

# STREAMLINE WA ACHIEVEMENTS – JULY 2020 - MARCH 2023



## Four Common Understanding Workshops or events held

- Improved communication, culture and capability between frontline approvals and assessment officers.
- Regulators Teams site launched July 2022.

## Stronger case management implemented

- Through a revised lead agency framework, JTSI is helping significant, complex projects navigate approvals and working with agencies to resolve bottlenecks.



## Six Acts enacted



- *Planning and Development Amendment Act 2020* – (Royal Assent 7/7/20)
- *Planning and Development Amendment Act 2022* – (Royal Assent 24/6/22) – introduce a streamlined approval pathway for state significant developments and other referred developments
  - *Environmental Protection Amendment Act 2020* – (Royal Assent 19/11/20) – improve efficiency of the environmental impact assessment process, reduce duplication of assessments and approvals, introduce cost recovery provisions
- *Mining Amendment Act 2022* – improve the efficiency of approvals processes – (Royal Assent 28/9/22)
- *Mining Amendment Act (No.2) 2022* – streamline administrative processes (Royal Assent 1/11/22)
- *Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2023* – simplify approval processes for tourism operators and permit holders

## Three Regulations amended

- *Botanic Gardens and Parks Amendment Regulations 2022* (Feb 2022)
- *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* (Nov 2022)
- *Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018 – Sandalwood* (April 2022)



## Five systems / process improvement programs completed

- **Approvals WA** – launched at a base level in early 2021 – an easy-to-navigate, virtual, one-stop-shop to help proponents navigate the approvals process across a range of project types.
- **Online Aquaculture Management and Reporting System (AMRS)** – launched August 2022 – provides more efficient reporting for approximately 400 aquaculture businesses.
- **Biodiversity Data Repository (BIO) (Dandjoo)** – launched 1 July 2022 – stores and shares data from a range of sources including proponent submitted for regulatory purposes.
- **Environment Online** – Release 1 supporting environmental impact assessment activities under Part IV of the EP Act went live on 16 August 2022.
- **Small Business Friendly Approvals program** – completed workshops in March 2023 with 20 local governments over two years. The program makes it easier, faster and less costly for small businesses to establish, as well as increase their own productivity.

## Processing times for low-risk proposals and reporting requirements reduced

- **New risk assessment tool** – reduce processing time by 50 per cent for more than 400 low-risk proposals to take or disturb threatened species and ecological communities each year.
- **Reduced Reporting Burden pilot project** – delivered May 2022 – stopped or halved the environmental reporting requirements for lower risk industries, affecting more than 60 per cent (n. 600) of eligible licences (Part V of the EP Act).



## Recruitment completed

- **Recruitment of frontline and approvals reform officers** effectively complete – approximately 90% of the 186.5 FTE funded under the State Government's \$120 million commitment in July 2021.
- **Innovative recruitment campaign** fills frontline positions at DWER and DMIRS: 164 environmental officers attracted; more than 30 candidates appointed in first six weeks.