

# Ningaloo Coast News

## Special edition 2014

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Above and below: flood damage to roads.



### Park infrastructure

The Milyering Discovery Centre, ranger's residence and works compound were also damaged by flooding. The discovery centre gift shop, interpretive displays, library, toilet facilities and ranger's office were all inundated with water, resulting in extensive damage.



Milyering Discovery Centre before and after



### Cape Range National Park flooding

The North West Cape experienced widespread heavy rainfall from ex-tropical cyclone Jack on 26 and 27 April 2014. Localised rainfall exceeded 250ml and brought flash flooding to Exmouth and the surrounding areas. Cape Range National Park experienced significant damage to roads, campgrounds, recreational sites, park infrastructure and the Milyering Discovery Centre. The flooding altered the landscape and some camp sites have been closed permanently.

### Damage to the park

Floodwaters caused extensive damage to the Milyering Discovery Centre precinct and Ned's Camp, North T-Bone, Lakeside, Trealla, Varanus, Mandu Mandu Gorge, Pilgramunna and Shot Hole Canyon.

Ned's Camp, Lakeside and Pilgramunna are the worst affected with severe erosion. The level of damage and risk of future flooding, means these sites are deemed too high of a risk to overnight campers and have been closed permanently.

Several other smaller sites, including North Mandu and T-Bone, also remain closed indefinitely. More than 40 camp sites will not be reopened due to damage from floodwaters.

Parks and Wildlife staff are now working with landscape architects and other experts to determine suitable locations for new camp sites and it is anticipated that Lakeside, Ned's Camp and Pilgramunna will be redeveloped as key day-use areas.

Many other day-use sites and access roads have also been affected and extensive repair work or redesign is needed before they can be reopened.

## Visiting the park

As of 1 June 2014, the Milyering Discovery Centre, Mangrove Bay, Turquoise Bay, Oyster Stacks, South Mandu, Bloodwood Creek, Pilgramunna (no camping), Sandy Bay and Yardie Creek day-use sites are open to the public.

Tulki, Kurrajong, Osprey Bay and Yardie Creek campgrounds are open and can be booked online at [parkstay.dpaw.wa.gov.au/camp-finder](http://parkstay.dpaw.wa.gov.au/camp-finder). Parks and Wildlife has created nine new campsites at North Kurrajong in the commercial group camping area.

The following camp sites are open and spots are allocated at the entry station: Mesa, Bungarra, One-K (4WD only) and Boat Harbour (4WD only). Crossing Yardie Creek is not recommended, so access to the 4WD sites is from the south only.

**For any enquiries, please contact Department of Parks and Wildlife Exmouth office on 9947 8000**



Ned's camp after the flood.



Lakeside after the flood.

## Future works

Plans for additional camp sites at Osprey Bay remain in place and are scheduled for later in 2014. These plans include more than 40 new campsites, new toilet facilities and an upgrade to the day-use area.

Parks and Wildlife landscape architects visited the park immediately after the floods and are also developing plans to redesign Mesa camp to boost the total capacity of camp sites in Cape Range.



Tulki Beach.



Cape Range National Park research accommodation.

To receive a copy of this newsletter electronically please email [exmouth@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:exmouth@dpaw.wa.gov.au).

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