

Environmental Strategic Partnerships

During 2010-11 Defence continued to establish and maintain strategic partnerships with universities, local community groups, key stakeholders, local governments and nongovernment organisations.

Key partnerships during the year included:

- Australian National University – pellet counts to provide estimates of eastern grey kangaroo abundance as well as a quantitative description of condition of vegetation and faunal groups across Majura Training Area.
- University of Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government—monitoring of threatened species across the ACT
- Greening Australia and Australian National Botanical Gardens—collection and propagation of threatened flora species seed for revegetation programs in the ACT.
- Canberra Ornithological Group—monitoring of bird species in the ACT region including quarterly surveys of Majura Training Area.
- ACT Government & University of Newcastle— trial of fertility control methods for eastern grey kangaroos in the ACT.
- Australian National Herbarium – collection of Canberra Spider Orchid seed pods for germination and cryogenic preservation.
- Friends of the ACT Arboreta – cooperative development and delivery of an information brochure and guided public tour through the heritage-listed Pialligo Redwood Forest.
- ACT Government & National Capital Authority – Draft Mt Pleasant Precinct Cooperative Rabbit and Weed Control.
- Australian National University—project at Jervis Bay to develop sustainable fire management practices and to integrate improved biodiversity conservation with improved land and asset protection in New South Wales (NSW).
- University of Melbourne—kangaroo census and management at Puckapunyal, Victoria (VIC).
- South Australian Department of Environment and Heritage—collaborative research project on natural regeneration and rehabilitation of remnant vegetation, in South Australia (SA).
- University of Western Australia—setting up and implementing tammar wallaby monitoring at Garden Island in Western Australia (WA).
- University of Western Australia and Murdoch University—monitoring of little penguins at Garden Island in WA.
- Edith Cowan University—monitoring of seagrass in Cockburn Sound at Garden Island, WA.
- Western Australian Museum—Carnaby’s Cockatoo monitoring Bindoon Training Area in WA.
- Western Australian Water Corporation—trial of sewage by-product for revegetation and carbon sequestration at Bulls Brook Training Area in WA.
- Key stakeholder in the development of the first Southwest Australia Eco Region Project with Commonwealth ‘Caring for Country’, WWF and State Agencies, Bindoon DTA (WA).
- Murdoch University water quality monitoring in Cockburn Sound for Cockburn Sound Management Advisory Committee reporting, (WA).
- Chittering Land Care Centre and Ellen Brockman Catchment – water quality monitoring at Bindoon DTA (WA).

- Department of Environment and Conservation – ‘Western Shield’ fox control and fauna monitoring program at Lancelin DTA and Bindoon DTA (WA).
- Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management and Defence – Ecological Character Descriptions of the Shoalwater and Corio Bays Ramsar listed wetlands in Queensland (QLD).
- Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management and Defence – water quality monitoring and flora and fauna surveys at Shoalwater Bay Training Area in QLD.
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority – development of a management agreement on implementation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Strategic Environmental Assessment in QLD.
- Central Queensland University—regional sustainable development in QLD.
- Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation – feral animal disease testing in Shoalwater Bay Training Area in QLD.
- University of Queensland—native animal management at the Greenbank Training Area in QLD
- Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service — supporting bio-security; detection of exotic diseases in feral animals (Bradshaw Field Training Area and Yampi Sound Training Area), NT.
- Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee—member of committee that advises Government on the use and management of Darwin Harbour in NT.
- Northern Territory Weeds Advisory Committee – membership to support state wide biosecurity risk management associated with invasive plants.
- Katherine District Weeds Advisory Council—membership to support cross-boundary treatment and reduction of risks due to invasive grasses and subsequent high fire risk species in NT.
- Darwin Region Weeds Advisory Council—membership to support cross-boundary treatment and reduction of risks due to invasive grasses and subsequent high fire risk species in savannah woodland environments in NT.
- Mornington Wildlife Sanctuary and Australian Wildlife Conservancy—enabling access to Bradshaw Field Training Area for Gouldian finch health research in NT.
- Rapid Creek Catchment Area Committee—Defence maintains membership to support RAAF Darwin’s placement in the catchment in NT.
- Gouldian Finch Recovery Group – member of group that advises on recovery status and actions in NT.
- Victoria River District Conservation Association – participation in a bio-control trial for *Parkinsonia*, a Weed of National Significance in NT.
- Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) – support for access to Bradshaw Field Training Area to undertake sampling for Brucellosis and Tuberculosis from Feral Pigs.
- Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources – support to freshwater fish surveys at Bradshaw Field Training Area, NT.
- Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources – support to national marine bio-security monitoring at Larrakeyah/Coonawarra, NT.
- Kakadu National Park – cross-boundary planning and sharing of data on feral animal and fire management activities on Mount Bundy Training Area and Kakadu, NT.
- Northern Territory Biosecurity Stakeholder Reference Group – Defence membership within Reference Group (newly formed).

- Darwin Harbour Integrated Monitoring and Research Program – participation in the first round of Stakeholder Consultation prior to the establishment of a Stakeholder Reference Group.
- Greater Darwin Region Wild Dog Management Committee – facilitate first round of committee/stakeholder reference group.
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources South Australia habitat restoration project at Prot Wakefield Proof and Experimental Range and Murray Bridge Training Area.
- Birds Australia – shorebird survey counts to provide information on shorebirds frequenting coastal Defence sites of interest in Victoria.

In addition, Defence was involved in the following arrangements:

- Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and Scenic Rim Regional Councils, Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management and Defence – Flinders-Peak to Greenbank Karawatha Conservation Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Biosecurity Queensland and Defence – membership on State Land Pest Management Committee.
- Multi-tenure Feral Animal Management Working Group. Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management, Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation, Queensland Main Roads, Regional Councils, Forestry Plantations, QLD.
- Bremer River Catchment Coordinating Committee. Members: Ipswich Shire Council, industry and landholders, QLD.
- New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service and Defence: environmental management of Evans Head Air Weapons Range, NSW.
- Healthy Waterways Partnership, South East Queensland: the Moreton Bay Catchment, QLD.
- Defence has cooperatively developed a Water Minimisation Strategy with ACTEW-AGL to meet the Restrictions and Measures as part of the implementation of the ACT Permanent Water Conservation Measures (in place from January 2011).
- Trade Waste Agreement with ACTEW-AGL for sewage treatment plant at Majura Training Area.
- Participation in the ACTEW-AGL “Large Customer Demand Management Program” via installation of water loggers.
- ACTEW-AGL – Provision of mulch for heritage woodlands in the ACT.
- Supporting Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority with the implementation of erosion and salinity control works in the Singleton area, NSW.
- Membership and attendance of Bushfire Management Committees (8 in total) associated with bushfire prone major facilities across Northern NSW; participants include major state and federal government land managers/authorities.
- Sydney North Regional and Sydney West Blue Mountains Weeds Committees – Holistic management of noxious weeds across the Sydney Region of NSW. Participants: Local NSW Government, NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC), Sydney Water, Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, NSW National Parks, TAFE and Department of Defence.
- Port Stephens Council Feral Animal Management Committee, includes all major land managers/authorities in the greater Port Stephens area – Holistic management and reporting on feral reporting.

- NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change and Water – Parks and Wildlife Services (PWS) – Plains Wanderer Research Group in the Riverina.
- South Australia Department of Environment and Heritage, Department of Land Water and Biodiversity Conservation – habitat restoration project at Murray Bridge Training Area and Port Wakefield Proof and Experimental Range, SA.
- Executive member Cockburn Sound Management Council, a State Government stakeholder body relating to HMAS Stirling and Fleet Base West, WA.
- Carnegie Wave Power MOU with DSG – continued support in the feasibility assessment for wave power off Garden Island (WA).
- Department of Water – MOU (Water Resource Management Operating Strategy) being developed for groundwater bore registration/usage and monitoring requirements to replace formal licensing across the WA Region (WA).
- Participation in the Cockburn Councils Coastal Climate Change Study Project – to investigate the long term impacts of sea level rise in Cockburn Sound (WA).
- Member Ellen-Brockman Integrated Catchment Group, a State Government stakeholder body relating to RAAF Pearce, WA.
- Member North Swan Landcare Group, a State Government stakeholder body relating to RAAF Pearce, WA.
- Partnership with Friends of Allen Park and City of Nedlands for management of remnant vegetation and public access, Campbell Barracks, WA.
- Member of the Hunter Valley Threatened Flora Recovery Team.
- Member of Wodonga Council Municipal Fire Protection Group.
- Member of Rural Fire Services (NSW) Corowa Bushfire Group.
- North East Water – WaterMap partnership with Albury Wodonga Military Area.
- Member of the Jervis Bay Regional Fox Threat Abatement Plan Committee. Participants: Defence, DECC (NPWS), DEHWRS, Shoalhaven City Council, Livestock Health & Pest Authority (LHPA).
- Member of ACT Weeds Working Group. Participants: ACT Government, Department of Defence, Australian National Botanic Gardens, ACTEW-AGL, Land Development Agency, National Capital Authority, NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NSW NPWS), Rural Landholders Association, Transgrid, Cooma-Monaro Shire Council.