

Yarning Time



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



Issue 9: March 2021

Welcome to the ninth issue of Yarning Time for the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

We are pleased to bring you news and information that showcases some of the important work that has been undertaken by DBCA and Traditional Owners in recent months.

'Yarning' is a term used by Aboriginal people meaning talking and sharing stories.

Yarning Time:

- shares information about the department's engagement with Aboriginal people;
- Provides updates on the specific DBCA Aboriginal strategies and programs and
- Informs the community, our partners and staff of the developments in Aboriginal affairs in the department.

Please have a read and enjoy.



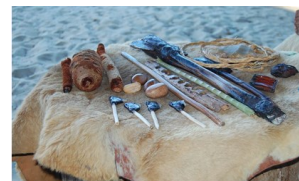
Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters it manages, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.

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Kaju Yatka: The Kalbarri Skywalk (Midwest Region)

Working Together to Raise the Profile of the Nanda People

For thousands of years, the Nanda people have called the Kalbarri home, but up until recent times their story was little known in the local community. However, things were about to change back in 2015 when the WA government announced \$20 million in funding for a new tourism development in Kalbarri National Park, deep in the heart of Nanda country.

The Skywalk, which has been called ‘Kaju Yatka’, derived from the Nanda words kaju for ‘sky’ and yatka ‘to walk’, is a tourism development project in the form of two spectacular steel lookouts hanging out over the Murchison Gorge, about 30km from the town of Kalbarri. The project was primarily about providing economic benefit to the local community but it was also an opportunity to fulfil some of the ambitions of the Nanda people. The Skywalk project team, the small group of dedicated DBCA staff and an external architect, charged with the task of bringing the Skywalk concept to fruition, were keen to tap into this ambition and in doing so raise the profile of the local Nanda people to the increasing number of tourists visiting the area. To do this the team aimed to use a range of techniques – not only the typical cultural interpretive display material but also art, audio recordings and cultural elements woven into the landscaping.



Left: Kaju yatka – the Nanda words for ‘Sky’ and ‘To Walk’

Kaju Yatka: The Kalbarri Skywalk (Midwest Region) Continued...

The Nanda people were involved in the Skywalk project from the very beginning. Back in 2016 they were consulted during the approvals process to assess any impacts on their heritage. Following on from this a representative group of 10 keen Nanda elders formed the Nanda Interpretation Advisory Group. It was this group that advised the Skywalk project team on cultural matters throughout the design and development of the site. They provided critical cultural information for use in the displays to go in around the Skywalk precinct. Members of the committee went on country with the project team to tell their stories and record them for later use. Later on, the extended Nanda 'family' provided family histories, historic photographs, dreaming stories and more as potential content for the Skywalk project. The advisory committee were kept busy determining the suitability or otherwise of the material provided until a final version of the display was accepted.

In parallel with the development of the display material an Expression of Interest process was run to engage Nanda artists to design and develop art for use around the site. The artwork of three Nanda women Colleen Drage, Mauretta Drage and Kayla Hampton has been woven into the site's landscaping. Artworks include a series of tall metal poles that create a 'forest' of message sticks, a depiction of the Beemarra creation spirit being artistically recreated into the access paths and a "Coming Together" art piece that features large steel hands inlaid into the path and surrounded by a welcome statement. The artists were thrilled to have their work displayed at such a high-profile site, so much so that one of them, Colleen Drage has gone on to offer cultural tours at the Skywalk site. Not only did the display include static signs and photographs but it also included audio elements. Three members of the group provided a 'Welcome to Country' message that was recorded to become an audio display where visitors can wind a handle and hear a Nanda elder welcome them to the site.

The Skywalk project also aimed to provide employment opportunities to the broader Nanda community. As part of the project, DBCA secured funding to employ two Aboriginal rangers in a full-time capacity for two years. These ranger positions won by Nanda men have since become permanent and the Nanda rangers help greatly to manage the park and its increasing number of visitors. In addition, eight part time traineeships were offered during the road and carpark construction component of the works. Nanda trainees were taught how to operate road construction machinery and obtained certificates of competency in various elements of road construction along the way. Whilst the work was only short term it offered them greater skills for further employment.

Since the opening of the Skywalk more doors have opened for the Nanda people. A kiosk is open at the site and two Nanda women are now employed at the facility. The long-term aspiration for the Nanda people is to operate the kiosk and employ more Nanda people. The relationship between Nanda people and park managers has grown stronger through time and Nanda people now have greater opportunity to connect with their lands in and around the national park. The Skywalk project has been a great example of how Indigenous people can be involved in a project from start to finish and in doing so achieve a greater sense of pride in their culture.



The Nanda Interpretation Advisory Committee



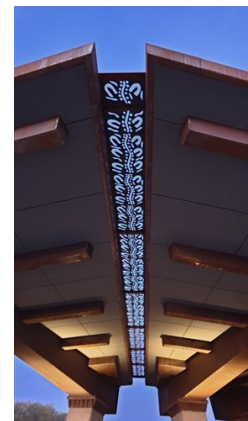
Caption Nanda artworks were integrated into the infrastructure on site



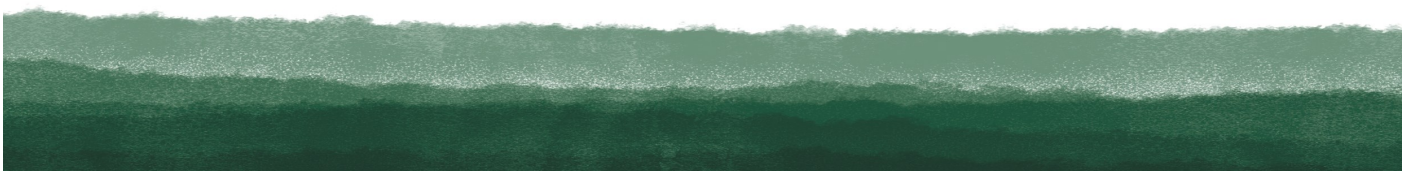
The Nanda story was carefully integrated into steel and stone landscaping elements



The Skywalk site overlooking the Murchison River



Nanda art is integrated throughout the site. Here at the arrival area the 'Coming Together' art piece has been sandblasted into the concrete paths



Joint Vesting / Conservation and Land Management Bill 2020

Joint vesting of marine reserves with traditional owners is another step closer.

Joint vesting formally recognises Traditional Owners' interest in country by recording this relationship on the reserve title. It legally recognises a joint responsibility between the State, through the Conservation and Parks Commission, and Traditional Owners over land and water. Aboriginal people along the Western Australian coast have a strong connection with their land and sea culture, and joint vesting will support the practice of culture and heritage as well as participation in economic activities.

Joint vesting for marine reserves, and other changes will be made by the *Conservation and Land Management Amendment Bill 2020* which was passed by the Legislative Assembly of Parliament.

When the Bill is passed by the Legislative Council, it will mean that an Aboriginal body corporate has a role equal to the Conservation and Parks Commission in preparing management plans, being consulted on the granting of leases and licenses, and being consulted and providing advice on any proposal to cancel, amend or change the purpose or boundary of a marine reserve.

The Amendment Bill will also introduce a change to the purpose of a marine park to include the 'protection and conservation of the value of the marine park to the culture and heritage of the Aboriginal persons' in the marine park purpose. This will mean that special purpose zones will be able to be created through the marine park management planning process in which activities that are not compatible with these values can be excluded.

The Amendment Bill is an election commitment of the government to improve connections to country and a range of economic, social and conservation outcomes. Importantly, these amendments received strong bipartisan support from both sides of the Parliament.

Aboriginal Ranger Program Round Three Recipients Announced

Environment Minister Stephen Dawson, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Ben Wyatt and Women's Interests Minister Simone McGurk announced on 20 September 2020 at Kooljaman on the Dampier Peninsula with the Bardi Jawi and Nyul women rangers, who will use the funding to protect threatened monsoon vine thickets.

Round Three funding saw successful recipients sharing in over \$4.7 million across 10 projects to undertake land and sea management including conservation, cultural, tourism and education activities.

This funding will enable the creation of 73 casual and full-time jobs and more than 100 training opportunities for Aboriginal people in regional and remote communities. It has followed funding of almost \$16 million over the first two rounds of the program.

Under the program, existing and emerging Aboriginal organisations can employ and train rangers to carry out land and sea management and tourism activities across a range of tenures in remote and regional Western Australia.

The successful recipients of the McGowan Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program Round Three:

- Nyul Nyul and Bardi Jawi Woman Rangers hosted by KLC
- Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
- Kimberley Land Council - Kija Rangers
- Winjan Aboriginal Corporation
- Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation
- Bundundea Aboriginal Corporation joint with Yallela Aboriginal Corporation
- Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation
- Tjiwarl Aboriginal Corporation
- Ngadju Conservation Aboriginal Corporation
- Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation



ABORIGINAL RANGER PROGRAM

THIRD ROUND FUNDING RECIPIENTS

The McGowan Government is empowering Aboriginal people by investing over \$4.7 million across 10 projects in Round 3 of the Aboriginal Ranger Program. In this round, 73 ranger jobs are being created, including 39 jobs for women rangers and over 100 training opportunities.



All funding amounts include GST

Mentored Aboriginal Traineeship Employment Scheme (MATES) Trainee Graduates 2020

The Aboriginal Employment Strategy aims to celebrate the success of Aboriginal staff with Recognition of Service Awards recognizing the achievements and contributions made by the department's Aboriginal employees is a key part of the Aboriginal Employment Strategy.

MATES stands for Mentored Aboriginal Training and Employment Scheme and has been running across the State for over 16 years. Aboriginal people are employed as Trainees and work either full-time or part-time while undertaking nationally recognised training. MATES Trainees will generally work towards Certificates II and III in Conservation and Land Management (CLM) and after successful completion, may be offered the option of continuing onto the Certificate IV qualification in the same area. Depending on the Trainee's skills, abilities and career aspirations, there are also many other training options available including fire management, maritime licenses and other specialist conservation skills. The Department wants to ensure that each MATES Trainee gets the best chance to enjoy their job, look after their country and complete the MATES Program, with a view to ongoing employment with the Department

MATES Trainees, their Assessors and Supervisors across the State have been working incredibly hard to complete their qualifications in time for the Graduation Ceremony this year. Unfortunately the ceremony has been cancelled for 2020 like many other social engagements, and instead will be celebrated in their home districts. If you see any of the Graduates or Award Winners listed below around – give them the thumbs up and congratulate them on their hard won achievements!

The 2020 Trainee Graduates are;

Bunbury Regional Parks

Ryley Clark Certificate III
 Joshua Woods Certificate III (Joshua has now gained a full time Ranger Position in the Fitzgerald NP)

Kununurra

Edmund Calwatt Certificate II
 David Newry Certificate II
 Jeremy Moore Certificate II
 Tristan Jessell Certificate III
 William Simon Certificate II

Perth Hills

Elisha Jacobs Smith Certificate III

Mid West

Jordan Jackamarra Certificate III
 Christine Drayton Certificate III
 Caleb Shaw Certificate III
 Bruce Bradfield Certificate III
 Steven Eley Certificate III
 Klass Liezenga Certificate II & III
 Kailah Dodd Certificate III

Exmouth

Matthew Hill Certificate II
 Cowan Ryan Certificate II



L-R, Greg Kitson , Kailah Dodd, Bruce Bradfield, Steven Eley and Brett Hansen



L-R, Christine Drayton, Jordan Drayton-Jackamarra, Jessica Greenfield and Caleb Shaw



Ryley Clark



Klaas Liezenga



L to R: Edmund Calwatt, William Simon, David Newry, Tristan Jessell

Caption

The DBCA Scholarship Program and Mentored Aboriginal Traineeship Employment Scheme (MATES) award winners 2020



The DBCA Scholarship Program - Tina Bowers

Tina Bowers the Project Officer - Aboriginal Programs was awarded the Director General's Career Development and Study Assistance Scholarship. Tina is in her second year of studying Bachelor of Applied Science (Indigenous Professional Practices) at Curtin University.

The Scholarship Program offers eligible staff the opportunity to further develop their careers within the department, through the provision of financial assistance towards the completion of formal qualifications that align with their role and/or that support the department's vision and mission.

Applications for the 2022 Scholarship Program will open August/September 2021, If interested please contact employeerelations@dbca.wa.gov.au

MATES Trainee of the Year — Elisha Jacobs-Smith

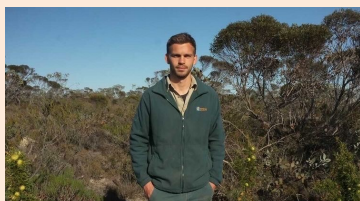


The MATES Trainee of the Year was awarded to Elisha Jacobs-Smith, Noongar Trainee Ranger. He has demonstrated a high level of achievement throughout their traineeship in both practical and theoretical tasks.

Elisha's supervisor wrote: *"Throughout his traineeship in the Perth Hills District, Elisha has consistently demonstrated a high level of achievement in his work. He has become involved in all aspects of the departments work including parks and visitor services, fire management through prescribed burning and a variety of nature conservation works."*

Elisha is currently working in the Aboriginal Engagement and Heritage Unit two days a week acting in the position Project Officer - Aboriginal Programs.

Kwabalitch Award — Joshua Woods



Awarded to Joshua Woods, the Kwabalitch Award was established to recognise a trainee who has demonstrated an admirable level of dedication throughout their studies and a commitment to personal and professional development.

Josh's supervisor wrote: *"Josh has proven to be a reliable and versatile worker within the newly formed Regional Parks team in Bunbury. While operational works for the new Regional Parks were still in the establishment phase, Josh took a proactive approach to completing his CERT III in Conservation Land Management and managed to complete his certificate within his first year with the Department. During his studies, he also assisted with mentoring another trainee within the Regional Park team, sharing his practical skills gained from experiences of growing up on a farm and NRM based jobs he had undertaken previously."*

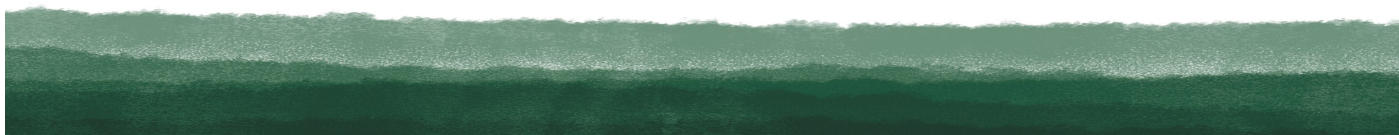
Josh has gained a full time ranger position in the Fitzgerald National Park.

MATES Supervisor of the Year — Brett Hansen



The MATES Supervisor of the Year was awarded to Brett Hansen, the supervisor of a MATES trainee/s who has demonstrated a high level of support and commitment to the development of the trainee/s under their supervision.

Brett's Supervisor summarised: *"Brett was appointed to the role of overseer (Acting) in September 2019. Prior to his appointment, one trainee had struggled to maintain a balance with home life, study, and work commitments, to the point that only 1 unit had been completed since their enrolment in April 2018. Once appointed, Brett has helped create an excellent learning environment within the workplace, providing as many learning and personal development opportunities for individuals as possible, often identifying where study units could be completed in conjunction with normal works programming. The trainee has flourished under Brett's stewardship and has subsequently completed all requirements of the Certificate III Conservation & Land Management within the ensuing 7 months and is in the 2020 graduating class."*



Noongar Boodjar Trainee Rangers

Noongar Boodja Trainee Ranger program is a partnership between the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions – Parks and Wildlife Service. The program received funding from round one and two of the State Aboriginal Ranger program funding. Over the two rounds of the program has seen the employment of twenty-one Noongar trainee Rangers throughout the Southwest.

The Noongar trainees have undergone a range of training courses and achieved qualifications in Conservation and Land Management (CALM). Three of the recent training courses that the Noongar trainees have attended are featured below.

Noongar Trainee Rangers Cultural Camp's

The Noongar Boodja trainee Rangers attended gender specific cultural training camps. The camps provided safe cultural learning spaces for the trainees to engage with Elders on country and help to strengthen cultural connections.

Men's Camp

The Noongar Men's Camp was coordinated by Karim Khan (Senior Project Officer South West Native Title) and was held at Nowanup Boodja near Albany with Elder Eugene Eades as the host. Over the course of the camp the male trainees had traditional bush medicine and tool making workshops, visited sacred sites, and had lots of cultural learning time. They also learnt about the malleefowl, or Gnow in Noongar language Nowanup translates to the Place of the Malleefowl.



Elder Eugene Eades and Noongar trainees at a Malleefowl nest.



Male Noongar trainees with Elder Eugene Eades



Elder Eugene Eades teaching Noongar trainee Luke Matowitz about the lifecycle of the Goanna

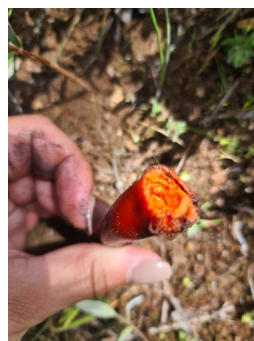
Female's Camp

The Noongar Female's Camp was held at Harvey with elders, Phyllis Bennell, Margaret Little, Lesley Ugle and Sharon Cooke.

It was an eye-opening experience for the Noongar trainees of Harvey and Bunbury.

This included stories from the elders and their experiences of growing up on this Boodja "land", walks through the bush finding borne which is bush chili, a tour of the new trail at the outer ring of Harvey town center called Noongar Knowledge Path or Noongar Kaartdijin Bidee in Noongar language and beautiful bush food and medicine provided by Marissa Verma from Bindi Bindi Dreaming.

They also learnt the name of Harvey witch is known by the local Noongar people as Korijakup.



Borne "Bush chili"



Female Noongar trainees with elders and guests

Noongar Boodjar Trainee Rangers Continued...

Cultural Heritage Training

The Cultural Heritage training was held at Roeland's Village near Collie and was attended by all Noongar Boodja Trainees. The training was presented by Robert Reynolds, Archaeologist and Aboriginal Heritage Specialist, and Karim Khan.

The training saw guided visits to significant cultural sites on Wilman country, Collie by Elder's Joe Northover, James Khan and Lesley Ugle. The Cultural Heritage training was very well received by all parties and the knowledge learnt is proven to be a very useful tool for the Noongar trainees to identify, document and protect cultural sites.

Noongar trainee Michael Hood said, During my time at the Cultural Heritage Training, "I found it very interesting to see a scar tree and know it's importance to the local area and it's Indigenous people. Being able to take part in cleaning out a Ngamma Hole was one of my highlights of the training. Meeting the Elders and learning their stories and the significance of the land to them, this has inspired me to learn more about my culture and people."



*Elders and Noongar trainees
at a Burial Site*



*Noongar trainees cleaning out a
Ngamma Hole with guidance from
Elders*



*Elder's James Khan
and Joe Northover putting the
rock lid back on the
Ngamma Hole*

Indigenous Mapping Workshop

On 16th, 17th and 18th February, Winyama hosted the Noongar Boodja trainee Rangers and the Bunbury Regional Park Aboriginal Rangers for the Indigenous Mapping Workshop (IMW). Winyama is a Western Australian, Indigenous owned and operated business. They are a leading provider of location intelligence and digital solutions in their target markets across the commercial and public sector, while facilitating the digital engagement of Indigenous people and communities.

The three-day workshop provided free geospatial training on Google Earth Pro, QGIS, Fulcrum. The Winyama training team (Andrew Dowding, Merindah Bairnsfather-Scott and Stafford Smith) with special guest and QGIS expert, John Bryant from FOSS4G, provided great support to the Rangers throughout the workshop. Noongar trainee Elisha Jacobs-Smith said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the Indigenous Mapping Workshop. It has provided me great new mapping skills that I can use at work and for mapping cultural sites for better protection."

You can find more information by heading to the Indigenous Mapping Workshop website:

[Winyama hosts first regional Indigenous Mapping Workshop — Indigenous Mapping Workshop Australia \(imwaustralia.com\)](https://www.imwaustralia.com)



Noongar Trainees at Indigenous Mapping Workshop

Certificate 3 Aboriginal Sites Work in the South Coast Region

Collaborative, on country training

Over 2 weeks in August 2020, DBCA Warren Region partnered with South Regional TAFE to deliver on country training as a part of their new Certificate III Aboriginal Sites Work. Aboriginal rangers from Southern Aboriginal Corporation, based in Albany, together with Esperance Tjaltjraak rangers and DBCA rangers from Pemberton and Walpole got to immerse themselves in practical sessions with the TAFE lecturer who is also a qualified archaeologist. This new course focuses on a range of skills to help rangers to:

- Understand Aboriginal cultural protocols
- Maintain cultural sites
- Identify and record Aboriginal sites, objects and cultural landscapes
- Record information about Country
- Identify Indigenous culturally significant plants
- Use technology in Aboriginal sites work.



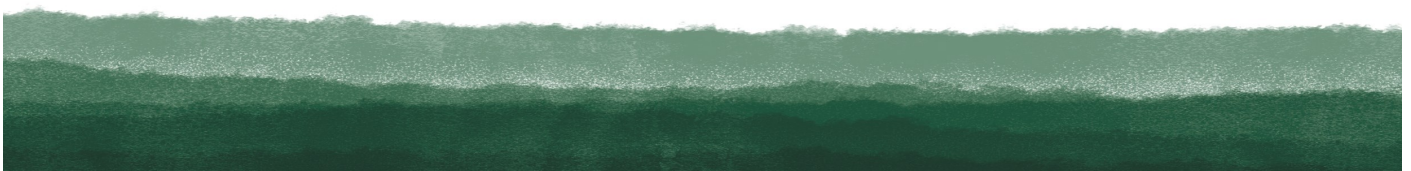
Elder Wayne Webb explaining elements of Aboriginal site management



Discussing marine values along the South Coast



Rangers learning how to measure Artefacts



Certificate 3 Aboriginal Sites Work in the South Coast Region Continued...

Whilst doing core course requirements the groups also learned from each other. For example, the Aboriginal ranger groups learned from DBCA rangers about tools that they use such as drones, GPS, tablets and water quality monitoring equipment. The DBCA rangers then learned from the unique skills of the Aboriginal ranger groups who shared their existing knowledge and experience about recording and managing Aboriginal cultural sites. The course focused on progressing a real DBCA project. Outcomes from the course have already assisted DBCA plan for the improved management of some key cultural landscapes in DBCA managed estate.

DBCA, Warren Region are considering how to get other staff members such as machine operators and fire management staff trained to recognise and record Aboriginal sites and landscapes to ensure their ongoing protection and management.



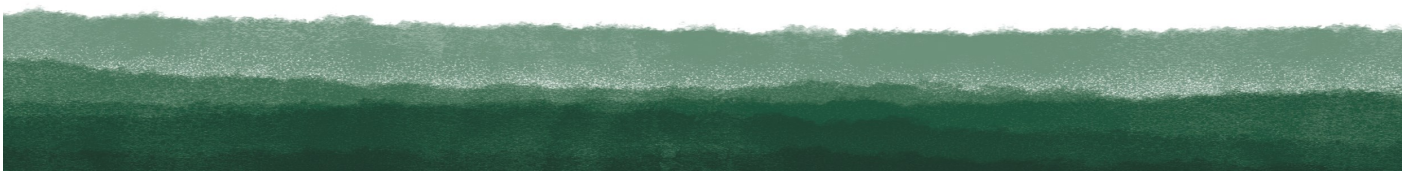
Ranger Peter Moore explaining water quality monitoring equipment



Group doing a coastal walk assessment

Murujuga World Heritage Nomination Update

Following the successful addition of the Murujuga Cultural Landscape to Australia's World Heritage Tentative List in January 2020, the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC) and DBCA have set their sights on writing the formal nomination dossier, with preparation now well underway under the guidance of cultural and technical advisory committees and the independent World Heritage Advisor. A full update on the nomination is provided in the February 2021 edition of the [Murujuga World Heritage Nomination News](#).



Integrating Aboriginal language and stories into interpretative signage in the Kimberley

The Kimberley Region was the first area in WA to enter formal joint management arrangements and continues to lead this with eleven ILUAs with nine traditional owner groups as of February 2020. With active negotiations on six new ILUAs including with four additional traditional owner groups currently in progress, soon this will translate to a total of 3.5 million hectares of jointly managed conservation lands and waters across the Kimberley Region.

Joint management boards are created between DBCA and traditional owner groups to provide space for equal decision making on park management issues and to discuss traditional owner aspirations. These aspirations are incorporated into park management plans and day to day management of conservation estate. Key cultural, ecological, and social values are identified in each park to assist with the development of clear management objectives and strategies.

Interpretative signage is a way of communicating the key values of the park to enrich the visitor experience and motivate people to understand and care for the value being interpreted. To develop interpretative signage DBCA staff spend time on country with traditional owners building relationships and learning about the cultural history of the relevant area. It is important for these conversations to take place on country where traditional owners feel comfortable. Emphasis is placed on the stories and information that traditional owners would like shared with visitors.

Following the initial conversations, DBCA staff commence work on the first signage draft which incorporates the information shared from these conversations. Importance is placed on including Aboriginal language to acknowledge the traditional owners and provide a public space to share and educate visitors.

The initial draft is provided to the relevant traditional owners and DBCA staff for feedback. This consultation process can be lengthy as it is important that all stakeholders are happy with the content. During this process artists are sometimes consulted to develop illustrations that complement the content. Priority is placed on sourcing appropriate Aboriginal artists.

The Kimberley Region has been involved in many interpretative signage projects over the last few years. A few of these examples include the Yawuru Minyirr Buru Conservation Park trail and the Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park boardwalk and cultural signage.

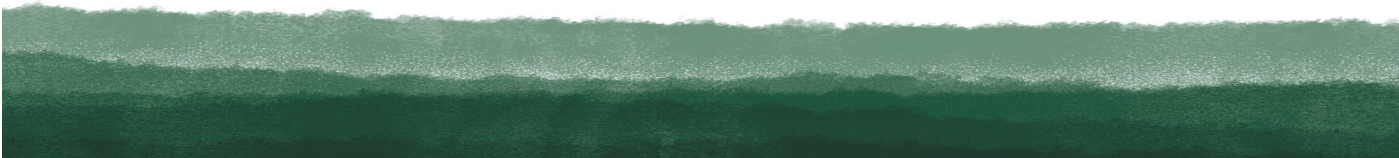
Yawuru Minyirr Buru Conservation Park is in joint management with the Yawuru native title prescribed body corporate, the Shire of Broome, and DBCA. The Yawuru Minyirr Buru Conservation Park trail signage was developed over several years with these stakeholders. Consultation involved on-country trips with the Yawuru Traditional Owners and ongoing workshops with stakeholders to complete the signs. Eleven signs were installed throughout Minyirr park in December 2019 with Yawuru language incorporated in each, including the names of the trails.



The Ngarla welcome sign placed at Pardoo Station



The turtle nesting signage panels placed at both boardwalks at Eighty Mile Beach Caravan Park



Integrating Aboriginal language and stories into interpretative signage in the Kimberley Continued



The Minyirr Trails map signs are placed at the start and end of the Minyirr Trail



Jesse Murdoch (DBCA Communications Officer) standing next to one of seven Minyirr Park trail signs



Left: A view of Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park showing two of the boardwalk signs

Badimia Heritage Survey on Karara Rangeland Park (Midwest Region)

Over four days in September 2020, Badimia Traditional Owners joined DBCA staff from the Midwest Region to conduct a heritage survey in Karara Rangeland Park to consider increasing visitation to the area and future proposals to develop campgrounds, picnic facilities, toilets, lookouts, walk trails and drive trails. Potential cultural and tourism business opportunities were also discussed.

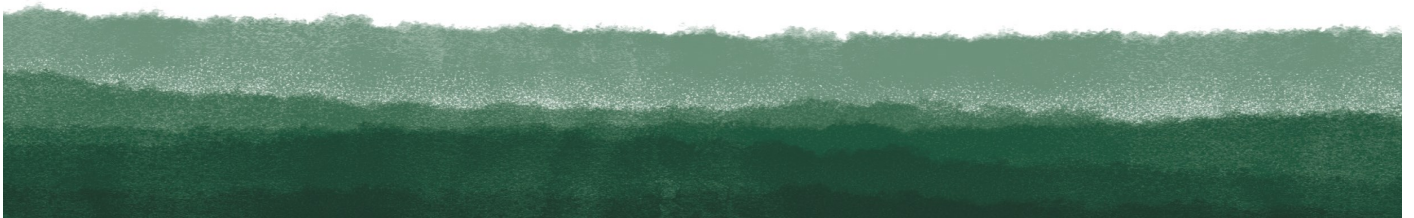
Badimia traditional lands include nearly 300,000 hectares on the east side of Karara Rangeland Park that comprise the former pastoral leases of Burnerbinmah, Thundelarra and Warriedar.

Many Aboriginal heritage sites are in the area including Mongers Lake, Warriedar Hill and Bullajungadeah Hills. The survey group inspected 18 areas with potential for recreation development and recorded rock art and several artefact sites in the process.

The Badimia Traditional Owners acknowledge that there needs to be better management of the impacts of visitor use on their barna (country). The heritage survey was supported by consultants Heritage Link and Terra Rosa.



Badimia Traditional Owners and staff from the Midwest Region and Terra Rosa near Mongers Lake



Joint Management Review

Amendments made to the CALM Act in 2012 provided a framework for joint management of WA's terrestrial and marine parks and reserves with Aboriginal people. Since then, Parks and Wildlife's joint management program has grown rapidly and this is expected to continue. Joint management and joint vesting of country form a key part of agreement making between the State and traditional owners by meeting the shared objectives to care for country.

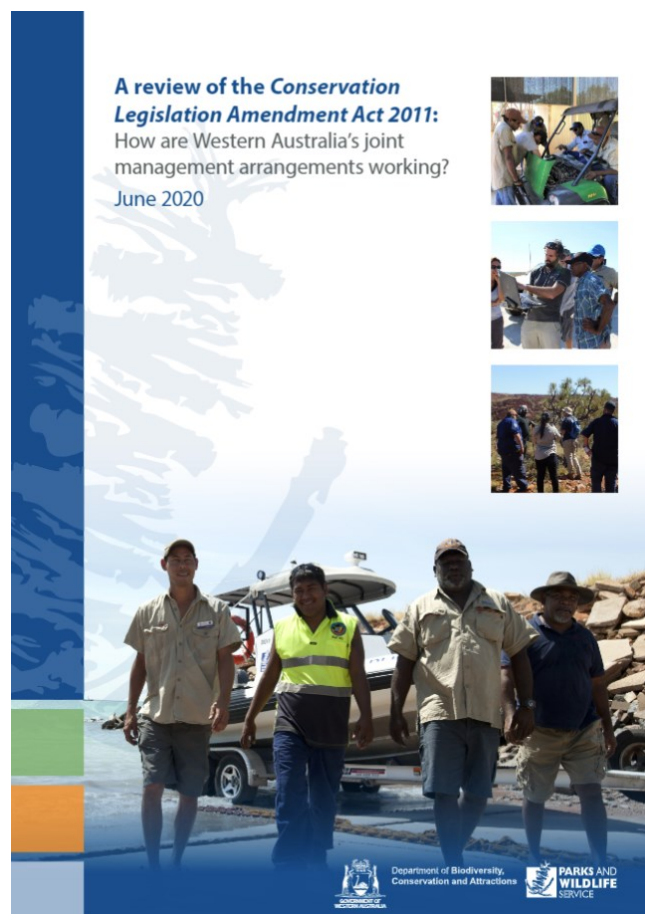
A comprehensive review process has been undertaken by the department on how WA's joint management arrangements are actually working. This was focused on management partnerships in the Kimberley and the Pilbara and involved a desktop review of relevant policies and guidelines, joint management agreements, management plans and communication material; discussions with traditional owners and Parks and Wildlife staff; and participation in joint management body and park council meetings.

A report has been prepared by Parks and Visitor Services, which should serve as a resource for the department and its partners. As well as documenting successes and what aspects of joint management are working effectively, a number of challenges and opportunities have been identified. The report includes over 40 recommendations grouped in the categories of: communication; training and capacity building; policy development and planning; monitoring and evaluation; and resourcing and employment. Many of these are for Parks and Wildlife to improve the implementation of joint management and facilitate cultural change. A smaller number of recommendations are relevant to joint management bodies and park councils.

Parks and Wildlife will progressively implement the learnings from the review to strengthen existing management partnerships and assist the joint management program to expand to other parts of the State through the *Plan for Our Parks* initiative and other agreements. Several regions already have staff working in positions to support management partnerships and to coordinate the implementation of specific agreements. The department's Aboriginal Engagement and Heritage Unit will also play a role in providing central support for regional staff involved in Aboriginal joint management.

For more information:

[https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/publications/taledpapers.nsf/displaypaper/4014033ac83d2f1878c47070482586340027bb68/\\$file/4033.pdf](https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/publications/taledpapers.nsf/displaypaper/4014033ac83d2f1878c47070482586340027bb68/$file/4033.pdf)



Joint Management with Nyinggulu Ganyarajarri (Pilbara Region)

One of the many benefits of DBCA's Joint Management Agreement with the Nyinggulu Ganyarajarri, the traditional owners of the Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coast, is being able to learn from their deep connection with this special place. A vision of the joint management partnership is to share this knowledge with both locals and visitors alike to enrich their experience and understanding of the Ningaloo Coast.

Mujan (turtles) are an extremely important species to traditional owners. They feature strongly in dreaming stories and as a totem to the Baiyungu Tribe of the Ganyara people. The global significance of the Jurabi Coast as a majun balygura (turtle rookery) is also a big part of why the area is World Heritage Listed and makes 'Mujan conservation' a big part of what we do.

The new interpretive signage along the Jurabi Coastal Park at key majun balygura (turtle rookery) sites celebrates the significance of mujan to the traditional owners and provides guidance for visitors and locals on how to view them respectfully. The majun balygura (turtle rookery) signage project is a brilliant example of Joint Management in action, combining traditional knowledge with best practice conservation to create sustainable wildlife viewing opportunities.



Majun balygura (turtle rookery) signs have been installed at key turtles nesting sites along the Jurabi Coast.

Guniyan Binba Conservation Park Plan Released

The Guniyan Binba Conservation Park joint management plan was officially launched in Broome in early November 2020. Yawuru traditional owners now manage land and sea country around Broome. Spanning 2,511 hectares within the existing Yawuru conservation estate, Guniyan Binba Conservation Park is an intertidal reserve located from north of Broome to Willie Creek. The land will be jointly managed by Nyamba Buru Yawuru, the Shire of Broome and Parks and Wildlife Service.

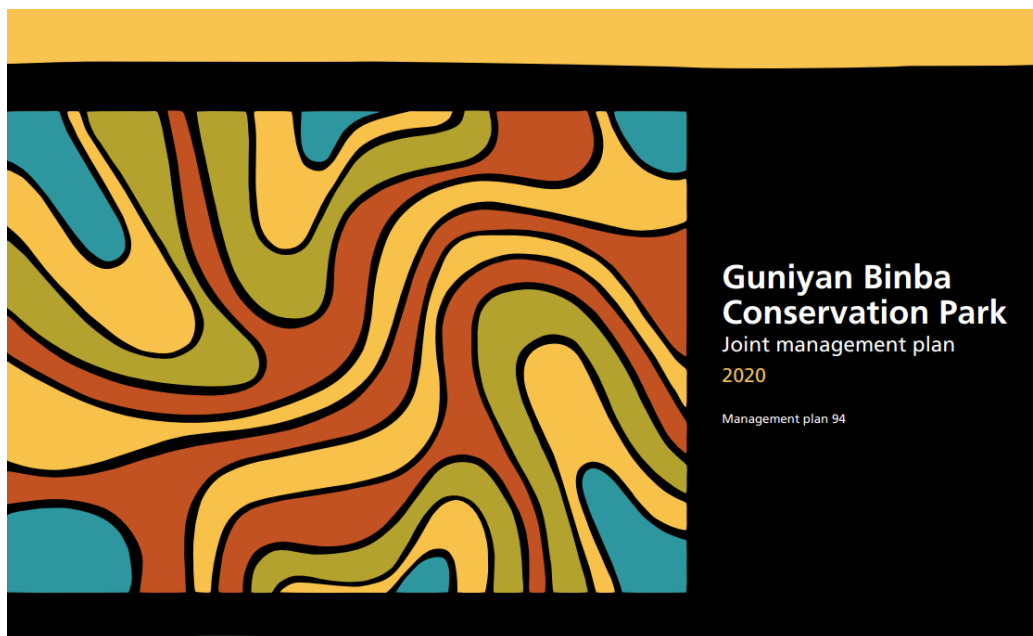
The vision for Guniyan Binba Conservation Park is: Yawuru people and their partners working together with the wider community to restore, protect and maintain the cultural, natural and recreational values of Guniyan Binba Conservation Park for the enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations of Yawuru people and the wider population.

A set of strategic goals has been developed for Guniyan Binba Conservation Park. These recognise Yawuru people are the native title holders, the legally stipulated purposes for the reserve, and its values of international and national conservation significance. These strategic goals provide a link between the vision statement and the desired outcomes expressed through the objectives identified in this joint management plan.

The strategic goals for management of Guniyan Binba Conservation Park are to:

- uphold and respect Yawuru people's culture and knowledge of country
- provide for sustainable traditional and customary Aboriginal use and enjoyment
- protect and conserve the value of the land to the culture and heritage of Aboriginal persons
- conserve features recognised as being of special, international, and national conservation significance
- conserve biodiversity and maintain ecological integrity and
- provide for recreation that is consistent with the protection and conservation of the area's cultural and ecological values.

[Guniyan Binba Conservation Park Joint Management Plan 2020 \(dpaw.wa.gov.au\)](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au)



Nyinggulu Indigenous Land Use Agreement

August 4 2020, marked a historical moment when the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) joined traditional owners from the Nganhurra Thanardi Garrbu Aboriginal Corporation (NTGAC) to formally enter into the Nyinggulu Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA).

The Nyinggulu ILUA enables the creation of about 78,000 hectares of new conservation estate, including the establishment of the Nyinggulu Coastal Reserves and the eastern extension of Cape Range National Park. The ILUA also formalises the joint vesting and ongoing joint management of the new reserves and the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Marine Park (State waters) and Cape Range National Park.

The ILUA and Joint Management Agreement provides the department with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of traditional knowledge applicable to the planning area, and foster opportunities for integration of traditional knowledge with contemporary conservation science and management.

Joint management is about a merge of traditional and Western culture working together to look after country. In previous years, informal joint management occurred between DBCA and traditional owners while developing a plan for effective conservation of the Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coast, through the collaborative identification of challenges and solutions. Applying a joint management framework will enhance the protection of culture and heritage, geology and landforms, plants, animals and habitats, while allowing culturally appropriate opportunities for recreation and tourism. The joint management framework will also apply to research and monitoring and the management of fire, weeds, introduced animals, resources and utilities.



Coming together for the signing of the Nyinggulu ILUA.

We hope you have enjoyed reading Yarning Time.

