



# Pit to Port greenfield port development

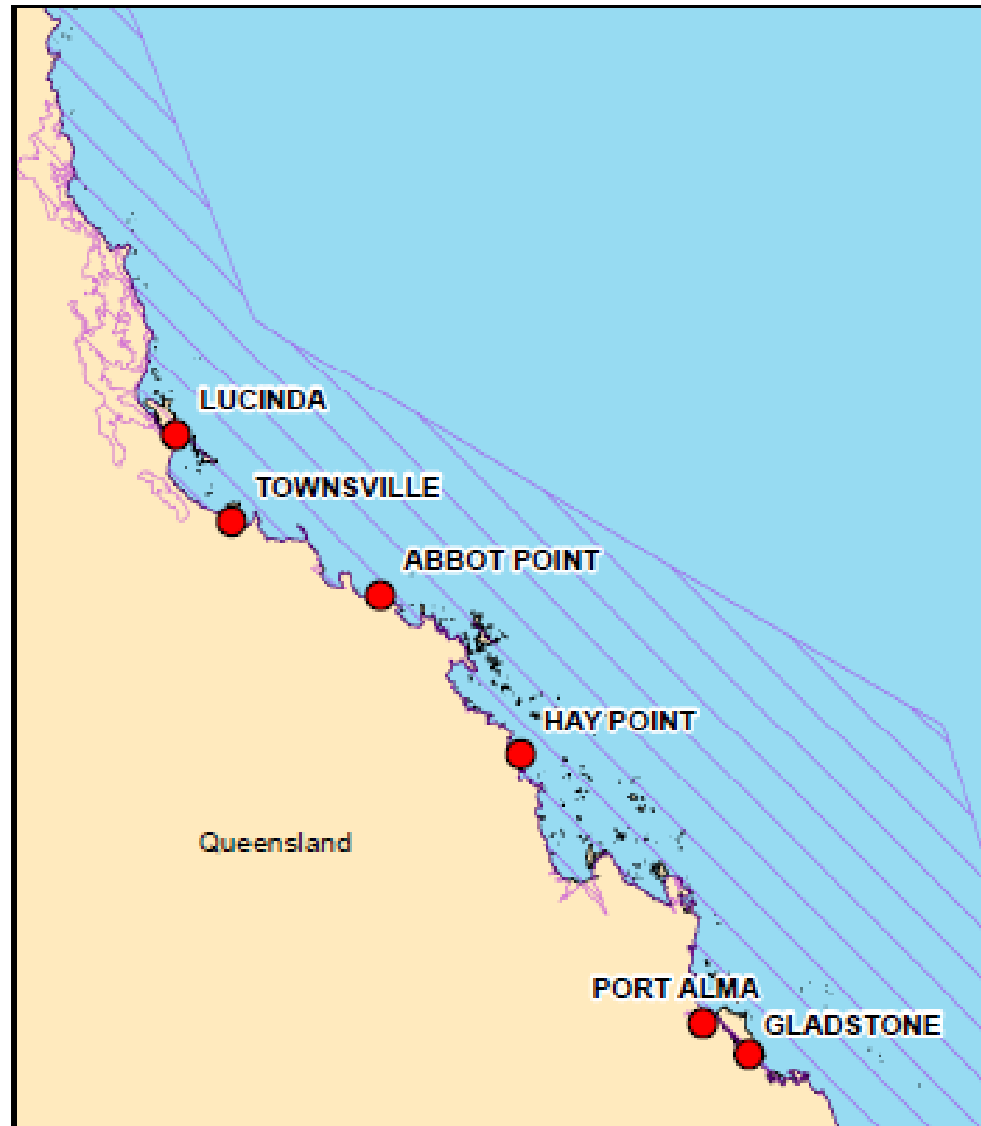
Nikki O'Donnell Principal Impact Assessment Manager

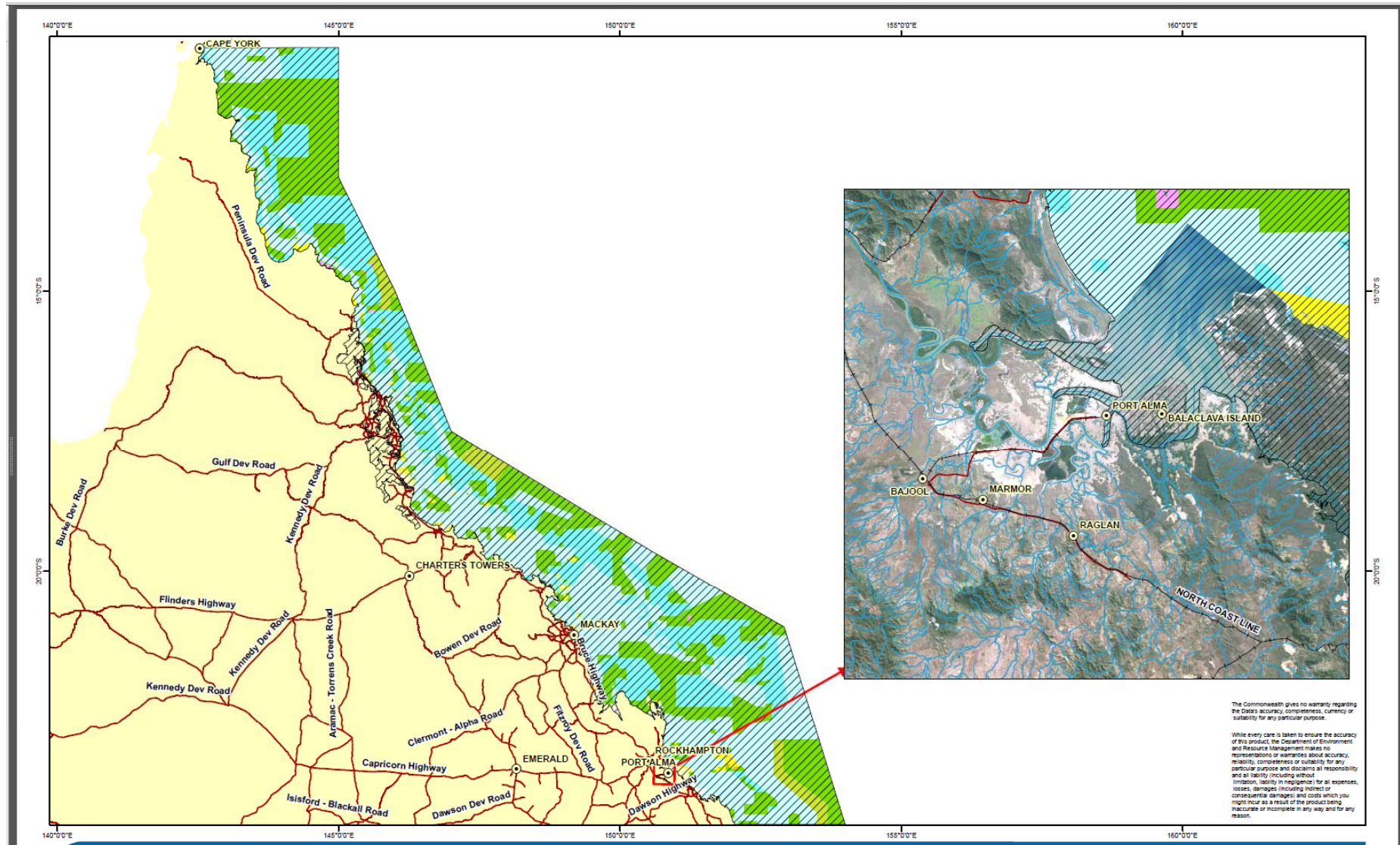


# Challenges in conducting an EIA for a greenfield port in Central Queensland during a rapidly changing political landscape

# Overview

- Port expansions within Queensland in response to coal and CSG industries
  - Port of Gladstone
  - Port of Abbot Point
  - Port of Hay Point
- Increasing concern from stakeholders regarding level of development within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
- Proposed Balaclava Island Coal Export Terminal studies commenced in 2009
  - Challenges in conducting field studies
  - Lack of guidance from State and Federal regulators
  - Juggling client expectations with budget restrictions
  - Added confusion of neighbouring project from 2011





# Marine ecology key issues

- Large number of environmentally sensitive issues
  - Inshore dolphins
  - Marine turtles
  - Highly productive marine fishery
- Variety of survey techniques used
  - Aerial survey
  - Boat-based
  - Telemetry tagging (collaboration with DERM)
  - Underwater acoustic monitoring



# Terrestrial environment key issues

- Geotechnical conditions not ideal
- Critically endangered yellow chat confirmed
- Migratory birds on BalACLava Island
  - Would meet the criteria for a Ramsar site
- OHS considerations
  - Remote
  - Estuarine crocodile
  - Tidal restrictions



# Xstrata internal conflicts

- Xstrata signed a mandate with GPC
- Conflict between immediate project management team and corporate sustainability team
- Typical problems around timing of FS and EIS
- Project governed by progress of the overall Wandoan project
  - Xstrata one of the first to seek to control the whole “pit to port” supply chain
- Overly laborious review process for the EIS
- Assessment of alternatives
- Mounting stakeholder concern



**Fitzroy Terminal**



# Outcomes

- Broadly, can already see some improvements
  - Statement of OUV for the GBRWHA
  - Strategic assessment of the GBRMP
- For BICET
  - Project put on hold in August 2012
  - Ultimately withdrawn in June 2013



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