



Dambimangari Healthy Country Program, October 2017 Members Update

The DAC Healthy Country Program has supported another year of successful land management activities and culturally directed projects. Work carried by the Dambimangari Rangers, Traditional Owners and project partners through 2017 has delivered conservation outcomes that have made national headlines. The program's success has also recently been acknowledged by a government commitment to support a further 5 years of funding for Healthy Country Programs across existing IPAs.

Project highlights for 2017 include:

- A successful carbon and fire abatement program including the sale of carbon credit units
- Purchasing and planning for the arrival of DAC vessel 'Manambadda' and tender 'Abeeya'
- Achieving great outcomes in the jointly managed marine park at the operational and joint management board level
- Development of a positive relationship with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy in the YSTA
- Introduction of new health and safety standards policy including support with health and fitness programs for rangers
- Secured federal grant funding for threatened species recovery project
- Successful implementation of a huge on ground works program including, fire, weed, feral, animal, biodiversity survey and cultural site management activities
- Investment in equipment including R3 incendiary machine, Phantom 4 Drone, digital camera gear and communications infrastructure
- Increased investment in cultural heritage focussed projects
- Further development with cultural mapping and data base programs

It's been five years since the development of the Dambimangari Healthy Country Plan. This means that it's time to look at all the work we have been doing and have a think about how we focus our efforts for the next few years. The 2018 review of the Healthy Country Plan will consider placing a focus on some specific species and places that are important to Dambimangari people. We will also be looking at including scientific monitoring programs that track the success of our land management activities and healthy country outcomes. These monitoring systems will help us measure the success of our program over time and let us know how we can change what we are doing to do a better job.

With wide range of exciting projects in the pipeline, 2018 will be a year that offers many opportunities for Traditional Owners to access country and get involved in the program. If any

members have questions or would like to know more about our program or activities please contact our Healthy Country or Ranger Coordinator through the Dambimangari office.

Working with Project Partners

More than ever Dambimangari is realising the positive outcomes that can be achieved through partnerships and co-managed projects. Dambimangari would like to thank the following organisations and departments for their continued involvement and support with our Healthy Country Program:

- Mowanjum Art Centre, Derby District School, Holy Rosary Primary School
- Australian Wildlife Conservancy
- World Wildlife Fund
- Kimberley Land Council
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Fisheries
- West Australian Institute Marine Science
- Murdoch University
- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources



DAC Ranger, Frank Martin with biosecurity officer Tim Kerlin (Dept) and students from Derby District High School discussing Marine Pests.



DAC rangers discussing fire plan with KLC rangers at Jalmadangah



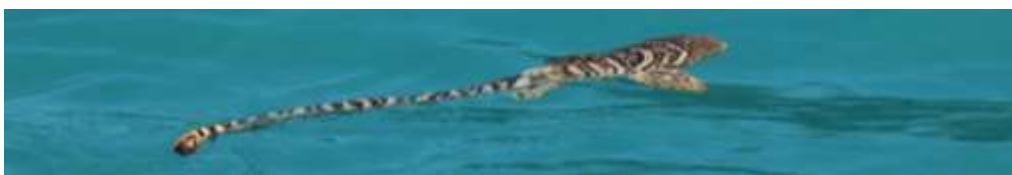
DAC Rangers Pete O'Connor, Brent Martin, Amon Junggine and Dale Furley with AWC scientist Melissa Bruton carrying out cat and dingo surveys around Kimbolten.



DAC Rangers Amon Junggine Keiran Bangmorra and Pete O'Connor with WWF Australia's Alexander Watson during Nabarlek surveys.



Rangers Gary Umbagai, Adrian Blane and Daniel Barrow collecting marine debris.



A leopard Shark in the Wotjalum Reserve



Wotjalum Reserve.