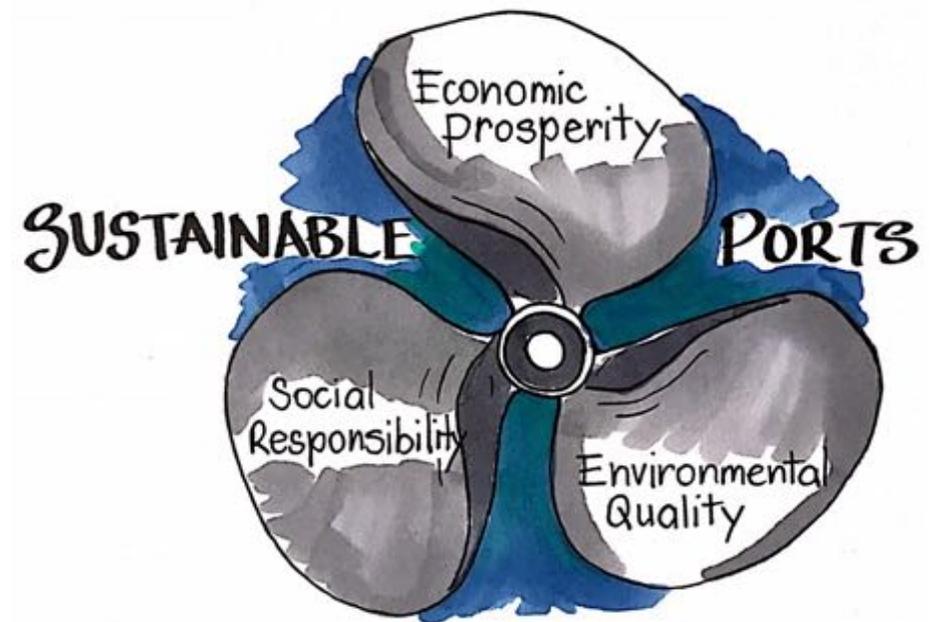


Application of Sustainability and Strategic Environmental Assessment Principles in the Management of Ports in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area

Simona Duke, Senior Manager Sustainability
Julie Keane, Principal Development Approvals

Outline

- NQBPs sustainability foundation and evolution
- NQBPs Great Barrier Reef ports
- Sustainable port management in the GBR
- Port of Abbot Point cumulative impact assessment
- GBR Strategic Assessment
- Opportunities for integrating sustainability and strategic environmental assessment



NQBPs sustainability foundation and evolution

2014

Alignment with NQBP Vision
Sustainability a strategic pillar
Strong foundation in environmental performance



2016/17

Sustainability Policy + Projects
Corporate Risk Register/Systems
Principles and Metrics

2018

Integrated into strategic planning process
Inclusion of strategic assessment for Abott Point

NQBPs Great Barrier Reef Ports

- Three of our four ports are located within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
- The surrounding environs of each port support matters of state and national environmental significance, such as:
 - Seagrass meadows
 - Turtle nesting beaches
 - Migratory bird habitat
- Historically development has been assessed on a project-by-project basis, generally by EIS



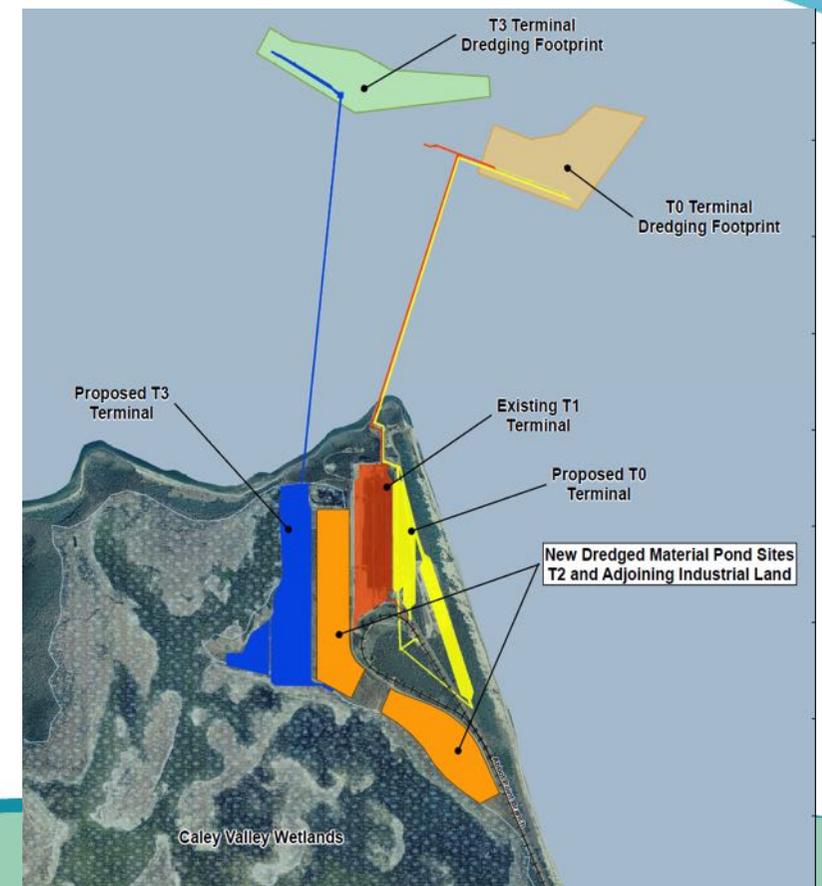
Sustainable port management in the GBR

- NQBP has a demonstrable record of sustainable management of our ports
- Long term environmental monitoring programs have been in place at each port for since the early 1990s, focusing on seagrass and water quality
- One of the aims of our management and monitoring programs is to provide a database of information relevant to environmental assessment and which could be utilised for strategic assessment
- Sustainable sediment management studies are currently being conducted to inform opportunities to minimise maintenance dredging requirements and identify the most sustainable outcomes for management of dredge material



Port of Abbot Point Cumulative Impact Assessment

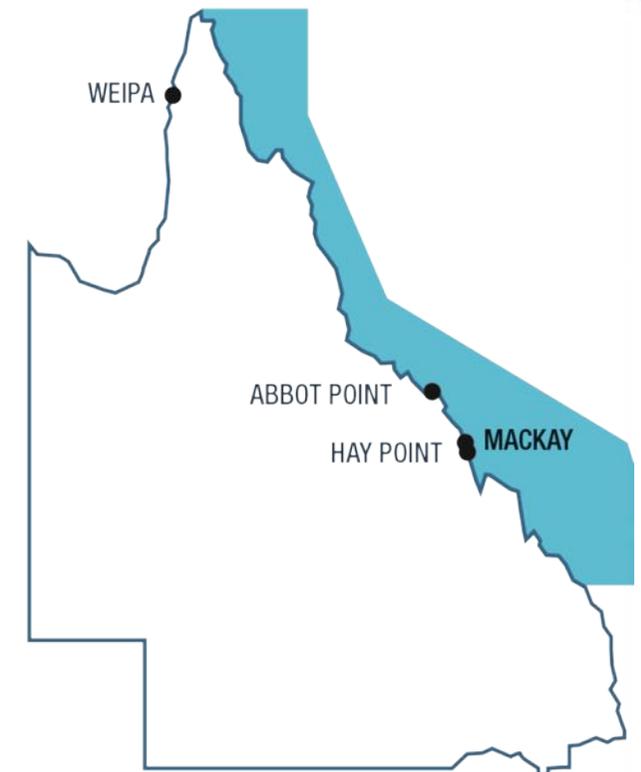
- Voluntary assessment undertaken by four proponents of development at Abbot Point: Adani Abbot Point Terminal, BHP Billiton, GVK Hancock and NQBP
- Proponent driven process designed to support the respective individual environmental assessments and regulatory approvals, through provision of comprehensive cumulative assessment
- Three key outcomes:
 - Identified port-wide conservation objectives to maintain/enhance Abbot Point's environmental values
 - Establishment of Joint Environmental Management Framework (JEMF) for co-ordinated and adaptive port management.
 - CIA included set of best practice shipping initiatives for Abbot Point that recognise sensitivity of Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area



GBR Strategic Assessment

- Two assessment conducted, by State and Commonwealth of adjacent offshore and coastal zones
- Primarily in response to UNESCO investigations as to development pressures on the GBR
- Assessment focused on:
 - Investigating the adequacy of the existing management arrangements for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, and
 - Assessing current and future development policies and planning in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and the adjacent coastal zone and analysing likely direct, indirect and cumulative impacts

■ Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area



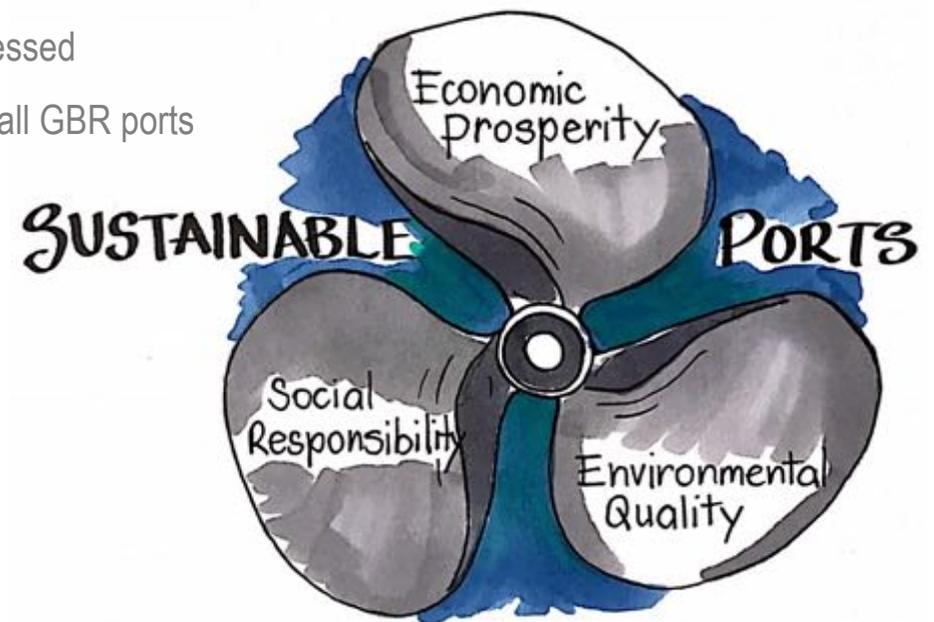
GBR Strategic Assessment - outcomes

- Endorsed program
- No provision for endorsement of actions
- Consequential plans and strategies to guide management:
 - Reef 2050 Long-term Sustainability Plan
 - Maintenance dredging strategy
 - *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2016* (Qld) requirements for Master Plans



Opportunities for integration

- Opportunities missed:
 - Assessment of Port Land Use Plans and/or Master Plans for prescribed actions
 - Cumulative impacts of multiple development proposals not addressed
 - Utilisation of extensive database of information available across all GBR ports
 - Recognition of Maintenance activities, such as dredging
 - Implementation of consistent assessment methodologies across projects and ports



Questions

