



First Nations Engagement Report



FIRST NATIONS BRANCH

MARCH 2024

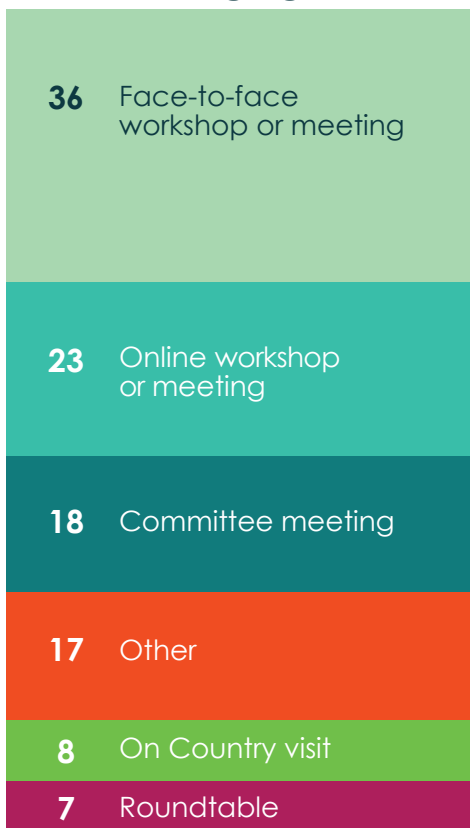
The central First Nations engagement calendar has been developed to enhance visibility and encourage greater internal coordination of First Nations engagements.

Since launching the First Nations engagement register in October 2023

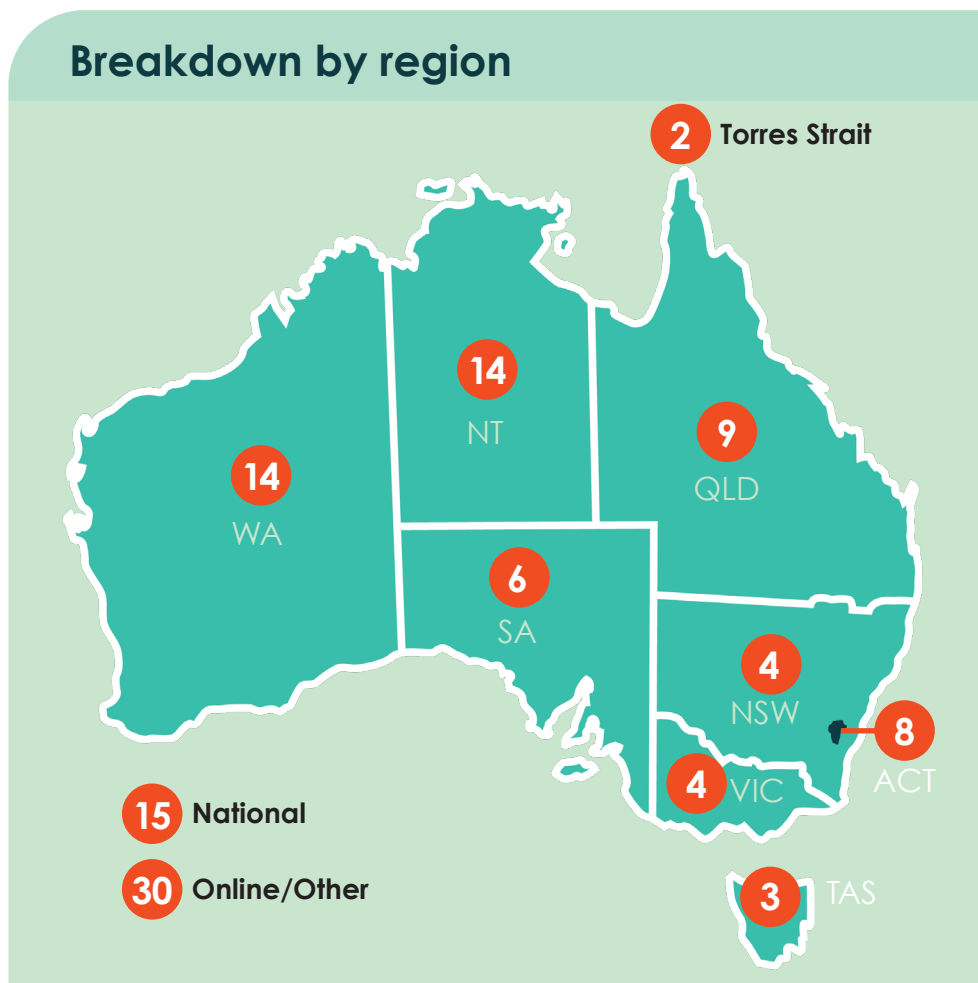
109 FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENTS have been reported and forecast.

This represents **29 BRANCHES** in the department.

Type of engagements



Breakdown by region

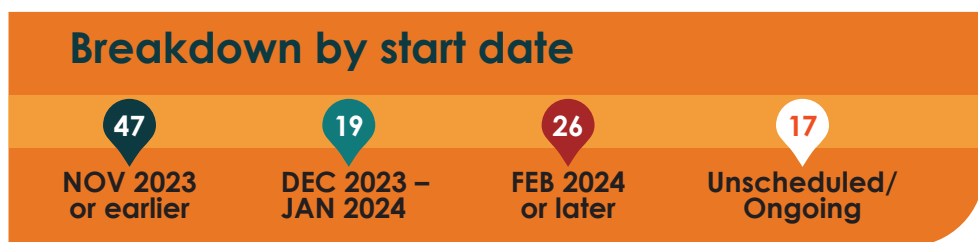


Departmental committee consultation

25%

of engagements involved internal consultation with departmental committees such as the Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC).

Breakdown by start date



Contact Us

If you have any questions or your branch does not have a representative for the engagement register process, please contact the First Nations Branch Cultural Capability and Engagement section:

FirstNationsEngagementSupport@dcceew.gov.au



Case study



Sustainable Ocean Plan taskforce

TIMEFRAME September and November 2023 **SCOPE** Torres Strait • Tasmania • Perth • Broome



Bungandijj and Meintangk Country, Robe SA

Between September and November 2023, the Sustainable Ocean Plan taskforce undertook national consultation to capture the priorities and aspirations of First Nations peoples and organisations with an interest in or connection to sea Country to inform the development of a Sustainable Ocean Plan for Australia. We engaged a First Nations-led consultancy to help us design and deliver an inclusive, strengths-based, and culturally responsive approach to the consultations.

Consultations with First Nations community members and organisations around Australia – from the Torres Strait to Tasmania and across to Perth and Broome included:

- **8 in-person** workshops
- **5 virtual** workshops
- **15 virtual** interviews
- **total of 80 individuals** across all activities.

In-person engagements in Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia were delivered jointly with colleagues from Parks Australia, who are currently undertaking consultation to inform development of a new management plan for the South-east Marine Parks Network. Noting the strong linkages between our respective projects

and similar timeframes, this approach was an effective way to streamline our engagements and minimise consultation fatigue while gaining meaningful input.

With a joint approach, we learned the importance of clearly articulating the purpose of engagement and carefully designing the agenda to ensure each topic was given sufficient time for discussion.

Analysis of the outcomes from the consultations is underway and there will be further opportunities for First Nations engagement on the respective plans in the first half of 2024. Noting the success of this collaborative approach, we aim to continue aligning future consultations where appropriate.



Yawuru Country, Broome WA