

Implementing the Australian Heritage Strategy

Progress to date (as at 27 October 2016) and projected activities

The Australian Heritage Strategy is structured according to three outcome areas, 11 objectives and 51 proposed actions in the framework pictured below. The table on the following pages charts the progress made to date in the implementation of the strategy and maps out the delivery of work and the parties responsible for it, into the future.

Any person or group interested in contributing to the realisation of the strategy should contact the lead or partner groups listed for progressing a particular item or the Australian Government’s Department of the Environment and Energy at [heritage@environment.gov.au](mailto:heritage@environment.gov.au).

Australian Heritage Strategy at a glance

The Vision of the Australian Heritage Strategy is ‘Our natural, historic and Indigenous heritage places are valued by Australians, protected for future generations and cared for by the community’.

Under this vision there are three outcomes areas.

Outcome 1 (national leadership) has the following objectives:

1. Continue to support Australia’s iconic World Heritage properties
2. Ensure Australia’s National Heritage List truly reflects the Australian story
3. Effective management of the Commonwealth Heritage List
4. Contribute to international heritage standard setting and guidance

Outcome 2 (strong partnerships) has the following objectives:

1. Improve heritage policy and process alignment across all levels of government
2. Further develop heritage partnerships between government and other sectors
3. Explore innovation funding, resource sharing and creative partnerships
4. Foster greater collaboration between the heritage and tourism sectors

Outcome 3 (engaged communities) has the following objectives:

1. Focus protection efforts on Indigenous heritage
2. Promote greater awareness, knowledge and engagement with our national heritage
3. Provide consistent best practice standards and guidelines for heritage conservation and management

Outcome 1: National leadership

Objective 1: Continue to support Australia’s iconic World Heritage properties

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.1 | Provide funding to state governments through the World Heritage Grants programme to support Australian World Heritage properties being managed in a manner consistent with World Heritage Convention obligations. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is providing approximately $37 million in funding over five years (2013–2018) to state and territory governments through the World Heritage Grants programme. Funding is to support Australian World Heritage property owners and managers in managing these properties in a manner consistent with World Heritage Convention obligations.  [www.nrm.gov.au/national/continuing-investment/world-heritage-grants](http://www.nrm.gov.au/national/continuing-investment/world-heritage-grants) | On track | 2013–18 |
| 1.2 | Provide $1.5 million to the Port Arthur Historic Sites Management Authority to support critical restoration works at the Port Arthur Penitentiary building (part of the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage property). | The Department of the Environment and Energy has provided funding to the Port Arthur Historic Sites Management Authority. $1.5 million is to support critical restoration works at its iconic Penitentiary building (part of the Port Arthur Historic Site National Heritage place and Australian Convict Sites World Heritage property), ensuring the building is preserved for many years to come. | Complete | July 2015 |
| 1.3 | Financially support engagement of an executive officer over three years to manage and administer the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage property. | Further financial support was provided for conservation works and to enable the Port Arthur Historic Sites Management Authority to engage an executive officer over three years to assist in coordinating the activities of the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage property.  [www.environment.gov.au/minister/hunt/2015/mr20150121.html](https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/hunt/2015/mr20150121.html)  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/national/port-arthur](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/national/port-arthur) | On track | 2015–17 |
| 1.4 | Provide up to $32 million to research coastal water quality and coastal management focused on the Great Barrier Reef through the National Environmental Science Programme’s Tropical Water Quality Hub. | The Australian Government, through the National Environmental Science Programme’s Tropical Water Quality Hub, will provide up to $32 million by 2020 to research coastal water quality and coastal management focused on the Great Barrier Reef. Approximately $9.3 million has already been committed to 42 projects under Research Plan versions 1 and 2.  [www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp](https://www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp)  <http://nesptropical.edu.au/> | On track | 2015–20 |
| 1.5 | Best practice management of Kakadu and Uluru Kata–Tjuta World Heritage properties | The Director of National Parks and the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Board of Management, which includes representatives of the traditional owners jointly manage the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. The Director of National Parks and the Kakadu Board of Management jointly manage the Kakadu National Park. Management of these World Heritage properties is in accordance with best practice management plans that meet the statutory requirements under the EPBC Act1.  [www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/uluru-kata-tjuta-national-park/management-and-conservation/park-management](https://www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/uluru-kata-tjuta-national-park/management-and-conservation/park-management)  [www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/kakadu-national-park/management-and-conservation/park-management](https://www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/kakadu-national-park/management-and-conservation/park-management) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 1.6 | Effectively manage the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area through implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan so that it continues to demonstrate the Outstanding Universal Value for which it was listed as a World Heritage Area. | The Department of the Environment and Energy, Queensland Government and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority are working together with scientists, industry and non-government organisations to implement the first phase of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan. The cooperative effort in implementing this plan over the next 35 years will effectively manage the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and National Heritage place so that it continues to improve on its Outstanding Universal Value.  [www.environment.gov.au/marine/gbr/publications/reef-2050-long-term-sustainability-plan](https://www.environment.gov.au/marine/gbr/publications/reef-2050-long-term-sustainability-plan) | On track | 2015–2050 |
| 1.7 | Update Australia’s World Heritage Tentative List. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with state and territory governments to update Australia’s World Heritage Tentative List. This was discussed by ministers at the Meeting of Environment Ministers (MEM) meeting on 15 December 2015.  [www.environment.gov.au/about-us/mem](https://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/mem) | Underway | December 2016 |
| 1.8 | Progressively review existing World Heritage places that have been listed for natural values only to identify whether the areas may contain internationally significant cultural heritage. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will progressively review existing World Heritage properties that have been listed for natural values to identify whether the areas may contain internationally significant cultural heritage including Indigenous cultural heritage. If such values are identified, the renomination of the properties would need to be taken forward with the support of traditional owners and the relevant state government. | In planning | Ongoing |
| 1.9 | Work cooperatively with property managers to ensure effective management arrangements are in place for each World Heritage property. | A workshop between the Australian Government and state based World Heritage property managers was held in April 2016 and another is planned for April/May 2017 to promote effective communication and the sharing of information.  The Australian Government continues to work with property managers to help ensure management plans meet the requirements of the World Heritage Convention as expressed through EPBC Act.  [www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments/conservation-agreements](http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments/conservation-agreements) | Ongoing | July 2020 |

Objective 2: Ensure Australia’s National Heritage List truly reflects the Australian story

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1 | Determine future directions for the National Heritage List. | The Department of the Environment and Energy and the Australian Heritage Council are reviewing the National Heritage List and its future directions. | Underway | July 2016 |
| 2.2 | Streamline the existing National Heritage listing process through best practice administration of the EPBC Act requirements. | The Department of the Environment and Energy has reviewed and streamlined administration of the National Heritage listing process. | Complete | January 2016 |
| Review the National Heritage listing processes under the EPBC Act. | The Department of the Environment and Energy has identified opportunities for reform of the National Heritage Listing process under the EPBC Act in consultation with the Australian Heritage Council. | Complete | July 2018 |
| 2.3 | Foster partnerships with jurisdictions, peak bodies and academic institutions to access current research to inform the identification of National Heritage values.  This includes reviewing the National Environmental Science Programme priorities to facilitate greater consideration of National and World Heritage property needs in the development of future hub research plans. | The Department of the Environment and Energy and the Australian Heritage Council will foster partnerships with jurisdictions, peak bodies and academic institutions such as universities, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRIO), Heritage Officials of Australia and New Zealand, the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee and the Australian World Heritage Indigenous Network to access current research to inform the identification of National Heritage values.  The Department will consider the National Environmental Science Programme priorities to facilitate greater consideration of National and World Heritage property needs in the development of future hub research plans.  Input was provided to the State of the Environment Report 2016, summarizing the considerable level of investment under NESP which is relevant to heritage listed places or issues.  [www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp/about](https://www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp/about)  The Australian Heritage Council has developed a protocol for research agreements with interested partners.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/australian-heritage-council/national-heritage-assessments](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/australian-heritage-council/national-heritage-assessments) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 2.4 | Support national heritage through grant funding provided by the Australian Government including:   * Protecting National Historic Sites (2014–2018) * Community Heritage and Icons Grants, including specific support to the Australian Heritage Council and the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (2014–18) * National Trust Partnership Programme (2014–18). | The Australian Government is providing grant funding to support National Heritage.  The Community Heritage Grants Programme provides funding of up to $1.4 million over three years from 2014–15. The National Trust Partnerships Programme provides $927,000 a year over three years from 2014–15. The Protecting National Historic Sites programme provides up to $11.5 million over three years from 2014–15.  <https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding> | Underway | July 2018 |

Objective 3: Effective management of the Commonwealth Heritage List

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.1 | Australian Government agencies to finalise plans for Commonwealth Heritage places to allow for the:   * effective protection of places and assets identified as priority; and * development of appropriate management and, if required, disposal strategies where appropriate. | Many Australian Government agencies that own or operate Commonwealth Heritage listed places have management plans in place. Others are continuing to finalise their management plans to effectively protect these places and assets.  Major property owning/managing agencies have a Commonwealth Heritage Strategy in place, including the Department of Defence, and the Department of Finance.  Of approximately 400 places on the Commonwealth Heritage List, around one quarter have Heritage Management Plans prepared or in progress.  Data checking is underway to update these records.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/commonwealth-heritage](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/commonwealth-heritage) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 3.2 | Streamline Commonwealth Heritage listing and management processes through best practice administration of EPBC Act requirements. | The Department of the Environment and Energy has reviewed and streamlined administration of the Commonwealth Heritage listing and management process. | Complete | January 2016 |

Objective 4: Contribute to international heritage standard setting and guidance

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4.1 | Provide strategic support for countries in our region to build management and governance capacity; for example, the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea. | The Department of the Environment and Energy, together with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, partner countries and non-government organisations, is providing strategic support through the Kokoda Initiative, which is a partnership between Australia and Papua New Guinea to protect the Kokoda Track, Brown River Catchment and Owen Stanley Ranges while improving the lives of people living along the track.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/international-projects/papua-new-guinea](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/international-projects/papua-new-guinea) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 4.2 | Continue Australia’s active contribution to World Heritage policy discussions at international forums. | The Department of the Environment and Energy and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade are harnessing opportunities to actively contribute to World Heritage policy discussions at international forums, including through the annual World Heritage Committee meetings and direct engagement with UNESCO.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/world-heritage](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/about/world-heritage) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 4.3 | Explore application of lessons learned from the Great Barrier Reef Strategic Assessment for improved management of other World Heritage sites under the international contributions objective of the World Heritage Convention. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will explore the lessons learned from the Great Barrier Reef Strategic Assessment for improved management of other World Heritage sites under the international contributions objective of the World Heritage Convention.  <http://whc.unesco.org/en/convention/> | Ongoing | Ongoing |

Outcome 2: Strong partnerships

Objective 5: Improve heritage policy and process alignment across all levels of government

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.1 | Implement the One-Stop Shop policy through bilateral agreements between the Australian Government and states and territories in order to make it easier to navigate heritage regulations. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will continue to progress reforms to national environment laws that improve efficiency of the assessment and approval processes, while maintaining high environmental standards and community confidence in the rigour of the regulatory system. | In progress | As per bilateral agreements with states and territories |
| 5.2 | Improve communication about the benefits of heritage laws, regulations and policies. | The Department of the Environment and Energy and the Australian Heritage Council are updating their websites to improve communication about the benefits of heritage laws, regulations and policies, and make it easier to access information on their websites.  Over 90 per cent of updated pages have been published.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/laws](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/laws) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 5.3 | Review and modernise the Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976 to better align with international best practice. | The Australian Government aims to review and modernise the Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976 by 2018 to better align with international best practice.  [www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/historic-shipwrecks/historic-shipwrecks-laws](https://www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/historic-shipwrecks/historic-shipwrecks-laws) | In planning | December 2018 |
| 5.4 | Progress ratification of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. | The Australian Government aims to progress ratification of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage by 2018. The Australian Underwater Cultural Heritage Intergovernmental Agreement with states and the Northern Territory already meets international best practice management of Australia’s underwater cultural heritage as outlined in the rules in the Annex to the Convention.  [www.environment.gov.au/resource/australian-underwater-cultural-heritage-intergovernmental-agreement](https://www.environment.gov.au/resource/australian-underwater-cultural-heritage-intergovernmental-agreement) | In planning | December 2018 |
| 5.5 | Work with South-East Asian and Pacific region states (such as Indonesia and Papua New Guinea) to better protect our shared underwater cultural heritage. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with South-East Asian and Pacific region states (such as Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands) to better protect our shared underwater cultural heritage through the National Historic Shipwrecks Program.  The Department is exploring provision of strategic support to these states through access to the online Australian National Shipwrecks Database as a register for their shipwrecks and other underwater cultural heritage.  The Department, together with other Australian departments and agencies, is also working with Indonesia to better protect the WWII Australian Sovereign shipwreck HMAS Perth (I) (1942) located in Indonesia waters. | Ongoing | December 2019 |

Objective 6: Further develop heritage partnerships between government and other sectors

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.1 | Explore the development and implementation of a heritage quality framework to provide more consistent heritage management guidance to the Australian building industry. | State and territory governments will work cooperatively through the Heritage Officials of Australia and New Zealand forum and with the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites to explore the development and implementation of a heritage quality framework to provide more consistent heritage management guidance to the Australian building industry. They will also work with these bodies and with construction industry peak bodies to improve recognition of heritage buildings within Australian environmental rating tools to help improve their retention as part of future urban renewal activities.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/info/cnha.html](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/info/cnha.html)  <http://australia.icomos.org/> | In planning | July 2020 |
| 6.2 | Improve recognition of heritage buildings within Australian environmental rating tools to help improve their retention as part of future urban renewal activities. |
| 6.3 | Encourage further development of trade and professional heritage conservation skills through: the construction/building industry, and technical education courses, and further education, college and university courses | State and territory heritage councils and the Department of the Environment and Energy will undertake cooperative work across educational institutions, the building industry and government to encourage the ongoing availability of professional heritage conservation training.  [www.environment.gov.au/resource/heritage-trades-and-professional-training-project](http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/heritage-trades-and-professional-training-project)  <http://australia.icomos.org/get-involved/working-reference-groups/traditional-trades-working-group/> | In planning | July 2020 |
| 6.4 | Continue support for Indigenous Australians to access training and career path development in heritage identification, management and promotion. | The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will work with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal land councils and corporations to increase the recognition and access to formal training for Indigenous Australians in heritage identification, management and promotion. | In progress —ongoing | Ongoing |

Objective 7: Explore innovative funding, resource sharing and creative partnerships

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.1 | Build the Reef Trust’s capacity and innovative approaches to consolidate investment for the long-term protection and conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Great Barrier Reef. | The Department of the Environment and Energy has committed $210 million to the Reef Trust to provide innovative, targeted investment focused on improving water quality, restoring coastal ecosystem health and enhancing species protection in the Great Barrier Reef region.  The trust’s first co-investment partnership is underway. The Australian Government provided $2 million, matched dollar for dollar by Greening Australia and its partners, for wetland repair and restoration along the Great Barrier Reef coast.  The Reef Trust is also working with experts from the philanthropic and investment sectors, including the Reef Trust Innovative Financial Mechanism Panel. This work explored options for the Reef Trust to support private sector investment and will inform development of a conservation financing trial for the reef. | On track | July 2017 |
| 7.2 | Explore and promote philanthropic success stories in the culture and arts sector, to inform innovation and the development of new partnerships within the heritage sector. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will explore philanthropic success stories in the cultural and arts sector with Philanthropy Australia, the Ministry for the Arts, the Treasury, and the Australian Taxation Office to inform innovation and the development of new partnerships within the heritage sector. | In planning | December 2016 |
| 7.3 | Explore new funding opportunities for the long-term protection and management of Australia’s heritage places, in particular the potential for a national lottery. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is exploring the potential for a national lottery in cooperation with the Ministry for the Arts. | Underway | December 2016 |
| 7.4 | Explore opportunities for partnerships to support the identification, protection and promotion of Indigenous heritage places. | The Australian Heritage Council and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Indigenous Affairs) are working with a number of parties including the Department of the Environment and Energy, the private sector, philanthropists and non-government organisations to explore opportunities for partnerships to support the identification, protection and promotion of Indigenous heritage places.  [www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/grant/indigenous-heritage-programme](http://www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/grant/indigenous-heritage-programme) | On track—ongoing | July 2020 |

Objective 8: Foster greater collaboration between the heritage and tourism sectors

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8.1 | Support and further develop community engagement with Australia’s Heritage Week. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with the National Trust of Australia to enhance opportunities for the public to engage in heritage events and activities. From 2017, Australian Heritage Week will be incorporated into an expanded National Trust Heritage Festival, which runs from 18 April to 21 May 2017. Communities, individuals and local government organisations will be encouraged to celebrate the places and events that have shaped our heritage. The theme for 2017 is ‘having a voice’. | On track—ongoing | Ongoing |
| 8.2 | Promote the National Heritage List by providing more accessible information on heritage places through the National Heritage List website and through Australia’s Community Heritage website. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is improving access to reliable information on heritage places through the National Heritage List website and Australia’s Community Heritage website, and working with other stakeholders including National Heritage List place managers in updating the information.  [www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-places/national-heritage-list](http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-places/national-heritage-list) | On track | July 2016 |
| 8.3 | Encourage partnerships between place managers and tourism bodies to better promote the values, experiences, and cultural stories associated with National and World Heritage places.  Support initiatives that enable sustainable community, national and international visitor access to heritage places. | World Heritage Executive officers are engaging with Advisory Committees and their communities to encourage tourism at these World Heritage sites. | In planning | Ongoing |
| 8.4 | Help foster Indigenous heritage tourism activities and enterprises through specialist support and business advice. | The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy will work to foster Indigenous heritage tourism activities and enterprises through specialist support and business advice.  [www.indigenous.gov.au/indigenous-advancement-strategy](http://www.indigenous.gov.au/indigenous-advancement-strategy) | In planning | July 2020 |

Outcome 3: Engaged communities

Objective 9: Focus protection efforts on Indigenous heritage

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9.1 | Promote a consistent approach to the recognition, protection and management of Indigenous heritage sites across all levels of government and other organisations. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will work with state and territory governments and the Australian Heritage Council to promote a consistent approach to the recognition, protection and management of Indigenous heritage sites across all levels of government and other organisations. | On track | July 2020 |
| 9.2 | Work with philanthropic organisations to focus increased resources toward the long-term protection of Indigenous heritage places. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will work with state and territory governments and Traditional Owners, the private sector and philanthropists to identify opportunities to provide support for the identification, protection and ongoing management of Indigenous cultural heritage places. Support is already being provided through the Working on Country programme, the Indigenous Protected Areas programme, and the Conservation Agreement for the Dampier Archipelago (including the Burrup Peninsula).  [www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/about/jobs-land-and-economy-programme/indigenous-environment-branch/indigenous-rangers-working-country](http://www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/about/jobs-land-and-economy-programme/indigenous-environment-branch/indigenous-rangers-working-country)  [www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/about/jobs-land-and-economy-programme/indigenous-environment-branch/indigenous-protected-areas-ipas](http://www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/about/jobs-land-and-economy-programme/indigenous-environment-branch/indigenous-protected-areas-ipas) | Ongoing | July 2020 |
| 9.3 | Publish and promote a new edition of the best practice Ask First Indigenous consultation guidelines. | The Department of the Environment and Energy, and the Indigenous Advisory Committee will work with Indigenous stakeholders to publish and promote a new edition of the best practice Ask First Indigenous consultation guidelines.  [www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/4afff65c-00dd-4001-878b-a28d8831293a/files/ask-first.pdf](https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/4afff65c-00dd-4001-878b-a28d8831293a/files/ask-first.pdf) | On track | December 2016 |
| 9.4 | Green Army teams work with Traditional Owners to support the protection and management of Australia’s cultural heritage places. | The Department of the Environment and Energy has allocated more than $360 million for the Green Army Programme over four years from 1 July 2016. Green Army teams work with traditional owners to support the protection and management of Australia’s cultural and Indigenous heritage places. For example, the Bundaberg Region Coastal Catchment Restoration Initiative, hosted by the Gidarjil Development Corporation Ltd, is assessing, documenting and monitoring culturally significant areas, including shell middens and burial sites, adjacent to the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Indigenous groups, community organisations, environment groups and local councils across Australia can apply to host a Green Army project.  [www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/publications/factsheet-green-army-indigenous-projects](https://www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/publications/factsheet-green-army-indigenous-projects)  For information on existing projects visit the Green Army website: [www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/projects/approved](http://www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/projects/approved) | On track | Ongoing |
| 9.5 | Review the effectiveness of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is reviewing the effectiveness of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984, in consultation with the Indigenous Advisory Committee and other stakeholders, as committed in the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia. | On track | December 2017 |

Objective 10: Promote greater awareness, knowledge and engagement with our national heritage

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10.1 | Enhance Australia’s Community Heritage website to facilitate greater public interaction, encouraging them to better share their heritage events and stories. | The Department of the Environment and Energy supports community groups and heritage bodies by funding the Australia’s Community Heritage website to improve the sharing of heritage stories and events. The Department will encourage Heritage grant recipients and Green Army project hosts to publish project success stories on the website. | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 10.2 | Facilitate publication of project success stories by grant recipients and Green Army project managers on the Australia’s Community Heritage website. |
| 10.3 | Enhance the interactive nature of the National Heritage List website with a stronger social media presence. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working to improve the interactive nature of information on heritage places through the National Heritage List website and Australia’s Community Heritage website. The Department is also promoting the National Heritage List through its @envirogov Twitter account and Department Facebook channel throughout the year and with a focus on #AustralianHeritageWeek in April.  [www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-places/national-heritage-list](http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-places/national-heritage-list) | Underway | July 2016 |
| 10.4 | Raise awareness of the National Heritage List and the values and stories of its included places including with support under the Community Heritage and Icons Grants programme. | The Department of the Environment and Energy, through the Community Heritage and Icons Grants Programme is providing funding of up to $1.4 million over three years from 2014-15. Eligible projects promote community engagement and awareness of places listed on Australia’s National Heritage List.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding/community-heritage-icons-grants](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding/community-heritage-icons-grants) | Underway | Ongoing 2014–18 |
| 10.5 | Support engagement with Australian Heritage Information website to enhance community access to heritage information. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will continue to work with state and territory governments through the Heritage Officials of Australia and New Zealand to support engagement with Australian Heritage Information website to enhance community access to heritage information.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/info/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/info/index.html) | Ongoing | July 2020 |
| 10.6 | Support stakeholder engagement with the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites Heritage Toolkit. | The Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites will engage stakeholders with the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites Heritage Toolkit.  <http://australia.icomos.org/publications/australia-icomos-heritage-toolkit/> | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 10.7 | Explore opportunities to improve public access to heritage information through new technologies and social media; for example, site-specific smart phone applications. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with state and territory governments through the Heritage Officials of Australia and New Zealand to identify new opportunities to improve public access to heritage information such as the industry-funded Rock Art Protection website accessible from mobile phones in the Dampier Archipelago. | In planning | July 2020 |

Objective 11: Provide consistent best practice standards and guidelines for heritage conservation and management

| Number | Action | Progress | Delivery | Timeframe |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11.1 | Promote existing heritage sector best practice guidelines to empower community groups; for example, the Burra Charter, the Natural Heritage Charter and Ruins guidelines. | The Department of the Environment and Energy will continue to work with state and territory governments through Heritage Officials of Australia and New Zealand to promote existing heritage sector best practice guidelines to empower community groups such as the Burra Charter, the Natural Heritage Charter and Ruins guidelines.  <http://australia.icomos.org/publications/charters/>  [www.environment.gov.au/resource/australian-natural-heritage-charter](https://www.environment.gov.au/resource/australian-natural-heritage-charter)  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/ruins-guide-conservation-and-management](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/ruins-guide-conservation-and-management) | Ongoing | Ongoing |
| 11.2 | Support the development of the Framework for Best Practice Management of Australian World Heritage Properties to provide a common approach for the management of Australia’s World Heritage properties. | World Heritage property managers and the Department of the Environment and Energy are supporting the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee in the development of the Framework for Best Practice Management of Australian World Heritage Properties to provide guidance on best practice to managers of Australian World Heritage properties.  [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/australian-world-heritage-advisory-committee](https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/organisations/australian-world-heritage-advisory-committee) | Underway | July 2016 |
| 11.3 | Update the following best practice management guidelines for National Heritage and Commonwealth Heritage place managers: Australia’s National Heritage, Working Together: Managing National Heritage Places—A guide for owners and managers; Working Together: Managing Commonwealth Heritage Places—A guide for Commonwealth Agencies. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with Place managers to progressively update best practice management guidelines for National Heritage and Commonwealth Heritage place managers.  [www.environment.gov.au/resource/working-together-managing-commonwealth-heritage-places](http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/working-together-managing-commonwealth-heritage-places)  [www.environment.gov.au/resource/working-together-managing-national-heritage-places](http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/working-together-managing-national-heritage-places) | Underway | July 2016 |
| 11.4 | Provide guidance for regular, long-term monitoring, evaluation and reporting of World and National heritage value conditions. This will be supported, in part, through the research outcomes of the Australian Government’s National Environmental Science Programme, which will consider World and National Heritage place management as a cross-cutting theme. | The Department of the Environment and Energy is working with the Australian Heritage Council to develop guidance for regular, long-term monitoring, evaluation and reporting of World and National Heritage value conditions.  This includes considering the National Environmental Science Programme priorities to facilitate greater consideration of National and World Heritage property needs in the development of future hub research plans.  [www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp/about](https://www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp/about) | In planning | June 2021 |

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