

ACDS T&L Conference Integration of Indigenous science

AGEN 3008 Indigenous Land and Food Knowledge

Presented by

Dr Peter Ampt

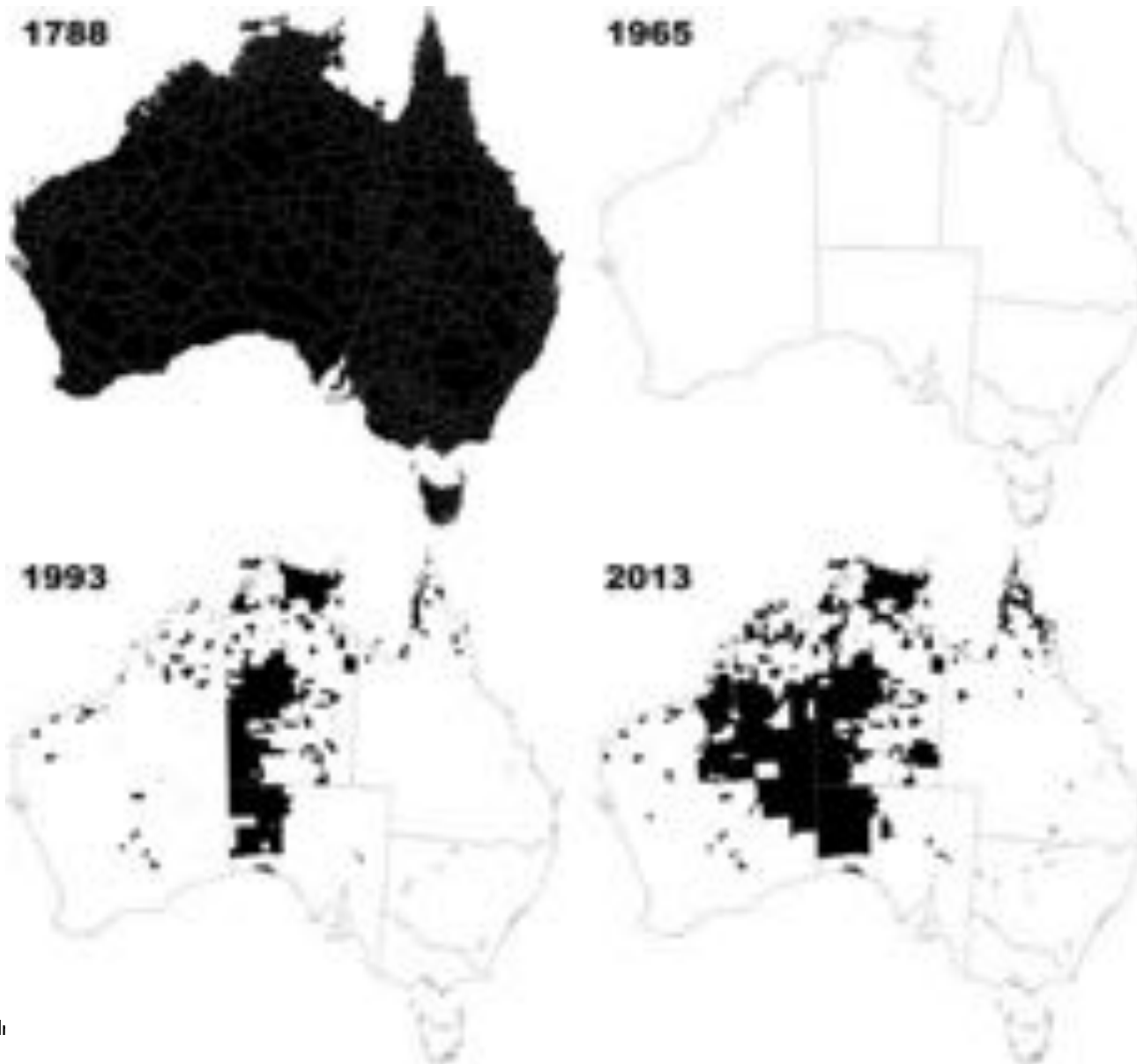
School of Life and Environmental Sciences

Centre for Carbon Water and Food

(Faculty of Agriculture and Environment)



Terra nullius and the Indigenous Estate

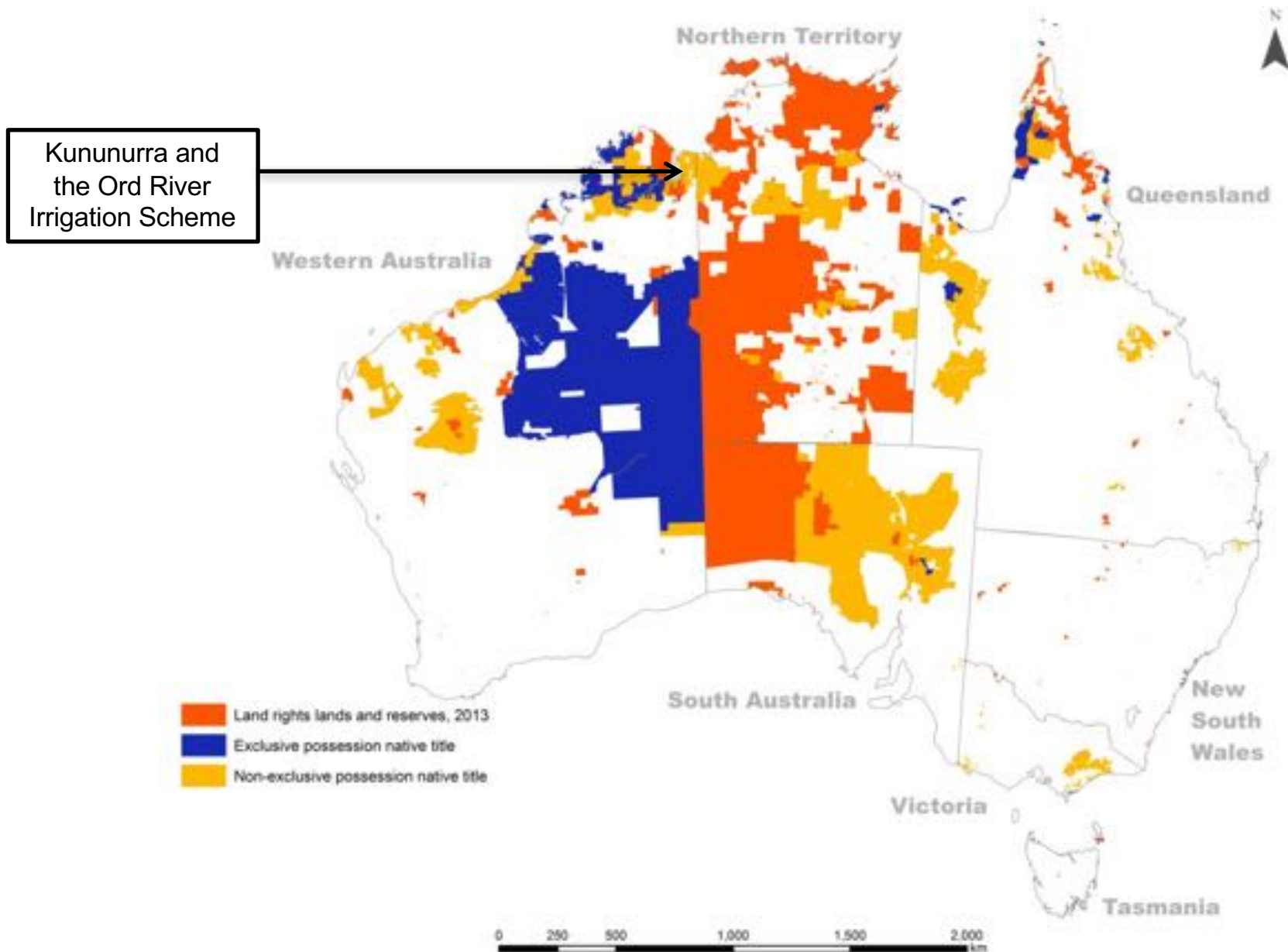


The Indigenous Estate and the National Reserve System



- 1. Australia**
7,680,000 km²
- 2. Indigenous-held land**
(Land rights lands & exclusive possession native title)
1,696,000 km²
22.1% of the Australian landmass
- 3. The National Reserve System**
1,188,000 km²
15.5% of the Australian landmass
- 4. Indigenous Protected Areas**
476,000 km²
6.2% of the Australian landmass
40.1% of the National Reserve System
- 5. Jointly managed areas
(Indigenous owned)**
71,000 km²
0.9% of the Australian landmass
6.0% of the National Reserve System
- 6. Cooperatively managed areas**
99,000 km²
1.3% of the Australian landmass
8.3% of the National Reserve System

The Indigenous Estate





'Working Knowledge' concept (Barber et al 2014)



BARBER, M., JACKSON, S., SHELLBERG, J. & SINNAMON, V. 2014. Working Knowledge: characterising collective indigenous, scientific, and local knowledge about the ecology, hydrology and geomorphology of Oriners Station, Cape York Peninsula, Australia *The Rangeland Journal*, 36, 53-66.

Insights about integrating Indigenous science

Learning in context

- Engaging the senses
- At multiple levels depending on understanding and capacity:
 - answering a child
 - relationships between people
 - relationships between community and environment
 - spiritual and psychic
- Multiple layered methods (diagram, song, dance, story, debate)

Knowledge stability through at least 10,000 years

- Stories repeated in context with multiple generations
- Subject to vigorous scrutiny and debate (parallels with peer review)
- Communities around coastal Australia show remarkably consistent knowledge of rising sea levels 8-10kya