

## Welcome to *Ningaloo Coast News*

Winter 2020

### In this issue:

- Sharing knowledge: Nyinggulu Joint Management Body logo
- Talking corals
- Sharing the shore with beach-nesting birds
- July school holiday eco-education along the Ningaloo Coast
- Volunteer campground host appreciation
- World Heritage Anniversary!
- Help prevent the spread of invasive weeds along the Ningaloo Coast

### Sharing knowledge: Nyinggulu Joint Management Body logo

The Ningaloo Coast is known to the first Australians as Nyinggulu. Baiyungu, Thalanyji and Yinikurtura people are the traditional owners of this area. These three languages belong to the Ganyara family of languages in the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions. Nyinggulu Ganyarajarri are the people who belong to the Nyinggulu Coast and Baiyungu is the main language spoken today.

Nyinggulu jurirri (long pointy nose emperor), majun (green turtle) and gajalbu (emu) featured in the Joint Management Body logo represent the three important animals to Nyinggulu.

The gajalbu (emu) is one of Baiyungu people's totems, he is sacred and belongs to the sky, star constellation Jirndinhungu - the gajalbu in the night sky. Baiyungu people believe that Warnangura (Cape Range/Exmouth) is the place where the malanmayi gajalbu manggarn (emu spirit dreaming place) is situated.

The majun (green turtle) and the nyinggulu jurirri (long pointy nose emperor) are the main food source for Baiyungu people.

The Nyinggulu Joint Management Body logo was designed by the Traditional Owners Rachael Cooyou and Hazel Walgar together with Natalie Curtis and Tom Nagle from the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions.



**NYINGGULU  
JOINT MANAGEMENT**

#### Learning Baiyungu Language

Baiyungu spelling and pronunciation  
In between English k & g  
Linguistic spelling is with the k – Kajalbu Emu  
Our language spelling is with the g – Gajalbu Emu  
We don't use oo in our language We use u as in put

**Pronunciation: Ga/jal/bu**

## Talking corals

Dr Peter Barnes, Ningaloo Marine Park Coordinator, and Joel Johnsson, Chief Resilience Officer, recently sat down with Anthony James from the RegenNarration podcast to talk about managing the resilience of the Ningaloo Coast. The conversation touched on the unique values of the Ningaloo Coast, the importance of joint management and the Resilient Reefs initiative, a leading, global program to strengthen the resilience of coral reefs and coastal communities.

The Ningaloo Coast is leading the world in developing new and innovative ways of supporting reefs, and the communities that depend on them, to adapt to climate change and local stresses. But it's about much more than simply ecosystem management - listen in to Episode#65 'Keeping Coral' to find out more about how a resilience approach to management can deliver benefits to both the environment and the community, through more opportunities for local involvement in reef management, livelihood diversification within local economies, and more adaptive and responsive governance systems.

If you would like to learn more, get involved and have your say on the future of the Ningaloo Coast visit [www.resilientreefsningaloo.com](http://www.resilientreefsningaloo.com).

*Resilient Reefs is being delivered in Ningaloo by the Department of Biodiversity, Attractions and Conservation (DBCA) in collaboration with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, UNESCO World Heritage Marine Programme, The Nature Conservancy's Reef Resilience Network, Columbia University's Center for Resilient Cities and Landscapes, Resilient Cities Catalyst and AECOM. The initiative is enabled by the BHP Foundation.*



**Above left:** Joel Johnsson - Chief Resilience Reef Officer, Dr Peter Barnes – Ningaloo Marine Park Coordinator and Anthony James. **Above right:** Vibrant underwater scenery of Ningaloo Reef. *Photo – Australia's Coral Coast.*

## Sharing the shore with beach-nesting birds

Resident shorebirds, including the red-capped plover are beach nesting birds. Over the winter months (July – September) they can be seen nesting along the Ningaloo Coast and Exmouth Gulf shores.

Red-capped plovers lay their eggs in a small shallow scrape in the sand between the high tide line and the dunes. The eggs and chicks are very good and blending into the beach making them vulnerable to being crushed by beach users accidentally stepping on or driving over them.

### How you can help protect beach-nesting birds:

- Look for birds sitting above the high tide mark and keep your activities at least 100m away from nests.
- In designated beach driving areas, stick to tracks and drive on wet sand, if possible.
- Dog owners, please keep dogs under control.



## July school holiday eco-education along the Ningaloo Coast

Exmouth District Parks and Wildlife delivered free eco-education activities along the Ningaloo Coast to visitors and the local community over the July school holidays. A range of activities including yarning circles with traditional owners, whale disentanglement demonstrations, black-flanked rock-wallaby spotting, a walk with a ranger, cave creations and lots of marine life crafts had participants of all ages getting involved.

The school holiday program aims to raise awareness of the key natural and cultural values of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area and showcase some of the on-ground work carried out. For more information visit <https://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/event/whats-ningaloo-coast>



**Above left:** Cultural Advisor Hazel Walgar sharing stories during a Yarning circle. **Above right:** Artwork by participants of the Yarning circle, showing what Ningaloo means to them.

## Volunteer campground host appreciation

The Ningaloo Coast has been a popular destination for visitors this winter with 552 campsites across 27 campgrounds occupied, for most of July.

Parks and Wildlife Service would like to extend a huge thank all volunteer campground hosts for their extensive hours assisting with the daily management of campgrounds and the Coral Bay Information Hut. Campground hosts are quite often the main point of contact for visitors, providing a friendly face and information to support enjoyment and protection of the Ningaloo Coast.

During the peak periods there can be up to 38 campground hosts volunteering their time in Cape Range National Park and the Nyinggulu Coastal Reserve.

With the addition of 16 campgrounds along the Nyinggulu Coastal Reserve there has been 17 new volunteers join the Ningaloo Coast team this season. If you are interested in camp hosting or other volunteering opportunities, please check out our volunteering page at <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/parks-and-wildlife-service/volunteering-with-parks-and-wildlife>



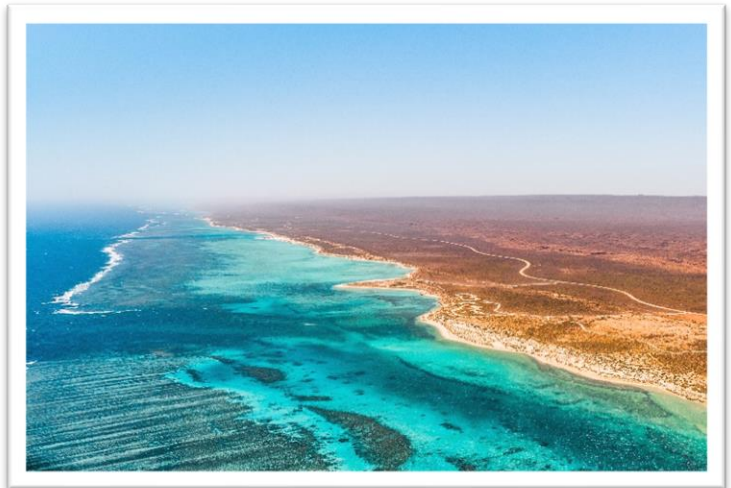
**Above:** Long time campground hosts Gordon and Dot Jenkins at Mesa Camp, Cape Range National Park.

## World Heritage Anniversary!

The 24 June 2020 marked the nine year anniversary for the Ningaloo Coast on the World Heritage list.

World Heritage status recognises the unique natural and cultural values along the Ningaloo Coast. World Heritage ensures the protection and conservation of habitats and communities for present and future generations.

Happy anniversary Ningaloo Coast!



**Above:** Aerial view of the Ningaloo Coast.  
*Photo – Blue Media Exmouth*

## Help prevent the spread of invasive weeds along the Ningaloo Coast

Do you know the difference between a native plant species and an invasive weed?

Weeds are plants not native to an area and pose a serious threat to the biological diversity of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area.

Invasive weed species like the kapok bush outcompete native species for space, nutrients and sunlight changing the diversity and balance of the natural ecosystem. Their seeds are easily spread via wind, surface water, birds and other animals, vehicles, on peoples clothing and footwear and inappropriate dumping of garden waste.

### Help prevent the spread

- Learn to identify weeds and help protect the natural beauty and biological diversity of the natural environment.
- Choose native plants that are unlikely to become weeds in your area.
- Check that the existing plants in your garden are safe.
- Place mulch on soil surfaces in the garden to reduce weed growth.
- Remove potentially weedy plants.
- Dispose of garden waste carefully (Contact your local shire for appropriate disposal methods).
- Download a copy of Weeds threatening the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area  
[https://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/downloads/parks/20170441%20WEEDS%20OF%20THE%20NINGALOO%20COAST\\_FINAL%202018.pdf](https://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/downloads/parks/20170441%20WEEDS%20OF%20THE%20NINGALOO%20COAST_FINAL%202018.pdf)



To receive a copy of this newsletter electronically please subscribe via [pws.dbca.wa.gov.au/news/newsletters](https://pws.dbca.wa.gov.au/news/newsletters)

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Parks and Wildlife Service – Exmouth District  
20 Nimitz Street, Exmouth, WA, 6707 Phone: (08) 9947 8000 Email: [exmouth@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:exmouth@dbca.wa.gov.au)