

APPENDIX 1: NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES

A1.1 INTRODUCTION

In November 2001, the Northern Territory Government initiated the restructure of its departments to reduce expenditure and improve on the delivery of services to its clients. As part of this restructure, the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (PWCNT), the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE) and the Department of Transport and Works (T&W) were integrated into the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE). The various functions of each of these organisations have been reallocated to various Groups and Divisions of the new Department (see section A1.2). Similarly, the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries has been amalgamated with the departments of Mines and Energy, Business and Industries, and Asian Relations and Trade, to form the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) (see section A1.3).

A1.2 DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (DIPE)

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE) was established to provide a co-ordinated and balanced approach to the provision of transport and infrastructure, development planning, and protection of the environment, as well as the use and preservation of land and water resources and protection of native wildlife (www.ipe.nt.gov.au). Figure A1.1 shows the broad structure of the Groups and Divisions within this new department as they currently stand (further adjustments to this structure may occur in the future). The key responsibilities of Divisions within the Conservation and Natural Resources Group which is now largely responsible for bioregional conservation planning in the Northern Territory, are summarised in Table A1.1.

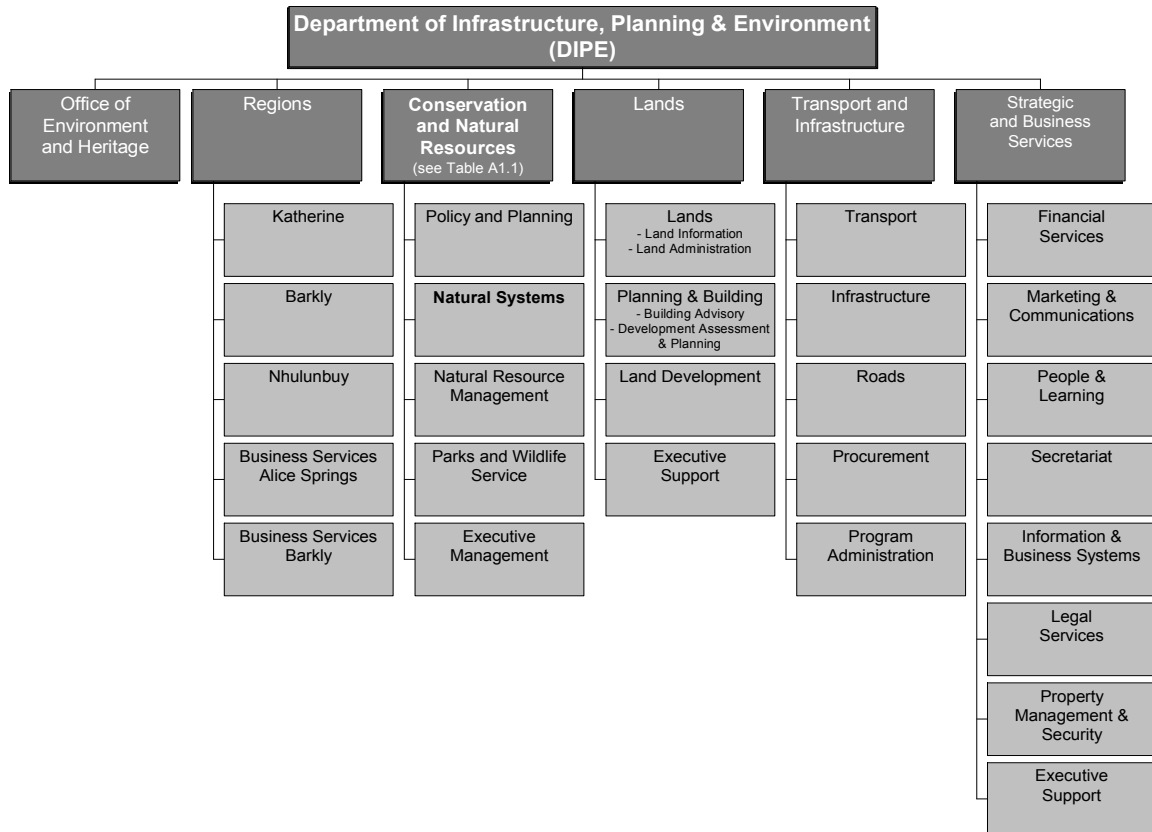


Figure A1.1 Broad Group and Divisional structures of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE).

Table A1.1 Key responsibilities of Divisions within the Conservation and Natural Resources Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE).

Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Group	
Divisions & Sections:	Key Responsibilities:
<p>Policy and Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Conservation Policy ◆ Natural Resource Policy ◆ Regional Land Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop polices which meet Northern Territory, national and international objectives and commitments. ▪ Manage the legislation which supports these policy objectives. ▪ Develop strategies to achieve biodiversity objectives on and off reserve throughout the Northern Territory. ▪ Prepare plans of management for Northern Territory parks and reserves. ▪ Prepare integrated regional land use plans which reflect biodiversity conservation, land and water capability and economic development objectives. ▪ Develop priorities for further research and studies. ▪ Report on the health of landscapes within the Northern Territory.
<p>Natural Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Biodiversity * ◆ Spatial Data & Mapping ◆ Land & Vegetation; Resource Data; and Water Resources ◆ Groundwater Services ◆ Hydrographic Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess, measure and model Northern Territory ecosystems and natural resources and the impact of processes which threaten them. ▪ Develop recommendations for the conservation of biodiversity throughout the Northern Territory which take into account the sustainable use of wildlife. ▪ Develop recommendations for the sustainable use of the Northern Territory's water and land resources to support economic development. ▪ Maintain the scientific reputation and credibility of the Department.
<p>Natural Resource Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Advisory & Regulatory Services ◆ Pastoral Land ◆ Fire & Weed Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administer soil, water, fire, weed and pastoral land legislation in the Northern Territory. ▪ Monitor the impacts of development on the Northern Territory's ecosystems. ▪ Provide advisory and education services. ▪ Manage Natural Heritage Trust programs. ▪ Assess land development and subdivision proposals. ▪ Control land clearing. ▪ Support the operation of regional resource management groups. ▪ Support statutory bodies such as the Bushfires Council, Landcare Council and the Pastoral Land Board.
<p>Parks and Wildlife Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Park Management * ◆ Wildlife Management * ◆ Commercial Operations * 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration of the specific requirements of relevant legislation, particularly the <i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act 2000</i>. ▪ Manage designated parks and reserves for conservation and tourism purposes. ▪ Develop joint conservation management arrangements with Aboriginal and other Northern Territory landholders both on and off reserve. ▪ Ensure the protection and sustainable use of the Northern Territory's wildlife. ▪ Management of feral animals in the Northern Territory. ▪ Support the development of programs to involve all territorians in conservation and wildlife management. ▪ Maximise the economic benefits and commercial returns achieved from the use of the park estate and the Northern Territory's wildlife.

* indicates sections which formerly made up the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (PWCNT).

A1.3 DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DBIRD)

The Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) incorporates programs previously delivered by the former departments of Primary Industry and Fisheries, Mines and Energy, Business and Industries, and Asian Relations and Trade (www.dbird.nt.gov.au). The key responsibilities of each Group shown in Figure A1.2 are summarised in Table A1.2.

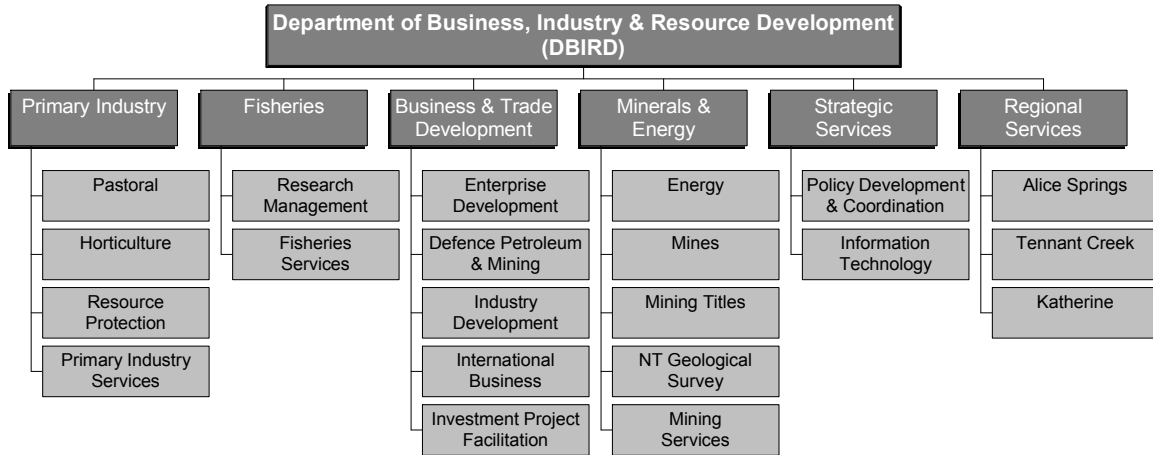


Figure A1.2 Broad Group and Divisional structures of the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD).

Table A1.2 Key responsibilities of each Group of the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) (*Source: www.dbird.nt.gov.au*).

DBIRD Group:	Key Responsibilities:
Primary Industry	Develop the Northern Territory's primary industry sectors through research and development programs and provision of advisory and information services. The Division works in partnership with producers, industry bodies, community groups and related agencies to promote industry growth.
Fisheries	Support the expansion and management of the Northern Territory's recreational and commercial fisheries. The Division's programs include fisheries management, licensing, recreational fishing, research and development and the provision of information about fish species.
Business and Trade Development	Support the Northern Territory's business and trade sectors to grow and diversify the Territory's economic base. The Division encourages a culture of continual improvement, innovation and entrepreneurial approaches in business, and facilitates business to move into interstate and overseas markets.
Minerals and Energy	Promote growth and development of the Northern Territory's mining and petroleum industries through the delivery of advisory services and high-quality geoscientific information. The Division also provides regulatory services, mineral and petroleum exploration and extraction to ensure good practice in health, safety and environmental management.
Strategic Services	Provide a range of support services for the wider department and the co-ordination of strategic projects, including major agribusiness projects and the Northern Territory's engagement with Asia. The Division also incorporates Policy and Communications and Marketing Units.
Regional Services	Deliver the full range of programs and services to regional areas of the Northern Territory through the Department's regional offices in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine.