (a) a location, area or region; and
- (b) a building or other structure, or group of buildings or other structures (which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated or connected with the building or structure, or group of buildings or structures); and
- (c) in relation to the protection, maintenance, preservation or improvement of a place—the immediate surroundings of a thing in paragraph (a) or (b).

**plant** means a member, alive or dead, of the plant kingdom or of the fungus kingdom, and includes a part of a plant and plant reproductive material.

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***plant reproductive material*** means:

- (a) a seed or spore of a plant; or
- (b) a cutting from a plant; or
- (c) any other part, or product, of a plant from which another plant can be produced.

***population*** of a species or ecological community means an occurrence of the species or community in a particular area.

***precautionary principle*** has the meaning given by subsection 391(2).

***Premises*** includes a place, vehicle, vessel and aircraft.

***prescribed waters*** means waters in respect of which regulations made for the purposes of section 226 are in force.

***principles of ecologically sustainable development*** has a meaning affected by section 3A.

***progeny*** includes:

- (a) in relation to an animal—any animal reproductive material of that animal or of any progeny of that animal; and
- (b) in relation to a plant—any plant reproductive material of that plant or of any progeny of that plant; and
- (c) in relation to a live animal that is animal reproductive material—any animal resulting from that material or any progeny of such animal; and
- (d) in relation to a live plant that is plant reproductive material—any plant resulting from that material or any progeny of such plant.

To avoid doubt, a reference in this Act to ***progeny*** of an animal or a plant includes a reference to any descendant of that animal or plant.

***radioactive waste*** has the meaning given by subsection 22(1).

***Ramsar Convention*** means the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat done at

Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English Text of the Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1975 No. 48.

**range** of a species means the area where members of the species live, feed, breed or visit periodically or regularly.

**ranger** means a person holding an appointment as a ranger under Part 17.

**recovery plan** means a plan made or adopted under section 269A.

**regulated live specimen** has the meaning given by section 303EA.

**regulated native specimen** has the meaning given by section 303DA.

**relevant impacts** of an action has the meaning given by section 82.

**reprocessing** has the meaning given by subsection 22(1).

**Scientific Committee** means the Threatened Species Scientific Committee established by section 502.

**seabed** has the meaning given by subsection 345(2).

**Secretary** means the Secretary to the Department that:

- (a) deals with the matter to which the provision containing the reference relates; and
- (b) is administered by the Minister administering the provision.

**self-governing Territory** means:

- (a) the Australian Capital Territory; or
- (b) the Northern Territory; or
- (c) Norfolk Island.

**species** means a group of biological entities that:

- (a) interbreed to produce fertile offspring; or
- (b) possess common characteristics derived from a common gene pool;

and includes:

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- (c) a sub-species; and
- (ca) for the purposes of Part 13A—a distinct population of such biological entities; and
- (d) except for the purposes of Part 13A—a distinct population of such biological entities that the Minister has determined, under section 517, to be a species for the purposes of this Act.

In this definition, *the purposes of Part 13A*:

- (a) include the purposes of the definitions of *CITES I species*, *CITES II species* and *CITES III species*; and
- (b) do not include determining the meaning of the expression *listed threatened species* when used in Part 13A.

Note: Determinations under paragraph (d) are disallowable instruments. See section 517.

*specimen* has the meaning given by section 527A.

*spent nuclear fuel* has the meaning given by subsection 22(1).

*subsidiary* of a body corporate has a meaning affected by section 526.

*sub-species* means a geographically separate population of a species, being a population that is characterised by morphological or biological differences from other populations of that species.

*taxon* means any taxonomic category (for example, a species or a genus), and includes a particular population.

*terms of reference* has the meaning given by paragraph 107(1)(b).

*territorial sea* means the territorial sea (as defined in the *Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973*) of Australia (including its external Territories).

*threat abatement plan* means a plan made or adopted under section 270B.

*threatening process* has the meaning given by subsection 188(3).



**Trade** a cetacean or member of a listed threatened species, listed migratory species, listed marine species or threatened ecological community includes:

- (a) buy the cetacean or member, agree to receive it under an agreement to buy, agree to accept it under such an agreement or acquire it by barter; or
- (b) sell the cetacean or member, offer it for sale, agree to sell it, have it in possession for the purpose of sale, deliver it for the purpose of sale, receive it for the purpose of sale or dispose of it by barter for the purpose of gain or advancement; or
- (c) export the cetacean or member from Australia or an external Territory or import it into Australia or an external Territory; or
- (d) cause or allow any of the acts referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) to be done.

**traditional owners** of indigenous people's land has the meaning given by subsection 368(4).

**treat** a cetacean has the meaning given by subsection 229D(3).

**Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park** has the meaning given by subsection 344(3).

**Uluru region** has the meaning given by subsection 386(2).

**usage right** has the meaning given by subsection 350(7).

**vehicle** includes a hovercraft.

**vessel** means a ship, boat, raft or pontoon or any other thing capable of carrying persons or goods through or on water and includes a floating structure and hovercraft.

**vulnerable:**

- (a) a native species may be included in the **vulnerable** category of the list of threatened native species in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13; and
- (b) an ecological community may be included in the **vulnerable** category of the list of threatened ecological communities in accordance with Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part 13.

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**warden** means a person holding an appointment as a warden under Part 17.

**warrant premises** means premises in relation to which a warrant is in force.

**wetland** has the same meaning as in the Ramsar Convention.

**whale watching** has the meaning given by section 238.

**wildlife** means:

- (a) an animal; or
- (b) a specimen derived from an animal; or
- (c) a plant; or
- (d) a specimen derived from a plant.

**wildlife conservation plan** means a plan of a kind referred to in section 285 that has been made or adopted under that section.

**World Heritage Convention** means the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage done at Paris on 23 November 1972, as in force for Australia immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Note: The English text of the Convention is set out in Australian Treaty Series 1975 No. 47.

**World Heritage List** means the list kept under that title under Article 11 of the World Heritage Convention.

**world heritage values** of a property has the meaning given by subsection 12(3).

**Table of Acts****Notes to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*****Note 1**

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* as shown in this compilation comprises Act No. 91, 1999 amended as indicated in the Tables below.

For application, saving or transitional provisions made by the *Corporations (Repeals, Consequential and Transitional) Act 2001*, see Act No. 55, 2001.

For all other relevant information pertaining to application, saving or transitional provisions see Table A.

**Table of Acts**

Act	Number and year	Date of Assent	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	91, 1999	16 July 1999	16 July 2000	
<i>Environmental Reform (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999</i>	92, 1999	16 July 1999	Schedules 8 and 9 (item 1): 16 July 2000 (a)	Sch. 9 (item 1)
<i>Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999</i>	146, 1999	11 Nov 1999	Schedule 1 (items 422, 423): (b)	—
<i>Corporations (Repeals, Consequential and Transitional) Act 2001</i>	55, 2001	28 June 2001	Ss. 4–14 and Schedule 3 (item 172): 15 July 2001 (see <i>Gazette</i> 2001, No. S285) (c)	Ss. 4–14
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Act 2001</i>	82, 2001	11 July 2001	Ss. 1–3 and Schedule 1 (items 83–86): Royal Assent Remainder: 11 Jan 2002	Sch. 1 (items 70–82)
<i>Regional Forest Agreements Act 2002</i>	30, 2002	5 Apr 2002	Sections 1 and 2: Royal Assent Remainder: 3 May 2002 (see <i>Gazette</i> 2002, No. S133)	—

**Table of Acts**

Act	Number and year	Date of Assent	Date of commencement	Application, saving or transitional provisions
<i>Statute Law Revision Act 2002</i>	63, 2002	3 July 2002	Schedule 1 (items 15, 16, 18): (d) Schedule 1 (item 17): (d)	—
<i>Crimes Legislation Enhancement Act 2003</i>	41, 2003	3 June 2003	Schedule 3 (items 31, 32): (e) Schedule 3 (item 42): Royal Assent	Sch. 3 (item 42)
<i>Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2003</i>	86, 2003	23 Sept 2003	Ss. 1–3: Royal Assent Remainder: 1 Jan 2004 (see s. 2)	—
<i>Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2003</i>	88, 2003	23 Sept 2003	Schedules 1 and 3: 1 Jan 2004 (see <i>Gazette</i> 2003, No. GN47) Schedule 2: [see (f) and Note 2] Remainder: Royal Assent	Sch. 1 (items 8, 24, 25), Sch. 3 and Sch. 4 (item 1G)

**Act Notes**

- (a) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* was amended by Schedule 8 only of the *Environmental Reform (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999*, subsection 2(1) of which provides as follows:
- (1) Subject to this section, this Act commences when the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* commences.
- (b) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* was amended by Schedule 1 (items 422 and 423) only of the *Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999*, subsection 2(3) of which provides as follows:
- (3) If:
- an item (the **amending item**) of a Schedule to this Act is expressed to amend another Act (the **amended Act**); and
  - the whole of the amended Act is expressed to commence at one time; and
  - at the time when the *Public Service Act 1999* commences, the amended Act:
    - has not yet been enacted; or
    - has been enacted but has not yet commenced;
- then the amending item commences immediately after the commencement of the amended Act.
- Items 422 and 423 of Schedule 1 commenced immediately after 16 July 2000.
- (c) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* was amended by Schedule 3 (item 172) only of the *Corporations (Repeals, Consequentials and Transitionals) Act 2001*, subsection 2(3) of which provides as follows:
- (3) Subject to subsections (4) to (10), Schedule 3 commences, or is taken to have commenced, at the same time as the *Corporations Act 2001*.
- (d) Subsection 2(1) (items 10–13) of the *Statute Law Revision Act 2002* provides as follows:
- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, on the day or at the time specified in column 2 of the table.

<b>Commencement information</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Provision(s)</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Date/Details</b>
10. Schedule 1, item 15	Immediately after subsection 151(3) of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> commenced	16 July 2000
11. Schedule 1, item 16	Immediately after paragraph 520(3)(k) of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> commenced	16 July 2000
12. Schedule 1, item 17	Immediately after item 36 of Schedule 1 to the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Act 2001</i> commenced	11 January 2002
13. Schedule 1, item 18	Immediately after section 528 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> commenced	16 July 2000

## Act Notes

(e) Subsection 2(1) (item 21) of the *Crimes Legislation Enhancement Act 2003* provides as follows:

- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, on the day or at the time specified in column 2 of the table.

Provision(s)	Commencement	Date/Details
21. Schedule 3, items 31 and 32	Immediately after the commencement of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	16 July 2000

(f) Subsection 2(1) (item 3) of the *Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2003* provides as follows:

- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, on the day or at the time specified in column 2 of the table.

Provision(s)	Commencement	Date/Details
3. Schedule 2	The later of: (a) immediately after the commencement of the provisions covered by item 2 of this table; and (b) the time when section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection commences	[see Note 2]

Note 2: The Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection is expected to be established by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act, which may be enacted in 2002 or a later year.

**Table of Amendments****Table of Amendments**

ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
<b>Chapter 1</b>	
<b>Part 1</b>	
S. 3 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
S. 9 .....	am. No. 86, 2003
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
<b>Part 3</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
S. 12 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision AA</b>	
Subdiv. AA of Div. 1 of Part 3 .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Ss. 15B, 15C .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision H</b>	
Subdiv. H of Div. 1 of Part 3 .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
S. 25A .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision I</b>	
Subdiv. I of Div. 1 of Part 3 .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
Ss. 25B–25F .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Note to s. 26(3) .....	rep. No. 88, 2003
Notes 1, 2 to s. 26(3) .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Note 2 to s. 27A(6) .....	rs. No. 88, 2003
Note 3 to s. 27A(6) .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision AA</b>	
Subdiv. AA of Div. 2 of Part 3 .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Ss. 27B, 27C .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
Note to s. 28(1) .....	rep. No. 88, 2003
Notes 1, 2 to s. 28(1) .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
Subdiv. C of Div. 2 of Part 3 .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
S. 28AA .....	ad. No. 88, 2003

## Table of Amendments

ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
<b>Part 4</b>	
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 34 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 34BA .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
S. 34F .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Division 4</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
S. 38 .....	rs. No. 30, 2002
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 40 .....	am. No. 30, 2002
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 42 .....	am. No. 30, 2002
<b>Division 6</b>	
Div. 6 of Part 4.....	ad. No. 82, 2001
Ss. 43A, 43B .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
<b>Part 5</b>	
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 51A .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Division 3</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Heading to s. 63(1) .....	am. No. 63, 2002
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
<b>Part 7</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
S. 70 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 74 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
S. 74A.....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Division 2</b>	
S. 75.....	am. No. 88, 2003
S. 77.....	am. No. 88, 2003
S. 77A.....	ad. No. 88, 2003
S. 78.....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 8</b>	
<b>Division 2</b>	
S. 84 .....	am. No. 88, 2003



**Table of Amendments**

ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted	
Provision affected	How affected
<b>Division 7</b>	
<b>Subdivision E</b>	
S. 124 .....	am. No. 92, 1999
S. 125 .....	am. No. 92, 1999
<b>Part 9</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 137 .....	rs. No. 88, 2003
S. 137A .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 10</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
S. 146 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
Note 1 to s. 146(2) .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 2</b>	
Ss. 148–150 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 151 .....	am. No. 82, 2001; No. 63, 2002
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
Heading to Chapter 5 .....	rs. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 12</b>	
<b>Division 2</b>	
S. 176 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 13</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 197 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 208A .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 212 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 222A .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 3</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
S. 224 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 231 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision D</b>	
Heading to Subdiv. D of .....	rs. No. 82, 2001
Div. 3 of Part 13	
Ss. 232A, 232B.....	ad. No. 82, 2001

**Table of Amendments**

ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
Ss. 233, 234 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
Heading to s. 235 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 235 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision F</b>	
S. 238 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision G</b>	
Heading to s. 245 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 245 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 4</b>	
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 255 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
Heading to s. 265 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 265 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Part 13A</b>	
Part 13A .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 1</b>	
S. 303BA .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
S. 303BAA .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
Ss. 303BB, 303BC .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Ss. 303CA, 303CB .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
Ss. 303CC–303CK .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
Ss. 303CL–303CN .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 3</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Ss. 303DA–303DC .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
Ss. 303DD–303DJ .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 4</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Ss. 303EA–303EC .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
Ss. 303ED–303EJ .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
Ss. 303EK–303EQ .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision D</b>	

**Table of Amendments**

ad. = added or inserted	am. = amended	rep. = repealed	rs. = repealed and substituted
Provision affected	How affected		
Ss. 303ER–303EW.....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
<b>Division 5</b>			
<b>Subdivision A</b>			
Ss. 303FA–303FI .....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
<b>Subdivision B</b>			
Ss. 303FJ–303FR.....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
S. 303FRA .....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
Ss. 303FS–303FU .....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
<b>Division 6</b>			
Ss. 303GA–303GY .....	ad. No. 82, 2001		
<b>Part 14</b>			
Ss. 304–306 .....	am. No. 88, 2003		
S. 309 .....	am. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Part 15</b>			
<b>Division 1</b>			
<b>Subdivision D</b>			
S. 318.....	rs. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision F</b>			
S. 323.....	am. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Division 1A</b>			
Div. 1A of Part 5.....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision A</b>			
Ss. 324A, 324B .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision B</b>			
Ss. 324C–324H .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
Ss. 324J–324N .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
Ss. 324P–324R .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision C</b>			
Ss. 324S–324W .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision D</b>			
S. 324X .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision E</b>			
S. 324Y .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision F</b>			
S. 324Z .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
S. 324ZA .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision G</b>			
S. 324ZB .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		
<b>Subdivision H</b>			
S. 324ZC .....	ad. No. 88, 2003		

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ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
<b>Division 2</b>	
<b>Subdivision D</b>	
S. 330 .....	rs. No. 88, 2003
<b>Division 3A</b>	
Div. 3A of Part 5 .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
Ss. 341A, 341B .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
Ss. 341C–341H .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Ss. 341J–341N .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Ss. 341P–341R .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
Ss. 341S–341X .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision D</b>	
S. 341Y .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision E</b>	
S. 341Z .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
Ss. 341ZA–341ZE .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision F</b>	
S. 341ZF .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision G</b>	
S. 341ZG .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Subdivision H</b>	
S. 341ZH .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Division 4</b>	
<b>Subdivision E</b>	
S. 367 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
Heading to Part 16 of Chapter 6 .....	rs. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 16</b>	
S. 391 .....	am. No. 82, 2001; No. 88, 2003
S. 391A .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 17</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
S. 393 .....	am. No. 146, 1999
<b>Subdivision B</b>	
S. 397 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 399 .....	am. No. 82, 2001

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ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted	
Provision affected	How affected
<b>Division 2</b>	
S. 404 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 3</b>	
Ss. 408, 409 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 411 .....	am. No. 41, 2003
<b>Division 4</b>	
S. 425 .....	am. No. 41, 2003
<b>Division 6</b>	
S. 430 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 7</b>	
S. 442 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 8A</b>	
Div. 8A of Part 17 .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
S. 443A .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 9</b>	
S. 444 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 10</b>	
<b>Subdivision AA</b>	
Subdiv. AA of Div. 10 of Part 17 .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
Ss. 444A–444K.....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 450 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision D</b>	
S. 451 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 17</b>	
S. 489 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
<b>Part 17</b>	
<b>Division 18</b>	
S. 495 .....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 19</b>	
<b>Division 5</b>	
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 514M .....	am. No. 92, 1999
<b>Subdivision E</b>	
S. 514U .....	am. No. 92, 1999
<b>Part 20</b>	
S. 515.....	am. No. 88, 2003
<b>Part 20A</b>	
Part 20A .....	ad. No. 88, 2003
S. 515A.....	ad. No. 88, 2003

## Table of Amendments

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ad. = added or inserted   am. = amended   rep. = repealed   rs. = repealed and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
<b>Part 21</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
S. 516A .....	am. No. 92, 1999; No. 82, 2001
<b>Chapter 7</b>	
<b>Part 22</b>	
S. 517 .....	am. No. 82, 2001
S. 520 .....	am. No. 82, 2001; No. 63, 2002
S. 522B .....	rep. No. 82, 2001
<b>Chapter 8</b>	
<b>Part 23</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	
<b>Subdivision A</b>	
S. 523 .....	am. No. 82, 2001; No. 63, 2002
S. 524B .....	rep. No. 82, 2001
<b>Subdivision C</b>	
S. 526 .....	am. No. 55, 2001
<b>Subdivision E</b>	
Subdiv. E of Div. 1 of .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
Part 23	
Ss. 527A–527D .....	ad. No. 82, 2001
<b>Division 2</b>	
S. 528 .....	am. No. 82, 2001; Nos. 30 and 63, 2002; No. 88, 2003

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**Note 2**

**Note 2**

*Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2003*  
(No. 88, 2003)

The following amendments commence on the later of Schedule 1 or section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Heritage Protection:

**Schedule 2**

**1 After subsection 324G(4)**

Insert:

- (4A) If, in making an assessment, the Australian Heritage Council considers that the place might have indigenous heritage value, it must:
- (a) ask the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection to provide written advice on the place's indigenous heritage value:
    - (i) within 40 business days if the Minister requested the assessment under section 324E or this section; or
    - (ii) within 20 business days if the Minister requested the assessment under section 324F (emergency listing); or
    - (iii) within a reasonable period if the Council is making the assessment under this section on the Council's own initiative; and
  - (b) if the Director provides the advice on time—consider the advice and give a copy of it to the Minister with the assessment.

Note: This item will only commence after the commencement of section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection (see section 2 of this Act).

**2 After paragraph 324J(8)(b)**

Insert:

- (ba) the advice (if any) of the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection, a copy of which was given to the Minister by the Council under paragraph 324G(4A)(b) with the assessment; and

## **Note 2**

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Note: This item will only commence after the commencement of section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection (see section 2 of this Act).

### **3 After subsection 341G(4)**

Insert:

- (4A) If, in making an assessment, the Australian Heritage Council considers that the place might have indigenous heritage value, it must:
- (a) ask the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection to provide written advice on the place's indigenous heritage value:
    - (i) within 40 business days if the Minister requested the assessment under section 341E or this section; or
    - (ii) within 20 business days if the Minister requested the assessment under section 341F (emergency listing); or
    - (iii) within a reasonable period if the Council is making the assessment under this section on the Council's own initiative; and
  - (b) if the Director provides the advice on time—consider the advice and give a copy of it to the Minister with the assessment.

Note: This item will only commence after the commencement of section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection (see section 2 of this Act).

### **4 After paragraph 341J(8)(b)**

Insert:

- (ba) the advice (if any) of the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection, a copy of which was given to the Minister by the Council under paragraph 341G(4A)(b) with the assessment; and

Note: This item will only commence after the commencement of section 9 of the Act that establishes the Director of Indigenous Heritage Protection (see section 2 of this Act).

As at 1 January 2004 the amendments are not incorporated in this compilation.



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**Table A**

**Table A**

**Application, saving or transitional provisions**

*Environmental Reform (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999* (No. 92, 1999)

**Schedule 9**

**1 Regulation-making power**

- (1) The Governor-General may make regulations prescribing matters:
  - (a) permitted by this Act to be prescribed; or
  - (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.
- (2) In particular, the regulations may make transitional or saving provisions relating to either or both of the following:
  - (a) the enactment of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
  - (b) the repeal of all or any of the Acts repealed by this Act.
- (3) Subitem (2) does not limit subitem (1).

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*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Act 2001* (No. 82, 2001)

**Schedule 1**

**70 Transitional—applications pending immediately before this item commenced**

- (1) For the purposes of this item, an application for a permit or authority to export or import a specimen is a ***pending application*** if:
  - (a) the application was made by a person under the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* (other than section 41 or 43A) before the commencement of this item; and

**Table A**

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- (b) the application was not withdrawn before that commencement; and
    - (c) the permit or authority was neither granted, nor refused, before that commencement.
  - (2) If:
    - (a) the pending application is an application for a permit or authority to export or import a CITES specimen; and
    - (b) within 28 days after the commencement of this item, the person pays the fee prescribed by the regulations;

the person is taken, on the day on which the fee is paid, to have made an application (the ***fresh application***) under section 303CE of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for a permit to be issued under section 303CG of that Act authorising the export or import, as the case may be, of the specimen.
  - (3) If:
    - (a) the pending application is an application for a permit or authority to export a regulated native specimen (other than a CITES specimen); and
    - (b) within 28 days after the commencement of this item, the person pays the fee prescribed by the regulations;

the person is taken, on the day on which the fee is paid, to have made an application (the ***fresh application***) under section 303DE of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for a permit to be issued under section 303DG of that Act authorising the export of the specimen.
  - (4) If:
    - (a) the pending application is an application for a permit or authority to import a regulated live specimen (other than a CITES specimen); and
    - (b) within 28 days after the commencement of this item, the person pays the fee prescribed by the regulations;

the person is taken, on the day on which the fee is paid, to have made an application (the ***fresh application***) under section 303EL of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*
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**Table A**

*1999* for a permit to be issued under section 303EN of that Act authorising the import of the specimen.

- (5) If information was given to the Minister in connection with the pending application, the information is taken to have been given to the Minister in connection with the fresh application.
- (6) At the same time as the fee was paid, or at any time during the 28-day period beginning on the day on which the fee was paid, the person may:
  - (a) give the Minister a written notice:
    - (i) setting out information relevant to the fresh application; and
    - (ii) requesting the Minister to have regard to the information when dealing with the fresh application; or
  - (b) give the Minister a written notice requesting the Minister to consider the fresh application as soon as practicable.
- (7) If the person gives the Minister a notice under paragraph (6)(a), the Minister must have regard to the information when considering the fresh application.
- (8) The Minister must not consider the fresh application until whichever is the earlier of the following days:
  - (a) the first day after the end of the 28-day period beginning on the day on which the fee was paid;
  - (b) if the person gives the Minister a notice under paragraph (6)(a) or (b)—the day on which the notice was given.
- (9) For the purposes of the application of sections 303CF, 303CI, 303DF, 303DH, 303EM, 303EO and 303GB of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to the fresh application, the period of 40 business days is to be increased by one business day for each business day in the period beginning on the day on which the fee was paid and ending on whichever is the earlier of the following days:
  - (a) the last day of the 28-day period beginning on the day on which the fee was paid;

**Table A**

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- (b) if the person gives the Minister a notice under paragraph (6)(a) or (b)—the day on which the notice was given.
  - (10) If, before the commencement of this item, the person paid a fee in respect of the grant of the permit or authority under the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*:
    - (a) the Commonwealth must refund the fee unless the person elects to treat the payment as fully discharging the person's liability to pay the fee for the fresh application worked out under whichever of subitem (2), (3) or (4) is applicable; and
    - (b) if, under paragraph (a), the person elects to treat a payment as fully discharging the person's liability to pay a fee under whichever of subitem (2), (3) or (4) is applicable, the fee is taken to have been paid when the election was made.
  - (11) Subsections 303CE(2), 303DE(2) and 303EL(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* do not apply to the fresh application.
  - (12) A fee under subitem (2) must not exceed the fee that would have been payable under subsection 303CE(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* if that subsection applied to the fresh application.
  - (13) A fee under subitem (3) must not exceed the fee that would have been payable under subsection 303DE(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* if that subsection applied to the fresh application.
  - (14) A fee under subitem (4) must not exceed the fee that would have been payable under subsection 303EL(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* if that subsection applied to the fresh application.
  - (15) If, before the commencement of this item, any comments had been given to the Minister in relation to the pending application in response to a notice given under paragraph 44(1)(f) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*, those comments have effect as if they had been given to the Minister in relation to the fresh
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**Table A**

application in response to a notice given under subsection 303GB(7) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

- (16) The Governor-General may make regulations for the purposes of subitem (2), (3) or (4).
- (17) A fee provided for under subitem (2), (3) or (4) must be reasonably related to the expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to the matters to which the fee relates and must not be such as to amount to taxation.
- (18) In this item:  
*grant* includes give.

## **71 Transitional—permits or authorities in force immediately before this item commenced**

- (1) For the purposes of this item, a permit or authority to export or to import a specimen is an *old permit* or an *old authority* if:
  - (a) the permit or authority was granted or given to a person under the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* (other than section 41 or 43A) before the commencement of this item; and
  - (b) the permit or authority was in force immediately before that commencement; and
  - (c) the specimen had not been exported or imported, as the case may be, before that commencement.
- (2) If the old permit or old authority authorised the export or import of a CITES specimen, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect as if:
  - (a) the old permit or old authority were a permit issued under section 303CG of that Act authorising the export or import, as the case may be, of the specimen; and
  - (b) the person were the holder of the section 303CG permit; and
  - (c) the section 303CG permit ceases to be in force when the old permit or old authority would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted (unless the section 303CG permit is sooner cancelled under section 303GI of the

**Table A**

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- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*); and
- (d) any conditions of the old permit or old authority were conditions of the section 303CG permit; and
  - (e) a notice from the Designated Authority under paragraph 45(1)(b) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* in relation to the old permit or old authority were a notice from the Secretary under paragraph 303GK(1)(b) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the section 303CG permit.
- (3) If the old permit or old authority authorised the export of a regulated native specimen (other than a CITES specimen), the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect as if:
- (a) the old permit or old authority were a permit issued under section 303DG of that Act authorising the export of the specimen; and
  - (b) the person were the holder of the section 303DG permit; and
  - (c) the section 303DG permit ceases to be in force when the old permit or old authority would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted (unless the section 303DG permit is sooner cancelled under section 303GI of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*); and
  - (d) any conditions of the old permit or old authority were conditions of the section 303DG permit; and
  - (e) a notice from the Designated Authority under paragraph 45(1)(b) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* in relation to the old permit or old authority were a notice from the Secretary under paragraph 303GK(1)(b) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the section 303DG permit.
- (4) If the old permit or old authority authorised the import of a regulated live specimen (other than a CITES specimen), the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect as if:
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**Table A**

- (a) the old permit or old authority were a permit issued under section 303EN of that Act authorising the import of the specimen; and
- (b) the person were the holder of the section 303EN permit; and
- (c) the section 303EN permit ceases to be in force when the old permit or old authority would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted (unless the section 303EN permit is sooner cancelled under section 303GI of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*); and
- (d) any conditions of the old permit or old authority were conditions of the section 303EN permit.

**72 Transitional—section 303EU of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if a determination was in force under section 51D of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item.
- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
  - (a) the determination had been made by the Secretary under section 303EU of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
  - (b) each reference in the determination to the Designated Authority were a reference to the Secretary; and
  - (c) anything done under the determination by or in relation to the Designated Authority before the commencement of this item had been done by or in relation to the Secretary under the corresponding provision of the determination.

**73 Transitional—section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if:
  - (a) a declaration relating to specimens was in force under subsection 10A(2) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of*

## Table A

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- Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item; and
- (b) the declaration related to a particular operation.
- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
- (a) the declaration had been made under subsection 303FN(2) of that Act; and
  - (b) the operation were a wildlife trade operation; and
  - (c) the declaration had provided that the operation is an approved wildlife trade operation for the purposes of section 303FN of that Act; and
  - (d) the period:
    - (i) beginning on the day on which the declaration took effect; and
    - (ii) ending when the declaration would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted;
 were specified in the declaration in accordance with subsection 303FT(4) the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

### **74 Transitional—section 303FO of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if a declaration relating to a program was in force under subsection 10(1) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item.
- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
- (a) the declaration had been made under subsection 303FO(2) of that Act; and
  - (b) the program were a plan; and
  - (c) each reference in the declaration to a program were a reference to a plan; and



**Table A**

- (d) each reference in the declaration to an approved management program were a reference to an approved wildlife trade management plan; and
- (e) each reference in the declaration to the purposes of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* were a reference to the purposes of section 303FO of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
- (f) the period:
  - (i) beginning on the day on which the declaration took effect; and
  - (ii) ending when the declaration would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted;
 were specified in the declaration in accordance with subsection 303FT(4) the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

**75 Transitional—section 303FR of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if:
  - (a) before the commencement of this item, the Minister formulated a proposal to declare specimens under section 10A of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; and
  - (b) before the commencement of this item, any comments had been given to the Minister in relation to the proposal in response to a notice given under section 9B of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; and
  - (c) the proposal related to a particular operation; and
  - (d) the operation is a wildlife trade operation for the purposes of section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
  - (e) after the commencement of this item, the Minister formulates a proposal (the ***new proposal***) to declare the operation under subsection 303FN(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

## **Table A**

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- (2) Those comments have effect as if they had been given to the Minister in relation to the new proposal in response to a notice given under subsection 303FR(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

### **76 Transitional—section 303FR of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if:
- (a) before the commencement of this item, the Minister formulated a proposal to declare a program under section 10 of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; and
  - (b) before the commencement of this item, any comments had been given to the Minister in relation to the proposal in response to a notice given under section 9B of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; and
  - (c) the program is a plan; and
  - (d) after the commencement of this item, the Minister formulates a proposal (the ***new proposal***) to declare the plan under subsection 303FO(2) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (2) Those comments have effect as if they had been given to the Minister in relation to the new proposal in response to a notice given under subsection 303FR(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

### **77 Transitional—section 303FU of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if:
- (a) a declaration relating to specimens was in force under subsection 10A(3) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item; and
  - (b) the declaration related to a particular program.

**Table A**

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- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if the program were a program that, under regulations made for the purposes of section 303FU of that Act, is taken to be an approved commercial import program.
  - (3) Subitem (2) ceases to have effect in relation to the program at:
    - (a) the time when the declaration would have ceased to be in force if this Act had not been enacted; or
    - (b) if an earlier time is specified in the regulations in relation to the program—that earlier time.
  - (4) Subitem (2) does not prevent the program from becoming an approved commercial import program under regulations made for the purposes of section 303FU of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* at any time after subitem (2) ceases to have effect in relation to that program.
  - (5) The Governor-General may make regulations for the purposes of subitem (3).

**78 Transitional—section 303GS of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if an appointment was in force under section 75 of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item.
  - (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
    - (a) the appointment had been made under the corresponding provision of section 303GS of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
    - (b) each reference in the appointment to the purposes of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* were a reference to the purposes of Part 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
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## Table A

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### **79 Transitional—section 303GX of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if a declaration was in force under subsection 8A(2) or (3) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item.
- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
  - (a) the declaration had been made under the corresponding provision of section 303GX of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
  - (b) each reference in the declaration to section 8A of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* were a reference to section 303GX of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

### **80 Transitional—section 396 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) This item applies if an appointment or determination was in force under subsection 58(1) or (2) of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* immediately before the commencement of this item.
  - (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if:
    - (a) the appointment or determination had been made under the corresponding provision of section 396 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
    - (b) the appointment or determination was revoked at the end of the 6-month period beginning at the commencement of this item; and
    - (c) in the case of a determination—each reference in the determination to particular powers conferred on an inspector by the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* were a reference to powers conferred on an inspector by the corresponding provisions of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
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**Table A**

- (3) This item does not prevent the Minister, at the end of that 6-month period, from making a fresh appointment or determination under section 396 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in terms corresponding to the first-mentioned appointment or determination.

### **81 Transitional—Part 17 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

- (1) Part 17 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* applies to an offence against the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* in a corresponding way to the way in which it applies to an offence against Part 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (2) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if anything done under Part III of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* (other than section 58 or 60) before the commencement of this item had been done under the corresponding provision of Part 17 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (3) The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has effect, after the commencement of this item, as if anything done under Part III of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982* by or in relation to the Designated Authority before the commencement of this item had been done by or in relation to the Secretary under the corresponding provision of Part 17 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

### **82 Transitional—regulations**

- (1) The regulations may make provision for matters of a transitional nature relating to the amendments made by Part 1 of this Schedule.
- (2) The Governor-General may make regulations for the purposes of subitem (1).

## **Table A**

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*Crimes Legislation Enhancement Act 2003* (No. 41, 2003)

### **Schedule 3**

#### **42 Saving provision**

- (1) The amendments made by this Schedule do not invalidate:
  - (a) an instrument made under, or referring to, a Part of the *Crimes Act 1914* whose heading is repealed and substituted by this Schedule; or
  - (b) anything done under such an instrument or such a Part.
- (2) Subitem (1) has effect whether the instrument was made, or the thing was done, before or after this Act received the Royal Assent.

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*Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2003*  
(No. 88, 2003)

### **Schedule 1**

#### **8 Application**

- (1) This item is about the application of:
    - (a) Subdivision AA of Division 1 of Part 3 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and
    - (b) Subdivision AA of Division 2 of that Part.
- Note: So far as those Subdivisions have effect in relation to places and actions outside the Australian jurisdiction, those Subdivisions apply only to persons with a jurisdictional connection with Australia or the external Territories. See subsection 5(3) of that Act.
- (2) Neither Subdivision applies to a particular action if, before the commencement of this Schedule, the Minister has decided under section 75 of that Act whether the action is a controlled action (whether the decision was that the action is a controlled action or that the action is not a controlled action).

**Table A****24 Saving of agreements**

The amendment of section 305 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* by this Schedule does not affect the validity of a conservation agreement made before the commencement of this Schedule.

**25 Saving of matters prescribed by the regulations**

Matters prescribed for the purposes of section 305 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* immediately before the commencement of this Schedule are taken to be, immediately after the commencement of this Schedule, matters prescribed for the purposes of that section as amended by this Schedule.

**Schedule 3****1A Including World Heritage properties in National Heritage List**

- (1) This item applies to a place consisting of a property that, at any time within 6 months after this item commences, is included in the World Heritage List after being submitted by the Commonwealth to the World Heritage Committee under Article 11 of the World Heritage Convention. It does not matter whether the property was first included in the List before, on or after the commencement of this item.

*Place may be included in National Heritage List within 6 months*

- (2) The Minister may, by instrument published in the *Gazette* within 6 months after this item commences, include in the National Heritage List the place and the National Heritage values it has because of subitem (3). To avoid doubt:
- (a) all those values must be included in the List if the Minister includes the place in the List under this item; and
  - (b) this item does not prevent the Minister from including in the List at any time under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*:
    - (i) the place; and
    - (ii) a National Heritage value the place has because of subitem (3) or otherwise.

## Table A

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### *World heritage values taken to cause place to meet National Heritage criteria*

- (3) For the purposes of this item and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, each world heritage value that the World Heritage Committee has identified the property as having is taken to cause the place to meet a National Heritage criterion.

Note: This has the effect that, under subsection 324D(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the place has a National Heritage value corresponding to that world heritage value. Under that subsection, the place will also have another National Heritage value if the place has a heritage value that causes the place to meet one of the National Heritage criteria apart from this item.

## 1 Places may be taken to be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List

- (1) In this item:
- Register of the National Estate*** means the Register of the National Estate kept under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*, including the Interim List kept under section 26 of that Act, as in force immediately before this item commences.
- (2) Within 6 months after this item commences, the Minister may determine that the Commonwealth Heritage List is taken to include a place if:
- (a) the place:
    - (ia) is, or is part of, a place to which item 1A (about World Heritage properties) applies; or
    - (i) was included, immediately before this item commences, in the Register of the National Estate; or
    - (ii) is part of a place that was included, immediately before this item commences, in the Register of the National Estate; and
  - (b) the place is within a Commonwealth area; and
  - (c) the Minister is satisfied that the place has one or more Commonwealth Heritage values.
- (3) The Minister must ensure that the Commonwealth Heritage List specifies the Commonwealth Heritage value or values for each place



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**Table A**

that the Minister determines is taken to be included in the Commonwealth Heritage List.

- (4) A determination under subitem (2) must be in writing and a copy of the determination must be published in the *Gazette*.

**Schedule 4**

**1G Application**

The amendment of paragraph 78(1)(b) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* made by this Schedule applies in relation to notices given under section 77 of that Act after the commencement of that amendment.