Lessons for MRV system from indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge based mitigation experience of forest fire prevention in Australia
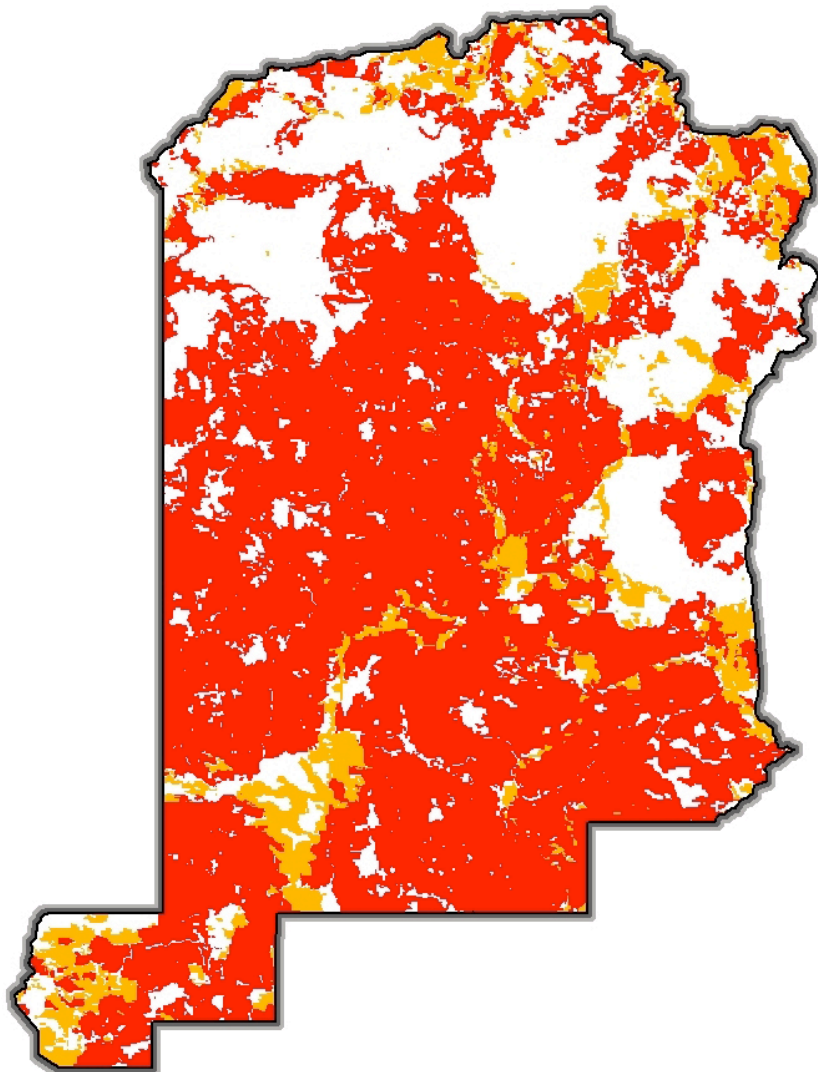
Lessons learnt

- All REDD+ planning documents place great emphasis on full and effective participation of IP in REDD+ Projects

- The scale of the REDD+ experiment, combined with the lack of relevant experience with REDD+ projects, caused considerable problems and delays

- Reviews of REDD+ projects still conclude that despite widespread recognition that local ownership is key for REDD+ success, the scope and intensity of their participation has not always been adequate and often there is lack of clarity about their role in implementation
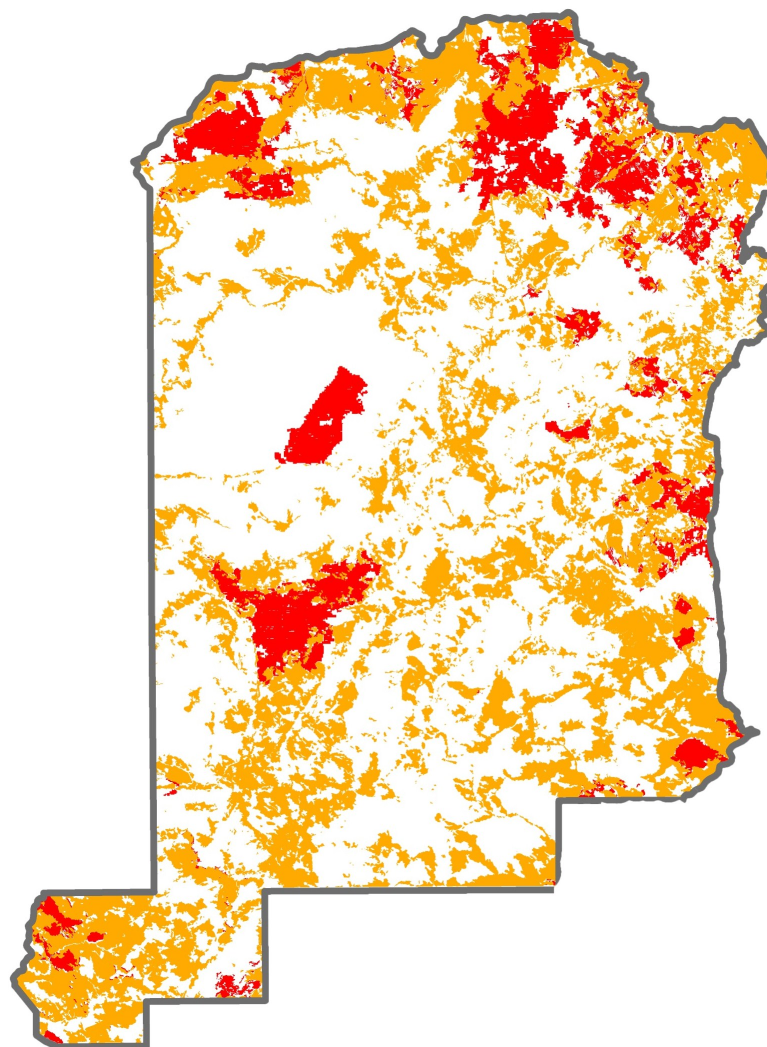
Another market mechanism

- West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Project
- Parties
  - Darwin Liquefied Natural Gas ('DLNG')
  - Northern Territory Government
  - Northern Land Council ('NLC')
  - TOs
- NTG contract the NLC and TOs to implement the fire management strategy
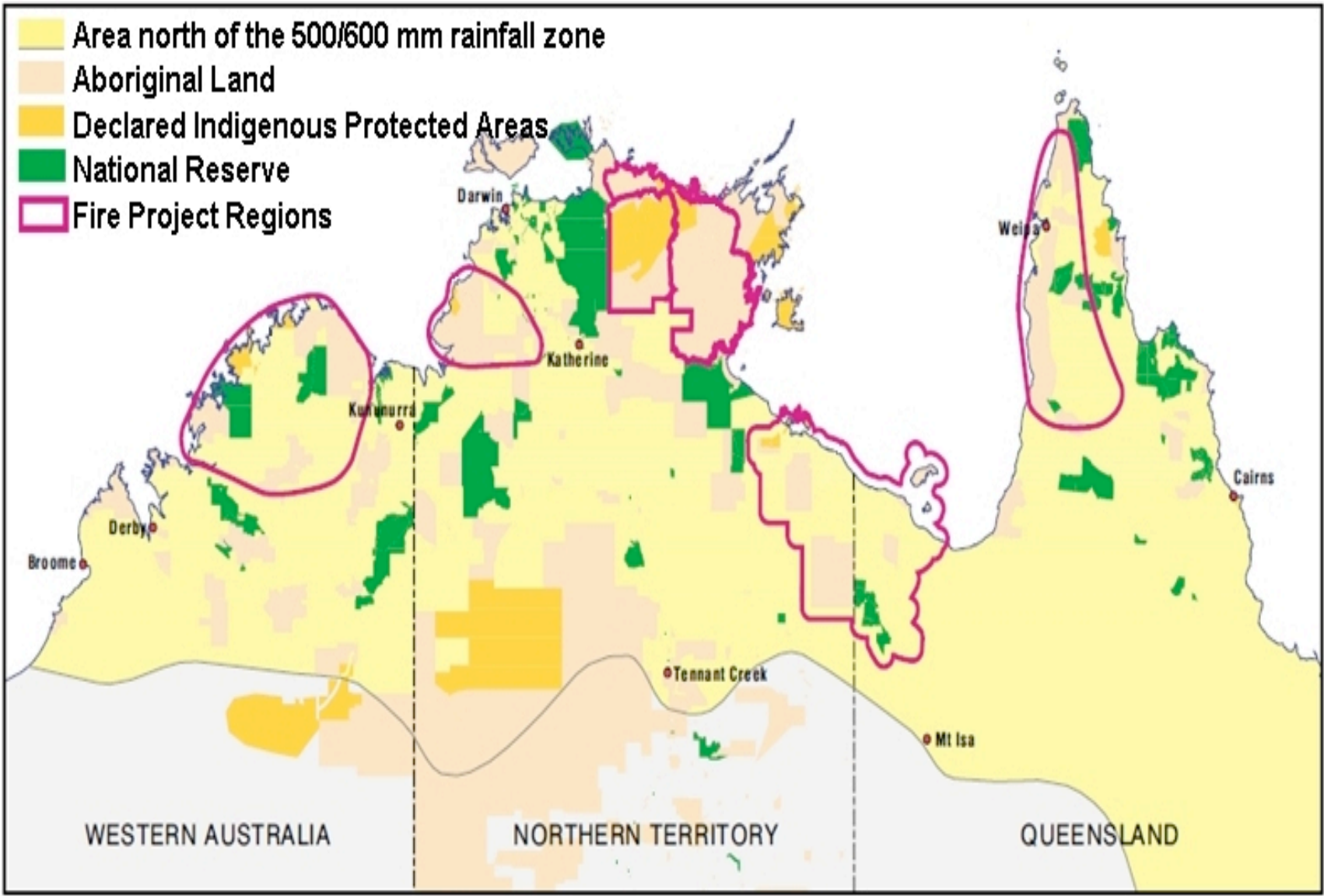- DLNG will provide about $1 million per year for 17 years
- Monitored by scientists

WALFA Project area 2005

WALFA Project area 2009

Legend:
- Area north of the 500/600 mm rainfall zone
- Aboriginal Land
- Declared Indigenous Protected Areas
- National Reserve
- Fire Project Regions

Darwin

Katherine

Kununurra

Derby

Broome

Weipa

Cairns

Tennant Creek

Mt Isa

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NORTHERN TERRITORY

QUEENSLAND

SFM

- Detailed scientific methodology for measuring savanna burning credits recognised in the Australian *Carbon Farming Initiative*
- Further *CFI* methodologies for savanna burning within lower rainfall zones and for carbon storage (bio-sequestration) are currently in development
  - Extension of the savanna burning to lower rainfall regions
  - Develop methodology for bio-sequestration
  - Develop an agro-ecological methodology to combine better fire management and carbon incomes with pastoral production
  - Reduction of methane emissions from management of feral water buffalo
- These methodologies are expected to be broadly relevant to other savanna environments around the world

Opportunities for Indigenous Australians

- Fish River and the WALFA experience has important lessons
  - Linkages between western management methodologies and TK
  - Methodologies developed to the highest scientific standards
  - Social, cultural and governance benefits