



Indicative Timing

Project Phase

# Aboriginal Heritage Act (AHA) S18 Consent process step

Applicant/ Proponent

Department of Indigenous Affairs

Key Documents

Document Templates/ Guidelines

Supporting Technology

Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee (ACMC)

Minister for Indigenous Affairs

Duration of this phase will be dependent on size/complexity of project, availability of Aboriginal consultation groups, seasonal factors, complexity of Aboriginal sites on ground etc.

Pre-consultation & preparation

Lodgement

Assessment

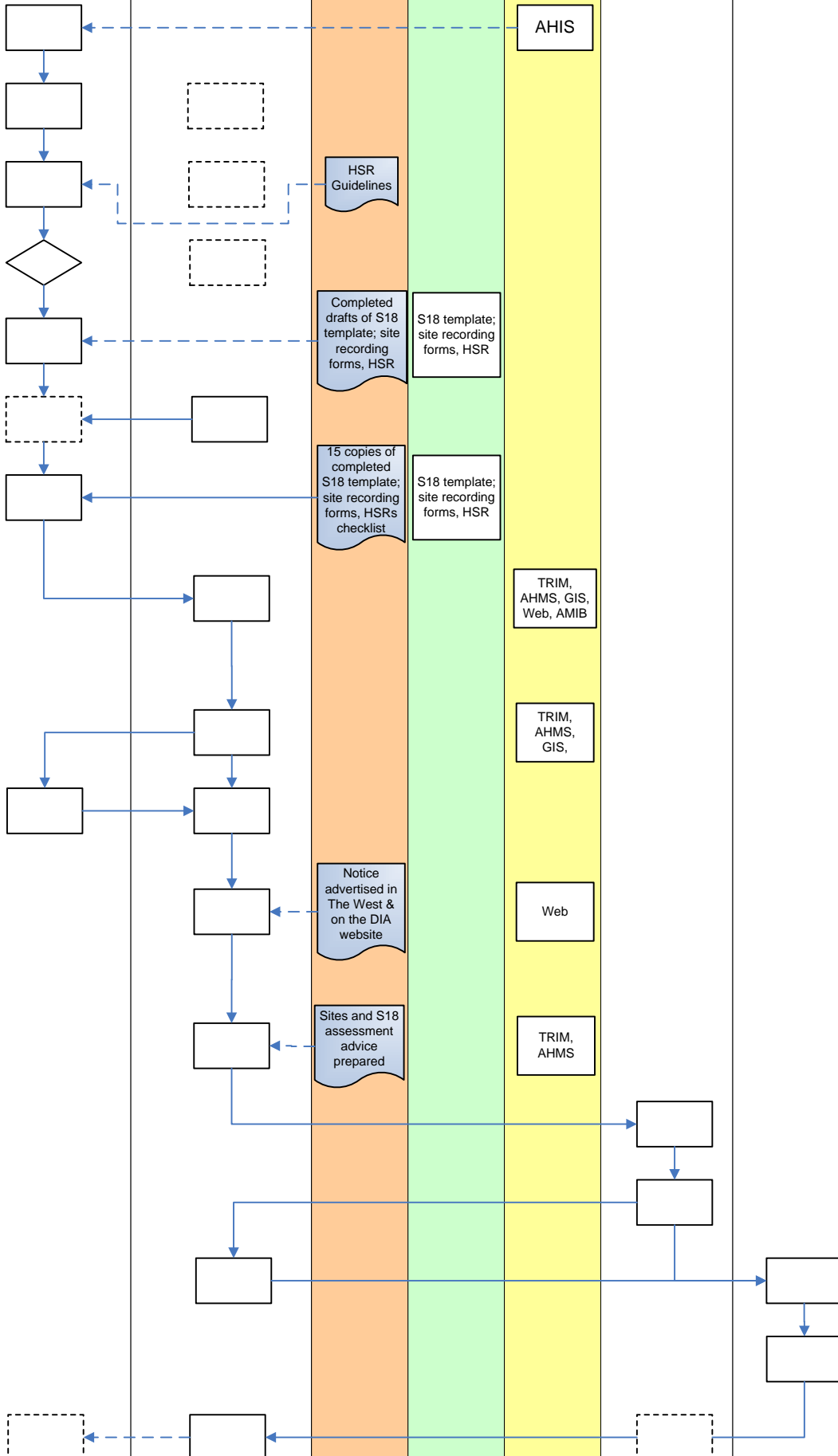
Acceptance

Recommendation

Decision

Monitoring

1. Initial research into Aboriginal heritage for area of development by the proponent
2. Seek advice with assistance from DIA
3. Based on advice do further research if necessary
4. Proponent makes decision on whether or not a Section 18 required based on advice and their own risk assessment
5. Proponent lodges a draft Section 18 notice – which needs to disclose other outstanding approvals required eg EPA process
6. DIA provides advice to proponent on draft Section 18 notice and any outstanding matters to be completed prior to lodgement
7. Final revised Section 18 lodged by proponent including a completed checklist of requirements provided. Due dates for annual meeting schedule on the DIA website
8. DIA receives and registers Section 18 notice against proponent completed checklist. Notice will not proceed to assessment without all components provided by the proponent. Expect processing delays for incomplete Section 18 notices
9. Assessment by DIA officers of any new sites and the impact of the proposal on any Aboriginal heritage sites
10. Stop Clock / further information requests from DIA officer in order to complete the above assessment
11. Acceptance as ACMC Agenda item when assessment of Section 18 notice is complete. Expect delays if notice not complete and there is insufficient information for ACMC to make decisions
12. DIA officer advice prepared for ACMC consideration
13. ACMC consideration
14. ACMC recommendation to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
15. Minister decides (if no EPA impediment) / DIA informs re deferment
16. Minister advises proponent of his/her decision
17. Project monitored for compliance including reporting



± 3 months

± 4 weeks

± 2 -6weeks

± 4 weeks