



# Corrigendum: Protecting Migratory Species in the Australian Marine Environment: A Cross-Jurisdictional Analysis of Policy and Management Plans

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## OPEN ACCESS

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## A Corrigendum on

### Protecting Migratory Species in the Australian Marine Environment: A Cross-Jurisdictional Analysis of Policy and Management Plans

by Miller, R. L., Marsh, H., Cottrell, A., and Hamann, M. (2018) *Front. Mar. Sci.* 5:229. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2018.00229

In the original article, there was a mistake in **Table 1** as published. Conservation Advices and Wildlife Conservation Plans were originally listed in **Table 1** as non-statutory; this was incorrect. Conservation Advices and Wildlife Conservation Plans are statutory under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; however, the consideration of these plans that the Minister must take when approving decisions differs from a Recovery Plan (Table B2 in Supplementary Material). The corrected **Table 1** appears below. In addition a correction has been made to the final sentence of Discussion, Coherence within Australia, paragraph 4:

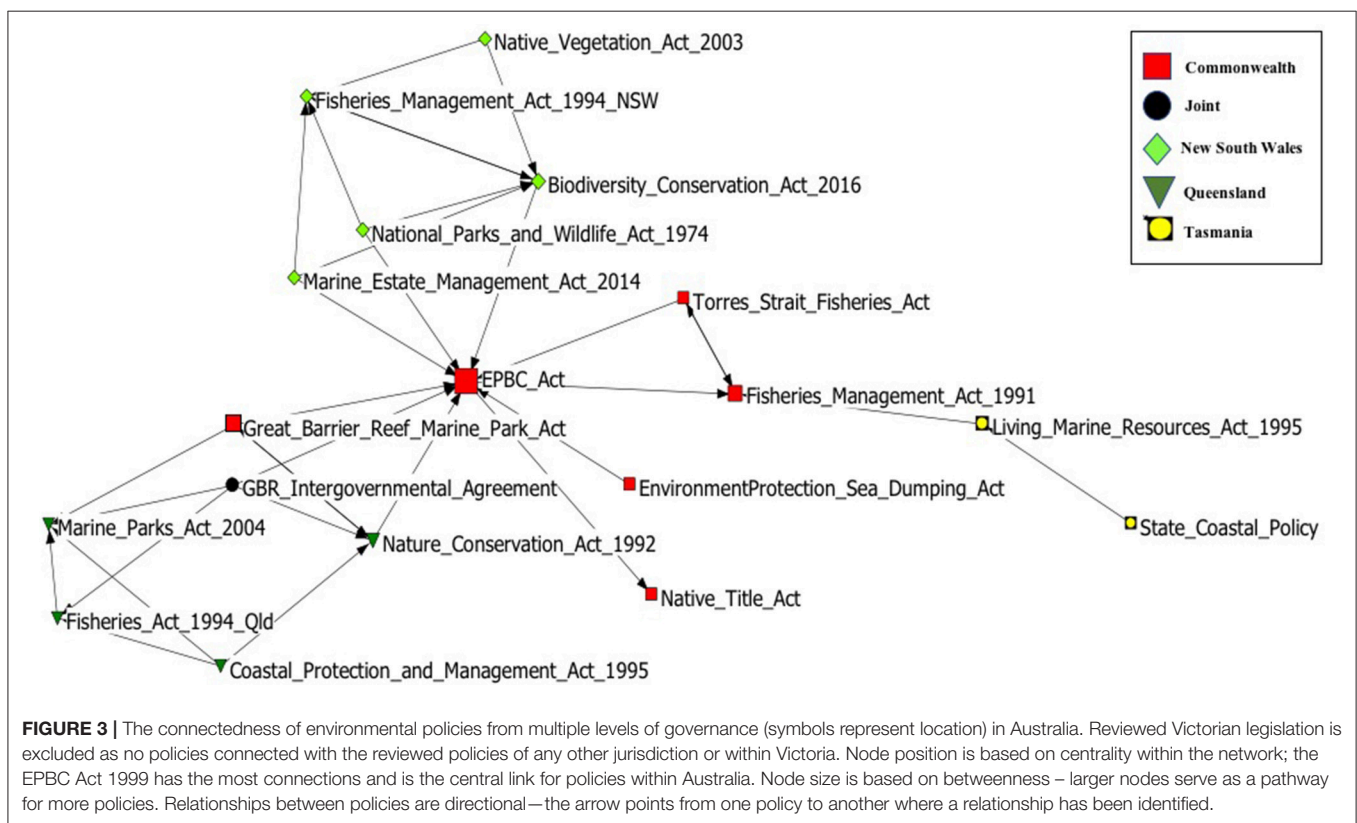
The disconnect between policies and management plans can be problematic for managing species as many types of plans are not statutory. Management plans are often drafted as a form of threat mitigation rather than conservation, and non-statutory plans will have less of an impact on conservation than explicit environmental policy. Only recovery, protected area management, conservation advices, conservation plans, and threat abatement plans are statutory under the *EPBC Act 1999* (see Table B2 in Appendix B for descriptions). In addition, several recovery plans have expired under the *EPBC Act 1999* and are being replaced with conservation advices in order to address the backlog of recovery plans. The disadvantage of this is that conservation advices hold less weight than recovery plans when the Minister is making a decision regarding approving anthropogenic activities.

**TABLE 1 |** The EPBC listing of the four case studies in Australia chosen for this study, their respective national management plans, and the primary species-specific instrument (national) for mitigating threats for each case study.

Species or Group	EPBC listing	Recovery or conservation plan?	Primary policy instrument addressing species-specific threats
Marine Turtles	Marine, Migratory, Threatened (Listing varies by species)	Recovery Plan for 6 species (statutory)	<i>Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles 2017</i>
Dugong	Marine, Migratory	None currently	None currently
Humpback Whale	Migratory, Cetacean, Vulnerable	Conservation Advice (statutory)	Conservation Advice <i>Megaptera Novaeangliae</i>
Migratory Shorebirds	Marine (individual species), Migratory	Conservation Plan for 35 Species (statutory) <sup>a</sup>	<i>Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds 2015</i>

A more extensive list of policy instruments addressing these threats can be found in Table B1 of Supplementary Material (Appendix B).

<sup>a</sup>There are 35 species listed under the *Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds 2015*; some species have since been listed as threatened, but the Plan has not yet been amended. This study considers 27 non-threatened species that are listed as marine and visit the east coast of Australia.



**Figure 3** attributes the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* as a joint Act; this Act is actually Commonwealth legislation. **Figure 3** has been updated accordingly.

The title of the Recovery Plan is missing from the second paragraph of the Results Section: Coherence Within Australia. In the Results Section: Coherence Within Australia, paragraph 2, the paragraph should read:

The relationships between policies and management plans was more developed than the relationships between policies, with 106 plans identifying a connection to one or more

environmental policies. Twenty-three of the federal plans relate to federal policies, 56 state plans identify relationships to federal policies, and 71 state plans refer to policies within that same state. Only two plans, the Australia Pacific LNG Upstream Project: Pipeline Threatened Fauna Management Plan (industry-generated environmental management plan) and the *Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia 2017*, operated under multi-state legislation. Despite being jointly made by the relevant federal, Qld, and NSW ministers, the *Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia 2017*

demonstrated little connection to legislation from Qld and NSW (Figure 4A).

## CLARIFICATIONS

In addition, we have clarified two points in order to provide greater context to the readers.

1) In **Table 1**, the reason we have listed marine turtles as “threatened” and humpback whales as “vulnerable” is because the six species of marine turtles found in Australia do not all share the same threatened listing under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (e.g., loggerheads are listed as endangered and hawksbills are listed as vulnerable). Humpback whales are listed as vulnerable, which also means they are considered to be threatened in Australia under the *EPBC Act 1999*.

2) In Results: Relevance of Environmental Policies and Management Plans in Australia, we use the word “protected.”

The use of this word is to refer to species listed as “protected” under federal and state legislation; some of these species are also considered to be threatened in that jurisdiction.

The authors apologize for these errors and state that these do not change the scientific conclusions of the article in any way.

The original article has been updated.

**Conflict of Interest Statement:** The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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