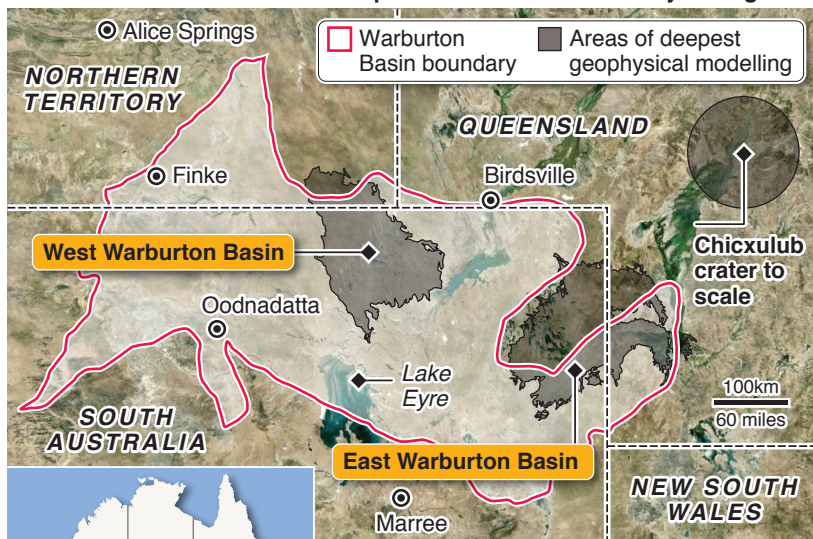


# Largest asteroid impact found in Australia

Scientists in Australia say they have uncovered evidence of the largest asteroid impact ever found on Earth. The 400km-wide zone is thought to be the result of a double impact more than 300 million years ago



## WARBURTON BASIN IMPACT

**Discovery:** Geothermal research 2km below Earth's surface found traces of rock turned to glass, consistent with massive impact

**Geophysical modelling:** Shows evidence of two underground craters, each 200km wide, indicating asteroid split in two before collision

**Depth:** Impact fractured Earth's crust to depth of 20km

**Size:** More than four times larger than **Chicxulub** asteroid strike in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, thought by many scientists to have wiped out dinosaurs 65 million years ago

**Age:** Rocks around impact zone at least 300 million years old, but absence of sedimentary ash layer could mean impact is much older

## Artist's impression of asteroid hitting Earth

