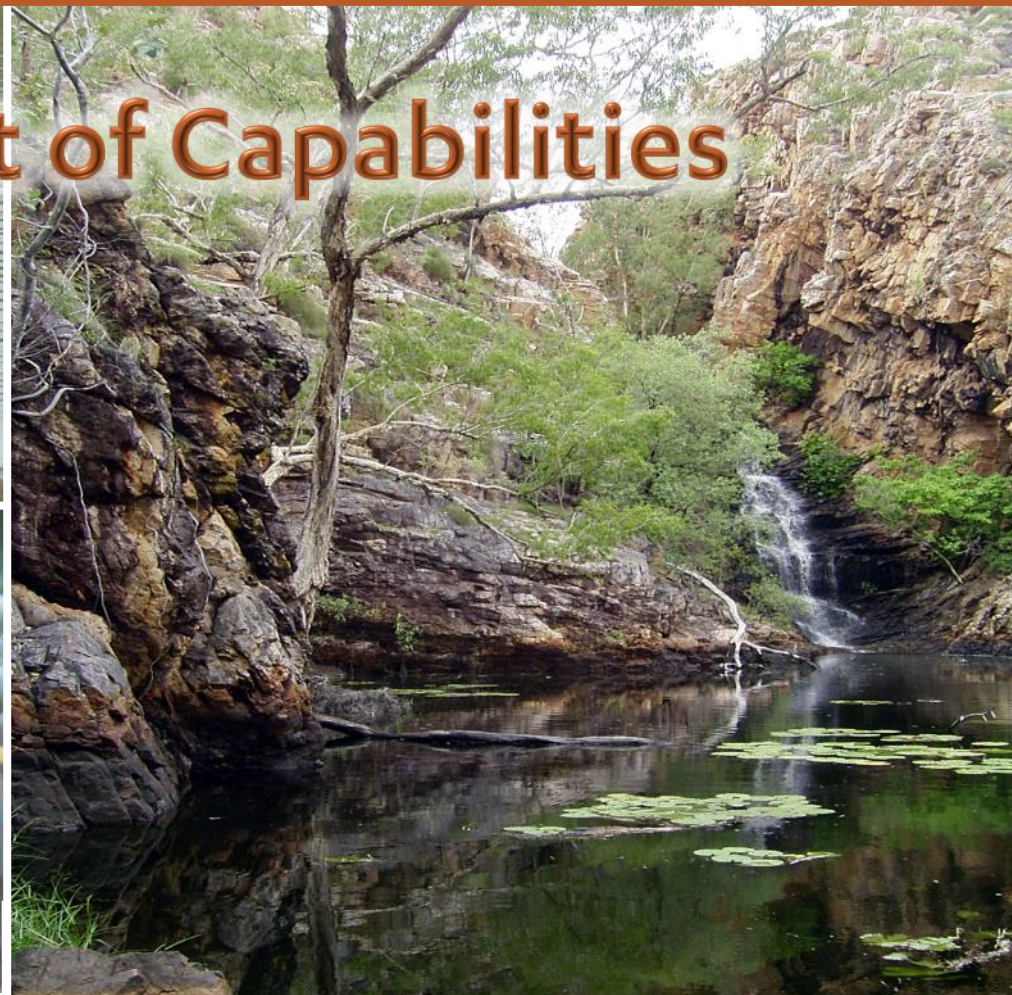


Statement of Capabilities





High Performance Environmental Consulting

Connect Environmental is a Darwin-based environmental approvals, management and biodiversity consultancy, led by Mihkel Proos. Mihkel is an Environmental Approvals Specialist and Principal Consultant with over 16 years' professional experience.

Connect Environmental was established to provide the Northern Territory with a professional environmental consultancy that offered value for money, a personalised approach to its clients and projects, and a detailed understanding of relevant environmental legislation.

Our philosophy revolves around **High Performance**, which means that we strive to be:

- ☑ Highly energetic
- ☑ Productive
- ☑ Clear
- ☑ Transparent

In addition, we have a comprehensive network of government, academic, industry and environmental contacts both in the Northern Territory and across Australia. This complements our High Performance focus.



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Ecology

Mihkel has an extensive portfolio of ecological experience across northern WA, NT and Queensland. Our ecological services include:

- Flora and Fauna surveys
- Habitat assessments
- Interpretation of ecological data and reporting
- Ecological risk assessments
- Threatened species surveys, monitoring and management
- Weed surveys and management plans
- Rehabilitation assessments, monitoring and management plans
- Offset assessments, planning and management.

We understand survey guidelines established by government and consult with relevant agencies to establish clear objectives and methods.

A wide-angle photograph of a natural landscape featuring a mix of green grass, scattered trees, and distant hills under a clear sky.

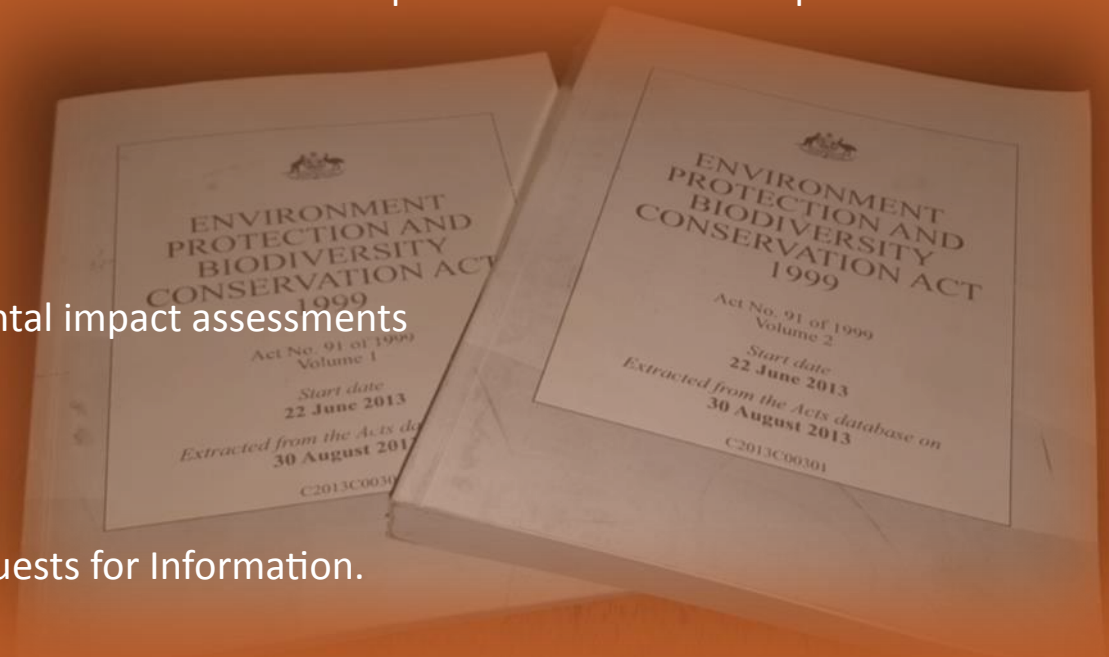
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Environmental Approvals

Mihkel has an in depth working knowledge of the NT's *Environment Assessment Act* and the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act) having worked with the (then) Australian Government Department of the Environment in the Environment Assessment and Compliance Division. Our capabilities include:

- Approvals pathway planning
- Environmental risk assessments
- Gap analyses
- Stakeholder and regulatory agency consultation
- Development and/or coordination of environmental impact assessments
- Notices of Intent
- Referrals under the EPBC Act
- Offset assessments, planning and management
- Aboriginal Area Protection Authority (AAPA) Requests for Information.



Our reports are objective, easy to understand, incorporate relevant risk or impact assessment outcomes, ensure clear accountability and meet relevant government legislation.

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Environmental Management

Our staff have extensive experience in environmental management across numerous sectors. Our capabilities include:

- Development and updates of Mining Management Plans
- Development of Operational / Annual Performance Reports
- Construction Environment Management Plans
- Environmental Risk Assessments
- Biodiversity assessments, data interpretation and reporting
- Threatened species surveys, monitoring and management
- Weed surveys and management plans
- Rehabilitation assessments, monitoring and management plans
- Closure costings and planning
- Offset area management
- Fire Management Plans.

Where required, we use local, skilled sub-consultants that we have pre-established relationships with.

A wide-angle photograph of a natural landscape featuring rolling hills covered in dense green vegetation and scattered trees. The sky is clear and blue. The text "ecology » approvals » management" is overlaid at the bottom of the image in a bold, orange, sans-serif font, with green double chevrons separating the words.

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Health and Safety

At Connect Environmental, we ensure our staff and contractors maintain high levels of health and safety awareness.

This is undertaken through a three stage process:

1. *Health and Safety Management Plan (HSMP)* - A detailed assessment of each project's potential hazards and risks, and their appropriate management and reporting actions, prior to commencement. It involves all relevant staff.
2. *Daily Job Analysis (DJA)* - A daily review of key risks and tasks to ensure that all risks and management actions are adequately identified and are implemented.
3. *HSMP Final Project Clearance* - A final review and de-brief of the HSMP, based on the DJA's, to confirm that all risks were identified actions were appropriate and implementable.

Mihkel is serious about health and safety. He first developed and implemented comprehensive Job Safety Analyses and Safe Work Method Statements for fire and field crews in Victoria in the early 2000's. Since then, having undertaken many remote projects around Australia, he has refined and incorporated his knowledge in job safety to all elements of his work. He was also a Health and Safety Representative with the Australian Government.



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Mihkel Proos

Mihkel is the founder and Principal Consultant at Connect Environmental. He is a courageous and high energy person that promotes morality, well-being and maintenance of one's passions. His general motto is to live well and by your principles.

Professionally, he has a keen interest in terrestrial ecology and, combined with his extensive experience in environmental approvals and management, has developed a well rounded perspective on environmental problem solving. His 16 years' experience in the environmental field has encompassed environmental approvals, management, terrestrial ecology, impact assessment, strategic assessments, protected area management and threatened species policy.

He has worked across Australia, including eight years in the NT. He has undertaken over 30 on ground ecological assessments across northern Australia. He has an in-depth working knowledge of referrals, assessments, approvals and strategic assessments under the Australian Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Mihkel is a member of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ - NT Division), the NT Field Naturalists, the Darwin Mining Club and the Energy Club NT.

For a detailed profile, please visit www.connectenvironmental.com.au/our-staff.



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