

Further funding for Kimberley, Historic agreement for sound management, Purnululu upgrade completed, and more.

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Hi Carolyn Thomson-Dans

Welcome to the very first edition of the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy Newsletter. If you do not wish to subscribe to this newsletter please click on the link at the bottom of this email.

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Further funding for Kimberley



Additional funding in the state budget to manage new marine and national parks in the north Kimberley has boosted funding for conservation in the region to an unprecedented \$81.5 million.

A further \$18.5 million from Royalties for Regions (over four years) has been allocated on top of the \$63 million already committed by the government under the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy.

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Historic agreement for sound management

Dambimangari Chairman Warren Barunga, DPaW Acting Director General Jim Sharp with Minister for Environment Albert Jacob at the historic joint management agreement

Photo – DpaW



The Department of Parks and Wildlife has entered into the first joint management agreement for a marine park. The Minister for Environment, Hon Albert Jacob MLA, attended the signing of the agreement with members of the Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation on 7 November.

The signing coincided with the release of the management plan for the Lalang-garram / Camden Sound Marine Park that has been created under the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy.

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Purnululu upgrade completed

A \$1.9 million improvement project has been completed in Purnululu National Park, to help attract more tourists to the World Heritage-listed site.

Purnululu has experienced steady growth in visitor numbers in recent years, rising to about 27,000 in 2011-12.

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Kimberley mammals bounce back

Better management of the wild north Kimberley - made possible by funding provided under the state government's Kimberley Science and

Conservation Strategy - is producing encouraging results, with populations of several threatened native mammal species already bouncing back.

Golden-backed tree rats (*Mesembriomys macrurus*), brush-tailed rabbit rats (*Conilurus penicillatus*), golden bandicoots (*Isodon auratus*), Ningbing false antechinus (*Pseudantechinus ningbing*), the Kimberley rock rat and other rodents including the pale field rat (*Rattus tunneyi*) and grassland melomys are much more abundant.



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New Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park

The new Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park, a key component of the state government's \$63million Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy, was officially created on 29 January 2013.

Eighty Mile Beach is a popular destination for visitors to the Kimberley to enjoy fishing, camping, four-wheel driving and wildlife viewing. The new marine park extends almost 210,000 hectares from about 30 kilometres west of Cape Keraudren in the south to 10 kilometres south of Cape Missiessy in the north-east.



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