



Consultation

Crucial to the success of this project will be the full engagement of the wider community and key stakeholder groups during the planning process. The Masterplan is for all Territorians. In this regard the Community Advisory Committee will be crucial. But, it is intended to go well beyond this and invest the planning process with an extensive and wide ranging public consultation program reaching diverse stakeholders within Government and the wider community including Northern Territory landholders, the Aboriginal community, participants in the tourism industry, conservation groups and commercial interests.

A comprehensive public consultation strategy will be implemented at an early stage of the Masterplanning process. It will include the following elements:

- establishment of Advisory Committees;
- issuing discussion papers (to be made available on the web site);
- seeking public input into the Masterplan;
- holding meetings with identified interest and industry groups both within and outside Government;
- holding regional public meetings and focus groups;
- keeping the public informed through the media, on the Web and by means of a Parks and Conservation Masterplan Newsletter.

Public consultation and involvement is important because it is the collective responsibility of all Territorians to ensure that biodiversity and the products and services that biodiversity provides are maintained and passed on to future generations, intact to the fullest possible extent. Although governments have some responsibilities in relation to biodiversity conservation, the management of biodiversity is ultimately the responsibility of everyone.

Views and comments will be sought during the public consultation process and will be taken into consideration in the drafting of the Masterplan. Once the draft plan is prepared it will be made available to all key stakeholders for comment and these will be fully considered in developing the final plan.



Parks and Conservation Masterplan: Your plan, Your future

The Northern Territory Government, through the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE), is embarking on a major project to develop a new Parks and Conservation Masterplan for the Northern Territory.

The Masterplan is being developed in association with the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage (Parks Australia North) and the Northern Territory's Aboriginal Land Councils. This heralds a new era of cooperation between these agencies that play a major role in conservation and cultural management of Northern Territory lands.

The purpose of the project is to provide a vision and blueprint for the conservation of the Northern Territory's variety of plants and animals (our biological diversity) and for the development of the parks system over the next 20 years.

Key objectives of the new Masterplan include:

- enhancing the existing parks system;
- enhancing the role of Aboriginal people in parks and conservation;
- protecting the Territory's cultural diversity;
- protecting the Territory's variety of plants and animals (our biological diversity); and
- allowing future generations of Territorians and tourists to continue to enjoy our natural and cultural heritage.



Northern Territory Government

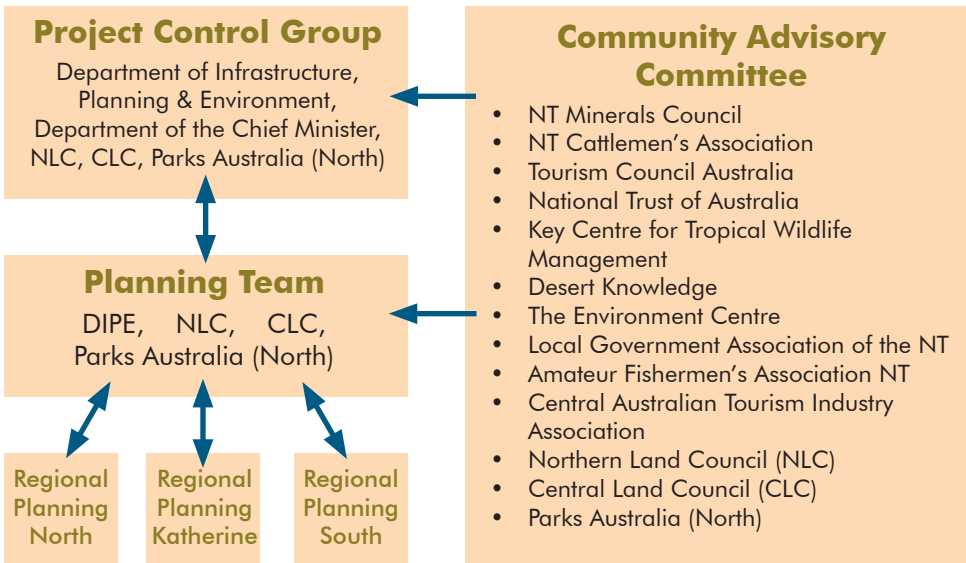
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment



Project Framework

The diagram below outlines the framework for managing the planning process.

- Project Control Group – act as a Steering Committee for the preparation of the Masterplan.
- Forum for community input into the planning process.
Project Planning Team – responsible for consulting with various stakeholders and writing the Masterplan.
- Community Advisory Committee → Forum for community input into the planning process.

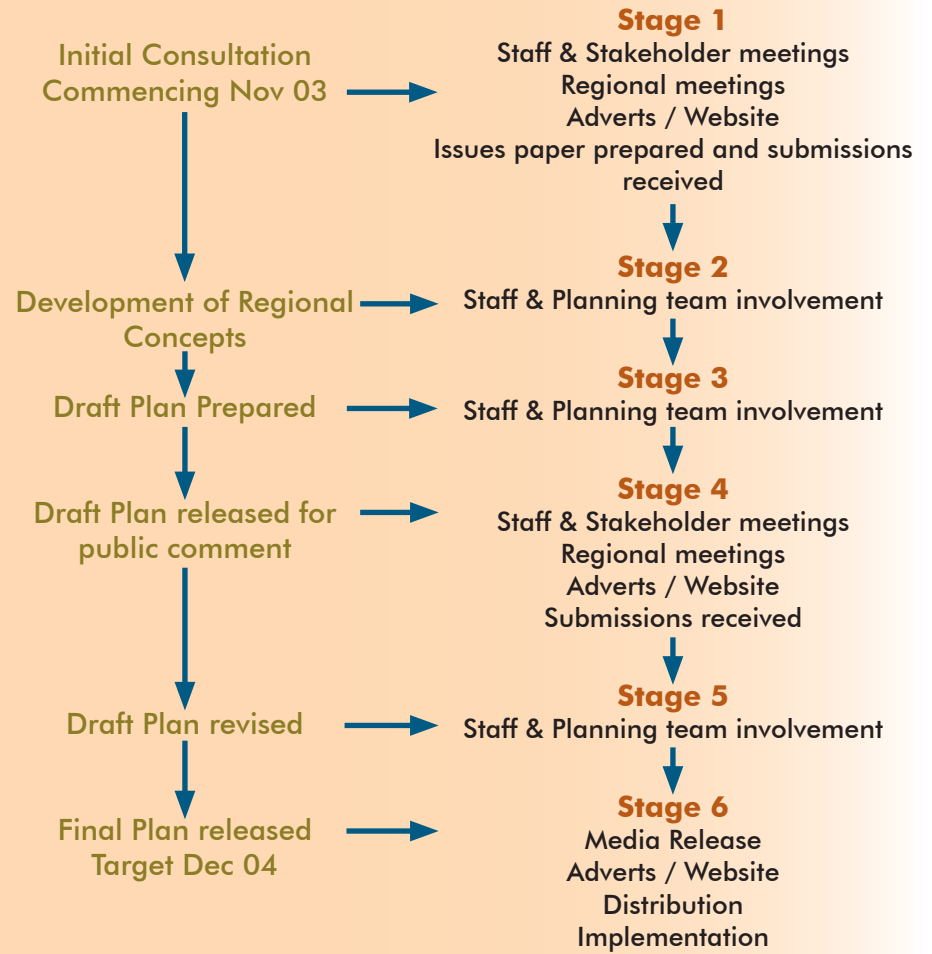


Contacts

For further information regarding the NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan and the planning process, visit the website at <http://www.parksmasterplan.nt.gov.au> or contact Ms Shirley Carne on 1800 813 337 or at ParksMasterPlan@nt.gov.au



Planning Process



Get involved / Have your say

You are invited to participate in the planning process by providing us with your views on the future management of the Territory’s Parks System.

If you wish to “have your say” visit the Parks and Conservation Masterplan website and complete the on-line submissions form or contact Ms Shirley Carne on 1800 813 337 or at ParksMasterPlan@nt.gov.au