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## **Valuing remote wilderness**

**Estimating spatially explicit values for the Kimberley coast**

Marit E Kragt, Alaya Spencer-Cotton & Michael Burton

Contributed presentation at the 60th AARES Annual Conference,  
Canberra, ACT, 2-5 February 2016

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# Valuing remote wilderness

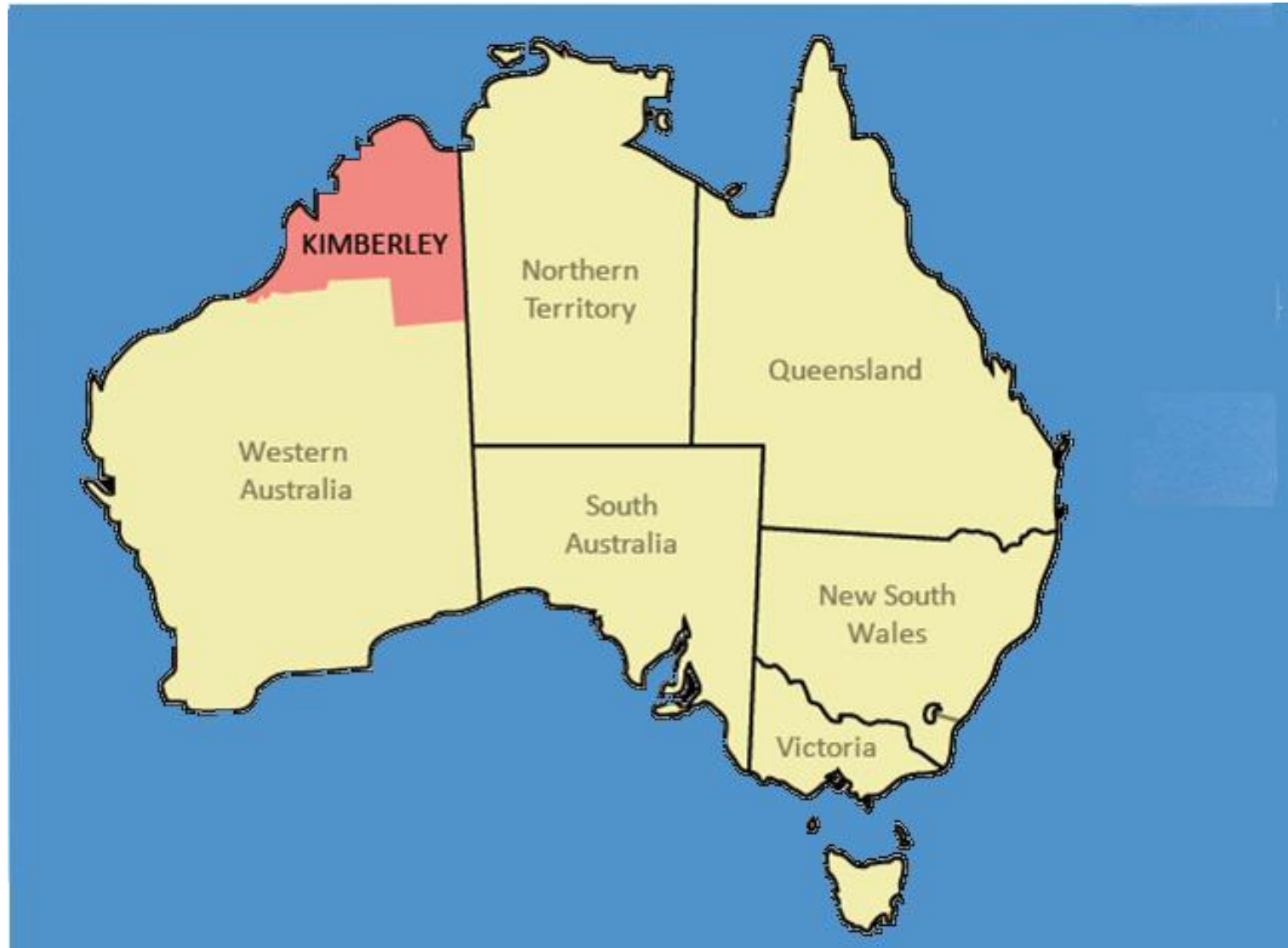
Estimating spatially explicit values for the Kimberley coast

Marit E Kragt, Alaya Spencer-Cotton & Michael Burton  
School of Agricultural & Resource Economics  
University of Western Australia, Perth



western australian  
marine science institution

# The Kimberley



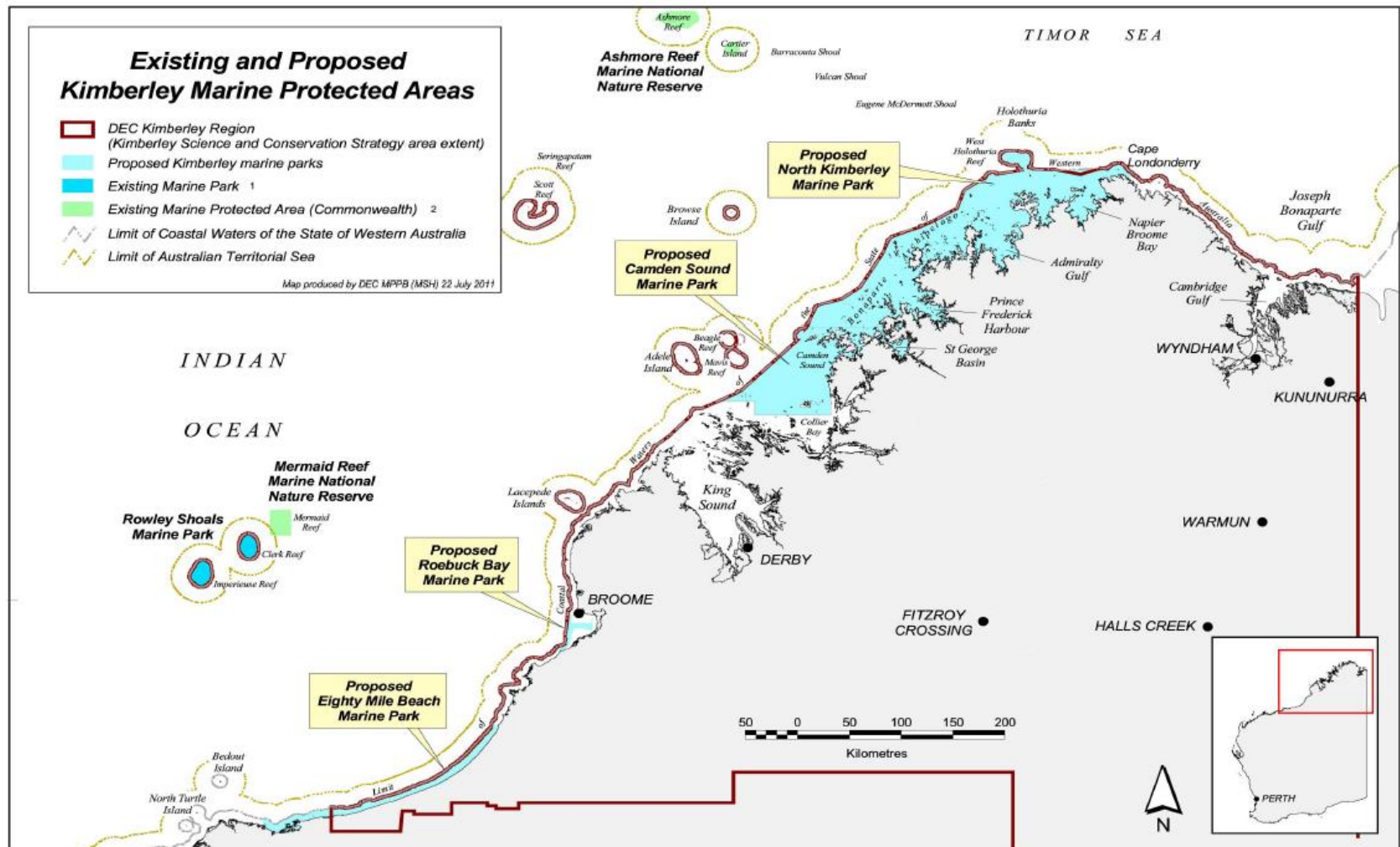
# The Kimberley

- The Kimberley is remote and relatively undeveloped
    - Tourism destination
    - Rich in mineral resources
    - High conservation values
- } Potentially conflicting management options



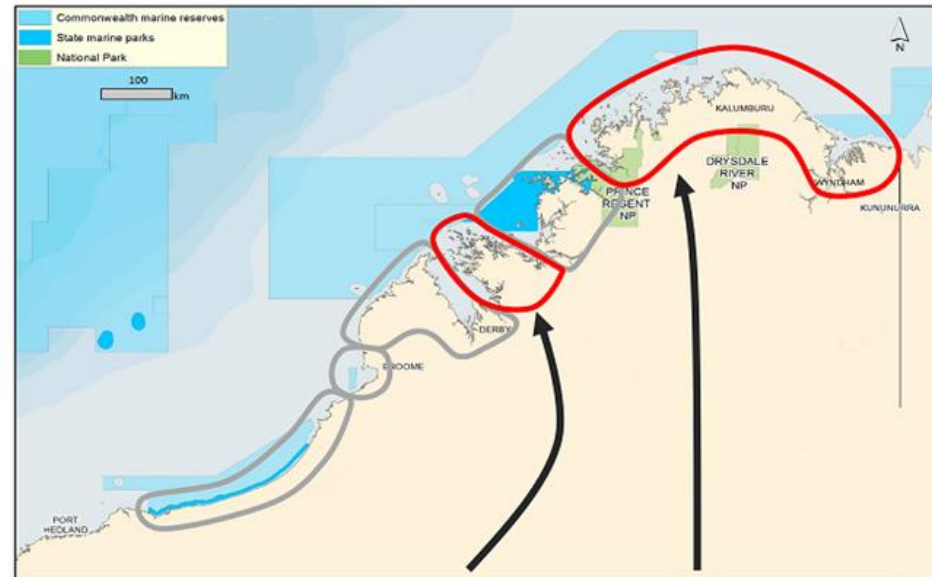
# How to value this massive region?

Can we identify values for spatially explicit management; values for 'sub-regions'?



# Our choice experiment

- Split Kimberley region into 6 zones
- Four attributes, spatially defined:
  1. State waters in sanctuary (%)
  2. Recreational facilities (low, medium, high)
  3. Aboriginal rangers (number)
  4. Increased coastal development (yes/no)
- Availability design shows 2 regions in each choice set
- Sampling Kimberley population



| Zone   | Buccaneer Archipelago | North Kimberley | None  |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|---|
| Annual cost to you                                   | \$200                 | \$150           | \$0   |
| Sanctuary area<br>(% State waters already sanctuary) | 15%<br>(0%)           | 30%<br>(0%)     | <i>No new<br/>management<br/>on the<br/>Kimberley<br/>coast</i> |
| Recreational facilities<br>(existing level)          | LOW<br>(LOW)          | HIGH<br>(LOW)   |   |
| Aboriginal rangers<br>(existing number)              | 10<br>(0)             | 10<br>(10)      |   |
| Increase coastal development                         | YES                   | YES             |   |
|  | <b>OPTION A</b>       | <b>OPTION B</b> |   |



# Mixed Logit model results\_1

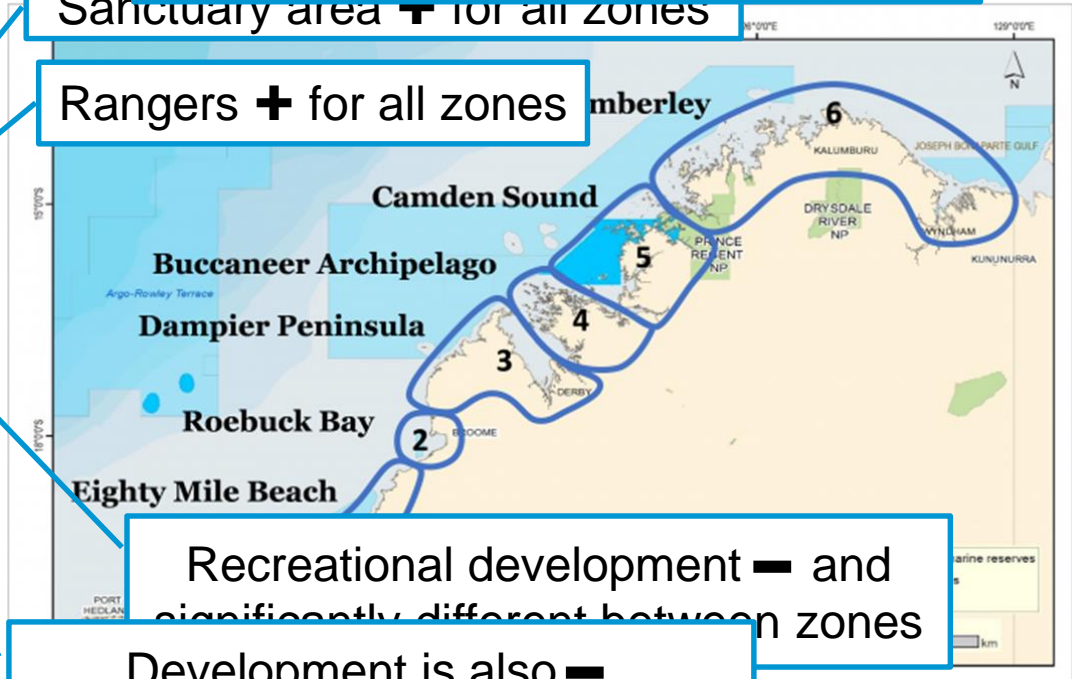
|                               | Coefficient |     |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Costs                         | - .006      | *** |
| Zone 1 constant               | - .028      |     |
| Zone 2 constant               | <i>base</i> |     |
| Zones 3&4 constant            | .683        | *** |
| Zones 5&6 constant            | .864        | *** |
| Sanctuary area (%)            | .029        | *** |
| Rangers (#)                   | .013        | *** |
| Rec_med                       | - .271      | **  |
| Rec_high_12                   | - .075      |     |
| Rec_high_3456                 | - .694      | *** |
| Dev_12                        | - .268      | **  |
| Dev_3456                      | - .722      | *** |
| SQ (mean)                     | - 1.431     | *** |
| (st.dev.)                     | 2.288       | *** |
| n = 286 (Kimberley residents) |             |     |

Alternative specific constants for each zone – what zone attributes are significant?

Zonal ASCs **+** for northern zones, significantly different from zones 1&2

Sanctuary area **+** for all zones

Rangers **+** for all zones



Recreational development **-** and significantly different between zones

Development is also **-**, particularly in northern regions



# Mixed Logit model results\_2

Now a model with only zone-specific attributes – which ones are significant?

|             | Coefficient |     |
|-------------|-------------|-----|
| Costs       | - .006      | *** |
| Sanct_1     | .021        | *** |
| Sanct_2     | .022        | *** |
| Sanct_3     | .038        | *** |
| Sanct_4     | .037        | *** |
| Sanct_5     | .025        | *** |
| Sanct_6     | .031        | *** |
| Rangers     | .013        | *** |
| Rec_med     | - .175      |     |
| Rec_high_12 | - .350      | *** |
| Rec_high_34 | - .636      | *** |
| Rec_high_56 | - .307      | **  |
| Dev_12      | - .494      | *** |
| Dev_34      | - .813      | *** |
| Dev_5       | - .155      |     |
| Dev_6       | - .610      | *** |
| SQ (mean)   | - 1.861     | *** |
| (st.dev.)   | 2.268       | *** |

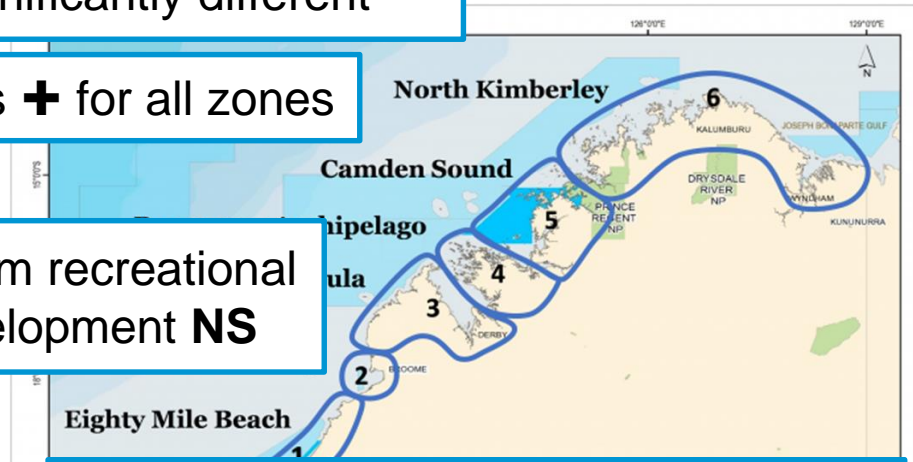
Sanctuary zones **+** and significantly different

Rangers **+** for all zones

Medium recreational development **NS**

High rec. dev. **+** and significantly different (largest for zones 3&4)

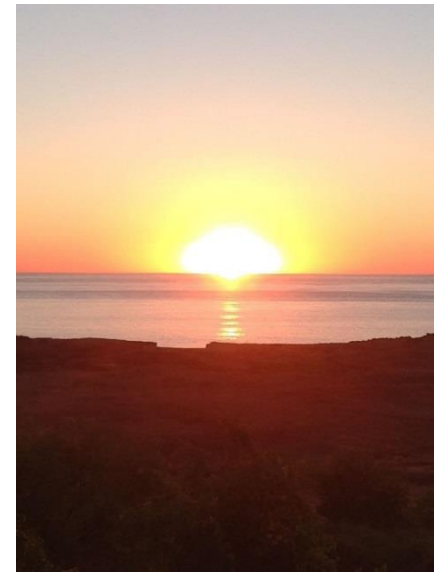
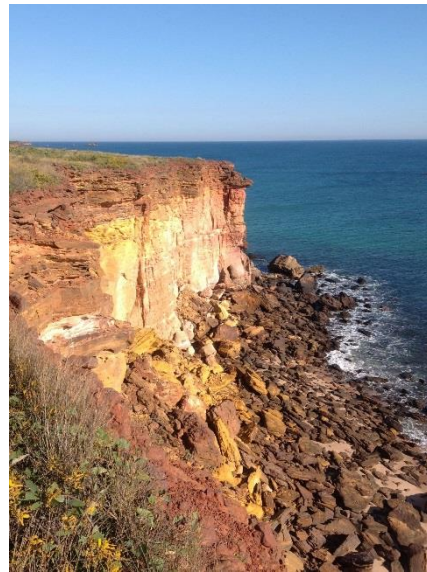
Development **-** in nearly all zones (also largest for zones 3&4)



(Kimberley residents)

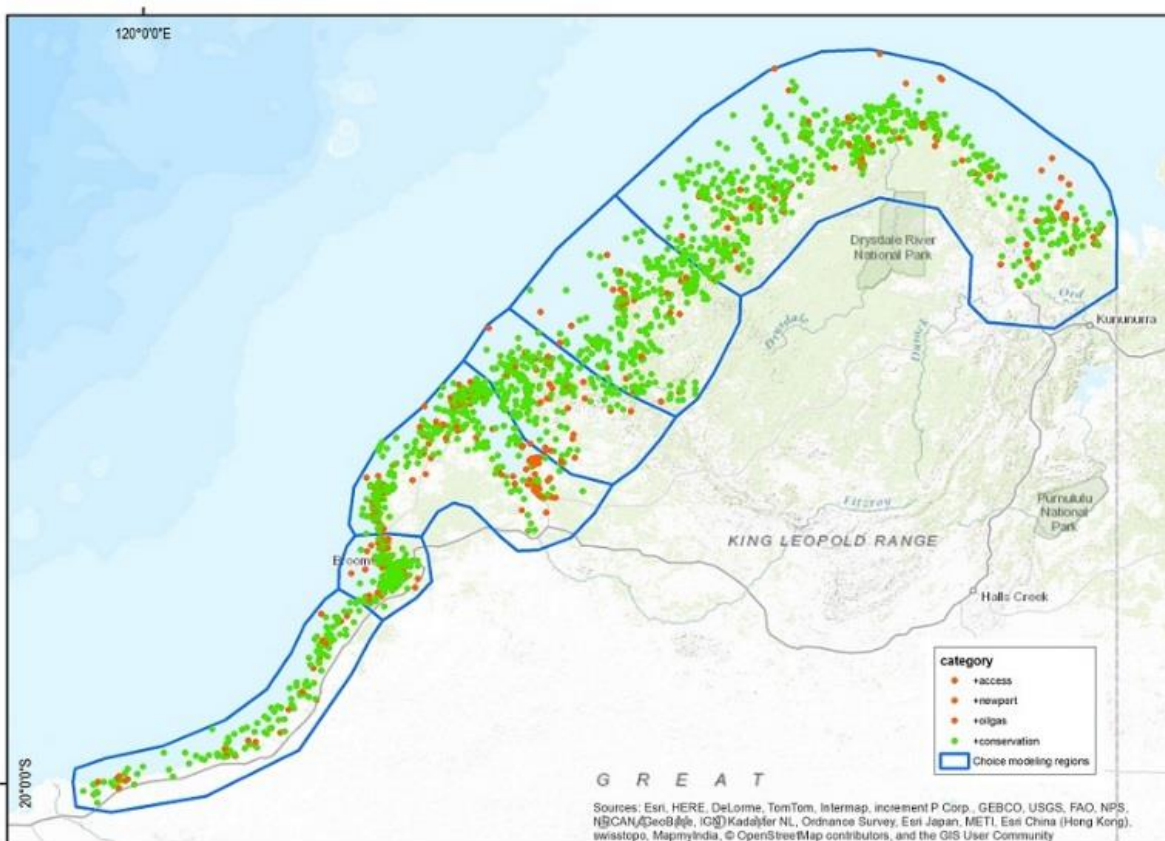
# Discussion

- All zones are valued, but different WTP per zones for sanctuary area, recreation and development
  - Zones 1 & 2 (*Eighty Mile Beach & Roebuck Bay*) → Well-known, already developed
  - Zones 3 & 4 (*Dampier & Buccaneer*) → Highly anti-development, because well-known as 'untouched' wilderness?
  - Zones 5 & 6 (*Camden Sound & North Kimberley*) → Very remote and not as well known?
- How should we interpret a model with zonal ASCs, given that we had pro-development and pro-conservation attributes?



# Further work

- How do zones' characteristics affect values?
- How do respondents' characteristics (eg. location) affect values?
- How does the PPGIS affect values?



## THANK YOU

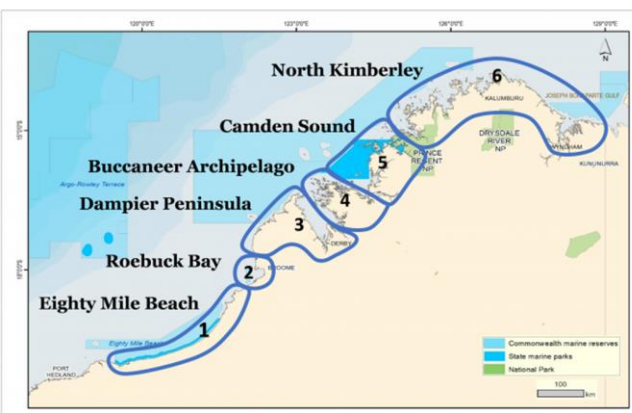
Dr Marit E Kragt  
Senior Lecturer  
School of Agricultural &  
Resource Economics  
[marit.kragt@uwa.edu.au](mailto:marit.kragt@uwa.edu.au)

 @maritkragt

# WTP for different zones based on ML2

|             | Mean WTP |     |
|-------------|----------|-----|
| Sanct_1 (%) | 3.60     | *** |
| Sanct_2 (%) | 3.70     | *** |
| Sanct_3 (%) | 6.52     | *** |
| Sanct_4 (%) | 6.32     | *** |
| Sanct_5 (%) | 4.22     | *** |
| Sanct_6 (%) | 5.37     | *** |
| Rangers (#) | 2.27     | *** |

|                | Mean WTP |     |
|----------------|----------|-----|
| Recr (medium)  | -30.0    | NS  |
| Recr_12 (high) | -59.9    | *** |
| Recr_34 (high) | -109     | *** |
| Recr_56 (high) | -52.5    | **  |
| Dev_12 (0/1)   | -84.6    | *** |
| Dev_34 (0/1)   | -140     | *** |
| Dev_5 (0/1)    | -26.5    | NS  |
| Dev_6 (0/1)    | -104     | *** |



Map source: Geoscience Australia 2014, Department of Parks and Wildlife 2014







