

# Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project

Annual Compliance Report of *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) 2009/4904*

December 2017

**For the attention of: Department of the Environment and Energy**

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## **Table of Abbreviations**

Descriptor	Description
ACR	Annual Compliance Report
ASSMP	Acid Sulfate Soil Management Plan
BPAR	Benthic Photosynthetically Active Radiation
BOS	Biodiversity Offset Strategy
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CG	Coordinator General
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry now Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)
EHP	Department of Environment Heritage and Protection (formerly DERM)
DMP	Dredge Management Plan
DTRP	Dredge Technical Reference Panel
DCMP	Dredging and Construction Management Plan
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (formerly DoE)
EBSDS	East Banks Sea Disposal Site
EPBC	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation
EPR	Environmental Performance Report
ERMP	Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program
ERMPAP	Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program Advisory Panel
GPC	Gladstone Ports Corporation
GBRMP	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LTSDP	Long Term Sediment Disposal Plan
NPSR	Department of National Parks, Sports and Recreation

PAR	Photosynthetically Active Radiation
QPWS	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services
ToR	Terms of Reference
TSHD	Trailing Suction Hopper Dredge
WBRA	Western Basin Reclamation Area
WBDDP	Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project
WQIP	Water Quality Improvement Program
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan

## 1. Introduction

The Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project (WBDDP) was declared a significant project by the Coordinator General (CG) on 24 April 2009. The Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) approved the project with 52 conditions (Ref: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation EPBC 2009/4904) on 22 October 2010. The WBDDP accommodated the long term dredging of Gladstone Harbour which was intended to provide safe and efficient access to the emerging Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) industry in the region. This involved the dredging of 22.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of material from the seabed for the deepening and widening of the existing channels and swing basin and the creation of new channels, swing basins and berth pockets. Dredging for the WBDDP commenced on 20 May 2011. The dredged material was disposed at the Western Basin Reclamation Area (WBRA) at Fisherman's Landing (onshore) and the East Banks Sea Disposal Site (EBSDS) (offshore). Offshore dumping under the sea dumping permit last occurred on 18 March 2013. Dredging for Stage 1A of the project was completed on 18 September 2013 with approximately 22.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of material being dredged. 17.45 million m<sup>3</sup> of this material was disposed at the WBRA and 5.11 million m<sup>3</sup> in the EBSDS.

Compliance obligations under the EPBC 2009/4904 in terms of monitoring and reporting still continues and this report is in fulfilment of one such Condition (46).

Condition 46 of the *EPBC Act Approval (2009/4904)* states:

*Each year the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. The date of the first compliance report must be within 42 days after the initial twelve months of the date of approval with each subsequent report 12 months from the date of the previous report. The Compliance report must:*

- (a) be endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of GPC or a person approved in writing by the Department, delegated to sign on behalf of the CEO or the person taking the action;*
- (b) include a statement as to whether the person taking the action has complied with the conditions;*
- (c) identify any non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; and*
- (d) make the compliance report publicly available on the internet within 30 days of it being submitted to the Minister.*

The 2017 Annual Compliance Report (ACR) has been prepared covering the period 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017 and should be read in conjunction with the 2017 Environmental Performance Report (EPR) which is being submitted along with this report in compliance with Conditions 36 and 37 of the EPBC Act Approval. Many conditions in this approval relate to active stage of dredging, which has been completed in September 2013. Previous ACRs (2011 to 2014) demonstrated compliance with these conditions and have been referred to in relevant sections of the report. These reports are also available on the Gladstone Port Corporation's (GPC) website:

The current report focusses on demonstrating compliance with the conditions relevant to activities that occurred during the reporting period 1 November 2016 – 31 October 2017. A compliance rating of Not Applicable (NA) has been assigned to those conditions that are not relevant in the current reporting period and a compliance rating of Partial Compliance (PC) has been assigned to any obligation that has been partially met.

The activities that are currently occurring under the approval are:

- Monitoring of Seagrass in Port Curtis
- Monitoring of groundwater at the WBRA
- Third party audits of the Acid Sulfate Soil Management Plan (Completed in December 2016 as per agreement with the Department of Environment and heritage Protection (EHP))
- Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program
- Biodiversity Offset Strategy Monitoring Programs

**One partial compliance has been reported in the 2016-2017 Annual Compliance Report.**

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments (2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
Condition 26	The person taking the action must provide to the Minister, a copy of all the recommendations made by the research advisory panel and an explanation of how these recommendations have, or will be, implemented. This information must be provided to the Minister within one month of receiving advice from the research advisory panel or within any timeframe recommended by the research advisory panel, should this be less than one month.	Following receipt of advice from the Chair of the research advisory Panel dated 31 March 2017, GPC provided the information to the Minister within 2 months instead of the stipulated timeframe of 1 month.  The highlighted delay was due to an administrative oversight and a process review has been undertaken to prevent recurrence.	PC

## 2. Compliance Table

**Approval – Conditions - Decision on Controlled Action EPBC 2009/4904  
Current Status of project as at October 2017: Stage 1A of dredging works under this Approval was completed on 18 of September 2013.**

NA: Not Applicable (as dredging operations for Stage 1A of WBDDP has been completed, details included in 2011,2012,2013 and 2014 ACRs) Y: Compliant, PC: Partial Compliance

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
1	Stages 1A and 1B of dredging works, as shown at Annexure 1 to this approval, are approved to a total volume of no more than 25 million cubic metres (in situ).	No dredging occurred in the current reporting period.	NA
2	The total offshore disposal at the East Banks Sea Disposal Site (EBSDS) is to be no more than 11 million cubic metres (in situ).	No dredging occurred in the current reporting period.	NA
3	Stages 2, 3 and 4 of dredging works, as shown at Annexure 1 to this approval, are approved to a total volume of no more than 21 million cubic metres (in situ), subject to receiving all further approvals required for any offshore disposal of dredge material.	Stage 2, 3 and 4 dredging works have not been undertaken.	N/A
4	Dredging works associated with Stages 2, 3 and 4, as shown at Annexure 1 to this approval, that require spoil disposal in addition to the approved disposal at the East Banks disposal ground as at condition 2, are approved but must be phased in accordance with a Long Term Sediment Disposal Plan (LTSDP). This plan must: a) Be developed in consultation with the Department (and The Great Barrier Reef	Stage 2, 3 and 4 dredging works have not been undertaken.	NA



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) should offshore disposal in the GBRMP be proposed);</p> <p>b) Be submitted to the Department (and GBRMPA should offshore disposal in The Great Barrier Marine Park (GBRMP) be proposed) no less than two years prior to the expected date of commencement of Stage 2, 3 or 4 of dredging;</p> <p>c) Be approved in writing by the Minister prior to the commencement of dredging of Stages 2, 3 or 4;</p> <p>d) Include a comprehensive assessment of all dredge material disposal alternatives; and</p> <p>Include an indicative timetable of future dredging required for Stages 2, 3 or 4.</p>		
5	<p>No dredge material is to be disposed of in the GBRMP unless first authorised under all permits and authorities required for activities within the GBRMP.</p>	<p>No dredging occurred in the current reporting period.</p>	NA
6	<p>The person taking the action must comply with the requirements of any permit obtained under the <i>Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981</i>, including any conditions attached.</p>	<p>No offshore dumping occurred during the current reporting period under this permit. The WBDDP Sea Dumping Permit expired on 20 October 2015.</p>	NA
7	<p>The Western Basin land reclamation area must be no greater than 300 hectares in total and must be constructed generally in accordance with the design as shown at Annexure 2 to this approval and will not exceed 27 metres in height above LAT. Detailed specifications of the</p>	<p>No disposal into the WBRA occurred in the current reporting period. Compliance demonstrated in 2014 ACR</p>	NA

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
8	<p>reclamation area must be included and approved in the Dredging and Construction Management Plan (DCMP) as described in condition 15(a).</p> <p>The design, construction materials and construction methodology and management for the outer bund wall of the Western Basin land reclamation area must ensure appropriate design of the reclamation area to prevent water quality impacts from leaching material through the bund wall, decant waters and storm-water run-off.</p>	<p>This activity was completed in 2011.</p>	NA

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
9	<p>In relation to the management of acid sulphate soils and potential acid sulphate soils, the person taking the action must comply with the conditions and any amendments to these, contained at Schedules 1-3 of the 'Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project Coordinator-General's report for an environmental impact statement', July 2010.</p>	<p>Since completion of Stage 1 dredging, biannual third party audits of the Acid Sulfate Soil Management Plan (ASSMP) have been conducted to ensure compliance and reports submitted to EHP. The last third party audit was conducted on 6 December 2016. No issues were identified in this audit. All outstanding issues had been closed out in previous audits.</p> <p>In a letter dated 22 March 2017, EHP consented to the following changes in obligations pertaining to the ASSMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of all loggers</li> <li>• Third party audits of the WBRA to be replaced by biannual inspections by GPC and</li> <li>• Quarterly reporting to be replaced by Annual Reporting</li> </ul> <p>In response to the above advise the following actions were implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All groundwater loggers have been removed in July 2017.</li> <li>• Manual groundwater monitoring at 28 groundwater bores continues on a monthly basis.</li> <li>• Internal inspections by GPC have been undertaken on 6 June, 20 July, 4 September and 8 November 2017.</li> </ul>	Y
10	<p>The person taking the action must not undertake any dredge material rehandling.</p>	<p>No dredging operations were conducted during the current reporting period.</p>	NA
11	<p>One trailer suction hopper dredge (TSHD) is permitted to operate at any given time. When the TSHD is in use, a maximum of two cutter suction dredges may operate unless otherwise prescribed in the approved Water Quality Monitoring Program as required by condition 21.</p>	<p>No dredging operations were conducted during the current reporting period.</p>	NA

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
12	<p>The TSHD must not operate in overflow mode except during the last one hour of flood tide and first three hours of ebb tide unless otherwise in accordance with the approved Water Quality Monitoring Program as required by condition 21.</p>	<p>No offshore dumping occurred during the current reporting period under this permit.</p>	NA
13	<p>The TSHD must not operate in overflow mode for more than 30 minutes per cycle, with no more than two cycles per tide unless otherwise in accordance with the approved Water Quality Monitoring Program as required by condition 21.</p>	<p>No offshore dumping occurred during the current reporting period under this permit.</p>	NA
14	<p>Where construction and or dredging methods with lower environmental impacts are identified to be practical, these methods must be implemented.</p>	<p>No construction or dredging activities occurred in the reporting period.</p>	N/A
15	<p>To mitigate the impacts from dredging activities on the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place, and EPBC Act listed threatened and migratory species, the person taking the action must prepare and submit to the Minister for approval a Dredging and Construction Management Plan (DCMP). The DCMP must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Detailed specifications of the reclamation area;</li> <li>b) Mapping of significant and sensitive receptors in the port area, including within Port Curtis and within and adjacent to the East Banks spoil ground with linkages to applicable monitoring programs;</li> <li>c) Assessment of all potential and real</li> </ul>	<p>The WBDDP Dredge Management Plan (DMP) took into consideration all compliance under this condition (2013 ACR).</p> <p><b>The WBDDP DMP is currently dormant till further dredging under this permit occurs as per agreement with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP).</b></p>	NA

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>environmental risks to matters protected by the EPBC Act from dredging activities and construction activities;</p> <p>d) Appropriate measures (for example mitigation measures, performance indicators / trigger levels and corrective actions / management actions) that will ensure that there are no unacceptable impacts on the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place, EPBC Act listed threatened or migratory species. These must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Operating procedures to minimize injury to, or mortality of, EPBC Act listed threatened or migratory species from dredging activities or construction activities;</li> <li>ii. Reporting mechanisms that ensure reporting to the Minister within one business day of injury to, or mortality of, an EPBC Act listed threatened or migratory species cause by dredging activities or construction activities;</li> <li>iii. Management triggers, based on results obtained from the Water Quality Monitoring Program referred to at condition 21, including a reporting requirement to advise the Department in writing within one working day</li> </ul>		

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>when triggers are exceeded;</p> <p>iv. Contingency measures, based upon results of water quality and seagrass monitoring and the ERMP required under condition 27, when dredging operations must be varied or suspended;</p> <p>v. Management triggers and contingency measures when construction or pile driving must be varied or suspended;</p> <p>vi. Measures that minimize the risk of introduced marine pest species, including ballast-water management and vessel inspections for any non-domestic vessels;</p> <p>vii. Measures that ensure that dredging activities do not impact corals during coral spawning periods; and</p> <p>viii. Responsive actions that will be undertaken in the event contingency measures are employed, including reporting to the Minister.</p> <p>e) Details of responsible parties for each action described in the DCMP;</p> <p>f) An organizational structure showing all responsible parties referred to in condition 15(e);</p>		

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
16	<p>g) Measures that ensure periodic reviews of the DCMP and that ensure continual improvement measures are applied accordingly; and</p> <p>h) Future maintenance dredging requirements and cumulative impacts of other dredging that may occur consequential to the project.</p> <p>The DCMP must be submitted for approval by the Minister at least 1 month prior to the proposed commencement of dredging operations.</p>	<p>The DMP for offshore disposal was submitted to DoEE on 13 April 2011 and approved on 20 April 2011. Dredging work commenced on 20 May 2011 and ended on 18 September 2013.</p> <p>The current DMP was submitted to DoEE on 5 October 2012 and approved on 30 November 2012.</p>	Y
17	<p>Dredging activities must not commence until the DCMP has been approved. The approved DCMP must be implemented.</p> <p><b>Technical Reference Panel</b></p>	<p>No dredging operations were conducted in the current reporting period.</p>	NA
18	<p>The person taking the action must establish, fund and manage a technical reference panel. The technical reference panel must be established according to the following requirements:</p> <p>a) The technical reference panel must be established prior to and for the duration of the project;</p> <p>b) The members of the technical reference panel must include, in addition to regulators, independent scientific and technical experts, of whom at least one must be a scientific expert in seagrass and benthic habitat research and</p>	<p>No dredging operations were conducted in the current reporting period.</p> <p>On 6 March 2014, the Dredge Technical Reference Panel (DTRP) members were issued with a letter from GPC advising them of the completion of Stage 1A of WBDDP and the cessation of the DTRP.</p>	NA

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
19	<p>management, and one a technical expert in dredging matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) The membership of technical reference panel must be approved by the Minister in writing prior to the completion and submission of the Water Quality Monitoring Program to the Minister for approval;</li> <li>d) Terms of reference for the technical reference panel, which must include the frequency of proposed meetings, chairing and quorum arrangements, must be approved by the Minister in writing prior to the completion and submission of the Water Quality Monitoring Program to the Minister for approval.</li> </ul>		
	<p>The person taking the action must ensure that the technical reference panel undertakes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provides regular advice on the design and ongoing review of the Water Quality Monitoring Program, referred to in condition 21; and</li> <li>b) Provides advice on and oversees all aspects of water quality monitoring, including the implementation of a transition from a water quality monitoring program that is based on turbidity towards a program that is based on light attenuation and seagrass health.</li> <li>c) Assess any exceedance of trigger values and seagrass changes at key monitoring locations and advises changes to</li> </ul>	<p>No meetings were held in the current reporting period. The DTRP is no longer functional.</p>	NA



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
20	<p>dredging practices, through the DCMP, as required.</p> <p>The person taking the action must provide to the Minister, a copy of all the recommendations made by the technical reference panel and an explanation of how these recommendations have, or will be, implemented. This information must be provided to the Minister within one month of receiving advice from the technical reference panel, or within any timeframe should this be less than one month.</p>	<p>No meetings were held in the current reporting period. The DTRP is no longer functional.</p>	NA
21	<p><b>Water Quality Monitoring Program (WQMP)</b></p> <p>Prior to the commencement of dredging activities, the person taking the action must develop a Water Quality Monitoring Program to manage the impacts from dredging activities on water quality and the ecological health of marine communities relevant to the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place, listed threatened species and migratory species and must be approved in writing by the Department.</p>	<p>In written agreement with EHP, the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) has been placed into a dormant stage till further dredging occurs.</p>	NA
22	<p>The primary objectives of the proposed water quality monitoring program must be to protect sensitive marine ecosystems by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Verifying the results of plume modeling and predicted effects, including the spatial extent, magnitude and duration of elevated turbidity and / or reduced light attenuation in the vicinity of dredging and related activities;</li> <li>b) Providing information that can be used to alter dredge methods and / or implement</li> </ul>	<p>A detailed water quality and seagrass monitoring program was implemented throughout the duration of dredging and for a period (specified in the WQMP) post completion of dredging. (Please refer 2011 to 2016 ACRs for details).</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
23	<p>mitigation measures in an adaptive management framework to ensure the protection of sensitive marine ecosystems.</p> <p>In order to meet the objectives at condition 22, the WQMP must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Monitoring must commence a minimum of 6 months prior to commencement of dredging;</li> <li>b) Monitoring must continue over the full period of dredging activities, and for a period prior to and after dredging as defined by the monitoring program;</li> <li>c) Methods of water quality sampling must include appropriate quality assurance / quality control (QA / QC);</li> <li>d) Monitoring and reporting must be consistent with the National Water Quality Management Strategy Australian Guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting (2000) or subsequent versions thereof;</li> <li>e) Must be consistent with the Water Quality Guidelines for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (2009) or subsequent versions thereof;</li> <li>f) Establishment of baseline background water quality conditions including an analysis of water quality variability, and key factors that influence this variability, including resuspension of dredged material;</li> </ul>	<p>Compliance with 23 a-n was demonstrated in 2011- 2014 ACRs</p> <p>23o, Quarterly monitoring of permanent transects for seagrass percentage cover came to an end in November 2016 to be replaced by annual mapping of seagrass meadows to be conducted in November 2017 and 2018.</p> <p>Details of monitoring and outcomes for the current reporting period have been included in the 2017 EPR.</p> <p>Quarterly measurement of Benthic Photosynthetically Active Radiation (BPAR) continued at seven (7) locations and came to an end in November 2016.</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>g) Measurement of water quality conditions at reference locations and in the vicinity of dredging and other project related activities ('exposed' locations);</p> <p>h) Development of a trigger or triggers for management action is when impacts are observed in areas expected to be impacted by dredge activities;</p> <p>i) Development of a trigger or triggers for management actions when impacts are observed in areas where they were not predicted;</p> <p>j) Hydrodynamic and plume modelling during dredging, to assist the validation of water quality predictions associated with dredging and / or related operations;</p> <p>k) Selection of appropriate reference and exposed monitoring locations based on condition 23(e) (at least 6-12 sites) as agreed to by the technical reference panel at condition 18 above;</p> <p>l) A description of methodology including:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. QA / QC for measurement of water quality conditions;</li> <li>ii. Consideration to be given to continuous and real-time (eg., via telemetry and spot sampling by field personnel) measurements of turbidity and / or light attenuation at multiple depths;</li> </ul> </p>		

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. Consideration of non-project related factors that may also affect water quality;</li> <li>iv. Visual techniques (e.g. aerial photography);</li> <li>v. Methods for monitoring the dispersion of re-suspended sediments which must include some means of assessing resettlement (for spoil disposal impacts).</li> <li>vi. Derivation of turbidity and / or light attenuation trigger values based on an assessment of the light requirements of seagrasses in the Gladstone area and modified as new research information becomes available;</li> <li>vii. Description of the approach for presenting water quality measurements including appropriate statistical methods.</li> <li>m) A schedule for reporting water quality monitoring results to the Department;</li> <li>n) A description of adaptive management actions that will be undertaken should the derived trigger(s) be exceeded, both in terms of operational procedures and the water quality monitoring program. These actions must be linked to the DCMP;</li> <li>o) Mapping assessing key significant and</li> </ul>		

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
24	<p>sensitive receptors, including but not limited to seagrass beds and coral reefs. The monitoring program must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Establishment of permanent assessment sites at key locations, with at least quarterly measurements of health and resilience, indicators of which are to be identified in the monitoring plan;</li> <li>ii. Consideration of natural season variation;</li> <li>iii. Assessment of resilience to impact and capacity for recovery.</li> </ul> <p>The person taking the action must make the findings, including related data, of any or all of these studies or activities publicly available upon request by any interested parties.</p> <p><b>Research Advisory Panel</b></p>	<p>All requests for information pertaining to the release of reports received in the current reporting period were actioned and relevant reports made available on the GPC website or to individuals in accordance with GPC's data request policy.</p>	Y
25	<p>The person taking the action must establish, fund and manage a research advisory panel. The research advisory panel must be established according to the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The research advisory panel must be established prior to and for the duration of the Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program (ERMP) as described at condition 27, to assist in the design and ongoing review of the ERMP such that the research is relevant and incorporated into the adaptive</li> </ul>	<p>Condition 25a-c: The ERMP and ERMPAP have been functional during the current reporting period.</p> <p>Condition 25d: The current version of the ERMPAP Terms of Reference (ToR) was approved by DoEE on 20 October 2015. No changes to the ERMPAP ToR was made in the current reporting period.</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>management of the Western Basin Strategic Dredging and Disposal Project;</p> <p>b) The members of the research advisory panel must include independent scientific experts of whom at least one must be a scientist with expertise in inshore dolphins, one a scientist with expertise in marine reptiles, one a scientist with expertise in migratory shorebirds and one a scientist with expertise in tropical marine ecology;</p> <p>c) The membership of the research advisory panel must be approved by the Minister in writing prior to the completion and submission of the Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program to the minister for approval; and</p> <p>d) The terms of reference for the research advisory panel, which must include the frequency of proposed meetings, chairing and quorum arrangements, must be developed by the Panel at its inception and must be approved by the Minister in writing prior to the submission of the ERMP to the Minister for approval.</p>		
26	<p>The person taking the action must provide to the Minister, a copy of all the recommendations made by the research advisory panel and an explanation of how these recommendations have, or will be, implemented. This information must be provided to the Minister within one month of receiving advice from the research advisory panel or within any timeframe</p>	<p>In the current reporting period three (3) ERMPAP meetings were held (November 2016, February 2017, and May 2017). The agenda items of these meetings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERMP budget and financial update</li> <li>• Update on results and findings of ERMP surveys and research</li> </ul>	PC

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>recommended by the research advisory panel, should this be less than one month.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trends and issues arising from results and findings of ERMP surveys and research</li> <li>• Further monitoring or research requirements or addition/omissions</li> <li>• Resolutions for advice to GPC and subsequently DoEE</li> </ul> <p>In the current reporting period, three (3) letters of recommendations pertaining to ERMPAP governance and changes in scope of projects (dated 13 December 2016, 31 March 2017 and 2 August 2017) were sent to GPC by the Chair of the ERMPAP.</p> <p>The letters of recommendations and GPC's response to these recommendations were forwarded to DoEE on 19 December 2016, 31 May 2017 and 12 September 2017 respectively.</p> <p><b>One letter of recommendation by the Chair dated 31 March 2017, received by GPC on 5 April 2017 was submitted to DoEE on 31 May 2017 (i.e. outside the one (1) month submission period). The delay was due to an administrative oversight and a process review has been undertaken by GPC to prevent recurrence.</b></p>	
27	<p><b>Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program</b></p> <p>The person taking the action must develop and implement an Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program (ERMP) to acquire a detailed ecological understanding of the marine environment of Port Curtis and Port Alma that can be used to monitor, manage and / or improve the regional marine environment and to offset potential impacts from the project on listed</p>	<p>The current ERMP was approved by DoEE on 8 January 2016 and programs are proceeding in accordance with the approved ERMP.</p>	Y



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
28	<p>threatened and migratory species and values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place.</p> <p>The ERMP must be submitted to the Department for approval no later than six months from the date of this approval.</p>	<p>The first ERMP was submitted to DoEE on 18 April 2011.</p>	Y
29	<p>After twelve months from the date of this approval the person taking the action must not undertake any dredging activities, land reclamation or construction activities unless the Minister has approved the ERMP in writing.</p>	<p>The ERMP was approved by the Minister on 22 October 2011. WBDDP dredging commenced on 20 May 2011.</p>	Y
30	<p>The ERMP must be implemented for a period of no less than ten years from the date of the Department's initial approval of the ERMP.</p>	<p>Programs to meet the conditions under the ERMP were initiated in 2011. The ERMP is proposed to run till 2021, though individual projects may have varying durations as determined by the ERMPAP.</p>	Y
31	<p>The results of the ERMP must be used to inform an adaptive management response to observed impacts or potential impacts identified.</p>	<p>The outcomes of the Tier 1 literature review and gap analysis studies on marine turtles, dugongs, dolphins and migratory shorebirds have been instrumental in the design of the Tier 2 core research projects, currently being conducted under the ERMP. It is being envisaged that the information gained from the Tier 2 projects will help in the management or improvement of the regional environment. The Advisory Panel has suggested that funding be allocated for the preparation of a 'synthesis report' in 2020-2021 compiling information from all the studies conducted under the ERMP.</p>	Y
32	<p>The ERMP must be reviewed and revised (if appropriate) and submitted to the Minister on an annual basis, or at such other time as might be as otherwise agreed by the Minister from the date of the Department's initial approval for the duration of the ERMP.</p>	<p>No revisions to the ERMP was made in the current reporting period.</p>	Y
33	<p>Ecosystem and Research Monitoring</p>	<p>Details of all studies conducted in compliance with this condition</p>	Y



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>Programme</p> <p>The ERMP must include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <p><u>Marine Megafauna</u></p> <p>(a) Conditions 33(b) to (e) below must be undertaken for EPBC Act listed threatened and migratory species, including dugong, turtles and dolphins and other species as relevant to the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place.</p> <p>(b) Determine measurable population characteristics for key species before the start of dredging and develop appropriate indicators to monitor population changes.</p> <p>(c) Monitor the effects of project-related activities including, but not limited to: dredge vessel movement; pile driving; construction dredging; bund wall construction during dredging; construction of the bund wall; and filling of the reclamation area</p> <p>with reference to matters including: noise and, where relevant, associated pressure impacts; light spill; water quality reduction; decreased access to intertidal foreshore habitat; increased sedimentation; displacement</p> <p>(d) Identify potentially suitable habitats for key megafauna in the region at an ecological scale appropriate for megafauna species.</p> <p>(e) Determine the utilisation and significance of The Narrows for megafauna, and what effects the project may have on utilisation of this area.</p> <p>(f) The person taking the action must fund activities (conditions 33(a) – (e) above) to an</p>	<p>and the approved ERMP have been compiled in a separate report "Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project (EPBC2009/4904) Environmental Performance Report submitted annually from 2011 onwards. The report for 2017 is being submitted along with this report.</p> <p>Conditions 33b: Boat-based and aerial surveys were conducted in 2011 before the start of dredging to collect data on the marine megafauna in the Port Curtis and Port Alma region. In 2011 and 2012 an extensive literature review and gap analysis based on existing studies in Port Curtis and Port Alma on dugongs, dolphins, marine turtles, seagrass, mangroves, water quality, coral and associated benthos were conducted as Tier 1 projects under the ERMP to gain an understanding of the population and current state of knowledge of these species in the ERMP study area.</p> <p>Conditions 33c: The following studies were conducted to assess the impact of construction activities on the marine megafauna, the details of these studies are included in the 2012, 2013 and 2014 EPR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring Aquatic Ambient Noise and Associated Pressure impacts in Port Curtis and Port Alma (May 2013), which measured the underwater noise levels in the harbour during dredging;</li> <li>• Monitoring Aquatic Ambient Noise and Associated Pressure impacts in Port Curtis and Port Alma (May 2014), which measured the underwater noise levels in the harbour after dredging was completed;</li> <li>• Gladstone Baseline Sky Cam Light Monitoring (September 2011) which measured light visibility on</li> </ul>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>amount of no less than \$5 million for the duration of the ERMP, expenditure of which is to be detailed in the compliance report required annually under condition 46 of this approval.</p> <p><u>Migratory Shorebirds</u></p> <p>(g) Comprehensive surveys of Port Curtis and Port Alma prior to the start of dredging including: population censuses of all species present, mapping of feeding and roosting sites, investigation of habitat utilisation relative to the lunar/tide cycles and season, and identification of critical characteristics of important habitat.</p> <p>(h) A minimum of two years of surveys, including two surveys in the December – February period, single surveys during both the northward and southward migration periods and a minimum of one survey during winter (May-August).</p> <p>(i) Single, annual summer surveys (October – March) covering the major high tide roost sites from years three to eight, with a repeat of the comprehensive surveys during years nine and ten.</p> <p>(j) Monitoring the effect of those port development activities potentially affecting migratory shorebirds, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dredge vessel movement</li> <li>• Pile driving</li> <li>• Construction dredging</li> <li>• Bund wall construction during dredging</li> </ul>	<p>major turtle nesting beaches near Gladstone;</p> <p>No discernible impacts of sounds and pressure on the marine megafauna were identified in the studies. A disorientation of turtle hatchlings towards the Gladstone light glow was observed on moonless nights during surveys conducted in 2014, the glow was a cumulative impact from industries in Gladstone. All WBDDP dredging activities had been completed in 2013.</p> <p>Light measurements, on three turtle nesting beaches, Curtis Island, South End Beach and Facing Island conducted in September 2011 by Pendoley et al during the dredging project identified Queensland Alumina, RG Tanna Coal Terminal and Gladstone city as the three major sources of light from Gladstone. No major light spill from the WBDDP operations was documented in the report.</p> <p>No pile driving was conducted during the project.</p> <p>As per advice from the ERMP Advisory Panel, no tagging of megafauna could be conducted in 2012 and most of 2013 due to the poor health of the turtles and dugongs following major flood in 2011. Hence megafauna data could not be collected under the ERMP in 2012/2013. Based on further advice from the Panel, monitoring of turtles commenced in 2013, and dolphin and dugongs in 2014.</p> <p>The Panel has recommended funding a synthesis report in 2020/2021 to summarise how the conditions pertaining to the ERMP have been met through monitoring as well as ancillary information from parallel studies.</p> <p>Condition 33d: Following studies are being conducted to gain an understanding of suitable habitats for key marine megafauna in</p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of the bund wall</li> <li>• Filling of the reclamation area</li> </ul> <p>And will address matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise impacts</li> <li>• Light spill</li> <li>• Water quality reduction</li> <li>• Decreased access to intertidal foreshore habitat</li> <li>• Displacement</li> </ul> <p>(k) The person taking the action must fund activities (conditions 33(g) to (j) above) to an amount of no less than \$2 million for the duration of the ERMP, expenditure of which is to be detailed in the compliance report required annually under condition 46 of this approval.</p> <p><u>Seagrass</u></p> <p>(l) Annual long term seagrass monitoring surveys of seagrass distribution and abundance in the Western Basin and Port Curtis.</p> <p>(m) Monitor survival and recovery of seagrass and other marine communities in the project area during the construction period and for a minimum of five years following completion of dredging</p>	<p>Port Curtis and Port Alma: The details of these studies are included in the 2017 EPR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase understanding of the status of Australian snubfin and Australian humpback dolphins within Port Curtis and Port Alma- <i>Completed in 2017, final report under review by the ERMPAP.</i></li> <li>• Marine Turtle Nesting Populations: Avoid, Peak and Curtis Island Flatback Turtles breeding season - Full nesting census conducted on Curtis and Avoid and mid-season census conducted on Peak in 2016-2017 nesting season. <i>Year four annual report under review by the ERMPAP.</i></li> <li>• Interesting habitat use by flatback turtles off the Curtis Island coast- <i>Completed in January 2016, final report under review by the ERMPAP.</i></li> <li>• Increase understanding of green turtle habitat usage in the Port Curtis and Port Alma Region: using Satellite Telemetry – <i>completed in May 2017, final report under review by the ERMPAP</i></li> <li>• Determine the composition by size, sex, maturity, growth rates, survivorship, recruitment and general health of the green turtle population in Port Curtis - <i>Monitoring conducted between April and October 2017, year two (2) annual report is under review by the ERMPAP.</i></li> <li>• Monitoring the survival and recovery of shorelines, specifically Tidal Mangroves/Saltmarsh/Saltpans- <i>Continuing in 2017, Annual Progress report for 2017 published on ERMP website.</i></li> <li>• Monitoring Seagrass Seed Bank Density and Viability within Port Curtis- <i>Completed in 2017. Annual report published on ERMP website</i></li> <li>• Assessment of dugong feeding trails-<i>Completed in 2017.</i></li> </ul>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p><i>final report published on ERMP website.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunistic tagging of dugongs- No tagging could be conducted in 2016 and 2017 as no dugongs were encountered that could be tagged. Project under review by the ERMPAP.</li> </ul> <p>Condition 33e: the following ongoing studies under the ERMP will provide information on the usage of the Narrows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase understanding of green turtle habitat usage in the Port Curtis and Port Alma Region: using Satellite Telemetry.</li> <li>• Dolphin mark recapture studies in Port Curtis and Port Alma.</li> <li>• Determine the composition by size, sex, maturity, growth rates, survivorship, recruitment and general health of the green turtle population in Port Curtis through opportunistic tunnel netting or similar technique at multiple sites.</li> <li>• The overall impact of the WBDDP on the Narrows will be addressed in the ERMP Synthesis Report to be prepared in 2020-2021.</li> </ul> <p>Condition 33f:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expenditure on marine megafauna in the current reporting period (1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017) was \$386,927.</li> <li>• Total expenditure on marine megafauna as at 31 October 2017 was \$2,940,148.</li> </ul> <p>Conditions 33g-i The following studies on migratory shorebirds have been conducted in the current reporting period. The details are included in the 2017 EPR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual summer survey conducted from 11 to 15</li> </ul>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>February 2017, Report published on ERMP website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migratory Shorebird Monitoring – Understanding Ecological Impact: <i>The project was completed in 2017 and Report published on ERMP website.</i></li> </ul> <p>Condition 33j: The Panel has advised that an ERMP synthesis report will be prepared in 2020/2021 which will address condition 33 j (details in 2013 ACR.)</p> <p>Condition 33k: Expenditure on migratory shorebirds in the current reporting period (1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017) was \$236,487. Total expenditure on migratory shorebirds as at 31 October 2017 was \$1,835,916.</p> <p>Condition 33l: Advice on seagrass monitoring and research had been provided by the DTRP for the duration of the project. Post completion of Stage 1A dredging, quarterly monitoring of seagrass at seven locations was undertaken in accordance with the DoEE and EHP approved WQMP. This was completed in November 2016.</p> <p>In 2016, annual mapping of seagrass and health assessment studies were also conducted. Details of the monitoring programs have been discussed in the 2017 EPR.</p> <p>Condition 33m: The seagrass monitoring program (annual mapping) of the extent of seagrass meadows will continue for a period of 5 years</p>	



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>post completion of dredging( i.e. until 2018).</p> <p>Additionally the following studies were commissioned by the ERMPAP to assess the recovery of seagrass and other marine communities in the Port Curtis region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring the survival and recovery of shorelines, specifically Tidal Mangroves/Saltmarsh/Saltpans.</li> <li>• Monitoring Seagrass Seed Bank Density and Viability within Port Curtis.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Reporting</b>		
34	The person taking the action must publish the ERMP Program on their website within two weeks of approval in writing by the Department.	The ERMP and the ERMP ToR are available on GPC's website.	Y
35	The person taking the action must make the findings, including related data, of any or all of these studies publicly available upon request by any interested parties.	All final reports related to the ERMP are published on GPC's website. <a href="http://www.gpcl.com.au/envirodocs-desc?i={Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program}&amp;y=1">http://www.gpcl.com.au/envirodocs-desc?i={Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program}&amp;y=1</a>	Y
36	The person taking the action must submit to the Minister an annual Environmental Performance Report covering the following topics: a) Dolphins, dugong and marine turtles, and other megafauna; b) Migratory shorebirds; and c) Seagrass.	The 2017 EPR has been prepared to provide a detailed account of the monitoring studies related to marine megafauna, migratory shorebirds and seagrass undertaken during the 2016-2017 reporting period. This report has been submitted along with this compliance report.	Y
37	12 Months from the date of approval, a report must be submitted outlining the initial environmental activities for the 12 month period. The report to be called the Environmental Performance Report and must be submitted within 42 days of the 12 month activity period.	The EPR for the reporting period of 2016-2017 will be submitted to the Minister on or before 2 December 2017.	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
38	<p>The Environmental Performance Report must include proposed environmental management improvements to be implemented through the DCMP, WQMP and other Plan as relevant. Reports are required annually from thereafter.</p> <p>The person taking the action must submit a Biodiversity Offset Strategy to the Minister for approval in order to offset unavoidable impacts to the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place, and EPBC Act listed threatened and migratory species. The strategy must include as a minimum the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Measures funded to not less than \$5 million including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Funding for listed threatened and migratory species protection, habitat enhancement and restoration actions in the region or the wider bioregion such as 'seagrass friendly' mooring systems, wetland rehabilitation projects and water quality improvement programs;</li> <li>ii. Actions to reduce fisheries netting pressure in Port Curtis and in adjacent waters; and</li> <li>iii. Actions to reduce potential for coastal impacts such as commercial development in adjacent areas</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Details of the management arrangements and a map of the 3,000</li> </ul>	<p>A Biodiversity Offset Strategy (BOS) was developed and 16 projects identified to meet conditions under 38a to d. The BOS was submitted to DoEE on 5 July 2012. Approval was received from DoEE on 18 July 2012.</p> <p>The status of these projects as at 31 October 2017 is:</p> <p><b>5.1 Signage and Education:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Big 6 Signs designed and installed at Spinnaker Park, Gladstone</li> <li>2. Numerous education campaigns executed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Big 6 website and tribe sign up function</li> <li>b. School competitions to celebrate inauguration of the discovery trail at Spinnaker Park</li> <li>c. Promotion during community events (Boyne-Tannum Hook up and Ecofest 2017)</li> <li>d. BIG 6 team have participated in a number of events to promote BIG 6 campaign amongst school teachers and students.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. "Go slow for those below" campaigns executed in the form of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Outdoor billboard advertising</li> <li>b. "Go Slow For Those Below" boat stickers provided to community members at the 2017 Boyne Tannum Hook Up</li> <li>c. "Go Slow For Those Below" confluence posters displayed at the 2017 Boyne Tannum Hook Up</li> <li>d. Advertisement in the 2017-18 Queensland</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>hectares of land at Port Alma proposed protection in perpetuity as an Environment Preservation Area;</p> <p>c) A Strategic Vessel Management plan for Port Curtis that must include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Measures that will regulate boating speeds and movement in Port Curtis in perpetuity, including ongoing funding for enforcement of the program;</li> <li>ii. The establishment of 'go slow' zones; and</li> <li>iii. Establish roles and responsibilities for implementation of the Plan.</li> </ul> <p>d) Development of a seagrass conservation plan that must include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A map clearly illustrating the areas to be protected including the Wiggins / Mud Island seagrass beds, seagrass beds east of Quion Island and seagraas beds in Pelican Banks;</li> <li>ii. Measures to ensure that the seagrass beds within the Port are protected from ongoing and future Port activity; and</li> <li>iii. Commitments to ensure no further direct seagrass removal of the areas referred to in 38(d)j) above, accounting for any</li> </ul>	<p>Recreational Boating &amp; Fishing Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Dissemination of dedicated printed postcards at various events and activities and included as a key message at all school engagement sessions</li> </ul> <p>4. Social surveys conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Social survey through the GPC corporate image study occurred in December 2016.</li> <li>b. Feedback has been received and analysed by BIG 6 team.</li> </ul> <p><b>5.2 Assessment of marine traffic: This project has been completed</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vessel movement data received by GPC.</li> <li>2. Report including map of marine vessel traffic movements received and accepted by GPC.</li> <li>3. Project Completion report and letter of completion submitted to DoEE on 4 August 2017, awaiting acknowledgement of completion.</li> </ol> <p><b>5.3 Assessment, implementation and compliance of go slow zones</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A feasibility study on the establishment of enforced "go slow zones" was commissioned. "Report-Assessment and Review of Marine Traffic, Marine Fauna Incidents and the Necessity of go Slow Zones".</li> <li>2. The study found that GPC does not have the jurisdiction to implement "go slow zones". The studies recommended (a) developing a Vessel Management Plan to regulate GPC owned vessels and (b) developing an education and awareness program to act as a non-regulatory tool for facilitating community engagement regarding marine fauna management in Port</li> </ol>	



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>increases in size of the mapped seagrass areas.</p> <p>e) The strategy must include key milestones, performance indicators, actions and timeframes for the completion of all offsets outlined in the strategy.</p> <p>f) The strategy must be prepared with the advice of the Water Quality technical reference panel and the Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program research advisory panel. The person taking the action must provide the written advice of these panels when submitting the strategy for approval.</p>	<p>Curtis.</p> <p>3. A Vessel Operations Procedure for Marine Megafauna Protection for GPC owned vessels has been developed and submitted to DoEE for approval.</p> <p>4 DOEE has requested further information on Projects 5.1, 5.2 and 5.4 prior to approving the vessel management procedure. This information is being provided through the current Annual Compliance Report.</p> <p>5. This project is also being met by promotion of education and awareness in the local community with activities being conducted under Project 5.1 for the "Go Slow for those below" campaign.</p> <p><b>5.4 Support to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) for marine animal strandings-</b></p> <p>In February 2014, QPWS advised GPC that there was limited need for funding and that GPC should channel funding towards other organisations conducting marine rehabilitation works. GPC advised DoEE of this development and the decision to fund other agencies undertaking marine rehabilitation work in the Gladstone Region through letter dated 17 March 2014. Agreement was received from DoEE on 20 May 2014. Hence funding from this project has been reallocated to project 5.15.</p> <p><b>5.5 Habitat enhancement and restoration actions</b></p> <p>In progressing with the planning for execution of this project, overlapping restoration initiatives by other local agencies were identified at the locations selected for restoration. Hence this program is under review.</p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p><b>5.6 Stormwater pollution</b></p> <p>A Gross Pollutant Trap was installed (on 12 June 2017) under a memorandum of understanding between GPC and Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) funded by GPC to meet commitments under this Project. Please refer to Attachment 2 for pictures of the unit.</p> <p>Link to media release by GRC provided below</p> <p><a href="http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/home/-/journal_content/56/1570002/44401425?p_auth=1rjrdl8G&amp;_56_showArticleTitleInPortlet=true">http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/home/-/journal_content/56/1570002/44401425?p_auth=1rjrdl8G&amp;_56_showArticleTitleInPortlet=true</a></p> <p><b>5.7 Distribution, maintenance and monitoring of TAngler bins- This project has been completed</b></p> <p>This project has been completed. An acknowledgement letter of completion has been received from DoEE dated 3 August 2017 (#1353226).</p> <p><b>5.8 Coral mapping and restoration</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Health assessment and coral surveys were undertaken in 2014.</li> <li>2. A report "Prioritisation of Reef Restoration and Enhancement Site Selection – Phase 2 and 3" including status and map of coral distribution in the region and wider bioregion was finalised in 2015.</li> <li>3. This report suggests that restoration may not be a viable option in the BOS region and wider bioregion. This view has been endorsed by GBRMPA scientists.</li> </ol>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>4. Alternative measures to achieve the intent of this condition are being reviewed through stakeholder interaction and attendance by GPC at workshops to have an understanding of actions to be undertaken.</p> <p><b>5.9 Integrated map of all protected areas and sensitive habitats in the region and wide bioregion- This project has been completed</b></p> <p>This project has been completed. An acknowledgement letter of completion has been received from DoEE dated 20 October 2017 (#1370472).</p> <p><b>5.10 Environmentally Friendly Moorings program</b></p> <p>Following approval by DoEE dated 31 October 2016, that installation of six (6) public environmentally Friendly Moorings (EFMs) and up to six (6) Reef Protection Markers (RPMs) within Pancake Creek Queensland will satisfy the requirements of Project 5.10, GPC have reached agreement with QPWS to undertake the works. The installation of the EFMs and RPMs will be undertaken in 2018.</p> <p><b>5.11 Development of a regional code of practice for Inshore netting (Gladstone Region)</b></p> <p>This project has been completed. An acknowledgement letter of completion has been received from DoEE dated 12 April 2017 (#1335730).</p> <p><b>5.12 Funding of DAFF boating and Fisheries Patrol</b></p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>1. Discussions were held between GPC and DAF on the logistics of working out funding arrangements in 2015 but since the approval of the BOS, no Queensland Boating and Patrol Officers have been based in Gladstone.</p> <p>2. Discussions between DoEE and GPC held on 21 May 2016 highlighted the fact that the intent of his project was to enforce 'go slow zones' in the harbour while WBDDP was in progress. As GPC has no mandate to implement 'go slow zones' in the harbour the intent of this project cannot be met.</p> <p>3. A variation to the existing BOS needs to be made to address this issue.</p> <p><b>5.13 Acquisition of High Value Land to protect from Development</b></p> <p>1. Land adjacent to Cawarral Creek was purchased by GPC in July 2016.</p> <p>2. GPC is currently finalising the contract for handing over the land to NPSR in accordance with BOS commitments.</p> <p><b>5.14 Upper and lower catchment water quality monitoring and improvement of water quality in the Boyne or Calliope Rivers</b></p> <p>1. In 2015, GPC received reports from FBA providing the following information pertaining to the Boyne and Calliope catchments:</p> <p>2. Reports "Status of marine and coastal Natural Assets-Fitzroy basin Region" and "Ecologically Relevant targets for pollutant discharge from the drainage basins of the Fitzroy Region, Great Barrier Reef" set reef and ecologically targets for pollutant discharge from the Fitzroy catchment into the, Great Barrier</p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>Reef</p> <p>3. Identification of priority areas for targeting a water quality improvement program (WQIP) and an implementation plan for the water WQIP- "Priority Management Actions for Agriculture Industries in the Boyne and Calliope Catchments: 2015"</p> <p>4. A web based WQIP was made available in December 2015.</p> <p>5. A report including updated modelling data and recommended management options was delivered to GPC in March 2016 "Priority Management Actions for the grazing Industry in the Boyne and Calliope Catchments :2016"</p> <p>6. No progress on this project was made in 2017.</p> <p><b>5.15 Provide funding for a proposed marine rehabilitation facility in Gladstone</b></p> <p>Funding was provided both to Quoin Island Rehabilitation Centre (QIRC) and Gladstone Area Water Board (GAWB) in 2017.</p> <p>The 2017 annual report submitted to GPC by Quoin Island Rehabilitation Centre included the following turtle intakes reported between 1 January to 31 December 2016:</p> <p>No. of turtles admitted: 22</p> <p>No. of turtles still in care: 3</p> <p>No. of turtles released: 11</p> <p>No. of turtle dead on arrival: 1</p> <p>No. of turtles died in care: 4</p> <p>No. of turtles transferred to another facility: 1</p> <p>No. of turtles euthanized: 2</p> <p>The 2017 annual report submitted by GAWB mentioned the following activities conducted between July 2016 to June 2017:</p> <p>No. of animals admitted/ responded to : 3</p> <p>No. of animals euthanized/ died in care: 1</p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>No. of animals still in care:2                      No. of animals released:2</p> <p><b>5.16 Declared Fish Habitat Investigations in the Central Queensland Region</b></p> <p>This project has been completed. An acknowledgement letter of completion has been received from DoEE dated 15 June 2017 (#1344344).</p> <p>38b: Under the Marine Fish Habitat Offset, conditioned under the Co-ordinator General's report for an EIS for the WBDDP, GPC is required to protect 5000 ha of this land. In addition, 2.10 hectares was added to this offset as a result of the development of the East Shores Precinct in Gladstone.</p> <p>As confirmed by DoEE, the 3000 ha outlined in Condition 38(b) is included in this 5002.10 ha under the Marine Fish Habitat and East Shores Precinct Land offsets.</p> <p>38c: A Vessel Operations Procedure for Marine Megafauna Protection for GPC owned vessels has been developed and submitted to DoEE for approval. This Procedure addresses the following:                      38c(ii) the preparation of a map showing at-risk areas and speed restrictions imposed by Maritime Safety Queensland in the Harbour                      38c(iii) Clearly establishing the roles and responsibilities for implementing the Procedure</p>	

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
		<p>38c(i) The study, "Assessment and Review of Marine Traffic, Marine Fauna Incidents and the Necessity of go Slow Zones" suggested that an education and awareness program can be initiated for the key marine megafauna species in the harbour. A program titled "go slow for those below" has been included under Project 5.1 of the BOS programs.</p> <p>38d: A Seagrass Conservation Plan is being developed to meet this approval condition which will include the following:</p> <p>38d(i) A map showing the Wiggins/ Mud Islands, Quoin Islands and Pelican Banks meadows.</p> <p>38d(ii) An account of ongoing monitoring programs in the harbour to assess recovery and resilience of seagrass.</p> <p>38d(iii) Commitment by GPC that no further removal of seagrass will occur under this approval (2009/4904) other than what has been approved in the WBDDP Environmental Impact Statement.</p> <p>38e. The approved BOS includes key milestones, performance indicators actions and timeframes for the completion of all offsets outlined in the Strategy.</p> <p>An extension of timeframes and amendment of scope of works of some projects may be required to address changes in ongoing obligations.</p> <p>A revised BOS will be submitted to DoEE for approval documenting the above changes.</p> <p>38f: The BOS was prepared with the advice of the DTRP and the ERMPAP.</p>	
39	The person taking the action must make the	Reports generated under the BOS have been provided to	Y



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
40	findings, including related data, of any or all of these studies and activities publicly available upon request by any interested parties.	interested parties upon request in accordance with GPC data request policy. An electronic copy of the final reports is provided with this report. A list of reports is appended as an attachment to this report.	NA
41 Amended	The Biodiversity Offset Strategy referred to in Condition 38 must be submitted to the Minister for approval by the Minister within 12 months of the date of this approval. After 21 months from the date of this approval, the person taking the action must not undertake any dredging activities, land reclamation or construction activities unless the Minister has approved the Biodiversity Offset Strategy in writing. The approved Plan must be implemented.	Not relevant in the current reporting period (please refer to the 2013 ACR)	NA
42	The person taking the action must ensure that all relevant staff and contractors and any other persons working on the action receive comprehensive training in relation to the requirements of this decision and comply with all requirements of this decision relevant to their duties prior to commencing action on the project.	Relevant staff members have been made aware of the conditions of this approval during team meetings and during review of the Project's Approvals Register.	Y
43	Upon the direction of the Department, the person taking the action must ensure that an Independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Department. The independent auditor must be approved by the Department prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed by the Department and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Department.	No directive has been received from DoEE to appoint an independent auditor and conduct a third party audit of the EPBC 2009/4904 Permit.	NA



Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
44	<p>If, at any time after two years from the date of this approval, the Minister notifies the person taking the action that the Minister is not satisfied that there has been substantial commencement of the action, the action must not thereafter be commenced without the written agreement of the Minister</p> <p>Within 10 days of commencement of the action, the person taking the action must advise the Minister in writing the actual date of commencement.</p>	<p>No notification was received from the Minister.</p>	NA
45	<p>Each year the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. The date of the first compliance report must be within 42 days after the initial twelve months of the date of approval with each subsequent report 12 months from the date of the previous report. The Compliance report must:</p> <p>(a) be endorsed by the CEO of GPC or a person approved in writing by the Department, delegated to sign on behalf of the CEO or the person taking the action;</p> <p>(b) include a statement as to whether the person taking the action has complied with the conditions;</p> <p>(c) identify any non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; and</p> <p>(d) Make the compliance report publicly available on the internet within 30 days of it being submitted to the Minister.</p>	<p>No action was requested in the reporting period</p>	NA
46(amended)	<p>The current report is the seventh report submitted since the date of approval and covers activities occurring between 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017.</p> <p>a) The report is endorsed by Peter O'Sullivan, GPC's CEO</p> <p>b) GPC has complied with all conditions in this approval.</p> <p>c) One Partial Compliance has been identified in the current reporting period, process review and implementation of corrective measures have been conducted.</p> <p>d) The current compliance report will be published on the website within 30 days of its submission to DoEE.</p>	<p>The current report is the seventh report submitted since the date of approval and covers activities occurring between 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017.</p> <p>a) The report is endorsed by Peter O'Sullivan, GPC's CEO</p> <p>b) GPC has complied with all conditions in this approval.</p> <p>c) One Partial Compliance has been identified in the current reporting period, process review and implementation of corrective measures have been conducted.</p> <p>d) The current compliance report will be published on the website within 30 days of its submission to DoEE.</p>	Y
47	<p>The Reports described at condition 46 must be</p>	<p>The current report is the seventh report submitted since the date</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
48	<p>provided until the closure of the action.</p> <p>If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the LTSDP, DCMP, WOMP, ERMP and Biodiversity Offset Strategy referred to in conditions 4, 15, 21, 26 and 38 respectively, the person taking the action must submit for the Minister's approval a revised version of the relevant plan (however described). The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied plan in writing. If the Minister approves such a revised plan, that plan must be implemented in place of the plan originally approved.</p>	<p>of approval and covers activities occurring between 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017.</p> <p>All plans and amendments to approvals have been submitted to the Minister and implemented only after approval has been received.</p>	Y
49	<p>All plans, reports, programs or strategies (however described) required under this approval must include the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A description of the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage Place, and EPBC Act listed species and habitat likely to be impacted by the components of the action which are the subject of that plan, report, program or strategy (however described);</li> <li>b) An assessment of the risk to these values, species or habitats, from the components of the action the subject of that plan, report, program or strategy (however described);</li> <li>c) Details of the management measures</li> </ul>	<p>All requirements of this condition were addressed in the WBDDP Flora and Fauna Management Plan.</p> <p>DoEE confirmed in an email dated 12 November 2012 "The requirements of condition 49 are not relevant to individual projects within the ERMP. Therefore, it would be unreasonable and unnecessary for GPC to undertake a full description of heritage values for every project arising from the ERMP".</p> <p>In an email dated 16 of November 2012, DoEE confirmed that "Condition 49 is not applicable to individual projects within the Biodiversity Offset Strategy"</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
	<p>proposed in relation to these values, species or habitats, if it is a requirement of the condition requiring that plan, report, program or strategy (however described);</p> <p>d) Details of monitoring proposed that species if it is a requirement of the condition requiring that plan, report, program or strategy (however described);</p> <p>e) Performance standards in relation to that species if it is a requirement of the condition requiring that plan, report, program or strategy (however described); and</p> <p>f) Management triggers in relation to that species if it is a requirement of the condition requiring that plan, report, program or strategy (however described).</p>		
50	<p>Management plans, reports, systems and programs (however described) referred to in these conditions of approval must be made publicly available as determined by the Minister.</p>	<p>Management plans, strategies, reports and other documents are available on the GPC website:  <a href="http://www.gpci.com.au/pages/search-results.aspx?k=management%20plan">http://www.gpci.com.au/pages/search-results.aspx?k=management%20plan</a>                      Reports pertaining to the ERMP are available on the GPC ERMP webpage  <a href="http://www.gpci.com.au/environment/ermp">http://www.gpci.com.au/environment/ermp</a>                      Reports pertaining to the BOS are available on the GPC BOS webpage  <a href="http://www.gpci.com.au/environment/bos">http://www.gpci.com.au/environment/bos</a></p>	Y
51	<p>The person taking the action must maintain accurate records of activities associated with or relevant to the above conditions of approval, and</p>	<p>All records of the reports and data have been saved in GPC's electronic document management system and DataSight (database management systems).</p>	Y

Condition No.	Requirement	Compliance Comments-(2016-2017)	Compliance Rating
52	<p>make them available on request by the Department. Such documents may be subject to audit by the Department and used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval.</p> <p>If the Minister believes that it is necessary or desirable for the better protection of any relevant controlling provision to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to any plans, reports, programs or systems (however described) approved pursuant to these conditions. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised plans, reports, programs or systems (however described) must be implemented.</p>	<p>No request was received from the Minister from 1 November 2016 to 31 October 2017.</p>	NA

**Attachment 1**

## **Reports Approved by the ERMPAP in 2016-2017**

1. Increase understanding of the status of the Australian snubfin and Australian humpback dolphins within Port Curtis and Port Alma- Progress Report 4 (eDocs# 1301348)
2. Port Curtis and Port Alma Coastal Habitat Archive and Monitoring Program 2016-2017 Annual Report Monitoring the survival and recovery of shorelines, specifically Tidal Wetlands (Mangroves/Saltmarsh/Saltpans) (eDocs# 1364467)
3. Inter-nesting habitat use by flatback turtles off the Curtis Island coast – 2016-2017 nesting season-Field Plan (eDocs# 1296216)
4. Inter-nesting habitat use by flatback turtles off the Curtis Island coast – 2016-2017 nesting season-Field Report (eDocs# 1334303)
5. Gladstone Ports Corporation Report for Migratory Shorebird Monitoring Port Curtis and the Curtis Coast Annual Summer Survey – 2017 (eDocs# 1322758)
6. Dugong Feeding Ecology and Habitat Use on Intertidal Banks of Port Curtis and Rodds Bay Final Report (eDocs# 1327459)
7. Annual Report: Migratory Shorebird Monitoring – Understanding Ecological Impact (CA12000284)- Final Report , 2017 (eDocs# 1337268)
8. Increase the understanding of the Green Turtle Population In Port Curtis- Year.1 (2016) Annual Report. (eDocs# 1320577)

### **Seagrass Monitoring Studies outside the ERMP**

9. Long Term Seagrass Monitoring in Port Curtis and Rodds Bay: Quarterly Permanent Transect Monitoring Progress Report 2009 to 2016 (eDocs# 1358800)
10. Seagrasses in Port Curtis and Rodds Bay 2016:Annual long-term monitoring, (eDocs# 1348563)

### **Biodiversity Offset Strategy Reports received in 2017**

11. Gladstone Area Water Board Annual Report Turtle Triage 2016/2017 (eDocs# 1344207)
12. Gladstone Ports Corporation- Turtle Rehabilitation Funding 2016 Report



## Attachment 2

### Gross Pollutant Trap



### Educational message accompanying the Gross Pollutant Trap





