

Submission Form for Comments and Feedback

Environmental Quality Report: Biodiversity of the Howard Sand Plains SOC; and Recommendations

Submissions close: Monday 25 May 2015, 5pm

Name:	Debbie Prescott	Email:	[REDACTED]
Organisation:	individual	Telephone:	[REDACTED]

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REPORT Section / Page	COMMENT
	<p>Option 1 should be recommended because of its lowest risk to the biodiversity and the threatened and endangered species listed in the EPA report.</p> <p>The report mentions that the potential threats to the sand plains' biodiversity are "associated primarily with urban and rural development" and one of the more specific issues is the illegal access of quad-bikes to the vulnerable areas. We (address 395 Gunn Point Road) witness constant unregistered traffic on the roadways that is not enforced. This traffic has increased with the growth of construction work at the Willard Road jail facility, the Inpex Village and other activities.</p> <p>The quads are causing widespread damage in the suggested conservation area(s). When a track is too deep for traffic, another track is made adjacent to it. This cannot be an insignificant threat.</p> <p>When one of the Options 1-5 is adopted, law enforcement bodies must be brought on board to help reduce</p>

Please complete the form and send it via one of the following by no later than *Monday 25 May 2015, 5pm*:

Email: NTEPA.Consult@nt.gov.au

Post: NT EPA, GPO Box 3675, Darwin NT, 0801

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REPORT Section / Page	COMMENT
	<p>illegal activities in this region.</p> <p>The threat of cane toads to the Howard Toadlet is not mentioned in the EPA Report. Cane toads eat frogs (the Howard toadlet is a frog) and compete with frogs for food. The Howard toadlet may get scooped up in the sand sheet with extractive industry excavators.</p> <p>Finally, the Sand Sheet must be recognized (in relation to the threatened expansion of the extraction industry) as protecting the water supply – it is not just above the rural area but it protects the whole of the water table in the region.</p>