

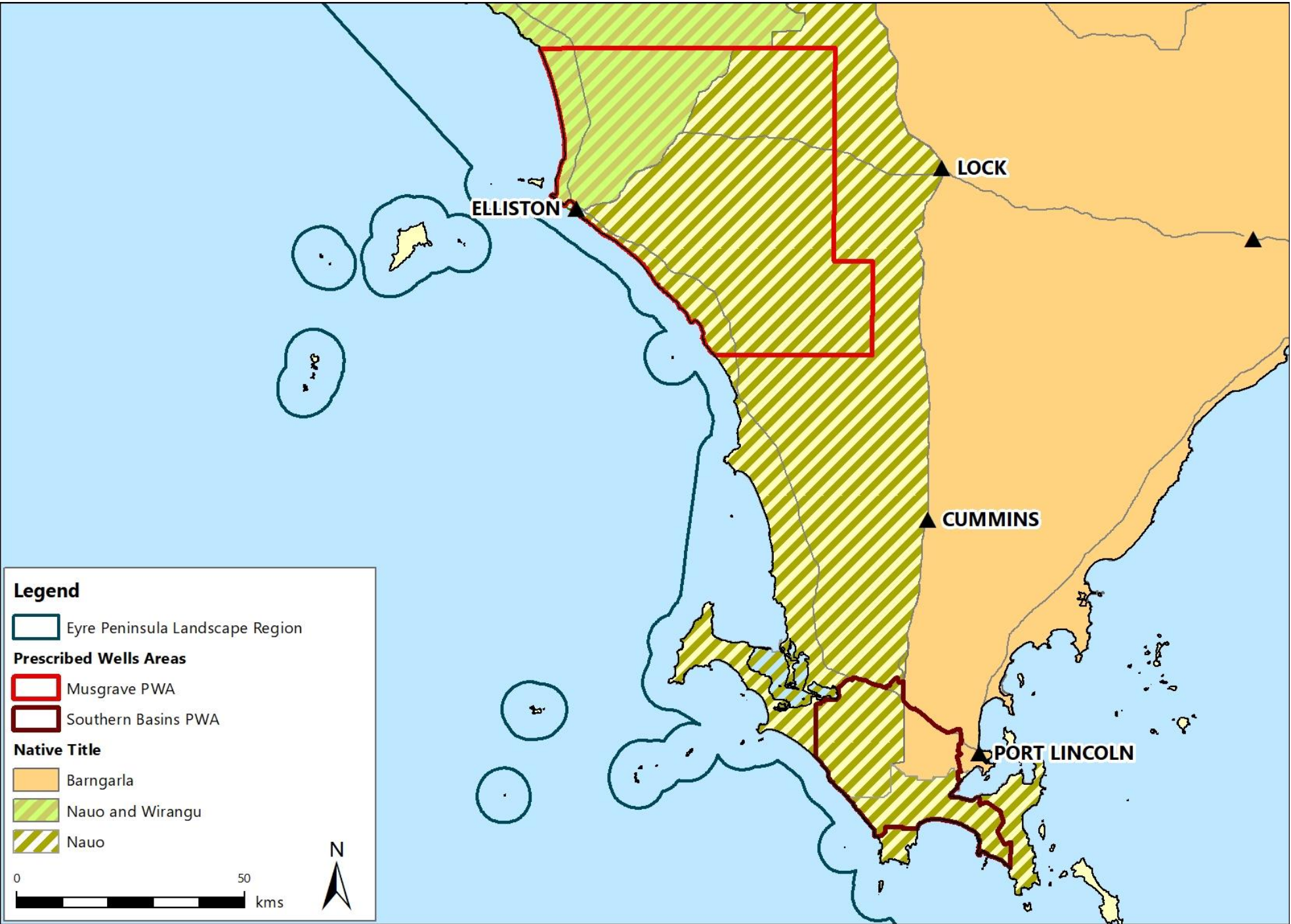
EP
WATER
ALLOCATION
PLAN
REVISION

Supporting
Aboriginal
water
interests

*From an artwork ("Protection") by Aboriginal artist,
Presten Warren, symbolising EPLB's water management work.*

In the 2016 WAP, the “*Indigenous and Cultural Requirements for Water*” section of the Plan (5.4.6) included the following:

- An acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners of the land in the Prescribed Wells Areas (PWAs) as being the Wirangu, Nauo and Barngarla peoples
- A comment that Native Title claims over these areas were still pending
- Confirmation that the Board was engaging with the First Nations groups
- No specific water allocations for Aboriginal water interests.



Boundaries of
the WAP
Prescribed
Wells Areas
and of the
Wirangu II/Nauro,
Nauro
and
Barngarla
Native Title
determinations

Engagement with Aboriginal groups by the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board:

- Implementation of Eyre Peninsula Regional Landscape Plan 2021-2026:
 - Formal '*Statement of Commitment*' (2022) to strengthen partnerships
 - On-ground involvement in landscape management projects, e.g. shore-bird monitoring, community education, sheoak woodland recovery
 - '*Indigenous Participation Plan*' (2024), seeking active partnerships
- WAP revision (to date):
 - Briefings given to Directors at their Native Title committee meetings
 - Discussions with First Nations individuals
 - Groundwater workshop invitations to Wirangu, Nauo and Barngarla
 - Offers for individual workshops with them.

The WAP revision will consider Aboriginal water interests, in the context of:

- The ‘*Objects and principles*’ of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, which says: “... *management of the natural resources ... in an integrated manner that - ... supports the interests of Aboriginal peoples*” [s 7 (1) (b)]
- Aboriginal traditional knowledge to inform:
 - the provision of environmental water to ‘Look after Country’
 - the management of any cultural impacts from groundwater take
- Aboriginal water rights associated with Native Title, such as “*the taking of water ... for ... personal, domestic, cultural, spiritual or non-commercial communal needs*” [SA Govt. Gazette 13/09/2012]
- Inland Waters Targets for Aboriginal ownership of a proportion of water resources, as currently proposed by the national *Closing the Gap* program.