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The Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines (YD JPG) have been prepared to guide development of management plans for several new conservation parks created under the Ord Final Agreement.

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Photographs by Rosemary Hill and Scott Goodson.

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Usage of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines:

“Cultural Information” means any information on language structure, traditional customs or other culture-related aspects.

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The Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines (YD JPG) are the second stage of an innovative process of planning for joint management of the conservation estate between Traditional Owners and the Western Australian Government, arising out of the Ord Final Agreement (OFA). The first stage of the process, the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework, was publicly released in late 2008.1

These YD JPG replace the Interim Guidelines for the Preparation of Management Plans for Terrestrial Conservation Reserves (known herein as the Western Australian Government Planning Guidelines WAGPG) as the foundation platform for development of Management Plans for the joint managed conservation parks under the OFA.

The YD JPG are presented in three sections. The introductory section describes how the idea for the YD JPG developed as an outcome of the new arrangements for conservation parks under the Ord Final Agreement, and includes a description of the methods used to prepare the guidelines. The second section documents the combined overall approach to joint management, and records the issues discussed by the Dawang3 (traditional owners) for each park during preparation of the YD JPG. The third section provides the core content of the joint planning guidelines organised on a thematic basis. The YD JPG will be best understood if read in conjunction with both the Interim Guidelines, and the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework4. A Technical Report on the MG CPF5 is also available, which documents the processes and outcomes associated with the Cultural Planning Framework.

The YD JPG was adopted at a joint sitting between the Conservation Commission of Western Australia (CCWA) and the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council (YD RPC) on 29 September 2009 in Kununurra. The processes to reach agreement on the final content are described in the next section.

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2. CCWA, Conservation Commission of Western Australia. 2006. Interim Guidelines for the Preparation of Management Plans for Terrestrial Conservation Reserves. Perth; Government of Western Australia, CCWA.
3. All Miriuwung words are italicised throughout except for place names, the traditional owner groups Miriuwung, Dawang, Dawang-Gija, the titles Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council and Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines.

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Overview of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines

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**Introduction to the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines**

Background to the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines

Under the Ord Final Agreement (OFA), six new conservation parks in the East Kimberley were created to be held under freehold title by the traditional owners, the Miriuwung-Gajerrong (MG) People, and leased to the State for joint management between the MG People and the Executive Director of CALM (now the Department of Environment and Conservation, DEC). These conservation parks are the first Aboriginal-owned jointly managed conservation parks in WA, and their creation represents an important milestone in policy development that is leading to greater recognition of Indigenous peoples’ rights and interests in conservation lands in the State.

According to the provisions of the OFA, the Executive Director of DEC and the MG Corporation (Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrga Noong Dawang Aboriginal Corporation) supported by the Conservation Commission of Western Australia (CCWA) are responsible for ensuring the development of a Management Plan in respect of all of the land, and for administering the management through the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council (YDRPC).

The CCWA has produced Interim Guidelines for the Preparation of Management Plans for Terrestrial Conservation Reserves (referred to as the WA Government Planning Guidelines, WAGPG). These Guidelines provide clear instructions to the DEC planning staff about relevant legislation, policies and implementation processes to consider when preparing Management Plans. The MG People’s approaches to park planning are based on culture and customary Law. Although the WAGPG are very comprehensive from the State perspective, they do not take account of Miriuwung-Gajerrong peoples’ traditional Laws and customs. Miriuwung-Gajerrong people felt that if the conventional State planning process was followed, their traditional Laws and customs would not get equal treatment in the management planning process. DEC, MG Corp, and CCWA therefore agreed to work together, with research support from CSIRO, on an innovative approach to developing the Management Plan through a staged process including:

- **Stage One** - development of a Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework which documents MG peoples’ approaches; and consideration of how the WAGPG can be articulated with the Miriuwung-Gajerrong approach;
- **Stage Two** - development of a Joint MG-DEC Planning framework that brings the two approaches together, taking into account the Management Principles as stipulated in the Ord Final Agreement. Once adopted by the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council (YDRPC) and the Conservation Commission of Western Australia, the Joint Framework will be known as the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines, YDJPG.
- **Stage Three** - using the YDJPG to guide the development of the Management Plan and the Sub-Plans.

Figure 1 sets out this agreed approach.

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6 Throughout this document, capitals are used to refer to “the MG People” as single Indigenous nation, and lower case when simply referring to MG people.

7 Document cited at footnote 2

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Figure 1: Joint Park Planning—staged approach to development of the Management Plan
Stage One, the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework8 was completed in 2007, and documents the Laws, customs and cultural requirements of the MG People in relation to management. Stage Two was commenced in 2008, and is scheduled for completion in 2009, with Stage 3 to be completed in 2010.

Methods used in preparation of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines

The methods for the development of the YD JPG built on the approaches used for the MG Cultural Planning Framework, as detailed in the Technical Report9. The research collaboration agreement undertaken for the MG CPF was extended with an overall scope to support:

(i) the incorporation of the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework into Joint Planning Guidelines between the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), the Conservation Commission and the MG Corporation, adopted through the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council (YDRPC) and the Conservation Commission of Western Australia as the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines (YDJP).

(ii) the subsequent application of the YDJP in development of the Management Plan/s for the six new conservation parks created under the Ord Agreement and, where appropriate and feasible, the adjacent nature reserves (Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve, Ord River Nature Reserve and Point Spring Nature Reserve), and the Mirima National Park.

(iii) Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s overall strategic directions and aspirations in relation to park planning, based on MG culture and customary Law, as directed through the MG Corporation.

Specific objectives of the collaboration agreement were to:

• Support culturally-appropriate incorporation of the MG Cultural Planning Framework into the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines as directed by MG people through the MG Corporation.

• Support culturally-appropriate use of the YDJP to guide the development of the Management Plans for the relevant Miriuwung-Gajerrong Parks as directed by MG people through the MG Corporation.

• Provide opportunities for policy development by Miriuwung-Gajerrong people in relation to park planning.

• Enhance the capacity of Miriuwung-Gajerrong people in relation to participation in park planning.

• Enhance the capacity of DEC and the Conservation Commission in relation to engagement with Traditional Owners in park planning.

• Enhance the capacity of the broader stakeholder community associated with MG conservation parks in relation to engagement with Traditional Owners in park planning.

The methodology adopted for preparation of the YD JPG was developed in stages throughout 2008-09. Staff from MG Corporation, DEC, CCWA and CSIRO agreed in February 2008 to trial the development of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines through a pilot of ground mapping10. Ground mapping was used as an additional tool to facilitate discussion in these field trips.

Ground mapping10 was used as an additional tool to facilitate discussion in these field trips. DEC staff participating in these field trips circulated for comment to Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang Aboriginal Corporation (DOMUGYDYPG) and the Conservation Commission of Western Australia as the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines (YDJP). Discussions were recorded using a digital voice recorder, photographs, and by note-taking. After the workshop, discussions were transcribed, and notes were transcribed, and analysed to identify the key issues and processes to address these issues. A draft “Fire Management Joint Planning Guideline” was prepared and circulated for comment. After input from DEC, MG Corporation and CCWA staff, the following structure was adopted:

- Joint statement of “our” (MG people and WA Government together) vision, values, issues, strategies and actions, steps and resources, approach to monitoring and important documents;
- Table setting out MG and DEC/CCWA perspectives side-by-side;
- Quotations and photographs to illustrate the issues identified; and
- Table setting out MG and DEC/CCWA perspectives side-by-side.

All agreed that the fire management pilot had developed a suitable outcome and format for the YDJP, and that the remainder of the Guidelines should be developed using a similar format and process. The first step in all cases would be the development of table placing MG and the WA Government’s perspectives side-by-side, and a schedule to develop these tables prior to the 2008 field work was agreed.

The steps agreed for preparation of the YDJP, following the fire management pilot, are shown in Figure 2.

A First Working Draft of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines was completed in December 2008 and circulated for comment to Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang Aboriginal Corporation (MG Corporation), the YD Regional Park Council, DEC and CCWA.

Unfortunately, the tables were not able to be prepared in time for the field work in June and July with the Dawang for the Ngaamoowalem, Darram, Wawoolem, Barrberrm and Goomiyig conservation parks. DEC staff participating in these field trips instead supplied verbally the DEC/CCWA perspectives that would have appeared in the tables. The lack of these documents hampered the discussion of issues somewhat. Ground mapping10 was used as an additional tool to facilitate discussion in these parks. Most tables were completed for the field work to Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim parks in October 2008. The completed tables were subsequently discussed with the Dawang who had undertaken field work earlier. Dawang requested more time to consider the material carefully with assistance. CSIRO assisted Dawang with reviewing the completed First Working Draft through discussions in March 2009.

During the field work with MG people, it also became clear that the YDJP, as the next document in the planning process following the MG Cultural Planning Framework, needed to continue to include material about each conservation park, rather than just address the thematic issues. Under Miriuwung-Gajerrong Law and culture, Dawang have responsibility to speak for and make decisions about their own traditional country. MG Corporation has established a sophisticated governance structure to recognise this customary Law, through which the sixteen Dawang groups with customary-Law responsibility oversee all operations (Figure 3). Eight of these Dawang groups are also represented on the YDRPC.

The OFA recognises this customary Law management approach through the requirement for a Management Plan for each of the parks, as well as an overall Management Plan for the conservation parks together. The OFA establishes Park Sub-Councils, which include the Dawang members (Dawawang) together with DEC representatives, as the responsible entities for development and review of a Management Sub-Plan for each respective conservation park. These arrangements ensure that the traditional rights over country at the Dawang level are recognised and supported, whilst being nested within an overall accountability back to all the sixteen Dawang groups together in the broader Miriuwung-Gajerrong governance.

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8 Document cited at footnote 3
9 Document cited at footnote 4

The Cultural Planning Framework started by documenting Dawang perspectives about their park, and the thematic material was drawn from the Dawang documents. The Joint Planning Guidelines was similarly developed through trips onto country with Dawang, documenting particular issues associated with their country, as well as the thematic issues. The YD JPG therefore includes a brief summary of these discussions in each of the conservation areas to provide continuity between the CPF and the joint Management Plans, and consistency with MG customary Law recognition of Dawang as the primary source of information about country.

A Second Working Draft of the YD JPG, updated following comment received on the First Working Draft, was reviewed at a workshop held on 13-14 May 2009 in Kununurra. The workshop was attended by representatives of the MG Corporation, the YD Regional Park Council, DEC, CCWA and CSIRO. A set of posters containing the information presented in this Second Working Draft was prepared for use at the workshop. Many mistakes were corrected and revisions suggested to the Second Working Draft.

After the workshop, the DEC and CCWA made amendments to clarify their approaches as captured in the tables at the end of each policy statement. These changes, together with those made at the workshop, were incorporated into a Final Draft, which was again circulated to DEC, CCWA, and the MG Corporation for comment. The Final Draft was considered by a special meeting of Dawang members of the Regional Park Council, and by several garrayilng, on 22 and 24 September 2009, and some final corrections made. The YD RPC and CCWA adopted the Guidelines at a joint meeting on 29 September 2009.

Structure of the Guidelines
As discussed above, the Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines (YDJPG) have been developed using the same structure as the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework.

The YDJPG is in three sections. The first section is the introduction, which documents the background and methods used for the YD JPG (this section). The second section starts with an overall statement about our approach to joint management, and then includes information about the issues discussed at each of our conservation areas during preparation of the YD JPG.

The third section presents the joint policies, following the headings used in the Cultural Planning Framework.
Joint statement of our overall joint management approach

Our overall vision about joint management

Our vision is for the Miriuwung-Gajerrong People and the WA State Government to work side by side—to share responsibility and each take responsibility equally for management of our conservation areas.

Our Joint Planning Guidelines (JPG) are between the Miriuwung-Gajerrong People, the Conservation Commission of Western Australia (CCWA) and the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). These JPG will be followed by the Miriuwung-Gajerrong People and the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) in working on joint management together. The MG People and DEC also wish to use the JPG as the basis for developing cooperative arrangements with the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service for cross-border park management.

Figure 1 is a picture of how we want to keep working together and in parallel to develop a true ongoing joint management, including joint decision-making. We recognise that strengthening MG Law, culture and tradition is an important part of joint management. The MG People and DEC share a long term vision of facilitating the MG People to assume sole responsibility for management of the land, in accordance with the Ord Final Agreement (OFA).

Through our protocols we will develop clear joint decision making processes, roles and responsibilities, consistent with the Ord Final Agreement.

Our joint values and responsibilities for management

Our work is based on recognition and respect for each other’s visions, values, responsibilities and ideas, as set out in the tables at the end of each of our joint statements. For Miriuwung-Gajerrong people, keeping culture alive and strong is central to conservation management.

We both bring goodwill and commitment to work together over time to develop a full understanding of each other’s approach. Dawawang and DEC will continue to talk together about our values, visions and approaches as we develop the Management Plan and our ongoing joint management and joint decision-making.

Issues of concern to us

The OFA, and the commitments therein to transferring lands to the MG People, putting in place management agreements with MG Corporation, and other measures provide the foundation of shared decision-making and shared responsibility as the basis of our joint management of the conservation parks. We are aware that legislative amendments are being considered to enable the WA Government to meet its commitments under OFA. We are concerned to ensure that any interim arrangements are consistent with our joint management principles in terms of shared decision-making and shared responsibility.
Bringing our MG and our WA Government’s approaches together brings up many different issues for each conservation area, and for each policy, such as fire management or rangers. Issues identified through the development of the YDJPG are listed under each of the policy statements.

**Our joint strategies and actions**

Our most important strategy is to follow through with the commitments made in the OFA to joint management, underpinned by ownership of the parks by the MG People.

We have identified different issues in each conservation park and set out our joint strategies and actions to address these in our policy statements within this document. Management Plans will be written that specify objectives and tasks consistent with these strategies and actions. Management Plans will ensure that Dawang speak for their own Dawang. Commonalities and differences between Dawangs will be recognised in the Management Plans as appropriate.

**Our joint steps and resources**

The legislation needs to be appropriately amended so that the OFA can be progressed, including all the necessary steps to allow transfer of the lands to the MG People. The Management Agreements should be progressed as soon as possible.

We have identified some ideas about the steps and resources required to start on our joint strategies and actions in each of the policy areas within this document. In the Management Plans, details will be provided about these, including how we will look after and run the country together and how Rangers will work.

**Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not**

We will use these Joint Planning Guidelines to write our Management Plans for the conservation areas. We are jointly responsible for implementing the Management Plans. The CCWA has a particular responsibility for monitoring, assessing and reporting clearly about the progress on the Management Plan from time-to-time. CCWA also helps ensure that DEC and the Park Council act in accordance with the Plan. The CCWA, our Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council, the Miriuwung-Gajerrong People and DEC will work together to find a good way to ensure monitoring and assessment helps all of us. We may need to develop some new cultural indicators for monitoring. Some of our ideas for monitoring and evaluation are set out in some of the policy statements.

**Important documents**

The three most important documents that underpin these Joint Planning Guidelines are the Ord Final Agreement, the Interim Guidelines for the Preparation of Management Plans for Terrestrial Conservation Reserves (Conservation Commission of WA 2006) and the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Cultural Planning Framework. Other relevant documents, including legislation, policy and others are listed for each policy.

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**DEC and MG have got the same vision for country, protecting. One is obligated through the legislation, and one is obligated through the traditional culture. That’s what we’re doing with the cultural planning framework and the management plan, bringing those two obligations together to work as one.**

Des Hill, MG Corporation Implementation Officer, Kununurra, 8 August 2008

**Talking about our overall approach to joint management**

Des Hill talking with DEC staff and MG people about cultural management at the MG office, May 2008.
It’s good that we’ve got this partnership with DEC, but DEC needs to work with us more closely on our cultural values and beliefs. We’re very strong on that. Because everything from the Law and culture side for the country, that’s been put in heart and soul. DEC got their way of how the government put it in place. It’s very important that our Law and culture is recognised by DEC as well.

Edna O’Malley, Chairperson MG Corporation, Kununurra, 28 October 2008

Our actual approach is what joint management should be, and that means joint decision-making.

Daryl Moncrieff, Kununurra 8 August 2008

We’re actually in partnership now with our Law and culture, with the DEC department. The government has stated to us in black and white that we have got our right to practice our Law and culture on our land now. The government has put down their armour now to let us through the door with them, and try to resolve some of the issues we’ve got.

Edna O’Malley, Kununurra, 28 October 2008

We’re going to this joint management with government. We need to go in there with the Aboriginal side of things. The cultural way needs to come into it. I’m not speaking for myself but on behalf of everybody on the MG Corporation. That’s part of our vision, to get our on country and practice our culture more.

Margaret Moore, Chairperson YD RPC, Kununurra 28 October 2008
Map 1: Native title determinations, Mjurruwung and Gajerrong peoples

Map 2: Conservation parks, nature reserves, and other features of interest, Ord Final Agreement region of the East Kimberley, WA
Our joint vision and values for our conservation areas

Our Cultural Planning Framework presents Miriuwung Gajerrong vision, values and priorities for our conservation areas (see Maps 1 and 2). We need to spend time on country keeping our cultural knowledge and connections strong, and record our cultural knowledge to provide a strong foundation in MG Law and culture for management. DEC has done some preliminary work on the natural and recreational values of these conservation areas11. We need further research, and field work on country, to further document these values as well. The Management Plan will be based on a good understanding of the natural and cultural values of the conservation areas.

Wawoolem and Darram Parks

Issues at Wawoolem and Darram discussed during the preparation of the joint planning guidelines

We talked out on country about many of the issues raised in the CPF such as:
- Management of visitation at Wawoolem.
- Development of tourist businesses at Wawoolem and Darram.
- Signage for the community at Yirralalem.
- Creation and management of a reserve to include the spring at the top of Wawoolem.
- Simplification of the processes around fire management so that Dawang are able to run fire management themselves as much as possible according to their traditional Law and custom.
- Inclusion of the Carr Boyd Ranges into joint conservation management.
- Protection of all the bird life at Darram.
- Development of Darram as a bird-watching destination including construction of infrastructure.
- Cultural recording systems that give Dawang both control of and access to information.

We also discussed the proposals to move the bore field from across the river into Darram to make more land available for subdivision in Kununurra. This issue involves ongoing negotiation between the MG Corporation, the relevant Dawang, the Shire and other parties.

Talking about management at Wawoolem and Darram

We need a sign to let people know there’s a community here that they shouldn’t be disturbing. After the Ord Final Agreement was signed, signs went up and people kept ripping them down.

Carol Hapke, Wawoolem, 18 June 2008

One of the main things is to provide proper information to say that you’re entering an area that has cultural significance and to respect the culture.

Daryl Moncrieff, Wawoolem, 18 June 2008

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You get two different types of swamp hens here. The black ones with the red legs, and grey ones with speckles that sort of look like pea hens, ones that waddle across the road. There's the biggest mob of them in there. As far as I'm concerned this shouldn't be touched. Leave it natural.
Carol Hapke, Darram, 18 June 2008

We need to simplify it a little bit more, you know. I feel really restricted because I've got fire breaks and everything in, and I know how to burn, why can't I just burn? Simple things, like people need to know you don't burn with the wind, you burn against it.
Carol Hapke, MG Corporation office, 18 June 2008

If you let us know, we don't need to be part of it, but you let us know you're going to be burning, we'll make sure we've got a vehicle there on standby with water in case you get stuck or caught out, we can come out and help you quite quickly.
Ed Hatherly, MG Corporation office, 18 June 2008

Darram should be natural, there's a big mob of birds here, that's why we want a survey done, to know what's here. Let people come and have a look, if they have to pay a fee they pay a fee, we don't know, we haven't got to that stage of talking about it yet.
Carol Hapke, Darram, 18 June 2008

Ngamoowalem Park and Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve

Issues at Ngamoowalem Park and Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve discussed during the preparation of the joint planning guidelines

We talked out on country about many of the issues raised in the CPF, and new issues including:
• Visitor experiences—possibility of a walking or camel trail along one of the old stock routes, going through to Goose Hill, and other parts of the park and nature reserve, which could be developed as a business by Galamanda Dawang.
• Language of the Goose Hill area.
• Collecting cultural records from places like the Kimberley Land Council for inclusion in our cultural information system.
• Fire management, including changing practices in response to climate change impacts.
• Visitor facilities and tourism business opportunities for the Jigoomirri (Wirrjilwarim) Dawang at Galija with possible guided tours through to the springs on the eastern side of Ngamoowalem range. This park could also be the starting point for the Galamanda trail (see also Tourism business development policy).
• The need to go through specific site plans for toilets, barbeques etc. on-country with the senior Dawang garrayilng for the area (see Visitor Management policy).
• The very high natural values of Parry Lagoons—research to date indicates that this area has the highest biodiversity in the Kimberley, including populations of the rare Gouldian Finch.
• The proposal for an interpretive centre and coffee shop at Telegraph Hill looking over Parry Lagoons. Dawawang supported this idea as worthy of further discussion with their families, MG Corporation and other Dawang.

Our ground maps of Ngamoowalem and Parry Lagoons
Talking about management at Ngamoowalem and Parry Lagoons

Goose Hill there, that was a big holiday camp, all the people used to sit down, all meet up there and sing, corroboree and everything. Exchanging song, and story.
Edna O’Malley, Button Crossing, 17 June 2008

My grandmother told me that area in Goose Hill had a different language, called Gallawooring, but it was similar to Gija and Minuwing.
Margaret Moore, 17 June 2008, photographed at Goolalawa, Goose Hill outstation, cooking for planning field work.

Planning discussions at Button Crossing, June 08

Grass isn’t drying off in that cold weather season for us to burn off. Everything is still green. You’ve got to educate through the garrawayng, the old people, again now. They’ve got to recognise that country, that’s it’s time to burn off but you won’t be burning off at that first sign of the cold coming in anymore. Because of the whole global change. We won’t touch that grass at Molly Spring because the grass is brown on top but green underneath, you’re only making smoke get up.
Edna O’Malley, Button Spring, 16 June 2008

What we know from the limited amount of research or survey work that’s been done in the Kimberley, Parry Lagoons is the most diverse place in the Kimberley. This place has got more species of reptiles, more plants, more birds, than anywhere else in the Kimberley.
Daryl Moncrieff, 17 June 2008, Telegraph Hill

Above: Parry Lagoons and the bird hide.
Barrberrm and Goomiyig Parks

Issues at Barrberrm and Goomiyig discussed during the preparation of the joint planning guidelines

We talked out on country about many of the issues raised in the CPF such as:

• The past history of frontier conflict between traditional owners and European settlers in the parks.

• Access issues—access to Kumbarumba (Goorrboome) and Barrberrm might be better from the Keep River National Park; parts of the track from Kununurra to Goorrboome could be fixed up to give better access; a fire break on the eastern side of Cave Springs Range might give access to some suitable country for camping.

• Visitor opportunities—a long walking trail could be appropriate at Barrberrm; more discussion is needed before deciding on the best location for a museum or interpretive centre (an idea from the CPF). At Goomiyig, Dawang would like to have a lookout where you can see over toward Barrberrm, with a car park at the bottom of the hill. Dawang view Cave Springs as a suitable place for both visitor and Dawang camping, but would like to see the road pulled back further away from the rock-hole. Other visitor experiences that Dawang view as appropriate around Cave Springs include rock climbing from a fixed rope point; bushwalking; horse riding; bike-riding; and orienteering.

• Safety issues with visitors to Barrberrm—there are dingoes here, which means allowing visitors to bring their dogs in will help make sure they are safe. Any walking track needs to be clearly marked so visitors don't get lost.

• Kumbarumba (Goorrboome)—possibilities for working together to upgrade the facilities here for the benefit of both park management and the community need to be discussed with the senior Dawawang.

Our ground maps of Barrberrm and Goomiyig
Talking about management at Barrberrm and Goomiyig

They were chasing our people through here, shooting them from this hill. Different to that time, now we're here as friends together, black and white.

Alice Boombi, Barrberrm, 9 July 2008

We need to talk to the people in the Northern Territory about how we could work with them to set up walking tracks. There’s no point building exactly the same things that they’ve got just over the border—the idea would be to try to work with them to provide a bigger range of things for people to do, but not just repeat it.

Daryl Moncrieff, 8 July 2008

Ranger Leslie Moore cooking at Kumbarumba during park planning.

Where there’s a community adjacent to the park like this, it may be well worth investing in some of the infrastructure that’s already established. Toby is the boss for this country, so we need to talk with Toby about that... but maybe we can make sure the toilet’s working and there’s water here so we can come for camps.

Scott Goodson, Kumbarumba, 8 July 2008
Mijing, Jemandi-Winingim Parks and Point Spring Nature Reserve

Issues at Mijing, Jemandi-Winingim Parks and Point Spring Nature Reserve discussed during the preparation of the joint planning guidelines

We talked out on country about many of the issues raised in the CPF, and new issues including:

• Connections between Gajerrong families and country in the parks.
• Cultural boundaries and stories on country.
• Daegeng is the Gajerrong word for traditional owners, not Dawang (Miriwoong term).
• Gajerrong language needs to be used in the management of the parks on Gajerrong country, using the Gajerrong dictionary.
• Having a Ranger station at Ningbing community.
• The cultural significance of the caves at Mijing and the need to protect them from interference.
• The idea of a camping area and some simple basic infrastructure at Point Spring to make it easier to spend more time on country.
• Being able to take dogs with us camping.
• Weed and pest control—making sure it’s safe for our people and our country.
• The use of “Judas” donkeys as part of donkey control programs.
• The importance of being on country for both people and country, including both young people and old people together.
• The fence at Point Spring Nature Reserve—the MG Rangers have helped repair the fence this year, to keep cattle out. Dawang would like to improve fence management and implement a proper restoration project at Point Spring.

Talking about management at Mijing, Jemandi-Winingim and Point Spring

Walked through over there when I was young. No kids. We bin footwalking. No motorcar. Foot job. We bin walk right through. I know the country. This country. Stories for the country, I have them, and them two fellas Ronnie and Teddy, and the Aldus brothers here.

Mignonette Jamin, Mijing, 30 October 2008

We finished the Gajerrong dictionary in 2001. We can use Gajerrong language here in this park.

Kim Aldus, Mijing, 30 October 2008, pictured with brother Mark Aldus

That hill there, one, two, three, four, five, that one there got a big dam, where the crocodile go down there. Nobody can go bogey, swim there, it might bite them.

Mignonette Jamin and Kim Aldus, 30 October 2008, pictured below
3 Our joint planning policies

Joint statement of our planning guidelines for consultation and joint decision-making

Our joint vision for protocols for consultation and decision-making
Our joint vision is to have a set of formal and informal protocols for consultation and decision-making about the parks, clearly laid out and followed by everyone. These protocols provide the means for joint decision making. The protocols must be consistent with the Ord Final Agreement.

Our joint values and responsibilities for protocols
According to Miriwwung-Gajerrong Law and custom, Dawang are the key decision-makers about their traditional country. The Cultural Planning Framework describes the many contemporary structures that Miriwwung and Gajerrong people have established to provide for decision-making by Dawang. DEC and CCWA also have significant decision-making responsibilities in relation to the conservation estate. Our protocols will provide guidance for bringing these separate decision making roles and processes together for joint decision-making.

Consultation and joint decision-making issues of concern to us
The Ord Final Agreement establishes the rules about how MG people and the State will work together to make decisions about the parks. Our protocols to guide joint consultation and joint decision-making will be completely consistent with these rules, and include simple statements on the following:

- **Roles of organisations**: the roles of all the key entities involved in decision-making about the MG conservation estate, including the MG Corporation, Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council and Park Sub-Councils, the Dawang Land Trust, MG#1 and #4 PBCs, CCWA, DEC, and other government agencies (e.g. Industry and Resources).
- **Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council**: the YDRPC mission, role, accountability, key duties of members, intercultural meeting processes (use of language, participatory development of agendas, preparation of MG members for consideration of agenda items perhaps through meeting the day before, location of meeting, decision-making at meetings through voting, consensus and other arrangements as detailed in Ord Final Agreement)\(^\text{12}\).  
- **Delegation table**: a listing of the types of decisions and the level of consultation/delegated decision-making; the table on the following pages provides an example of what could be included, filled out only for the decision-making process around the MG CPF and the YD JPG.
- **Free, prior and informed consent**: the processes to ensure consultation is equitable, provides appropriate information, and allows for informed consent, including proper notification for Dawawang about proposed visits, meetings and other matters.

\(^{12}\) OFA Schedule 10, section 10 details the rules for consensus and voting at the Regional Park Council meetings.
• **Conflict resolution:** processes for resolving conflict, both between Dawang and between MG people and DEC, including the roles of the Garnaying and the MG Corporation, consistent with the rules for voting in the OFA.

• **Code of Conduct:** how the MG Corporation Code of Conduct applies to MG representatives on the YDRPC, and the DEC Code of Conduct applies to DEC staff.

• **Financial decision-making:** processes for DEC to report on money matters and ensure that MG people are able to fully understand reports.

• **Dawang and Garnaying data base:** a list of names of Dawang and Garnaying to contact for meetings for parks business; also need to keep updating the genealogical database held by the MG Corporation.

• **Committees:** The OFA provides for the YDRPC to appoint committees and these may prove useful to streamlining decision making and advice to the YDRPC—for example a Finance Committee, and/or a YDRPC Procedures Committee. Small working groups have proved useful to date in addressing issues such as the employment of Rangers.

**Our proposed strategies and actions**

Development of protocols to address all the issues listed above will occur over time.

**Steps and resources**

The first step will be to agree on a process to develop these protocols.

**Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not**

An annual review of the effectiveness of our joint decision-making processes, and of the performance of the YDRPC, would be useful.

**Important documents**

The Ord Final Agreement
MG Corporation Code of Conduct
DEC Code of Conduct

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**Talking about protocols**

When you've go to sort out argument, you've got to get the old people in, the Garnaying, regardless of whether they come from the Northern Territory, they're the ones that tell the Law. Get a Garnaying meeting, to set people straight.

Edna O'Malley, Button Crossing, 17 June 2008, pictured below with Leese Gallagher

If it's about country that we can't solve, it has to go back to the MG Corporation. Not the park council. If it's a serious kind of thing, it's have to come back to the MG Corporation I reckon. Cause that's where we have senior members, sitting on the MG Corporation. We've got more bosses sitting there. And we've got all the code of conduct and everything there.

Margaret Moore, YDRPC Chairperson, 28 October 2008, pictured left with MG Corp CEO David Saunders at the launch of the CPF.
### Example of Proposed Table of Delegations for Joint Decision-Making

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>CCWA</th>
<th>MG Corp. and associated entities</th>
<th>YDRPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare CPF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endorse CPF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare JPG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt JPG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare Management Plans etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluate Management Plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare infrastructure plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt infrastructure plans</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Receive information on mining applications</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Negotiate mining applications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PBC #1 or #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare weed, fire, research and other plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approve weed, fire, research and other plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Approve visits to country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Approve site of picnic table</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Financial management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare proposed annual budget</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare reports on money received and expended</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Receive reports as above and proposed budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adopt budget</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Approve variations to budget &lt;$50k</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approve variations to budget &gt;$50k</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conduct of RPC Meetings</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare proposed agenda</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Approve agenda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approve location</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss agenda items prior to meeting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Risk management</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare due diligence</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adopt due diligence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Human Resources</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Appoint Rangers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appoint MG Coordinator</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Sub-Councils</th>
<th>Garraying</th>
<th>Dawang</th>
<th>DEC Regional Director</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X Consultant</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>DEC staff</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dept Mining</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joint statement of our planning guidelines for research

Our joint vision for research
Our joint vision is to have science and Miriuwung-Gajerrong traditional and cultural knowledge working side by side to provide the information we need to manage the parks. We will bring the two knowledge systems together through working jointly on research projects.

Our joint values and responsibilities for research protocols
The table at the end of this policy highlights our common approaches such as ‘learning by doing’ and an interest in knowing more about country, as well as differences in our experiences with scientific and Indigenous knowledge systems.

Research issues of concern to us
Both Dawawang, DEC and CCWA want to understand the changes that are happening on country, and the best ways of managing these changes. Examples of some questions MG people have asked about their country include:

• How is climate change affecting our country? What will this mean in the future?
• How are weeds and pests affecting our country? What can be done to control them?
• Why is our bush turkey a lot less plentiful than in the past? Why does it only lay two eggs?
• How will water extraction for agriculture affect our wetlands in Parry Lagoons?
• What other impacts will agriculture have on our country in the conservation parks?
• How are our bush medicines best managed in the parks?
• What are the best ways of recording our cultural knowledge to keep it strong?
• How will our coastal and marine areas be best managed into the future?

We are also aware that scientists from a large number of research organisations have conducted research on our conservation areas in the past. We need to understand the outcomes from this research and what it means for management of our conservation areas. We would like to bring all this research together so it’s easy to get at. Dawawang and scientists spending time on country together is a good way to share knowledge. The above questions are only examples of what we would like to know more about—we have many more questions.

The research issues that we need to address include:

• Research understanding—how can we facilitate MG people’s requirement to know about and understand all the research that is happening on their country?
• Research gap—what are the gaps in our knowledge, and how can we fill these gaps?
• Research priorities—what are the most important research needs?
• Research protocols incorporating:
  • Agreements—approvals, agreements, permits and partnerships for research, including protection of Miriuwung-Gajerrong intellectual and cultural property rights; approval processes for photography, film, recording and media; and recognition of the people and the place in research outcomes through joint publications and other means.
  • Approaches—how research will benefit Miriuwung-Gajerrong people including for example through:
    ▶ Payment for the involvement of Dawawang in research, and other benefit-sharing.
    ▶ Training and education for younger Dawawang in science.
  • Research feedback—what are the best ways of making sure information from the research gets back to people, including Dawawang and garrnyilng, and is used in park management?

We recognise that current WA government legislation (Conservation and Land Management Act 1984) does not require that researchers always obtain permits or follow our protocols. However, we agree that developing voluntary protocols and permits is a good way forward.

Our joint strategies and actions on research protocols
We agree on the need for a joint research plan to identify gaps and prioritise the research we need. Priorities are based on management requirements, including Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural management requirements. All research proposals and outcomes will be presented to the Park Council. We also agree on the need for research protocols to guide research approvals, approaches and feedback. DEC would like to make sure that these protocols can apply across all the land MG people are concerned with, and that the principles are relevant for other Traditional Owner groups.

Our joint steps and resources for research protocols
We will start by developing our joint research plan for our parks, and our research protocols. The protocols need to clearly identify the role of the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council in making decisions about issuing research permits, making approvals in some cases and related matters such as monitoring of existing projects.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not
Our joint research plan will include monitoring and evaluation, and consider use of cultural indicators.

Important documents
Existing Research Protocols:

• Australia Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait studies. 2000. Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies. Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.
• Northern Australia Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance. Guidelines and Protocols.
• Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. 2007. Aboriginal Research Engagement Protocol.
Talking about research protocols

There’s research that’s never been presented back. That sort of stuff has to come back to the mob in some shape or form. That’s vital information about country.

As far as DEC is concerned, there’ll be no research without going through the proper protocols. We need to establish some regional protocols, as well as our Miriuwung Gajerrong protocols.

Scott Goodson, Point Spring, 31 October 2008, pictured below with Merle Carter

Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on Research Protocols

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our research protocol visions</th>
<th>Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
<td>Our vision is to have all researchers informing us about their research, and engaging Traditional Owners in their research as much as possible. We would also like to conduct our own research.</td>
<td>DEC Vision</td>
<td>Conservation Commission Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Research, including that conducted by CCWA, will continually improve knowledge about the parks and underpin decisions regarding park management. All researchers will inform Miriuwung-Gajerrong people and all managers about their research and engage Traditional Owners in their research as much as possible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our values and responsibilities

We support people coming on to our country to carry out research, but they also need to show respect for Dawang and for our responsibilities to country.

DEC understands that Traditional Owners have responsibility for country and it is important that the knowledge that comes with this is applied when managing the parks. DEC is very supportive of “learning by doing”. DEC is responsible for managing the parks according to the best information available, identifying areas where research is required, and then applying the knowledge gained.

Wildlife research by people outside of DEC operates under a permit system managed by DEC under the Wildlife Conservation Act. For those areas we jointly manage, approvals would only be given when both DEC and the Park Council or Dawang agree. We may support a range of research partnerships, such as that currently with the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service. Department of Indigenous Affairs is responsible for Aboriginal cultural heritage research under the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

Managers are responsible for managing the parks according to the best information available, identifying areas where research is required, and then applying the knowledge gained.

Managers should understand that Traditional Owners have responsibility for country and it is important that the knowledge that comes with this is applied when managing the parks.

People coming onto country to carry out research need to show respect for Dawang and their responsibilities to country. Approvals for research should only be given when both managers and the Park Council agree.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research protocol issues of concern to us</th>
<th>Miriuwing-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We are concerned that we don’t know about the research being conducted on our country. We are also concerned about people going on to our sacred sites and culturally sensitive places. We are also concerned that researchers don’t let us know what they have found out—sometimes information gets passed onto others without us even getting a copy of the report. In the past researchers have taken information from us without returning any benefit to the community. We don’t want that to happen again. We want our intellectual and cultural property rights to be properly protected.</td>
<td>Traditional Owners need to feel comfortable sharing information and collaborating in research with DEC. All research on country needs to be presented to the Park Council or Dawang.</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges that Traditional Owners want information from research to be shared with them and their intellectual and cultural property rights protected. Practices should ensure that Traditional Owners feel comfortable sharing information and collaborating in research with managers. All research on country needs to be presented to the Park Council. There are complex issues surrounding intellectual property but information gathered from research on country should be presented to the Park Council whenever possible.</td>
<td>Our steps and resources We need to develop research protocols for our parks that put Traditional Owners in the driving seat and ensure appropriate engagement and protection for our intellectual and cultural property rights. Research programs addressing bush medicines should be part of our cultural recording program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Our proposed strategies and actions** Our own priority is for research that strengthens our cultural knowledge, for example our knowledge of bush medicine. Researchers should work under a Code of Ethics to ensure confidentiality, and must follow protocols that ensure our intellectual and cultural property rights are protected. Researchers must have permission before sharing any information gathered from Miriuwing-Gajerrong people. We would like researchers to seek our permission before going onto the parks. The MG Corporation should include information on their web-site for researchers letting them know that they need to contact us before starting their research. We would like a copy of all the research reports. We would like Traditional Owners to be paid to go out onto country to work with researchers. Researchers should includeTraditional Owner payments in their budgets when they are applying for research grants. | Research priorities within the parks should be driven by management requirements, which includes the MG People’s cultural requirements, and in accordance with the Regional Nature Conservation Service Plan. Research is an important component of managing the parks’ values. Management of the parks should be adapted according to research outcomes. Research should be collaborative with a range of partners wherever possible to ensure that the parks are being managed with the best available information. The transfer of knowledge needs to be both ways to make sure that the parks can be managed together in the most effective way possible. | All researchers need a permit with conditions before working in the parks. Permits should be issued to organisations and individuals that have been approved by Park Council or Dawang to work on country. Research is an important component of managing the parks’ values. The Conservation Commission acknowledges that the Miriuwing-Gajerrong people’s priority is for research that strengthens their cultural knowledge. Research priorities within the parks should also be driven by other management requirements and in accordance with the Regional Nature Conservation Service Plan. The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwing-Gajerrong concern that researchers should ensure confidentiality and protect their intellectual and cultural property rights. Researchers must seek permission before going onto the parks and should gain permission before sharing any information gathered. | DEC should work with Traditional Owners to develop a research protocol for DEC researchers and external researchers to adhere to. |

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**Our proposed strategies and actions** Our young people can learn on the job with researchers in the field. Research programs addressing bush medicines should be part of our cultural recording program. | DEC Perspective | CCWA Perspective |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our steps and resources We need to develop research protocols for our parks that put Traditional Owners in the driving seat and ensure appropriate engagement and protection for our intellectual and cultural property rights. We could start by collecting other research protocols—for example from NAILSMA, the Desert Knowledge CRC, or from other joint-managed parks.</td>
<td>There should be a research plan to coordinate research in the parks. The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwing-Gajerrong people’s need to develop research protocols for their parks that put Traditional Owners in the driving seat and ensure appropriate engagement and protection for their intellectual and cultural property rights. Management should work with Traditional Owners to develop a research protocol and support Miriuwing-Gajerrong people in collecting other research protocols. There should be a research plan to coordinate research in the parks.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Joint statement of our planning guidelines for park boundaries and linkages

Our joint vision for park boundaries and linkages

Our joint vision is for our parks to have boundaries that include as many different types of country as possible, and also cultural places that Dawang see as important to the management of the park. We will work together to make sure our joint management approach has good linkages with country and people outside our park boundaries.

Our joint values and responsibilities for park boundaries and linkages

The table at the end of this policy highlights our common recognition of the need for holistic management across country, and our concerns that some of the park boundaries make this difficult.

Park boundary and linkage issues of concern to us

The boundaries for the new conservation parks were agreed through the Ord Final Agreement. Under the OFA, some areas adjacent to the park will be cleared and planted with crops under irrigation. The park boundaries under the OFA are not all practical for the use and management of the parks by MG people, or for the protection of natural and cultural values. The table below sets out the management challenges associated with boundaries for each of the parks. Some of the issues in addressing these challenges include:

- Under the OFA, agricultural expansion is planned for most of the flat areas with good soil adjacent to the parks, and this is unlikely to change in the near future.
- DEC, Dawawang and MG Corporation do have opportunities to influence the way that the agricultural land next to the park is developed through the Environmental Management Plan for the new farms under the OFA. We can work together to find ways to minimise the impact of land clearing and irrigation on the natural and cultural values of the parks adjacent—for example on the wetlands in Parry Lagoons.
- As we get better at joint planning and management, there will be opportunities to bring more conservation areas into joint management arrangements between DEC and MG people. We are already starting to work on joint planning for Parry Lagoons and Point Spring Nature Reserve, and at Wawoodem.
- DEC, Dawawang and MG Corporation have opportunities to negotiate coordinated joint management across the WA/NT border between Barrberrm and the Keep River National Park. Miriuwung people’s traditional lands extend on both sides of this border.
- DEC, Dawawang and MG Corporation also have opportunities to negotiate formal agreements (under section 16A of the CALM Act) about management of places with important cultural and natural values adjacent to the parks—for example with the pastoralist who currently has the Martin Gap rock art sites on his lease. DEC has experience in doing these agreements with neighbours of other parks. For the MG parks, any agreement should be a three-way agreement between DEC, the MG Corp and the pastoralist.

Our joint strategies and actions for park boundaries and linkages

Our overall approach will be to take up and create opportunities to extend the park boundaries where appropriate, and to negotiate with our neighbours to link up our joint management approach.

Our joint steps and resources for joint management of park boundaries and linkages

We have started to work together to address the issues about park boundaries and linkages:

- Goomiyig—We are becoming more familiar with the boundaries of Goomiyig on the ground to identify if there are good places to camp there. We need to bring some Dawawang over from NT to help us with that. We will start thinking about development of a three-way management agreement with our neighbours if we can’t find a good camping place within the current boundary. We will also start talking with the pastoralists about opportunities to include Martin’s Gap16, and the rock art there, into our management arrangements. The Management Plan will address these issues.
- Barrberrm—The YDRPC has written to the NT Government seeking talks about linking up management between Barrberrm and Keep River National Park. We will also start discussing this issue between MG Corporation and the Northern Land Council on behalf of the Dawang.
- Wawoodem and Durrum—We are including Wawoodem Reserve into our overall Management Plan for the new conservation parks under the OFA, and the creation of a legal reserve with appropriate boundaries is under way. In the longer term, we plan to include the Carr Boyd Ranges into joint conservation management.
- Ngmoowalum—We will include a Management Plan for Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve in our overall Management Plan for the new conservation parks under the OFA.
- Mijing and Jeamandji-Winingim—We will include a Management Plan for Point Spring Nature Reserve in our overall Management Plan for the new conservation parks under the OFA. We will also consider three-way management agreements with the neighbouring landholders between Mijing and the Western Mamingim so we can get better linkages between those two conservation parks. We have been out onto country with our Garmayi (senior cultural leaders) to become more familiar with the cultural boundaries in this part of our country.

We will make sure we have input into the Environmental Management Plan for the farms as the developments progress.

Talking about park boundaries and linkages

What we’ve done in other areas where we haven’t had any legal right to manage an area is signed a formal agreement with the pastoralist—there’s some mound springs up to the north that are on Carlton Hill pastoral lease. So we’ll go and build a fence around the mound springs to protect them from the cattle getting in and trampling it all down. All the pastoralist does is agree they should be protected and we do the rest. But under a part of state law we can prosecute people if they do the wrong thing, if they go in and start clearing the vegetation, we can take them to court.

Daryl Moncrieff 9 July 2008

16 Under Miriuwung culture, parts of Goomiyig are associated with men’s business, and other parts with women’s business.
Rather than have a boundary halfway up the hill, we could put the boundary down on the flat land. If it’s important enough we could put a fence in and maintain and protect it that way. But we need to talk to the pastoralist about that and chase it up.

Daryl Moncrieff, 9 July 2008

We should still go ahead with the management. By going ahead with it, it puts our stamp on it. We’re here and we’re managing it. We want to put the Carr Boyd Ranges in there too, so those areas can be protected from the cultural side.

Carol Hapke, Wawoolem, 18 June 2008

The view has changed and now they are willing to excise that area out and include it into our joint management arrangements… but we’re more likely to have success if we’ve got a plan that says this is how we’re going to manage it.

Scott Goodson, Wawoolem, 18 June 2008

The view has changed and now they are willing to excise that area out and include it into our joint management arrangements… but we’re more likely to have success if we’ve got a plan that says this is how we’re going to manage it.

Scott Goodson, Wawoolem, 18 June 2008

Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on park boundaries and linkages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our park boundaries and linkages visions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
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<td>Our vision is to have boundaries for the parks that reflect our cultural connections to our country and allow us to look after our country properly. We also want to have good linkages with country and people on the other side of our park boundaries.</td>
<td>DEC Vision</td>
<td>Conservation Commission Vision</td>
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<td>That the new parks will protect as many different types of country as possible within their boundaries. Park management will be coordinated and integrated with neighbouring lands for the protection of biodiversity, cultural heritage and other values.</td>
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<td>DEC’s Good Neighbour Policy says that we need to work with our neighbours to protect the values within the parks and nearby, and to make sure that the way the parks are managed doesn’t negatively impact on our neighbours. Problems that we can work on together are things like fire, weeds, and feral animals.</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission understands that the parks need to have the best possible boundaries to protect cultural sites and allow Dawawang to properly manage country.</td>
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**Our values and responsibilities**

All of our traditional country is important to us, and we recognise that not all of it will be in the new parks—for example some of our traditional land will become new agricultural areas under the OFA. However, the boundaries need to be practical for our use and management of country. We need to be able to visit and camp on our country to look after it. We need the boundaries to include important cultural sites in each area for which we have responsibility—we don’t want situations where the most important cultural sites are just outside the park boundary. Our traditional lands inside the parks are also affected by the actions of people outside the parks. We have traditional links with nearby Traditional Owner groups, and we want our management to strengthen these linkages. We also want to develop cooperative management with non-Indigenous landholders on the other side of the park boundaries—for example to make sure their cattle, fites, weeds etc. don’t cross over into our parks. In some cases, we will need fences. We want to make sure that all our parks are connected with country that allows our native animals to move across it.

Many of our parks do not have good boundaries: • Goominyg—this park boundary seems to mainly follow a contour line around the Cave Spring and Pincome Ranges, excluding flat land and nearby springs. The boundary makes it very difficult to fulfil our cultural responsibility to be on our land to manage it, as there is no flat ground to camp on near water. We would like the boundary to be moved away from the hill so that the park includes some flat land near water holes. We would also like the boundary to move south to take in the hills to the south of Martin’s Gap—this area has many paintings and cultural sites in it which we need to be able to manage. On the Northern Territory side, they talk about extending the Keep River Park as far as Nilgem lagoon. We would like the Goominyg park to link up with Nilgem and the country around it. • Barbrerrm—this park borders on to Keep River National Park on the NT side of the border. We would like our management to work closely with the NT park joint management and the Traditional Owners, with whom we have strong cultural connections. • Wawoolem and Darram—the proposed Wawoolem boundary leaves out the most important sacred cultural sites in this area, as well as the spring. That boundary will make management very difficult indeed, as the spring attracts visitors, who impact on our cultural sites and on the water, rock, soil and vegetation in the area. • Ngamoowlem—Ngamoowalem and Parry Lagoons management needs to be closely coordinated, we would like to see joint management extended to cover Parry Lagoons. • Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim—these parks are both the country of the Wardanybeng Dawang. We would like to see a change to the boundaries of Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim Parks so that the two parks are connected, and not separated by other land-uses. Our old people walked that way between these parks, DEC needs advice from Dawawang to ensure the best possible boundaries are chosen for the parks.
Joint statement of our planning guidelines for access

Our joint vision for access
Our joint vision is to have sufficient access to country in our parks to fulfil our management obligations, including Dawawng cultural roles and responsibilities, and to enable visitors to enjoy our parks, while making sure that the natural and cultural heritage values are protected.

Our joint values and responsibilities for access
The table at the end of this policy highlights our common interest in having good access to the conservation areas for management purposes, and some ideas about potential ways around our resource limitations.

Access issues of concern to us
Many access issues will need to be managed and decided together. Some issues that will need to be addressed include:
- Currently we do not have sufficient resources to provide all-weather year-round access to our conservation parks, nature reserves and nearby communities.
- An alternative approach is just to fix up troublesome parts of the access roads, and provide access during the drier months.
- Robust four wheel drive vehicles can overcome some of the limitations of road quality—Dawawng and DEC can plan field trips for cultural education and recording around school holiday times to facilitate access to country.
- Various agencies have responsibilities for maintenance of our access roads, and there is an opportunity for better coordination between them.
- Roads can potentially impact on cultural heritage values.

Our joint strategies and actions on access
Our joint strategies and actions on access will focus on:
- Infrastructure Plan—including the likely costs for upgrading and maintaining road access into the parks in our infrastructure plan.
- Management Plans—developing clear plans for road access in each of the park Management Plans.
- Access Plans—for each park, including associated economic development opportunities that will come from better access, and annual maintenance plans. Opportunities for the responsibility for access roads to be shared with other organisations like the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley need to be fully explored. The Access Plan also needs to identify where easements need to be created to enable legal access to the parks. Opportunities for improving access as part of bush fire mitigation and general works program on the parks need to be considered.

Our joint steps and resources for access
We have identified some of the steps to follow on our access ideas from the MG CPF:
- Wawoolem and Darram
The MG CPF notes that resources to upgrade access to Wawoolem were agreed through the OFA, and work is underway and also that boat and road access to Darram should be considered. During discussions for the YD JFG we identified that road access to Darram was not really practical and that we would need to have boats to manage this park.
- Ngamoowlem and Galamanda
In early 2008, the WA Government announced its intention to allocate $15 million to upgrade the road through from Bandaba to Mantinea Flat as part of the agricultural development. This upgrading would increase the visitation to all the rock-holes on the eastern side of Ngamoowlem Range, but would not go as far as Goolalawa. We discussed the idea of seeking an extension of the upgrade to provide access to Goolalawa.
- Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim
The MG CPF documents the need for upgrades of the roads to Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim and the potential for these to occur through Ord Stage 2 and the associated Aboriginal Development package. No progress has been made due to the hold-ups associated with Ord Stage 2.

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<td>Park boundaries and linkages management issues of concern to us (cont. from previous page)</td>
<td>and we want to see that connection maintained. We would also like to see the Point Spring Nature Reserve included into Jemandi-Winingim, and the joint management extended to cover this area. The park boundaries do not link-up our country, as all our parks are separated by other land uses. In the long term, a lot of this land may be cleared or damaged so that our native plants and animals can’t cross it easily. We would like to look at ways of making sure our parks have good linkages in the long term. The park boundary and linkage issues are also important in maintaining water quality. During the OFA, it was agreed that fences would be constructed around our Community Living Areas to keep cattle out—we’d like to make sure this happens.</td>
<td>Support the involvement of Dawawng in negotiating boundaries that address their concerns. Identify important areas that should be considered for future additions to the parks. Develop strong relationships with the people responsible for managing the land next to the parks so that the areas can be looked after in similar ways.</td>
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Our proposed strategies and actions
Although the park boundaries have now been surveyed, we would like to continue discussing the boundary issues through the OFA Implementation meetings between the WA Government and MG people. We also think there may be opportunities to address the park boundary issues by looking at the lands allocated as buffers around the future agricultural development areas.

Our joint steps and resources
We would like to continue to bring these boundary and linkage issues to the attention of the Government. We also want to work on cooperative approaches with our neighbours.

DEC will work with Dawawng to ensure the best possible boundaries and cooperative approaches.

Managers should work with Dawawng to ensure the best possible boundaries and cooperative approaches with neighbours.
Goomiyig and Barrberrm
The MG CPF set out the requirements for better access to both Goomiyig and Barrberrm, and also notes that Miriunwung country spreads out over the NT border, including into Keep River National Park. During the preparation of the YD JPG, we identified that access to Barrberrm might be easier from the Keep River National Park in the Northern Territory. Discussions should be held with the managers of Keep River National Park regarding the possibility of access from the Northern Territory side to Kumbarumba, Barrberrm and Goomiyig Parks. We also recognized that providing all weather access to Barrberrm is currently beyond the resources available, but trouble spots on the roads can be fixed. Having access to better vehicles will address some of the issues.

During the preparation of the YD JPG, we also considered the initial proposal by DEC¹⁵ for investigation at Goomiyig of a route east of Cave Spring Range as an internal fire break—this route might give access to some good country for camping and should be further considered. We need to bring some Dawawang over from Wirriyilbem (Keep River area) to help us consider these access issues at Goomiyig.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not
We need to work together to find ways to measure Dawang and visitor satisfaction with access to our conservation areas. We will also need to find ways to measure how the roads are impacting on and protecting the natural and cultural values of our parks, and whether the costs of maintenance are justified.

Important documents
Legislation:
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

Policy:
- Some guidance for access roads are included in the National Tourism Investment Strategy, Nature Based Tourism Strategy for WA and Draft Policy Statement 18—Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services
- DEC Good Neighbour Policy provides guidance on access for neighbours

Implementation guidelines:

Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on access

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<tr>
<td><strong>Miriwung-Gajerrong Perspective</strong></td>
<td>Our vision is to have access for getting onto our country for management and fulfilling our cultural responsibilities. We need all-year round access to our communities and tourism businesses on the park.</td>
<td>DEC aims to provide world-class recreation and tourism opportunities, services and facilities for visitors to the areas that it manages, while making sure Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage is protected forever.</td>
<td>There is good access within the park subject to seasonal conditions. The parks provide world-class recreation and tourism opportunities, services and facilities for visitors to the appropriate areas, while making sure Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage is conserved.</td>
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<td><strong>DEC Perspective</strong></td>
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<p>| Our values and responsibilities | Under our Law, we have to visit our country and be on our country to keep it healthy. | DEC acknowledges that a major difficulty for Indigenous people has been their inability to gain secure access to their traditional lands. To this end, DEC has entered into a number of joint management arrangements around the State to provide opportunities for traditional owners to re-establish their links to country and jointly manage for conservation and cultural values. Already this has seen proposed changes to the CALM Act to allow for lands and waters to be vested in an Aboriginal Prescribed Body Corporate (Rudall River National Park and the Great Sandy Desert Nature Reserve) and partners in ILUAs like the one shared with the Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation through the Ord Final Agreement. DEC proudly acknowledges the traditional rights of Miriuwung Gajerrong people and values the knowledge that they are willing to share. Managers should also cater for the interests of visitors where it doesn’t negatively impact on conservation values, can be done safely, is cost effective, is appropriate to the setting and provides a different type of experience than provided elsewhere. |
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<td><strong>Access issues of concern to us</strong></td>
<td>We want to be free from arguments with the State about access to our country. We would like good access roads and a simple system of ringing up the manager of any stations we need to pass through. Poor access roads to our parks and our communities make it hard for us to develop tourism businesses, and cause us problems when visitors get bogged.</td>
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Many parts of the East Kimberley are rugged and wild places, including the joint management areas. Many visitors are not well prepared and could get lost, get stuck, or injure themselves. Damage to roads from people driving on them when they are too wet costs a lot to repair. People will need to respect road closure signs. 

DEC’s Good Neighbour Policy says that we need to work with our neighbours on access issues where appropriate. 

The Conservation Commission acknowledges that poor access roads to parks and communities make it hard for all people. Seasonal conditions will prevent people having access to some parts of the parks. Damage to roads from people driving on them when they are too wet costs a lot to repair. People will need to respect road closure signs.

There may be times when the activities of traditional owners may cause some safety issues for visitors (e.g. hunting). Many parts of the East Kimberley are rugged and wild places, including the joint management areas. Many visitors are not well prepared and could get lost, get stuck, or injure themselves.

| **Our proposed strategies and actions** | All the different parks need a road and access strategy. Raising the necessary funds to maintain the roads is a big challenge, and could be helped by: |
|------------------------------------------|• Charging for permits to visitors to travel on the roads and using the funds for maintenance |
|------------------------------------------|• Charging entry fees for the parks—funds could be divided so that 25% goes to running the Management Plan for the parks, 25% goes to maintaining roads, and 50% goes to Dawang groups for activities on their parks |
|------------------------------------------|• Forming partnerships with pastoralists to maintain common roads, like the one to Muiring |
|------------------------------------------|• Negotiating with miners to fund roads, including the mining exploration group currently based at Sorby Hills inside the Goomiryig Park. |
|------------------------------------------|DEC has an extensive 120 page policy statement (manual) that provides guidance for recreation, tourism and visitor services throughout the state, including access. The policy acknowledges that areas managed by DEC are generally open to public use, although public access to some areas is restricted for reasons of safety and resource protection. 

Public access is required to conservation parks. On most occasions, when a reserve is created there is already a system of roads and tracks in place. Any new roads generally have to wait. Any issues can be addressed in a Management Plan. Access by aircraft is subject to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations. DEC may seek to apply additional conditions for access by agreement with operators. Where there are safety concerns, it may be necessary to close the joint management areas to the public when undertaking some management activities (e.g. cattle control) or hunting by traditional owners. |

An access strategy should be developed for each park. It may be necessary to close the joint management areas to the public when undertaking some management activities or where hunting by traditional owners occurs.

| **Our steps and resources** | We need to start with an access strategy for all the parks, and then work on priorities for getting resources for upgrading the access. |
|----------------------------|DEC and Dawang need to look at existing access and work out whether it is sufficient for (a) providing access to country (b) management and (c) visitors. Existing tracks might not be aligned in a way to allow access to cultural sites for traditional owners or tracks may be too close to some sites. Management access may need to be developed for fencing and or bush fire control, these may offer additional access opportunities for Dawawang so their alignment should be considered with Dawawang needs in mind. Access for visitors needs to consider walking tracks, vehicle tracks and roads and access by air for tour operators (e.g. to a remote fishing camp perhaps). Provision of access also needs to consider the types of recreation activities that are being considered. Funding for maintaining roads could be provided from a number of sources, including tour operator licence fees, entry fees, and government funds. Due to the nature of the parks many access routes will be shared other users such as pastoral operations, irrigators, mines and shire roads, so funding and access agreements with will need to be developed. |

Managers and Dawang need to look at existing access and work out whether it is sufficient for (a) providing access to country (b) management and (c) visitors. Management should consider the alignment of existing tracks, the possibility that management may offer additional access opportunities for Dawawang and access for recreation activities and tour operators. Funding opportunities should be investigated by the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people and managers.
Joint statement of our planning guidelines for living areas

Our joint vision for living areas
Our joint vision is for DEC and Dawang to maximise opportunities to spend time on country for management purposes. Spending time on country is good for both the people and the country.

Our joint values and responsibilities for living areas
Living Areas can play an important role in supporting our capacity to spend time on country for management. There are currently no formal policy documents on, or definitions of, Living Areas. We have therefore not presented a table of MG and CCWA/DEC perspectives. Much of what is in the table of perspectives on bush camps is relevant.

Living areas issues of concern to us
Many Dawang have Living Areas nearby to the conservation areas. In other cases, Dawang aspire to develop new Living Areas, so that they can spend more time on their traditional country. Most of the existing Living Areas have basic facilities, including houses and in some cases water and power supplies. These facilities are very useful for bush camps and trips out onto the nearby parks—none of the new parks currently have any infrastructure or facilities. However, there are also access difficulties, due to poor quality roads that are flooded in the wet season. In many cases Dawang do not have suitable vehicles to get to their Living Areas.

Our joint strategies and actions on living areas
Our joint approach is to cooperate so that the development of the parks and the Living Areas can benefit from each other. For example, we might develop an agreement so that the Dawang support a Ranger station for their nearby park on their Living Areas. Ranger vehicles can help to solve some of the access issues, for part of the year at least. Where Dawang do not currently have Living Areas, we will consider construction of simple facilities to make access onto the parks easier and more comfortable for the old people. DEC will not get involved in supporting infrastructure development on the Living Areas except where it is required for direct support for park management, and with appropriate partnership agreements.

Our joint steps and resources for living areas
As noted in the Cultural Planning Framework, the main park without a Living Area is Jemandi-Winingim. For all our parks, our priority is always to have bush camps and trips onto country, as the first step in considering how to DEC and Dawang can cooperate in the development and use of Living Areas to assist park management. A Living Areas and Infrastructure planning document is needed to establish how we will develop our approach, and make sure it is coordinated with other Living Area and infrastructure development activities, particularly regarding access.

Important documents
There are currently no formal policy documents on Living Areas. We have therefore not tried to incorporate any. However, the infrastructure, management and the access plans are critical for Living Areas (see joint statement on access).

Joint statement of our planning guidelines for bush camps and trips

Our joint vision for bush camps and trips
Our joint vision is to undertake bush camps and trips regularly as part of our joint management. These trips help strengthen connections between Dawang and their traditional country, and provide important opportunities for older people to pass on their knowledge. Bush trips are also a good way to bring cultural and scientific knowledge together.

Our joint values and responsibilities for bush camps and trips
The table at the end of this policy highlights our agreement that passing on of the cultural knowledge of the older people is an urgent priority. We also agree that time spent on country helps build our trust, communication, and capacity for real two-way joint management. MG Rangers need to spend time on their own country in order to gain cultural knowledge and fulfill their cultural obligations.

Bush camps and trips issues of concern to us
Bush camps and trips involve many issues that we are managing and deciding together. Some issues that we have considered (see table below):

- Providing simple facilities to make bush camps and trips more comfortable.
- Sharing facilities between Living Areas and the parks for bush camps and trips.
- Clear strategies for improving access are needed for both bush camps and Living Areas.
- Timing bush trips so that children can be involved—for example on weekends or school holidays.

Our joint strategies and actions on bush camps and trips
We have already started bush camps and trips on country, and have agreed that these will be an important part of our joint management work each year. MG Rangers have an important role to help with setting up and running bush camps.

Our joint steps and resources for bush camps and trips
Bush camps and trips will involve activities like fire, weed and pest management, as well as cultural recording and cultural education.
Talking about bush camps and trips

We can make an area for people to set up their tents. Basic and sensible infrastructure with some toilets adjacent to it, those eco-toilets are not expensive. Somewhere people can meet, a big meeting room, come kitchen, come conference room in a beautiful setting. Every year, school holidays we could do one trip in each of the parks. That’s where we could have our park council meetings. At the end of every wet season, the Rangers go around and clean them out, ready for the year.
Scott Goodson, Point Spring, 31 October 2008

We need to go out and have more bush trips and more camp trips with the oldies. That’s a very important thing.
Margaret Moore, Kununurra, 28 October 2008, picture left at Goolalawa talking with Scott Goodson

Activities on bush camps will depend on what’s in the management plan, but certainly there’d be things like fire management, management of weeds... but even just finding out more about the country, and having knowledge passing on to the young people is really important from our department’s perspective as well.
Daryl Moncrieff, 8 July 2008

We need strong connections to our country to look after it properly. Bush camps and bush trips are an opportunity for our old people, younger people and children to spend time on country together. We need this time on country to pass on knowledge and responsibilities to country, and to fulfil our obligations to our cultural sites, and to our ancestors on the country. Spending time on country together is the very best way for us to start working together with the DEC staff.
DEC understands that a major difficulty for Indigenous people has been their inability to gain secure access to their traditional lands. Joint management arrangements around the State now provide opportunities for traditional owners to re-establish their links to country and jointly manage for conservation and cultural values. DEC acknowledges that bush camps and access are absolutely critical to this.

Our vision for Bush Trips and Camps

Our vision is for bush camps and trips with all our Dawawang to be central in our park management.
Dawawang Vision

DEC has entered into a number of joint management arrangements around the State to provide opportunities for traditional owners to re-establish their links to country and jointly manage for conservation and cultural values. ‘Bush Camps’ have been established in some parks (e.g. Purnululu National Park) where traditional owners can camp out when they go to visit their country.
DEC Perspective

Opportunities for traditional owners to re-establish their links to country and jointly manage for conservation and cultural values are provided. ‘Bush Camps’ are established in some parks where traditional owners can camp out when they go to visit their country.
Conservation Commission Vision

Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on bush camps and trips

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DEC understands that a great deal of knowledge rests with the old people and that it is very important that they are able share this knowledge with the young people. It is important that this is done before it is too late and the knowledge is lost.

The Conservation Commission acknowledges that the main barrier to the organisation of bush camps and trips is the lack of access, and the lack of vehicles and resources. Managers should work together to provide facilities for bush camps to make time on country possible.

We need to work together to provide facilities for bush camps to make time on country possible.
**Our proposed strategies and actions**

We have already started having bush camps and trips as part of the planning for the parks, and we need to keep doing them. We would like to construct some facilities to make bush camps and trips more comfortable for our old people so we can take them out for longer:

- Bough sheds with a concrete floor.
- Composting toilets.
- Tanks for drinking water.
- Paths for wheeled walkers.

Charging fees for tourists on our parks may be one way to finance the basic infrastructure, such as toilets.

The Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers and DEC will be able to help support trips to country for the older people. This will allow the old people to pass on knowledge to the rangers and help them learn about that country and their responsibilities.

There are a number of living areas close to some of the reserves that could be used for on-country trips if they were fixed up (e.g. Kumberumba).

In other places, the rangers could help establish simple facilities that would enable overnight or longer camps.

Managers and Rangers should support trips to country for the older people. They should work to construct some facilities to enable overnight or longer camps. This could include the upgrading of existing living areas close to some of the reserves.

**Our steps and resources**

We need to plan out some bush camps and trips for each of our Dawang groups every year. Some of the work during these trips will be about passing on cultural knowledge and information, and we can also continue with planning about specific issues, like fire management and access.

The Ord Enhancement Scheme (OES) has contributed seed money to the Mirima Dawang Wooralburring Language and Culture Centre to undertake on-country trips for children over ten years old. Purchase of a second-hand bus for further trips is currently being investigated. We'd like to coordinate with the OES and the DEC compound and looked after by the rangers.

There are a number of living areas close to some of the reserves that could be used for on-country trips if they were fixed up (e.g. Kumberumba).

In other places, the rangers could help establish simple facilities that would enable overnight or longer camps.

DEC will ensure that bush camps and trips are included as part of the overall annual works program where it links to relevant park management (e.g. cultural recording and education). DEC also supports relevant Dawang groups to participate in on country projects and activities.

Specific areas on each Park could be developed to provide camping facilities (i.e. toilets, shadey areas, water etc for Dawang groups to visit country).

Portable equipment, such as generators and other camping gear, could purchased and stored at the DEC compound and looked after by the rangers.

The MG rangers and other DEC staff will be able to help organise vehicles and other necessary equipment for trips each year.

Managers should ensure that bush camps and trips are included as part of the overall annual works program where it links to relevant park management.

Management should provide practical support for relevant Dawang groups to participate in on country projects and activities.

Managers and the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people should work together to decide on the support that should be provided and the resources that are available.

Some of the complex cultural issues include:

- Certain parts of country that men can't even look at or talk about; other parts of country that women can't even look at or talk about.
- Certain discussions about fire management that need to be held without the involvement of gardjya.
- In certain places joint fire management might mean the Dawang need to burn without gardjya being present.
- Sometimes Dawang might be happy for DEC to just go and burn certain areas themselves, recognising that DEC has responsibilities and Dawang might not be able to be fully involved.
- When Dawang are involved, the cultural protocols will have to be followed.

Some of the barriers Dawang face when trying to exercise Dawang responsibility for lighting fires on country:

- Under Western Australian law, a permit must be obtained from the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley (SWEK) before any fires are lit on country.
- Although Miriuwung-Gajerrong people believe that the Native Title Act Reprint 1 establishes that native title holders do not need a permit to light fires on country, Dawang want to work through the permit system to build up mutual confidence and respect. The State government may have different advice on the interaction between native title rights and other laws about fire.
- Getting permits to light fires requires having fire control equipment on hand, and fire breaks in place, which is beyond the resources of most Dawang.
- Even the best managed fires can get out of control if weather suddenly changes—and most Dawang do not have the resources for proper risk management processes and insurance to cover accidents.
- Sometimes Dawang have to light fires as a firebreak to protect their country and people from sudden wildfires, before there is any opportunity to get a permit.

Some of the ways that working together can help bring attention to people who are doing the wrong thing include:

- Dawang and DEC can let the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) know about people lighting fires on country without a permit and at the wrong time.
- The FESA arson squad can investigate, talk to people, and prosecute them if there is enough evidence.
- We can involve FESA in our joint fire operations if appropriate.

**Joint statement of our planning guidelines for fire management**

**Our joint vision for fire management**

Our joint vision is for the Miriuwung-Gajerrong People and the WA State conservation agencies to work side by side to share responsibility and each take responsibility equally for fire management. We want to jointly manage fire to look after country and culture, and to make sure that people and property are safe from bushfires.

**Our joint values and responsibilities for fire management**

The table at the end of this policy highlights the complexity of issues around fire management and the need for us to take time to develop a full understanding of each other's approach. Dawang and DEC will talk together each year before any fires are lit on country, and make agreements about when, where and how to burn.

**Fire management issues of concern to us**

Both Dawang, DEC and CCWA are working for the same outcomes in getting the timing of fires right on country, as set out in the table at the end of the policy. Dawang also want to burn some country that is grown-over from not enough fires.

Climate change is now having a noticeable effect on fire management—the grass doesn't cure as quickly any more, and isn't ready to burn when the cold weather starts.

Working together can bring out some complex cultural issues. Working together can also help Dawang overcome many of the barriers Dawang currently face in exercising their responsibilities for fire management on country. Working together can also help bring attention to people who are doing the wrong thing with fire.

Some of the complex cultural issues include:

- Certain parts of country that men can't even look at or talk about; other parts of country that women can't even look at or talk about.
- Certain discussions about fire management that need to be held without the involvement of gardjya.
- In certain places joint fire management might mean the Dawang need to burn without gardjya being present.
- Sometimes Dawang might be happy for DEC to just go and burn certain areas themselves, recognising that DEC has responsibilities and Dawang might not be able to be fully involved.
- When Dawang are involved, the cultural protocols will have to be followed.

Some of the barriers Dawang face when trying to exercise Dawang responsibility for lighting fires on country:

- Under Western Australian law, a permit must be obtained from the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley (SWEK) before any fires are lit on country.
- Although Miriuwung-Gajerrong people believe that the Native Title Act Reprint 1 establishes that native title holders do not need a permit to light fires on country, Dawang want to work through the permit system to build up mutual confidence and respect. The State government may have different advice on the interaction between native title rights and other laws about fire.
- Getting permits to light fires requires having fire control equipment on hand, and fire breaks in place, which is beyond the resources of most Dawang.
- Even the best managed fires can get out of control if weather suddenly changes—and most Dawang do not have the resources for proper risk management processes and insurance to cover accidents.
- Sometimes Dawang have to light fires as a firebreak to protect their country and people from sudden wildfires, before there is any opportunity to get a permit.

Some of the ways that working together can help bring attention to people who are doing the wrong thing include:

- Dawang and DEC can let the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) know about people lighting fires on country without a permit and at the wrong time.
- The FESA arson squad can investigate, talk to people, and prosecute them if there is enough evidence.
- We can involve FESA in our joint fire operations if appropriate.

55 Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth) s211
Our joint strategies and actions on joint fire management

We will work together on planning and implementing our fire plans to build up our joint fire management capacity.

DEC and Dawawang will start talking about the fire management plans for each year early in the year. Dawawang will be supported by DEC to talk together without gardiya if necessary to resolve any cultural issues. Dawawang will have the support of their own staff to record their concerns, and help put them forward in a way that DEC can understand. DEC will include MG cultural information into their work plans for fire management.

DEC staff and Dawawang will work together to light fires on both the conservation parks and the Community Living Areas (CLAs) adjacent to the parks. DEC staff will support Dawawang in making sure both permits and resources are in place. DEC staff will help people understand how the Bush Fires Act 1954 allows them to control sudden wildfires, including by burning around their homes to protect life and property.

DEC and Dawawang will start talking with the three Fire Brigades operating at Pincombe, Crossing Falls and Patsaddle to think about ways to coordinate with fire management across the pastoral leases.

Our joint steps and resources for joint fire management

Gathering and sharing of information about fire management, including MG cultural information, should start straight away. The Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council will meet with relevant staff from the Kununurra Shire Council and the FESA to build up and exchange our knowledge and understanding. We will also meet with the three local Fire Brigades at a suitable time.

Our MG Ranger Program will include training in aspects like fire safety, first aid and fire control to enable our Dawawang Rangers to participate in fire management programs.

Dawawang and DEC will meet prior to the burning season each year to plan out the joint on-country fires schedule for each year. Cultural issues will be addressed through our approach of “always ask” and “always ask about asking”. We will make sure Miriuwung-Gajerrong people are properly supported to make the right decisions about cultural issues.

We will make every effort to make sure there are sufficient resources to support practical exercises of lighting fires together on country. DEC Fire Coordinator will provide the communication link with SWEK (Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley) to make sure permits are in place.

Important documents

Legislation:
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
- Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 (WA)
- Bush Fires Act 1954 (WA)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)

Policy:
- DEC Policy Statement No 19—Fire
- DEC Good Neighbour Policy

Implementation guidelines:
- Fire Operations Manual
- DEC Corporate Plan
- Rangelands NRM Plan, Kimberley Sub-region

Area plans:
- Kimberley Regional Fire Management Plan

Our joint vision:
For managing fire, we got to take into consideration when we burn our country, private property, livestock, what's there. Look where the wind's blowing. But we only use the word culture, that covers everything. What is our culture? Our land, our animals. We recognise we've got the same vision but we've just got it in different words.

Merle Carter, at Mirima National Park, 6 May 2008

Cultural complexity:
The men explained to me the Miriuwung people don't usually talk to gardiya about fires. This is not something that they are used to doing. They said to me "I want to burn we just go and burn...so when do we get to run burning ourselves?". Maybe joint management doesn't mean that we will always be doing joint burning.

Scott Goodson, Mirima National Park, 6 May 2008

Talking about joint fire management

From left: Merle Carter, Ronny Carlton, Kim Aldus during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.

From left: Button Jones and Scott Goodson during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.

From left: Ronny Carlton, Button Jones, Kim Aldus during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.

From left: Ronny Carlton, Button Jones, Kim Aldus during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.

From left: Button Jones and Scott Goodson during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.
Sharing responsibility: They’ve got their law. Joint is when you get together. Like what we’re doing now. The same together. Equal.
Alice Boombi, Mirima National Park, 6 May 2008

Shared responsibility. They’ve got their responsibility to look after the environment too, biodiversity, it will always be there. We can’t take that responsibility away. And then we’ve got our responsibility to do things in the country.
Merle Carter, Mirima National Park, 6 May 2008

Always ask:
They should ask. Then it’s up to the Dawawang to say, it’s alright or, we can’t go there but your mob can go burn that country. Or we might say, wait a minute, we don’t think that’s the proper time to burn. Or, when you want to burn we’ll come with you, we’ll light that fire. Things like that. We’ve got to talk together.
Merle Carter, Mirima National Park, 6 May 2008

DEC supporting Dawawang with permits and resources:
We can sort of set up a protocol with the Shire in terms of getting the permits issued for that community. We demonstrate to the Shire that we’ve looked at what areas we want to burn and how we’re going to manage that fire. The basic elements that we can address quickly to get the permits is just having equipment, and then a map, and then notifications. My role would be to support the community to make sure there’s a map of what you want to do provided to the Shire. We’ll provide some equipment to make available so that you can comply with all the regulations.
Ed Hatherly, Regional Fire Coordinator at Yirralalem 7 May 2008

Simple practical actions to make a fire break with low cost and low environmental impact:
Just drag an old bit of railway line, a sleeper or something. This grass is all dry, it will fall away, it will flatten when we drive over it. Just to scratch down so you have something to work from. Down here, you just go down right on the actual creek line, and come back in ten metres, and let the fire go through to the creek. It’s not going to jump that creek if you put the fire right beside the creek.
Ed Hatherly, Regional Fire Coordinator at Yirralalem 7 May 2008

Women’s business: Dreaming for babies on our country. We got to have Ranger lady for that. That’s why we need men and women Rangers for all our parks.
Alice Boombi, Kununurra, 6 May 2008

DEC staff asking appointment and Golasmanda Dawawang about fire management issues at the MG Corporation office, 7 May 2008. Facing camera from left: Jerry Moore, Margaret Moore, Carol Hepke, Ed Hatherly, Daryl Moncrieff, Laurina Bolen, Pamela Simon. Back to camera from left: Rosamary Hill, Andy Reid, Ephrem Kennedy.

From left: Carol Hepke and Ed Hatherly discuss burning at Yirralalem 7 May 2008.

From left: Pamela Simon explaining cultural issues during joint fire planning at MG Corporation Office, 7 May 2008.

From left: Ed Hatherly and Des Hill discuss burning at Yirralalem 7 May 2008.

From left: Scott Goodson and Paul Hynes discussing maps during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.

From left: Laurina Bolen, Pamela Simon, Daryl Moncrieff, Ephrem Kennedy, Scott Goodson, Paul Hynes discussing maps during joint fire planning, 6 May 2008.
Table on MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on joint fire management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our fire management visions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawawang should burn their country. The older people will tell and show the younger people how to burn. Our MG Rangers will be the right Dawawang for the parks with the right cultural connections for burning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC manages fire to conserve biodiversity and natural values while protecting human life and community assets. DEC's objectives for fire management in this part of the Kimberley are:</td>
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<td>• minimise unplanned fire.</td>
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<td>• burn to establish patches to suit the type of country.</td>
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<td>• protect special plants and animals from bad fire.</td>
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<td>• protect visitors and assets.</td>
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<td>• always look to learn new ways and increase knowledge.</td>
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<td>• develop partnerships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire is managed to conserve biodiversity and natural values while protecting human life and community assets. Unplanned fire is minimised. Areas are burned to establish patches to suit the type of country; special plants and animals are protected from bad fire, visitors and assets are protected, increased knowledge is sought and partnerships are developed.</td>
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<td><strong>Our values and responsibilities</strong></td>
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<td>Under Miriuwung-Gajerrong Law and culture, only Dawawang can burn their country. According to our culture and Law, Government people are not allowed to light fires—only Dawawang for that country can light the fires. We need to burn country for cultural reasons, for Law. Fire is part of our culture. When we don't burn it kills part of our culture. We burn country to get rid of snakes, and for walkthrough. The Dawawang have knowledge about the timing of fire, and how to do fires in different parts of their country.</td>
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<td>DEC has a responsibility under law to manage fire on lands it manages, or where wildfire may threaten that land. DEC also is responsible for prescribed fire on unallocated Crown Land (see map). The CALM Act says DEC will manage lands to which the act applies according to a management plan or, if there is no plan, according to what is necessary to protect biodiversity, people, and property. In the Kimberley Region, the only management plans is for Puurndulu National Park. The management plans that we are currently all working on will be in place for at least 10 years, and then reviewed. DEC's Good Neighbour Policy says that we need to work with our neighbours on fire management where appropriate.</td>
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<td>The Conservation Commission notes the Miriuwung-Gajerrong view that only Dawawang can burn their country. All managers have a responsibility under law to manage fire on the reserve and where wildfire may threaten the reserve. Managers should manage according to a management plan or, if there is no plan, according to what is necessary to protect biodiversity, people, and property.</td>
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<td><strong>Our steps and resources</strong></td>
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<td>We'd like to start with DEC and ourselves listening to each other's approaches and rules. We need some trips onto country to do fire management together. We want to come up with some agreed approaches. We'd also like to share information about some other ways for bringing Indigenous and science-based approaches together.</td>
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<td>The draft Regional Fire Plan is very prescriptive but includes:</td>
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<td>• Undertake wet season burning immediately adjacent to wetlands, including Parry Lagoons and Point Springs Nature Reserve.</td>
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<td>• Early dry season burns no closer than 3km to wetland patches.</td>
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<td>• Build fire management capacity with traditional owners to undertake settlement protection and the protection of indigenous cultural sites.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Conserve fuels from previous season in areas dominated by surghorn to allow wet season and early dry season burning in these areas.</td>
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<td>• Engage Traditional Owners to assist in removal of fuels around cultural assets.</td>
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<td><strong>Fire management issues of concern to us</strong></td>
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<td>We are concerned that DEC are lighting too many fires, burning every year and at the wrong time—burning at the cold time when animals are breeding. We are also concerned a lot of places on our country have grown over with</td>
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<td>DEC is concerned that there are too many fires at the wrong time of year. DEC thinks that fires should be lit in the late wet season and early dry season, not later when fires burn too hot and cannot be controlled. Repeated large, hot fires lead to a loss</td>
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<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges that the issue of fire on the reserves is complex given the history of the pastoral activity in the region and that there are a range of different views about how fire should be managed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where there is access, combine ground and aerial ignition to establish mosaics. In areas of poor access, aerial ignition will be used to establish buffers and mosaics. Where unplanned fires occur and access is available, every effort should be made to suppress fires early. Fire scars, low fuel areas, natural features should be used.</td>
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<td>Managers and the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people and managers should acknowledge the different views and work together to understand and manage fire on the reserves.</td>
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<td>Manangers should go onto country with the Dawawang should to see how to burn it according to Miriuwung-Gajerrong Law and custom and work with the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people to reach agreement about fire, including prescribed fire, planning and implementation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The draft Regional Fire Management Plan should be finalised in consultation with the Conservation Commission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>All managers and the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people should listen to each other's approaches and rules, undertake some trips onto country to do fire management together and come up with some agreed approaches. They should share information about some other ways for bringing Indigenous and science-based approaches together. The draft Regional Fire Management Plan should be finalised.</td>
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Joint statement of our planning guidelines for MG Rangers

Our joint vision for MG Rangers
Our joint vision is for Dawang Rangers with the right connections to be working on country in the parks. The joint Management Plans for the parks will establish how much and what sort of work needs to be done, and from that we will know how many Rangers we need.

Our joint values and responsibilities for Rangers
The table at the end of this policy highlights our common recognition of the importance of MG Rangers’ roles in on-ground management. The cultural aspect for Miriuwung-Gajerrong people is central to this approach.

Ranger issues of concern to us
Dawang, DEC, and CCWA all support the need for MG Rangers to have two-way training in both Miriuwung-Gajerrong culturally-based management, and the government’s approaches. We also recognise the need to have MG Rangers from each of the Dawang groups for the parks. Some of the challenges for us include:

- Dawang would like to have four MG Rangers from each of the eight Dawang for the parks, two men and two women, two older people and two younger people, to meet their cultural requirements.
- DEC do not usually have this many MG Rangers, and finding enough resources to employ, train and manage them all will be difficult.
- Some Dawang who start working as MG Rangers find that the work doesn’t suit them and leave.
- MG people have many local cultural and social obligations and challenges that other DEC staff do not share.
- Our training programs through TAFE don’t have a formal Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural component.
- We have started to think about how the Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural training will be organised, paid for, assessed and factored into our MG Rangers’ qualifications.
- We need a Miriuwung or Gajerrong person as a Trainee Coordinator working alongside the DEC MG Coordinator to keep the cultural side strong within DEC.
- We are interested in the idea of MG Rangers working across all their Dawang, not just in the parks.

Our joint strategies and actions on Rangers
We all support the approach we have developed locally of training our MG Rangers through the local TAFE, and of starting with one MG Ranger from each Dawang. We recognise that getting jobs for MG peoples in the parks is a top priority, and Ranger jobs are a good way to start. More attention needs to be given to the cultural side of training. We need to understand from the garrayilng how the cultural training should be carried out. We know the MG Rangers really appreciate time on country with the garrayilng.

We will work together to bring in more resources so we can build up the number of MG Rangers, in accordance with our joint Management Plans. We will discuss MG Rangers working across all their Dawang with other relevant organisations.

Our joint steps and resources for Rangers
We have started with a trial of employing eight MG Rangers on a seasonal basis, so that we can have one from each Dawang. We need to review this approach together and decide whether and how to take the next step in developing our MG Ranger program for the parks. We would like to employ an MG person as a Trainee Coordinator, and build up their skills to move into the Coordinator role in the future.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not
We need to work together to find ways to measure the success of our MG Rangers, and support the garrayilng to make sure MG Rangers are doing things the right way according to MG culture.

Important documents
Legislation:
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
- Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 (Western Australia)

Policy:
- Draft Policy Statement—Aboriginal Involvement in Nature Conservation and Land Management

Implementation guidelines:
- MATES program
- DEC Aboriginal Training and Employment Strategy

Talking about MG Rangers

For MG, it’s really about people being employed and having access to country, the priority for them was having their rangers. Even though what the mob said was pretty unpalatable—we want eight rangers and not three—the fact that not only did they get a chance to say that and have it listened to, now the department has gone and done that. That’s a pretty big outcome.

And now on our bush trips, those old people and the Rangers, you can see how much that meant to them, seeing those old people back out there. Because those oldies are from the country and the Rangers just felt really comfortable with having them there, it meant a lot to them.

Scott Goodson, 7 August 2008, pictured below left with Alice Boombi, Jessie Gumbai and Jonathon Boombi

We’ve put Rangers in place, we’re being proactive. DEC are working with our Rangers. And the Rangers seemed to be really enjoying their job, you know

We need DEC to train our Rangers, you know. Because they’re, yeah, they’ve got to do all these courses, and only—DEC, we can teach them on the ground how to look after the country, but there’s other things, you know, and certificates, handling venomous snakes.

Merle Carter, Kununurra, 8 August 2008

MG Rangers active in park business during 2008

Above: Jeremiah Hester.
Dawawang don’t have access to good enough cars, so with the Rangers and stuff on board we can come out here a bit more often and start using this place a bit more often, you know.

Scott Goodson, 9 July 2008

We want the Rangers work to come from the cultural side of things. The sooner we get this MG coordinator there working beside Scott the better.

Margaret Moore, 28 October 2008

Ranger told all the good things Aboriginal language… Some of them good people

Blanche Flyingfox, Barrberrm, 9 July 2008 (at right)

For this community longa Ningbing here, we’ve got to have a woman Ranger too.


Rangers’ jobs will depend on what the management plan tells us in the end. But there certainly would be things like fire management, management of weeds; they’d probably be the main ones. But even just finding out more about the country and that knowledge, passing it on to the young people is really important from our department’s perspective as well. Coming out here with the Rangers and the old ladies and doing camps, fits in absolutely with the Parks’ approach to management.

Daryl Moncrieff 9 July 2008


From left: Luke Bentley (Wildlife Officer), Leslie Moore, Jeremiah Hester.

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Ranger with bush tucker, Barrberrm, July 2008.

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Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on Rangers

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<tr>
<td><strong>Our vision for Rangers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
<td>Rangers working on Parks should be part of the Dawawang for that park, with the right family connections. We need two Rangers for each park at the start and four in the longer term, two men and two women for each park, and including both younger and older people. Our Rangers working on the parks need to know Miriuwang-Gajerrong cultural business and knowledge for that country.</td>
<td>DEC recognise the importance to the Dawawang that people with the right cultural connections, both men and women to country or specific park should be the Rangers involved in Parks management. Careful consideration needs to be given regarding the number of Rangers for each Park. For example some Parks may require a higher level of service depending on things like visitation numbers, infrastructure projects such as tourism and specific management outcomes. Seasonal conditions also can hamper access to parks etc. It maybe necessary that we have some full time seasonal rangers and some part time pending on what's happening. DEC believes that whilst the individual Rangers will have specific cultural responsibility to each Park, implementation of works etc will sometimes require a team effort with specific individuals taking the lead role on there Dawawang as culturally appropriate. DEC supports the development of an appropriate cultural training program for MG Rangers that supports them by providing relevant knowledge and cultural protocols for looking after country.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our values and responsibilities for Rangers</strong></td>
<td>Rangers will have lots of work related to cultural matters—organising cultural trips out onto country between old people and young people, keeping the Law and knowledge of country strong, doing fire management, keeping the country clean, making sure rubbish bins are emptied, controlling pests and weeds, and monitoring wildlife. Rangers will also be involved on the business side with tourists, for example</td>
<td>Rangers who may be required to assist with Park management. All managers should have cross cultural training and gain consent before sharing knowledge. Gardiya people should let people know who to contact to find out about stories for country. With permission of Dawawang, all managers could use stories to tell visions about country that will foster attitudes towards protecting country. Dawawang Rangers need to work with other rangers to share experience.</td>
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<td><strong>Issues of concern</strong></td>
<td>Our Rangers will need training in lots of gardiya business on the parks, but they have to be able to back up gardiya knowledge with their own cultural knowledge. Ranger training has to include Miriuwang-Gajerrong cultural business and knowledge of country. After they’ve finished their training down south, when they come back they’ve got to learn through the Miriuwang-Gajerrong side, here on their own country. Rangers need on-country training, not just in the classroom. Older Miriuwang-Gajerrong people need to be involved in training Rangers on country.</td>
<td>DEC supports both contemporary and traditional land management methods. Through sharing this knowledge will provide for effective land management outcomes.</td>
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Issues of concern
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<td>Rangers and some part time. A team effort will sometimes be required, with individuals taking the lead role on their Dawang as culturally appropriate. The Conservation Commission acknowledges that Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers working on the parks need to know Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural business and knowledge for that country. An appropriate cultural training program for Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers should be developed that provides them with relevant knowledge and cultural protocols for looking after country.</td>
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<td>Two-way training in both Gardiya and cultural knowledge could be achieved through:</td>
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<td>• TAFE courses.</td>
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<td>• A cultural training program developed in partnership with the Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gording Language and Culture Centre.</td>
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<td>• Post-training evaluation and review—Rangers need to take out the older (and younger) people to show them management in operation, to identify if any more input is required, and if they are doing things the right way according to the older people.</td>
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<td>• Post-training skill demonstration—Rangers need to take the old people out and demonstrate to them the gardiya approaches to management, and the opportunities that are available.</td>
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<td>• Ongoing mentoring of the Rangers by older people. Rangers need powers for enforcement when working on country to prevent potential problem actions such as theft of livestock or natural items and a specific training program in Cultural roles and responsibilities to support the MG Rangers is already in progress. DEC see there role as supporting the development of the program as culturally appropriate. DEC will provide the MG Rangers with necessary training and development of our Rangers to fulfill there duties. This can be achieved through a combination of training organisations i.e. TAFE, MATES and other programs as required. DEC support Rangers having enforcement powers. Two MG Rangers are scheduled to undertake law enforcement training in April 2009. Some DEC Rangers do and can have necessary enforcement powers under relevant legislation if required. These include CALM Act Authority, and Ranger Authority specifically related to the management of CALM Lands. DEC has an existing volunteer program which allows for people to be involved in the day to day management of Parks. DEC also supports work experience opportunities.</td>
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<td>The Conservation Commission recognises that training in both gardiya and cultural knowledge is needed. Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers will need training in gardiya business on the parks and that Ranger training has to include Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural business and knowledge of country. Managers should support both contemporary and traditional land management methods as this will provide for more effective land management. Managers should provide the Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers with training and development opportunities.</td>
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Our proposed strategies and actions for Rangers
(cont. from previous page)

| Illegal camping. Tourists need to know that the Rangers have real capacity to enforce the rules. Rangers need to be able to issue fines. The main role of Rangers to ensure country is not damaged—by visitors when they are out there, or by anything else. Rangers may also have some community members working alongside them, who are not fully trained as Rangers, but can contribute to some of the work on country. Infrastructure development such as toilets, roads, buildings and walkways need to be decided in partnership between Dawawang and Rangers. |
| • Our Dawang Rangers need to work together with other DEC Rangers to share experiences. We would also like our Rangers to work with Rangers from nearby Parks in the Northern Territory, including Keep River National Park. |
| DEC supports across border relationships through development of a MoU. Infrastructure development such as toilets, roads, buildings and walkways need to be decided in partnership between Dawawang and Rangers. Dawawang and Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers should work together with other Rangers to share experiences and also work with Rangers from nearby parks in the Northern Territory. All managers should support across border relationships through development of a MoU. |

Our steps and reasons for Rangers

| We need a training and employment strategy to get the Rangers going. Some useful resources are: |
| • Mentored Aboriginal Training and Employment of DEC. |
| • Conservation and Land Management Certificates II, II and IV offered through Registered Training Providers, including DEC and TAFE. |

DEC has supported the development and implementation of the YDRPC Employment and Training Strategy: The Strategy is currently being implemented. The strategy identifies relevant training needs and delivery mechanisms. A training and employment strategy is needed for Conservation Commission Rangers. Managers should support the development and implementation of employment and training strategies for Miriuwung-Gajerrong Rangers.
Joint statement of our planning guidelines for weeds and pests

Our joint vision for weeds and pests
Our joint vision is to control weeds and pests so that they don’t damage the natural and cultural values of the park.

Our joint values and responsibilities for weeds and pests
The table below highlights our common interests in weed and pest control.

Weeds and pests issues of concern to us
The weeds and pests issues are summarised in the table. Many Miriuwung and Gajerrong people suffered chemical poisoning during the Ngoorburr program, and so want to make doubly sure all the chemicals being used are safe. We also want to make sure that all animal control methods are humane.

Our joint strategies and actions on weeds and pests
We will develop a weed and pest control plan for each park. This plan will identify the issues, the weeds and pests, their impact on natural and cultural values, and then develop priorities—for example priorities could be cats, pigs, cane toads, and specific weeds like hyptis. Dawang will approve this plan, including a list of the chemicals and other methods that can be used for control. We also want to make sure our plan respects peoples’ values, for example about not wasting animals. When we kill feral cattle, we will make sure we give some to the nearby Aboriginal communities.

Our joint steps and resources for weeds and pests
The steps we take for weed and pest control will be those approved in our local park weed and pest control plan.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not
We will monitor the weeds and pests on our parks, using both scientific and Miriuwung-Gajerrong cultural approaches.

Important documents
Legislation:
• Agriculture and Related Resources Act 1976
• Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007

Policy:
• Environmental Weed Strategy for WA
• Kimberley Natural Resource Management Plan
• DEC Good Neighbour Policy 2007

Implementation:
• MG Corporation Weed and Pest Project
### Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on weed and pest control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our weeds and pests visions</strong></td>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
<td>Conservation Commission Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Weeds and pests</strong></td>
<td>We want our country to be free from problems caused by introduced weeds and feral animals. We want to keep our native animals safe in a sanctuary while the cane toads arrive on our country. We would like native plants to be used to rehabilitate areas after weed removal.</td>
<td>The parks’ values will be protected by controlling weeds and pests.</td>
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<td><strong>Responsibilities</strong></td>
<td>DEC Vision</td>
<td>Conservation Commission Vision</td>
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<td>That the parks’ values will be protected through the control of weeds and pests.</td>
<td>The parks’ values are conserved through the control of weeds and pests.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our values and responsibilities for weeds and pests</strong></td>
<td>Weeds and pests have arrived on our country with the <strong>gendiya</strong>, and so we rely a lot on their knowledge for management. We want control methods that fit in with our cultural values. Some pest animals can be culled, but others have special values and different approaches are required for their management.</td>
<td>Weed and pest management is an important part of DEC’s responsibilities for looking after the parks, even though they are not specifically mentioned as an obligation under the CALM Act.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>We want environmentally friendly ways of managing pests and weeds. A lot of our people suffered chemical poisoning in the Noongarra burn program. Chemical poisons can harm our rivers and springs, and the animals that live in them, so we need to be careful that chemicals used to spray weeds do not get into our waterways. We don’t want poison to be used to kill wild dogs and other pest animals, because some animals go and die in the water, causing pollution. Trapping is a big job and can be cruel.</td>
<td>Weed and pest management is an important part of managers’ responsibilities for looking after the parks. All managers are legally responsible for controlling plants and animals that are declared under the Agriculture and Related Resources Act 1976. Declared plants under the Agriculture and Related Resources Act are exempt from protection under the Wildlif Conservation Act. DEC has policies that guide how weeds and pests should be managed. The approach taken with these policies are based on the level of risk they pose to natural values.</td>
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<td><strong>Weeds and pests of National Significance</strong></td>
<td>Some of the weeds and feral animals of concern to us are:</td>
<td>Weeds and feral animals—mission grass, mimosa, salvinia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mission grass, mimosa, salvinia</td>
<td>cane toads, particularly getting into Durarram</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Cane toad, particularly getting into Durarram</td>
<td>Wild dogs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Donkeys</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Pigs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Horses</td>
<td>Horses</td>
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<td>• Cats</td>
<td>Cats</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• European bees.</td>
<td>European bees.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our proposed strategies and actions for weeds and pests</strong></td>
<td>Each Dawawang group needs to discuss the weeds and feral animal issues on their country. A weed and feral animal management plan is needed for each park, designed with the Dawawang.</td>
<td>Weed like to take immediate action to stop weeds spreading into new areas, like the mission grass spreading into Wirralakem, Kumbarumba and other communities. Rivers carry and disperse seeds, so special attention should be paid to weed control near waterways—while making sure waterways are not polluted with chemicals. We’d like to run a nursery to supply native plants for rehabilitation of areas following weed removal, and be involved in projects to replant these areas.</td>
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<td>We don’t want poison to be used to kill wild dogs and other pest animals, because some animals go and die in the water, causing pollution. Trapping is a big job and can be cruel.</td>
<td>Donkeys cause particular problems with erosion because they pull plants out of the ground rather than just grazing them. Donkeys also have special values to some of us because of the importance of the donkey in the birth of Jesus Christ. Donkeys can be used as transport and to pull carts. Pigs cause a lot of erosion on our country.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cattle are vital to us, because even though they are not native animals, many of our people have grown up working with cattle. We would mostly like to keep cattle off our parks, because they cause erosion problems and damage springs and other places. We support fencing of waterways to protect them from cattle damage, although monitoring is</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s desire to use donkeys, cattle and horses rather than kill them simply for removal. All land managers should work with the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people through the joint management process to find a solution that ensures that all pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies exist to guide the management of weeds and pests that ensure that all weeds and pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies do not exist they should be developed.</td>
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### Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines: On-country management—Weeds and pests

#### DEC Perspective

- **Weeds and pests** that are rated at ‘High’ are most important for DEC to control.
- Weeds that are particularly alarming to us, such as transport and to pull carts. Pigs cause a lot of erosion on our country. |
- Cane toads are particularly alarming to us, as they could destroy our main bush tucker animals. |
- Each Dawawang group needs to discuss the weeds and feral animal issues on their country. Weeds and pests of National Significance are particularly important to DEC to control. |
- Donkeys also have special values to some of us because of the importance of the donkey in the birth of Jesus Christ. Donkeys can be used as transport and to pull carts. Pigs cause a lot of erosion on our country. |
- The Conservation Commission acknowledges Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s desire to use donkeys, cattle and horses rather than kill them simply for removal. All land managers should work with the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people through the joint management process to find a solution that ensures that all pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies exist to guide the management of weeds and pests that ensure that all weeds and pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies do not exist they should be developed. |
- DEC is currently investing in the management plans. DEC’s strategies for managing weeds and pests include: 1. managing weeds and pests according to legislation and DEC policies. 2. maintaining information on weeds and pests. 3. developing and implementing weed and pest control plans that: • prioritise control of weeds and pests; • consider impacts on key values including biodiversity and threatened species; and • eradicate new weeds and pests before they become established. 4. working with Dawawang to make sure control methods are culturally appropriate. 5. working with park neighbours to make sure weed and pest management is also done in surrounding areas. 6. providing appropriate information for visitors to increase their understanding of the impacts of weeds and pests. |

#### CCWA Perspective

- Weeds and pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies do not exist they should be developed. |
- Donkeys cause particular problems with erosion because they pull plants out of the ground rather than just grazing them. Donkeys also have special values to some of us because of the importance of the donkey in the birth of Jesus Christ. Donkeys can be used as transport and to pull carts. Pigs cause a lot of erosion on our country. |
- The Conservation Commission acknowledges Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s desire to use donkeys, cattle and horses rather than kill them simply for removal. All land managers should work with the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people through the joint management process to find a solution that ensures that all pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies exist to guide the management of weeds and pests that ensure that all weeds and pests are removed, and is efficient and cost-effective. Where policies do not exist they should be developed. |
- Donkeys also have special values to some of us because of the importance of the donkey in the birth of Jesus Christ. Donkeys can be used as transport and to pull carts. Pigs cause a lot of erosion on our country. |
- Cattle are vital to us, because even though they are not native animals, many of our people have grown up working with cattle. We would mostly like to keep cattle off our parks, because they cause erosion problems and damage springs and other places. We support fencing of waterways to protect them from cattle damage, although monitoring is |
Our joint vision for visitor management

Our joint vision is to welcome visitors and keep them safe on our conservation areas while making sure that the natural and cultural heritage values are protected and managed. We want to provide world-class visitor opportunities, services and facilities.

Our joint values and responsibilities for visitor management

The table below highlights our mutual interest in providing opportunities for visitors while keeping them safe. DEC has extensive experience in visitor management for recreational purposes, many of which Miriuwung-Gajerrong people are not familiar with. Two-way learning is important to us.

Visitor management issues of concern to us

Visitor management involves many issues that will need to be managed and decided together. Some of the decisions that need to be made relate to:

- The sort of visitors we want at each park—for example, if we want people who need a lot of facilities, or others who are happy with more basic arrangements.
- The walking access tracks that we would like to provide. DEC has a system of looking at five or six different types of walking tracks:
  - Class One: even grade, smooth surface, suitable for wheelchair access.
  - Middle classes: some construction, clear marking.
  - Classes 5 and 6 – no construction, route just indicated at appropriate intervals with markers.
- The facilities we should provide and their location. Toilets are needed at a number of locations, including everywhere picnic facilities such as tables and barbecues are provided. Composting toilets have a lower environmental impact, but are more expensive to install, and only work well if they have a reasonable level of use. Toilets with a drum underneath can be pumped out at the end of each season and are much cheaper to install.
- The sort of activities we will allow. Possible activities include bushwalking, abseiling, rock-climbing, photography, push-bike and trail bike riding, horse and camel riding, caving, fishing, general camping and other specialist activities like land sailing.
- Whether there should be an overall entry fee to the parks to help pay for the costs of management (with free entry to local people). Some discussions suggested Dawang may support one fee for entry to all the parks as a good way to help pay for management. In other discussions Dawang were more comfortable with an entry fee being part of tourism business development rather than management, with all funds coming back to the particular Dawang for each park (see also points under Tourism Business policies).
- The use of our budget for infrastructure. The OFA allocates $1 million for planning, $1 million for infrastructure, and $4 million for management. The first step needed would be to cost out all the infrastructure needs that have been identified.

Our joint strategies and actions on visitor management

Our joint strategies and actions on visitor management will focus on:

- Cultural protocols—including signage, education and information for visitors.
- Infrastructure plan—developing a full list including costs of infrastructure across all the parks, and a process for prioritising these, with full participation from Dawang and the MG Corporation.
- Management Plans—developing clear plans that protect the natural and cultural values of the park while providing for visitation and visitor facilities in each of the parks.

We agree that planning for park infrastructure needs to be participatory, and to involve Garanggilling, particularly in site assessments, providing advice to the DEC landscape designers.

Our joint steps and resources for visitor management

We identified a lot of the steps for visitor management at each park in the MG CPF. New ideas and more detail that we added

Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective

DEC's Good Neighbour Policy provides guidance about cooperative efforts to manage cattle that stray onto conservation areas. The Policy recognises that it may be appropriate to develop a written agreement to formalise the management of straying stock in unfenced sections of boundaries between DEC-managed lands and adjoining pastoral leases.

DEC Perspective

We need to make sure such fencing does not have unintended results. Some Dawang might like to fence off an area on the park to keep a small herd to use for community food supplies. Some Dawang think cattle can be good on our conservation lands provided there is no overstocking. Cattle can look after the country, keep the grass down, and fertilise it with their manure. Where pastoralists want to graze on our conservation lands, they need to reach agreement with the Traditional Owners so that there are benefits for Aboriginal people.

CCWA Perspective

We don't really like donkeys, horses and cattle to be culled and would rather see them mustered and a use found for them, as working animals or to be killed for meat.

Wild dogs can be shot because they might go savage and bite us, bite our children. Cats and horses should be radio-collared and tracked, so we can find the herds and start mustering them.

Our steps and resources

Some resources that might help us develop our strategies to control weeds and pests include:

- The MG Corporation Weeds Project
- Reports—Not from here, Plant invasions on Aboriginal lands. Towards more strategic management of weeds on Top End Aboriginal Lands.
- The Department of Agriculture and Food weeds and pest control identification and weed science programs.

We need to be able to identify weeds and pests. The MG Corporation Weeds Project will include some training for communities in weed identification, and in weed eradication.

To maximise reward for effort, DEC needs to put resources into weed and pest control to protect the most important species and locations. This should be coordinated through weed and pest control plans for the parks.

Each park will have a weed and pest control plan.

Training in the identification of weeds and pests should be provided for the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people.

Managers should put resources into weed and pest control to protect the most important species and locations. This should be coordinated through weed and pest control plans for the parks. Each park should have a weed and pest control plan.
during the discussions for the YD JPG are included here. The first steps and resources are yet to be determined.

Wawoollem and Darram

In the MG CPF, we identified needs for signage, a car park, toilet and a rubbish bin for people wanting to walk up Wawoollem creek to the spring, and improvements to the walking track. We also identified the need for fencing off of Garn-Garnbe and establishing a place where people can park their cars and walk up the hill.

During the preparation of the YD JPG, we discussed the visitor facilities at Packsaddle Spring in more detail, and agreed that some minor facilities would be needed at the Spring, including a place where day visitors can make a fire, and sit to eat their lunch.

In the MG CPF, at Darram, we identified the need for board walks and bird hides, and other infrastructure like car parks, toilets, rubbish bin and signage.

Ngamoowalem and Parry Lagoons

In the MG CPF, we identified visitor facilities needed at Bandaba (Valentine Springs), Jaiying (Bubble Springs), Mayiba (Middle Springs) and Thegooyeng (Black Rock Fall). We also talked about the possibility location for a number of trails.

During the preparation of the YD JPG, we agreed the next step for the trails would be for the MG Rangers to explore some of the possibilities on quad bikes, under the direction of the senior people with knowledge of the location of these trails.

We also talked about in some more detail about the facilities at Bandaba, Jaiying, Mayiba and Thegooyeng. We agreed that toilets should be at Bandaba, Mayiba and Thegooyeng, and suggested some possible locations for these. We also discussed having barbecues at these sites, and either supplying gas or firewood. We visited all these sites and recorded possible GPS locations for the toilets, picnic tables, car parks etc. The next step will be to undertake more visits to country with Dawawang to discuss these locations and potential facilities.

Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim

In the MG CPF, we identified that a tourism business based on a caravan park could be appropriate at Point Spring. We discussed this again during the preparation of the YD JPG. We agreed the priority for visitor facilities was some simple basic infrastructure to allow for bush camps and trips. Dawang don’t want visitors to pick up rocks here, or to be allowed to hunt with guns. Visitors can take photos anywhere except in the caves.

At Mijing, protection of the caves is really important—visitors should not be allowed in the caves without a Dawang guide. Mijing, through to Cape Dommet, is good for horse riding, bush walking, quad bike riding and orienteering.

Goomiyig and Barberrm

In the MG CPF, we identified that the main site needing visitor facilities was Cave Springs.

During preparation of the YD JPG, we had more in-depth discussions about visitor facilities and opportunities. Barberrm could be an appropriate place for a long distance walking track, perhaps connecting through to Wirriyilbem and Keep River National Park in the Northern Territory. Dawang also suggested that visitors should be allowed to bring their dogs into Barberrm and Goomiyig, as this will help them to feel safe and comfortable. At Goomiyig, Dawang would like to have a lookout where you can see over toward Barberrm, with a car park at the bottom of the hill.

Near the Cave Springs rock-hole is a good place for camping areas, two separate ones for Dawang and visitors. The road should be pulled back from the rock-hole so that people can park further away and walk in—the whole area is getting very impacted by visitors. A range of other visitor experiences that should be considered near Cave Springs include: rock climbing from a fixed rope point; bushwalking; horse riding; bike-riding; and orienteering. Dawang wouldn’t like to see tourists hunting with guns; that’s too dangerous. Visitors can take photographs of anything around Cave Springs, provided they don’t take anything. Fossicking should not be allowed. Four-wheel bikes would be needed to look for people if they got lost.

In the MG CPF, Dawang put forward the idea of a museum or interpretive centre at Barberrm. We discussed this again, and DEC staff explained their approach to making sure that developments on parks offered different opportunities—so there might be only one museum or interpretive centre for all the MG conservation parks in the East Kimberley. More discussions are needed about the best location for a museum or interpretive centre.

**Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not**

We need to work together to find ways to measure visitor satisfaction with our management, and the opportunities we provide. We will also need to find ways to measure how the visitors are impacting on and protecting the natural and cultural values of our parks.

**Important documents**

Policy:

- Policy Statement 53—Visitor Risk Management
- Nature Based Tourism Strategy for WA
- Policy Statement 18—Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services

Implementation guidelines:

- Included in the Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services Policy 18
- Recreation and Tourism Strategy ‘People in CALM Places’
Talking about joint visitor management on the conservation areas

We love it here. My husband used to tell us about his father and mother walk through this country, Miriuwung track here. This is a good place for a walking track…(but) visitors might get lost, need tags.

Blanche Flyingfox, Barrberrm, 9 July 2008

The dog can go in there…you’ll get more tourists with dogs, if they see no dogs (allowed) in the park, they mightn’t come.

Stephanie Boombi, Barrberrm 9 July 2008, pictured left with Sheba Dignari

You’d be looking at working out roughly where you want a track to go, and you can probably get a little tractor with a slasher blade, and the start of each year you just place it on the track, and as people use it more, the track becomes established … you put those really good walking tracks with the flat surface and wheelchairs in areas where you’ve got lots and lots of visitors.

Daryl Moncrieff, 8 July 2008

It’s a good place to camp. They’re sick of the city and they want to come out bush. They might not want to stay in town they might want to camp out here. Yeah, put a camping area. But they should make a little box they put money in. Rock climbing and horse riding, it will be suited. There’s big long walks so they need a horse to take them. They could choose a horse or a push-bike.

Alice Boombi, at Cave Springs, 10 July 2008

When developing things in parks, our department looks to make sure that everything doesn’t end up exactly the same. There’s no point in having a museum or visitor centre here (at Barrberrm) and another one at Ngamoowalem and another one at Darram.

Daryl Moncrieff, 8 July 2008

Visitor and tourism business, this is where all the Dawang have to talk to the ground people and tell them ideas and get the consent of everybody. We can put in our plan but we have family members at home, and for everybody to agree we’ve got to get the consent of most of our family group. The benefits from country will go back to them, but information is the most important thing.

Edna O’Malley, Button Spring, 16 June 2008, pictured above left and left with Carlene Davies
An entry fee is something I think people need to talk about as well. In WA parks it varies a lot. In some places in WA you can buy a local parks pass. For $20 it gives you access to all the parks in an area. In other places you don’t pay for a day visit, but only where you’re going camping. You can give exemptions for local rate payers.
Daryl Moncrieff, Button Spring, 16 June 2008, pictured with Laurina Bullen and Pamela Simon

At Darram, with canoeing, you’d pay for that. And if you’re going to put boardwalks in, which is going to cost a fair bit, you’re going to have to get a bit of money back on that. So there’s going to have to be some sort of fee.
Carol Hopke, Darram, 18 June 2008
Left: Rosemary Hill canoeing in Darram, October 2007

[For Wawoolem Spring] just an area where they can light a fire and make a cup of tea, have a walkway and a little spot where they can sit near the water, and one around the corner, and that’s it. We don’t want a big mob around here. We don’t want the city stuff here. They can come here and be like bush people.
Warren Gerrard, Wawoolem 18 June 2008

They have to stay fifteen metres back from those rocks.
Kim Aldus, Mijing, 30 October 2008

From left Mark Aldus and Kim Aldus, Mijing, 30 October 2008

Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines: Tourism and visitation - Visitor Management
Our visions for visitor management

Dawawang Vision
Gardiya and other visitors are welcome to enjoy our country. Visitors have a responsibility to respect our country and to respect Dawawang and our living areas while they are here. Visitors need to be kept safe while they are on our country.

DEC Vision
DEC aims to provide world-class recreation and tourism opportunities, services and facilities for visitors to the areas that it manages, while making sure Western Australia’s natural and cultural heritage is protected forever.

Conservation Commission Vision
Visitors respect the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s country, the Dawawang and living areas while they are here. Visitors are kept safe. Managers provide world-class recreation and tourism opportunities, services and facilities for visitors while making sure Western Australia’s natural and cultural heritage is conserved.

Our values and responsibilities

Dawawang have a responsibility for looking after country and any people visiting on their country. There has to be a strong focus on visitor safety. Some places can’t be shown to visitors—there might be a sacred site, or a wrong place where people might get sick, or a site with gender restrictions. Visitors who come on to our country must agree to seek the information on that area they are visiting and to behave in the right way, as instructed by the Dawawang.

DEC recognises that a large proportion of ‘bush’ recreation in the state is on the lands and waters that it manages. Further, DEC recognises that the way it manages parks and reserves can make a significant contribution towards the social, psychological, physical and economic well-being of the community. DEC needs to consider its management carefully to take this into account. DEC also needs to make sure that people visiting these areas can do so safely and that the environment is protected.

All managers should understand that some places cannot be shown to visitors. Managers should ensure that people visiting these areas can do so safely and do no harm to the environment.

Visitor management issues of concern to us

Many visitors do not respect our country. Damage is caused by people taking sand, taking paperbark from trees, digging up plants, riding motorbikes through creeks, collecting seeds, taking artefacts, leaving rubbish, taking sand and bark, getting bogged and messing up our roads. Visitors need advice on dangerous animals and about places where they are supposed to swim and places where they are not supposed to swim.

Visitors sometimes go into caves and cultural sites where they are not supposed to be. Many parts of the East Kimberley are rugged and wild places, including the joint management areas. Many visitors are not well prepared and could get lost, get stuck, or injure themselves. DEC tries to provide as wide a range of opportunities as possible, including access for people of limited physical ability. However, this needs to be appropriate to the site.

Too many visitors at some sites can damage the environment and affect the enjoyment of others. Business partnerships with private enterprise could help provide experiences to visitors.

The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s concerns that:
- visitors sometimes do not show respect for country and engage in harmful activities such as taking sand, taking paperbark, plants, seeds, artefacts, riding motorbikes through creeks, leaving rubbish, getting bogged and damaging roads.
- visitors may be unaware of dangers associated with animals and swimming places. Visitors sometimes access sites they should not and/or create problems driving through or by communities. Visitor activities may impact water catchments.

In addition, many parts of the East Kimberley are rugged and wild places, including the joint management areas. Many visitors are not well prepared and could get lost, get stuck, or injure themselves. There is a need to provide as wide a range of opportunities as possible, including access for people of limited physical ability. Too many visitors at some sites can damage the environment and affect the enjoyment of others.

While business partnerships with private enterprise could help provide experiences to visitors that could not otherwise be easily provided, business ventures should be based on sound business planning and are economically viable.

DEC has an extensive 120 page policy statement (manual) that provides guidance for recreation, tourism and visitor services throughout the state. The manual provides advice on how to consider specific recreation activities (e.g. horse-riding, bushwalking, scenic driving, overnight stays), as well as state-wide issues such as visitor risk management and commercial operations. Essentially DEC supports recreation and tourism opportunities where:
- environmental impacts are manageable;
- a positive environmental message can be provided to visitors;
- they assist in providing for a range of different recreation opportunities;
- they are consistent with the tenure of the land.

These issues are usually addressed by careful site analysis and managers should provide clear statements for visitor respect to access to cultural sites. Decisions about appropriate access for visitors should be taken by people who speak for that country.

Managers should provide appropriate structures, signage and interpretation for visitors. Systems for keeping track of people’s whereabouts should be developed.

Managers should follow policies for visitor management that have been endorsed by the Conservation Commission.

Managers should support recreation and tourism opportunities where:
- environmental impacts are manageable;
- a positive environmental message can be provided to visitors;
- they assist in providing for a range of different recreation opportunities;
- they are consistent with the tenure of the land.
**Joint statement of our planning guidelines for tourism businesses**

**Our joint vision for tourism businesses**

Our joint vision is to manage tourism businesses in our parks to maximise the benefits for Dawang and to make sure that the natural and cultural values of the parks are protected and presented to the wider community.

**Our joint values and responsibilities for tourism businesses**

The table at the end of this policy highlights our common interests in ensuring tourism is both environmentally and socially sustainable, economically viable and generates benefits for Dawang.

**Tourism businesses issues of concern to us**

Tourism business development raises many issues that will need to be managed and decided together. Some issues17 that will need to be addressed include:

- Charging entry fees to tourists (not locals) could be a good way of raising funds to help pay for management of the park. Dawang and DEC need to agree on what sort of fees are charged and what happens to the money. Some discussions suggested Dawang may support one fee for entry to all the parks as a good way to help pay for management. In other discussions Dawang were more comfortable with an entry fee being part of tourism business development rather than management, with all funds coming back to the particular Dawang for each park.
- DEC and Dawang will need to find ways of working together to develop joint decision-making about giving out licenses and commercial tourism leases in the parks.
- On jointly managed reserves, traditional owners may not need a permit from the government to operate businesses in their own country, but DEC will still feel a responsibility to make sure Dawang businesses don't damage country.
- Under MG culture, the basic principle is that people must have the right connections with country to run a business on that country.
- MG Corporation has the responsibility (though it governing body of the sixteen Dawang together) for sorting out who has the right connections to country.
- Under the MG Corporation rules, any disputes are taken to the garrayilng for resolution.
- Dawang and Dawawang and their families should own the returns from any businesses they run on their parks.
- Part of the money from Dawang businesses in the parks could go back to MG Corporation so that it can help people with tax and other business requirements—but this would need to be agreed by the Dawang.
- Tourism businesses in the parks won't work if all the Dawang try to do the same thing.
- Dawang would benefit from working together to find good ways to promote and develop their businesses together.
- Some Dawang may have better opportunities for tourism business development because their parks are closer to town, and have special features that could attract tourists and joint venture partners—like the idea to have a centre on Telegraph Hill looking over Parry Lagoons.
- The rules over Nature Reserves mean that it can be quite difficult to develop businesses.
- The emphasis must be on sustainable tourism that does not degrade the cultural and natural values of the parks.

**Our joint strategies and actions on tourism businesses**

We need to develop a plan for business development in our parks. This plan should address all the issues above, and especially how we are going to make decisions together about how tourism businesses run and what happens to the money from them. Most of the businesses Dawang want to run will require infrastructure. We may need some business partners to help raise funds to pay for infrastructure. We need to have rules for what sort of business partners we work with, and how we work with them. At the same time, we need to find ways to support Dawang who are ready to start businesses now.

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17 Some issues related to tourism business development like management of risks of visitors hurting themselves, and management of visitor impact, are dealt with in the “Visitor Management” policy.
Our joint steps and resources for tourism businesses

We will start to work together (DEC, MG Corporation and Dawang) on three different approaches to tourism business development:

• Development of tourism business plans for coordinating our decision-making about and management of Dawang and other tourism businesses.
• Assisting Dawang with networks, training and other matters to move forward on the business opportunities they have identified (see material at the end of this policy).
• Working together on responses to tourism development proposals, like the one at Telegraph Hill.

We considered in more detail some of the tourism business opportunities in each of the parks, starting with the ideas documented in the MG CPF.

Wawoolem and Darram

In the MG CPF, Dawang outline their plans for a tourist venture at Wawoolem based on guided walks, and develop through joint venture arrangements. Dawang thought tourist businesses at Darram would be based on bird watching.

During the preparation of the YDJPG, more discussions were held about how Dawang can develop a business taking tourist along Wawoolem Creek to the spring, and what facilities would be needed. Any tourist business development at Darram needs to wait for conclusion of the negotiations about movement of the bore field. Development of visitor facilities at Darram would be expensive, and so some return would be important.

Ngamoowalem and Parry Lagoons

In the MG CPF, Dawang made a lot of suggestions for tourism businesses at Ngamoowalem, including a caravan and camping park at Molly Springs (Galjiba) with Dawawang taking tours into all the visitor sites on the eastern side of the Range. On the northern side, Dawang emphasised walking-trail based tourism. Dawang also discussed linking all the tourism businesses run by Dawang so people could go from camping, to walking, to boat cruises on the river and on to a cultural centre and other experiences.

During discussions for the YDJPG, we added some more detail to Dawang ideas about tourism businesses. Galamanda Dawang are mainly interested in walking (or horse/camel) trails on the northern side of Ngamoowalem, linked in to tourist opportunities at Parry Lagoons. A low key eco-friendly camping accommodation like the one at Karajini Park might be appropriate.

On the eastern side of Ngamoowalem, we decided day use tourism would be better than a caravan park at Galjiba, possibly linked to guided tours into the springs—Bandaba, Jaiying, Mayiba and Thegooyeng. We also talked about meeting the costs of managing these sites, including providing wood or gas barbeques, toilets etc. through an overall entry fee, potentially with a free pass to locals. A lot more discussion and consideration of this issue is needed. One option would be for the walking or camel trail through to the western side of Ngamoowalem to start at the camping ground at Galjiba, and make an integrated business.

We also discussed the proposal to build a Gouldian finch conservation and interpretive centre overlooking Parry Lagoons. Dawang and DEC agreed this idea was worthy of further discussion and consideration.

Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim

In the MG CPF, Dawang discussed a future caravan park at Point Spring as a tourist business. We discussed this again during the preparation of the YDJP. We agreed the priority was some simple basic infrastructure to allow for bush camps and trips, and to develop our tourism plans after we had spent more time on country.

We again recognized that Mijing is an area with more tourist opportunities than Jemandi-Winingim.

Goomiyig and Barrberrm

In the MG CPF, Dawang discussed a tourist business that could be developed based around Cave Springs, and the possible development of a museum and interpretive centre at Kumbarumba (Goortboome Community).

During preparation of YD JPG, the museum and interpretive centre was discussed again, and DEC and Dawang agreed greater consideration needed to be given to the best location for such a facility, as only one would really be viable in the East Kimberley. Concerns were also expressed about gender restrictions on access to Martin's Gap, and the need for access there to be better managed. Further ideas about visitor opportunities at Cave Springs were also documented (see Visitor Management), without real consideration of the business opportunities.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not

We need to work together to find ways to measure how well tourist businesses are following MG protocols and returning benefits to Dawang. We will also need to find ways to measure how the tourism businesses are protecting the natural and cultural values of our parks, and supporting management.

Important documents

Legislation:
• Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
• Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)
• Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
• Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

Policy:
• National Tourism Investment Strategy
• Nature Based Tourism Strategy for WA
• Draft Policy Statement 18—Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services

Implementation guidelines:
• Policy Statement 18—Recreation, Tourism and Visitor Services includes some implementation guidelines.
Talking about tourism business development on the parks

You got to have the right people doing the right thing in the right place... Dawang have a lot of different things in their country, and we won’t necessarily have the same idea. The country will determine the sort of package you’re offering...

Warren Gerrard, Yirralalem, 18 June 2008, pictured right with his grandson Jody Gerrard.

Each Dawang needs to know what the other one is doing and proposing because there’s not point in everyone doing the same thing. Overall you need to provide a whole range of different things, rather than the same thing repeated in every place... on a jointly managed reserve it should be laid down in the management plan that traditional owners don’t need to have a permit to operate commercially in their own country.

Daryl Moncrieff, Yirralalem, 18 June 2008

Cave Springs (above), Gilbert Riley and Melati Boombi playing

It’s a good place to camp... make a little box they put money in (for tourism development).

Alice Boombi, 10 July 2008

Generally most areas are free to go in to but you could have a one-up access fee for all the parks. So a tourist pays $20 and gets to go to all the sites in all of the parks. You wouldn’t tend to charge locals because they’ve never had to pay before and that could cause real division. In parks overseas, it’s only tourists and international visitors that pay. Locals don’t have to pay, or they pay a really reduced rate, you could get a sticker that you put on your windscreen. How that money’s spend and divided up needs to be discussed. That component could even go back to MG Corporation for broader community benefit.

Daryl Moncrieff, Yirralalem, 18 June 2008

Helen Gerrard and Andy Reid considering tourist development at Yirralalem, 18 June 2008

Each Dawang has to deal with their own country. We can have different businesses on different country, but we’re the only mob who do our own thing in our own place, and then we just pass them on to the next Dawang. They pay as they go to each Dawang... if I do something, I want to do it myself. That’s my business. I don’t want to put it money in one big bucket, no. What I do belongs to me and my community and family... we can have economic people at MG Corp, and give a little bit of money to cover that person and what they’re doing to help us with tax and stuff, but our business money should come to us.

Warren Gerrard, Yirralalem, 18 June 2008 (above)
Jigoomirri and Galamanda Dawang and DEC discussing the proposal for a Gouldian finch conservation and interpretation centre at Telegraph Hill overlooking Parry Lagoons. All thought the idea worth of further investigation.

Margaret Moore at Telegraph Hill, 17 June 2008

For children to grow up and respect country and what’s in it, they need a place like this to teach children…If you’re going to save the planet, like this project to save the birds, you need to put a 100 percent into it. That’s something they can do here to bring in money…then they can go over to the next place and do different activities.

Margaret Moore at Telegraph Hill, 17 June 2008

Table of MG and DEC/CCWA perspectives on tourism business

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<tr>
<th>Our tourism business development vision</th>
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<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
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<td>DEC supports tourism businesses that provide facilities and services for the use and enjoyment of visitors, especially when DEC can’t provide them itself. DEC supports creating long-term community benefits through commercial opportunities. DEC is supportive of Dawawang owning and managing tourism businesses.</td>
<td>DEC can enter into commercial arrangements with private partners for either leases or licences. However, all tourism businesses must be consistent with the purpose of the land. This means that for national parks and conservation parks, any businesses must be consistent with helping to protect and promote park values. Leases and licences to private businesses can help meet the rising demand for high quality facilities and services that DEC may not be able to provide. DEC is responsible for protecting conservation and landscape values, ensuring a quality experience by visitors as well as increasing their understanding of natural and cultural values. The value of tourism opportunities for the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people is recognised. Managers also recognised the need for tourism businesses to be consistent with the purpose of the land. This means that for national parks and conservation parks, any businesses must be consistent with helping to protect and promote park values. Managers are responsible for protecting conservation and landscape values, ensuring a quality experience by visitors as well as increasing their understanding of natural and cultural values. Leases and licences to private businesses can help meet the rising demand for high quality facilities and services that DEC may not be able to provide.</td>
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Our values and responsibilities

We value tourism opportunities highly as tourism businesses can be run from our communities and provide us with independence from government support and welfare. Tourism can provide an income as the basis for self-management and self-determination.

DEC can enter into commercial arrangements with private partners for either leases or licences. However, all tourism businesses must be consistent with the purpose of the land. This means that for national parks and conservation parks, any businesses must be consistent with helping to protect and promote park values. Leases and licences to private businesses can help meet the rising demand for high quality facilities and services that DEC may not be able to provide. DEC is responsible for protecting conservation and landscape values, ensuring a quality experience by visitors as well as increasing their understanding of natural and cultural values. The value of tourism opportunities for the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people is recognised. Managers also recognised the need for tourism businesses to be consistent with the purpose of the land. This means that for national parks and conservation parks, any businesses must be consistent with helping to protect and promote park values. Managers are responsible for protecting conservation and landscape values, ensuring a quality experience by visitors as well as increasing their understanding of natural and cultural values. Leases and licences to private businesses can help meet the rising demand for high quality facilities and services that DEC may not be able to provide.
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<td><strong>Tourism business development issues of concern to us</strong></td>
<td>In the Northern Territory, there are currently businesses where Aboriginal tour guides are not on their own country, and this is causing problems. We need a lot of assistance and resources to build up our tourism businesses. Funding to start tourism businesses is not part of the funding we have for joint management out of the Ord Final Agreement. We need to understand how we can access help for our tourism businesses. Currently many tourists are coming onto our country without any benefit to us. We need more information about how DEC manages tourism, including how permits are issued and what happens to income from tourism. Tourism arrangements for our parks need to take account of our freehold title under the parks. The roles and responsibilities of the MG Corporation, our PBCCs and MG Trustees Pty Ltd need to be clearly spelt out.</td>
<td>DEC is concerned that some traditional owners may want to develop tourism businesses that are not consistent with protecting and promoting natural values. The Conservation Commission recognises the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s concern that tour guides may not be on their own country, and that they need assistance and resources to build up their tourism businesses. The Conservation Commission also acknowledges that current arrangements for visitors may not benefit the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people. It is important to ensure that all tourism businesses that are developed are consistent with protecting and promoting natural values.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Our proposed strategies and actions for tourism businesses</strong></td>
<td>Getting establishment of the visitor facilities and management outlined in the previous section is really important for our tourism businesses. We need expertise to help us with tourism planning, and with resources to get our businesses going. We are interested in partnerships. We want the tourism to be run as a network through a central system. All the parks opportunities should be linked together to we provide different tourism activities at different parks, like fishing in one place, and bush-tucker talks in another. By doing it this way, we can make sure we are not doubling up and we can also share resources such as a bus, camping equipment etc. We also consider it important to make tourism infrastructure and resources available, where appropriate, to support on-country trips and educational tours for our children in the school holidays, as part of community capacity building. Providing tourism business must be based on an assessment of need, commercial viability and visitor demand. DEC’s strategies for managing tourism businesses include: 1. working with traditional owners to assist their participation in commercial activities. 2. evaluating proposals for licences and commercial tourism leases according to DEC policy and permit their establishment where appropriate. 3. ensuring all commercial businesses operate under a lease, licence or permit agreement with appropriate conditions that: • ensure the business is consistent with other management objectives; All managers use strategies for managing tourism businesses that include working with traditional owners to assist their participation in commercial activities and build the capacity of the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people. Managers provide the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people with information about how tourism is managed on other reserves, including how permits are issued and what happens to income from tourism. Tourism businesses must be based on an assessment of need, commercial viability and visitor demand. Managers should work with Dawawang and Tourism Western Australia to ensure tourism projects are properly planned and designed to</td>
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<td><strong>Our proposed strategies and actions for tourism businesses</strong></td>
<td>We need tourism business plans—a plan for each area, and a big plan to network all the tourist businesses. A planning workshop would be a good way to start, but we need ongoing assistance. We need to understand what role the parks can and cannot play in tourism development, and the roles of all our MG corporations. A tourism development officer in the MG Corporation would be useful. MG Corporation has started supporting the Yirralalem Community with planning and business development for their tourism enterprise. We also need to identify how we are going to make sure all the tourist businesses allowed on the park are not damaging natural and cultural values. We will need a permit system, coordinated centrally, as part of the management plan. The processes for managing permits should be considered by the Regional Park Council. Permits will help us to know where visitors are and when they are going. Permits should be required for people to take photos of or paint our country. Where activities involve commercial benefits, the permit systems need to be different—for example, a proper agreement is needed where people want to take photos for commercial purposes. A cultural site survey has to be done in partnership with Dawawang before any tourism development occurs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Minimising impact on country</strong></td>
<td>and • assist with management of the area; • providing a service or facility to visitors that DEC would not otherwise be able to provide; 4. not providing concessions within the planning area if adequate facilities or services exist, or they can be developed outside the planning area that meets visitor needs. 5. ensuring any commercial recreation and tourism operations are cost-neutral to DEC. 6. monitoring the level and impact of operator use to ensure it is sustainable. 7. working with tourism industry and associations regarding any commercial proposal or activity; 8. encouraging and providing incentives for tour operators to acquire quality assurance through industry accreditation and qualification programs; and 9. providing resources and training for the tourism industry (including Dawawang) in interpreting the key values of the area. DEC will work with Dawawang and Tourism Western Australia to ensure tourism projects are properly planned and designed to minimise impact on country.</td>
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Our steps and resources

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Our joint vision for cultural recording and education</td>
<td>DEC can provide an outline of how it manages tourism businesses on DEC-managed lands by providing examples of what has worked and what has not worked. DEC can assist Dawawang in implementing the Stepping Stones for Tourism program.</td>
<td>Managers provide an outline of how tourism businesses are managed on DEC-managed lands and provide examples of what has worked and what has not worked. Managers support Dawawang in identifying the roles of various organisations to assist us in tourism development and implementing development programs for tourism.</td>
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Miriwuung-Gajerrong Perspective

We need to start by understanding how DEC usually manages tourism and gives out permits, and what happens to the money from tourism. The roles and responsibilities of the MG Corporation, our PBCs and MG Trustees (which will hold the freehold title) need to be considered alongside the usual DEC processes. From these first two steps, we can develop our processes, including how Dawawang can get permission to operate tourism businesses on our parks.

A lot of planning and business development work is needed for our own businesses—not just to get us started but to assist us all along as we grow and manage our tourism businesses. We could start by identifying the roles of various organisations to assist us in tourism development. Some useful resources for business development include:

- Stepping Stones for Tourism, a tourism development program for Indigenous communities—holding a workshop for Yirralalem in October
- Nitmiluk Tours Pty Ltd, the Jawoyn owned company which runs all most all the commercial activities in the Nitmiluk Park
- Ecotrust, an emerging organisation to assist with environmentally-friendly business development
- Many tourism business development programs in government
- The roles of MG Corporation and DEC are also important.

DEC Perspective

Managers provide an outline of how tourism businesses are managed on DEC-managed lands and provide examples of what has worked and what has not worked. Managers support Dawawang in identifying the roles of various organisations to assist us in tourism development and implementing development programs for tourism.

CCWA Perspective

Managers provide an outline of how tourism businesses are managed on DEC-managed lands and provide examples of what has worked and what has not worked. Managers support Dawawang in identifying the roles of various organisations to assist us in tourism development and implementing development programs for tourism.

Cultural recording and education issues of concern to us

Dawawang, MG Corporation, DEC, and CCWA all want to support Miriuwung-Gajerrong people to record and pass on their cultural knowledge in ways that they control, according to MG Law and custom. DEC and CCWA are committed to supporting Dawawang to share their knowledge for joint park management in ways that respect Dawawang control over and responsibility for that knowledge.

Some of the issues of concern about recording MG cultural knowledge include:

- Cultural information that has been recorded by outside researchers is not readily available to Dawawang and is no longer under proper MG control.
- Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language Centre has an important role in recording cultural information and making it readily available to Dawawang.
- The Miriuwung language dictionary needs to be easily accessible for Dawawang.
- Arrangements that ensure recordings of cultural information remain available after the old people in them have passed on would be useful.
- The Kimberley Land Council holds a substantial collection of cultural records that Dawawang would like to include in their cultural information system.

Our joint strategies and actions on cultural recording and education

We like the digital and computer based-recording systems that some other Aboriginal people have used to record cultural information. Some good things about these systems include:

- MG garrayilng can be easily recorded talking on their country using a digital camera and that information can be stored onto a computer straight away.
- Access to information on the computer can be restricted along lines such as gender, age, kinship, family, clan and tribal groups.
- Young MG people can take part in cultural recording trips and learn from the garrayilng.
- Information from museums, libraries and other places can be added to the computer data-base.
- Maps can be produced from the computer showing place names and the location of cultural sites.
- Computers with the data base can be held by Dawawang, on communities and in the MG Corporation and anywhere else MG people agree to.

DEC don't have much experience in working with cultural recording and education systems, or of building cultural knowledge into joint park management. These digital and computer-based recording systems are new and exciting ways to move forward on bringing cultural baselines into joint management.

18 Two of our Dawang Rangers went to a workshop organized by the Australian Government in July 2008 in Cairns where a lot of different Aboriginal groups showed their digital and computer-based recording systems.
Our joint steps and resources for cultural recording and education

We will support the MG Corporation and Dawawang to work together on building up an MG cultural recording system and data-base under MG control. As we are developing the system, we will think about how information can be brought forward into joint park management.

Our first step will be to invite some of the other Aboriginal people who have developed digital and computer-based systems to come and meet with us.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not

We need to work together to find ways to measure whether the park business is helping to keep Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s knowledge of country, culture, and language strong. We will also need to find ways to measure whether information is being used appropriately to strengthen and guide joint park management.

Important documents

Legislation:
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

Policy:
- Draft Policy Statement—Aboriginal Involvement in Nature Conservation and Land Management

Implementation guidelines:
- Burra Charter (Australia/ICOMOS)

Talking about digital cultural recording systems

All their stories and their place, all their family members, all their skin names, skin groups, their language, their family trees and everything—it’s all stored on that computer. It’s easy to get it there for all the mob to look at. And they’ve got parts where people can’t see, that you want to keep for yourself. There’s a password for the Dawang… the mob in South Australia have got a box they put in the Toyota where the spare goes, but inside they go their camera, their little laptop. They went to some history place and they had all their photos and everything there.

Andy Reid, talking Cave Springs, 10 July 2008

We get it there, get the camera on it, put it on the computer right there and then. It’s dust proof, water proof, made to fit in the back of a troop carrier…. Cultural mapping is a big process, there’s a lot of places that have records that people don’t have access to, so part of the project is to get people out re-recording their own heritage, and part is to collecting information from all round Australia, you need someone to coordinate that.

Scott Goodson, picture left at Cave Springs 10 July 2008

Andy Reid talking at the Indigenous cultural recording workshop in Cairns, June 2008

Right: photo on a beach in Queensland after the cultural mapping workshop
Talking about access and use of cultural information

From left Cassilya Moore and Margaret Moore at Telegraph Hill, 17 June 2008.

Looking over Parry Lagoons from Telegraph Hill.

There’s a big issue here, a lot of stuff that our own mothers and grannies have worked on we can’t even get hold of… the Miriuwung dictionary is under lock and key. Carol Hapke, Yirralalem, 18 June 2008, pictured right

Children can come and learn about this, and go home and really think about it. The old people were very smart. All the men had to be very skilled to sneak up on kangaroo, turkey and goanna. Us women were the gatherers for all things in the trees, digging in the ground, where the men had to be skilled to catch the animals. I’d like to get hold of that archive of stories my grandmother left, it was drafted up in a big book. We should take a trip to Derby and have a look at the archives, we can find interesting stuff there, she did give us all the stories and everything on behalf of country.

Margaret Moore, at Telegraph Hill, 17 June 2008

Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on cultural recording and education

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<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
<td>Our vision is for all Miriuwung-Gajerrong children to know their own language fluently, to know their own culture and their own country, including all the sites, tracks and stories on their country.</td>
<td>DEC recognise the importance of the MG People’s connection to country and therefore will support where possible practice and maintenance of culture.</td>
<td>The MG People’s connection to country, and the importance of maintaining language, culture and country for Miriuwung-Gajerrong children, is recognised by all managers. Managers support the practice and maintenance of culture wherever possible.</td>
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</table>

| Our values and responsibilities | Cultural knowledge is being lost by the younger generations. You learn about the gardiya approach, but not the cultural side. Cultural site recording is very important, but in the past researchers have recorded our information and taken it for their own use without benefit to the traditional owners. Our main reason for recording our sites is for our young people’s education. Some information has been recorded and is held in the language centre. | DEC recognises and respects the importance of language and culture to MG people, and will support MG people to fulfil their cultural obligations where appropriate. | The Conservation Commission acknowledges that cultural knowledge is being lost by younger generation of Miriuwung-Gajerrong people. All managers should support Miriuwung-Gajerrong people in developing a cultural recording and education program that will pull together new and existing information and be used for the education of young people on MG culture. |

| Cultural recording and education issues of concern to us | Cultural knowledge is being lost by the younger generations. You learn about the gardiya approach, but not the cultural side. Cultural site recording is very important, but in the past researchers have recorded our information and taken it for their own use without benefit to the traditional owners. Our main reason for recording our sites is for our young people’s education. Some information has been recorded and is held in the language centre. | DEC supports MG people in developing a cultural recording and education program that will pull together new and existing information and be used for the education of young people on MG culture. | The Conservation Commission acknowledges that cultural knowledge is being lost by younger generation of Miriuwung-Gajerrong people. All managers should support Miriuwung-Gajerrong people in developing a cultural recording and education program that will pull together new and existing information on Miriuwung-Gajerrong culture that may be used for the education of young people. |

The Conservation Commission acknowledges that in the past information has been recorded by researchers and that this was not made available for the benefit of traditional owners. The Conservation Commission notes the complex issues surrounding intellectual property but supports the idea that information gathered from research on country should be presented to the Park Council wherever possible.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our proposed strategies and actions</strong></td>
<td>Our main priority is to have resources for bush trips with old people and young people to go out on country, and do cultural recording and cultural education. We need resources for cultural education, like a book of bush tucker and medicine, and videos, books of the dreamtime stories. We need to make these materials without the faces and voices of people so they can be used for cultural education when the old people pass on. We need to make sure our intellectual property rights are protected when doing cultural recording and cultural education. At Mijing, in the long term we’d like to run social programs, for example a special youth program, a “boot camp”, emphasising the values of respect and discipline. A place on country for older people would also be good.</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s priorities and needs with respect to cultural education and intellectual property. Managers should support processes that allow Miriuwung-Gajerrong people to identify the best means of cultural recording and cultural education on the parks. Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s intellectual property should be protected when doing cultural recording and cultural education. All managers should provide culturally appropriate information and interpretation on Aboriginal cultural heritage, as guided by the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people, to promote awareness, appreciation and understanding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Our steps and resources** | Cultural recording needs to be done through systems under our control, and that protect our intellectual property. We could start with a workshop to look at some different systems for cultural recording that protects our property rights including: | DEC relies on advice from Miriuwung-Gajerrong people regarding the development of processes to record and manage their cultural knowledge. Cultural recording needs to be done through systems that are under the control of the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people and protect their intellectual property. All managers should rely on advice from Miriuwung-Gajerrong people regarding the development of processes to record and manage their cultural knowledge. |

**Implementation guidelines:**

- **Draft Policy Statement 9—Conserving Threatened Species and Communities**

**Legislation:**

- *Wildlife Conservation Act 1984 (WA)*
- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)*
- *Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)*
- *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*

**Policy:**

- Draft Policy Statement 9—Conserving Threatened Species and Communities

**Implementation guidelines:**

- Recovery Plans and strategies will be developed for listed threatened species
Talking about natural, cultural and traditional resource management

Grasshoppers aren’t there like they used to be. That bush turkey, that’s his main tucker. Take the grasshopper out then that affects the bush turkey. Since the irrigation came, there’s been more of some things, like tree frogs, and less of others. When they change the country, they change the biodiversity of plants and animals.

We try to keep impacts down, for example at mound sprints we fence to keep cattle out so they don’t trample all the plant species that might be rare and threatened.

Scott Goodson, Point Spring 31 October 2008

### Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on natural, cultural and traditional resources management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>Conservation Commission Vision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our natural, cultural and traditional resources management visions</strong></td>
<td>To ensure the protection of biodiversity and enable Dawawang to maintain cultural practices through the sustainable use of natural, cultural and traditional resources.</td>
<td>Biodiversity is protected and Dawawang maintain cultural practices through the sustainable use of natural, cultural and traditional resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our values and responsibilities</strong></td>
<td>DEC is legally responsible for the protection of native plants and animals under the <em>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</em> (WC Act). The <em>Wildlife Conservation Act</em> says that as the owner of the new conservation reserves, Dawawang may hunt animals, fish, gather plants and collect natural resources. The <em>Wildlife Conservation Act</em> prohibits hunting in nature reserves, which includes Point Spring and Parry Lagoons. DEC respects Aboriginal people’s perspectives on their rights to use natural, cultural and traditional resources as part of the traditional association with country.</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges Aboriginal people’s perspectives on their rights to use natural, cultural and traditional resources as part of the traditional association with country. The Conservation Commission notes that: • All managers are legally responsible for the protection of native plants and animals under the <em>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</em> (WC Act). • The <em>Wildlife Conservation Act</em> states that as the owner of the new conservation reserves, Dawawang may hunt animals, fish, gather plants and collect natural resources on these reserves. The Conservation Commission acknowledges the desire of the Miriuwung-Gajerrong to hunt on country. The Conservation Commission is also aware of the view in the wider community that wildlife should be protected within reserves and has some sympathy with this view. Policy with respect to hunting in the new conservation reserves should be carefully considered through the management planning process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Natural, cultural and traditional resources management issues of concern to us</strong></td>
<td>A lot of bush tucker, bush medicine and useful plants are not as plentiful as they used to be. There are many examples. Bandaba (Valentine Springs) was a main place for emu and kangaroo in the old days but they’re not there any more. The WC Act currently prohibits hunting in nature reserves but the laws may be changed to allow this. Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve is visited by many people each year to observe the birdlife.</td>
<td>The Conservation Commission acknowledges that native plants and animals may not be as plentiful as they once were and the role cultural practices may play in restoring these. The Conservation Commission is concerned about the impact of hunting, where it is legal and sustainable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Natural, cultural and traditional resources management—issues of concern to us
(cont. from previous page)

Commercial bee hives have taken over from the wild bees and sugarbag is really hard to find these days. Jendoo-anger used to be plentiful, especially down at Ivanhoe Crossing. Magpie geese, flying fox, turkeys, echidna, dingo and emu numbers have also declined. Pines used to be plentiful through the Keep River country, but there’s hardly any there now. The construction of the dams on the Ord River brought many changes to the plants and animals in and nearby the river, and those changes are continuing.

The Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspectives
Our proposed strategies and actions
We’d like to restore the country. Collecting seeds and replanting areas that have been damaged, for example by mining, would help. We’d like to grow our own bush food and native flora for restoring country. The parks service people have a lot of knowledge about setting up and running a nursery, and could help us develop business enterprises. Getting the pines back onto our country is important.
We’d like to develop programs to increase the numbers of animals back to what they used to be. Projects to protect and restore water quality in our springs and waterways, and in the Ord River, are very important. At Mijing and Jemandi-Winingim Dawang, one idea is to start a botanical garden, with examples of the plants to be found in their parks. We’d like to get copies of all the recent studies of the plants and animals on our country—for example, we understood there was a recent survey of wetland birds, including birds on Darra. This information is an important starting point for our actions.

DEC Perspective
If hunting is permitted in future, its impact on visitor safety and bird viewing will need to be carefully considered. DEC will require the close liaison and cooperation of managers and Dawawang is needed to ensure natural, cultural and traditional resources are protected.

CCWA Perspective

Our steps and resources

We need more discussion to identify the first steps to start building up our natural, cultural and traditional resources again, including the condition of our rivers, waterways and springs. We need Traditional Owner-directed research to help identify the causes of declines of our natural, cultural and traditional resources, and to identify actions to bring our country back to good condition. Our intellectual and cultural property rights must be protected in this and all research. The research can start by pulling together all the recent studies about the condition of plants and animals on our country.

DEC supports the traditional Dawawang use of natural, cultural and traditional resources provided:
• they are from a cultural group associated with that particular country or have permission from people who speak for that country;
• the use of the plants and animals is sustainable; and
• the activity does not threaten the safety of others using the reserves.

DEC will work with Dawawang to assess the current information available on plants and animals, and then develop programs to restore and protect the country and its resources. If Dawawang desire to hunt in Parry Lagoons NR, DEC will continue to look at ways to legally enable this.

The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s desire to restore the country.
All managers should support the traditional Dawawang use of natural, cultural and traditional resources provided:
• they are from a cultural group associated with that particular country or have permission from people who speak for that country;
• the use of the plants and animals is sustainable; and
• the activity does not threaten the safety of others using the reserves.

DEC will work with Dawawang to assess the current information available on plants and animals, and then develop programs to restore and protect the country and its resources. Information and research results should be made available to all parties wherever possible. Managers should work with Dawawang to assess the current information available on plants and animals, and then develop programs to restore and protect the country and its resources.

The Conservation Commission acknowledges the Miriuwung-Gajerrong people’s desire for Traditional-Owner directed research and the protection of intellectual and cultural property rights.
Further discussion and research are first steps in natural, cultural and traditional resource protection.
All research on country needs to be presented to the Park Council.
Our joint planning guidelines for management of cultural sites and sites of significance

Our joint vision for management of cultural sites and sites of significance
Our joint vision for management of cultural sites and sites of significance is to see them all protected and managed in accordance with Dawang and Garrayilng culture and traditions.

Our joint values and responsibilities for management of cultural sites and sites of significance
Our table below sets out our values and interests in relation to management of cultural sites and sites of significance. We both recognise the role of the Department of Indigenous Affairs in administering the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

Issues of concern to us in management of cultural sites and sites of significance
Dawang have responsibility for management of cultural sites and sites of significance. It is critical to ensure that the Garrayilng with the right connections to country are making decisions about management of cultural sites and sites of significance. As laid out in table below, DEC supports fostering and respecting Dawang connection to country as central to site management, and will be guided by Dawang in relation to appropriate protection and management.

Our joint strategies and actions on management of cultural sites and sites of significance
As noted in our guidelines on Cultural Recording and Education, we both agree on the need for cultural recording and mapping under Dawang control, and see this as vital in management of cultural sites and sites of significance. Once we have an appropriate cultural information system established, we will be able to improve our management of cultural sites and sites of significance. We would like to get a list of all the sites currently registered under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972, and include this information in our cultural information system.

Our joint steps and resources for management of cultural sites and sites of significance
We will support the MG Corporation and Dawang to work together on building up an MG cultural recording system and database under MG control. As we are developing the system, we will think about how information can be brought forward into management plans for cultural sites and sites of significance.

Our joint way of telling whether we are doing a good job or not
Our cultural site and sites of significance management plans will be referred back to and under the control of the right Dawang. The plans will aim to ensure that sites are managed and protected, including through monitoring and evaluation, in accordance with MG Law and custom.

Important documents
Legislation:
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (WA)
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Native Title Act 1993 Reprint 1 (Commonwealth)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

Policy:
- Draft Policy Statement—Aboriginal Involvement in Nature Conservation and Land Management

Implementation guidelines:
- Burra Charter (Australia/ICOMOS)

Talking about management of cultural sites and sites of significance

For DEC, our core business is about the protection and management of biodiversity and those types of things, rather than Indigenous heritage and cultural values. But because Dawang sees management is all about the cultural side, then obviously the cultural site management has to be part of the management plan for these parks. This is what we agreed we want to do, the two things side by side, coming together.

Scott Goodson, Point Spring, 31 October 2008, pictured above
Table of MG, DEC and CCWA perspectives on management of cultural sites and sites of significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our cultural site management visions</strong></td>
<td><strong>DEC Vision</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conservation Commission Vision</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawawang Vision</td>
<td>DEC to make sure that cultural sites and sites of significance and artefacts receive adequate protection by those with appropriate responsibility and support MG people to record site information through the development of a cultural sites and sites of significance management program. With the permission and participation of Dawawang, DEC would use stories to tell visitors about country and help change attitudes towards protecting country.</td>
<td>Cultural sites and sites of significance and artefacts receive adequate protection by those with appropriate responsibility. Miriuwung-Gajerrong people have primary responsibility for recording cultural site information through the development of a cultural sites and sites of significance management program that will be used for good management and protection of these sites. With the permission and participation of Dawawang, DEC places a high value on cultural heritage and protects all sites and objects used by, or traditional to, Aboriginal people, including those not yet registered with DIA. This means that if an unregistered site is damaged, it is not an excuse and it is still illegal. Proposed amendments to the CALM Act will mean that DEC will have a greater responsibility for the management and protection of cultural sites and sites of significance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Our values and responsibilities** | **DEC acknowledges the rights of Aboriginal people to express and maintain their culture. DEC places a high value on cultural heritage and protects all sites as required by law under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. The Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) is responsible for the administration of the act, which protects all sites and objects used by, or traditional to, Aboriginal people, including those not yet registered with DIA. This means that if an unregistered site is damaged, it is not an excuse and it is still illegal. Proposed amendments to the CALM Act will mean that DEC will have a greater responsibility for the management and protection of cultural sites and sites of significance.** | **The Conservation Commission acknowledges the rights of Aboriginal people to express and maintain their culture. The Conservation Commission places a high value on cultural heritage, cultural sites and sites of significance required by law under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. All managers will protect all sites as required by law under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. All managers will protect all sites and objects used by, or traditional to, Aboriginal people, including those not yet registered with the DIA.** |

| **Cultural site management issues of concern to us** | **DEC will be guided by Dawawang to make sure that cultural heritage, cultural sites and sites of significance are protected. DEC needs to understand the views of Dawawang in how cultural heritage, cultural sites and sites of significance might best be protected.** | **The Conservation Commission: - acknowledges that special restoration, recognition and protection are needed for some cultural sites and sites of significance; - understand the significance to the Dawawang of ensuring that people with the right connections to country are making decisions about cultural site management. - agree that management will be guided by Dawawang views to make sure that cultural heritage, cultural sites and sites of significance are protected.** |

| **Our proposed strategies and actions** | **We need to develop maps for use in park planning with rules for the Rangers to use. We need to develop plans and processes for restoring damaged sites.** | **DEC’s strategies for managing cultural heritage include: - complying with Commonwealth and State law and Departmental policies prior to undertaking any works that have the potential to impact on cultural heritage, including referring to the State Aboriginal Site Register prior to any works being undertaken; - respecting the knowledge and cultural responsibilities of traditional owners, and following guidance given by them; - consulting relevant experts to improve the protection and conservation of cultural heritage; - protecting and maintaining cultural heritage according to international guidelines (the Burra Charter); - managing threatening processes and visitor activities; - providing culturally appropriate information and interpretation on Aboriginal cultural heritage; - fostering connection to country by allowing cultural activities based on traditional occupation and use; - supporting or encouraging surveys, research and monitoring of Aboriginal heritage; - protecting and maintaining cultural heritage according to international guidelines; and** |

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*Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines: Natural, cultural and traditional resources - cultural site management*
Our proposed strategies and actions
(cont. from previous page)

<table>
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<th>Miriuwung-Gajerrong Perspective</th>
<th>DEC Perspective</th>
<th>CCWA Perspective</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our steps and resources</td>
<td>Recording the location of our cultural sites needs to be through cultural mapping systems under our control, as discussed in the cultural education section. Through recording our sites, we will be able to identify management actions that are needed, including restoration and rehabilitation.</td>
<td>DEC supports cultural mapping as a vital step in knowing about cultural sites and their protection. DEC will make sure the management plan(s) address the protection of cultural heritage. DEC will work with Dawawang to educate visitors on appropriate behaviour when visiting country through the use of signs, the training of guides and rangers, and by providing information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies</td>
<td>Mining Act 1978 (Western Australia)</td>
<td>Native Title Act 1993 (Reprint 1, Federal)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Legislation                     | Native Title Act 1993 (Reprint 1, Federal) | Mining Act 1978 (Western Australia) | Important documents

### Joint statement of our planning guidelines for mining and other Future Acts

The **Mining Act 1978 (Western Australia)** establishes processes for the issuing of mining leases and licenses, which may be subject to conditions, including environmental conditions. Proposed mining activities within conservation areas must be considered according to the **Guidelines for Mineral Exploration and Mining Within Conservation Reserves and Other Environmentally Sensitive Lands In Western Australia** (Department of Industry and Resources Information Series 11). This **Policy** identifies the process for consultation with and advice from the **Conservation Commission** and the **Department of Industry and Resources**, as set up in a Memorandum of Understanding between former **Department of Minerals and Energy** and the former **Department of Environment**. The **process** facilitates the determination of conditions, should the application be approved. Where the proposed mining is for **Basic Raw Materials** (gravel), under **DEC** and **CCWA** policy there is a presumption against accessing from the conservation estate.

Proposed activities or developments that may affect native title are classed as ‘future acts’ under the **Native Title Act 1993 (Reprint 1, Federal)**. Native title holders have the right to negotiate about proposed developments (future acts) that affect their native title on behalf of MG people. The **Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrga Noong Dawawang Aboriginal Corporation**, with its **Governing Committee** of 16 **Dawawang** Representatives and 16 **Dawang** (see **Figure 3**), is the organisation to represent Miriuwung and Gajerrong native title holders in any negotiations over Future Acts. For consistency, all consultation and negotiation with MG people over mining and other Future Acts will occur through the MG **PBCs**, not the **YD Regional Park Council**.

The Park Council will also be informed about current or new mining applications, which may impact on the management of the parks and nature reserves. **Liaison** will occur with the MG Corporation **Future Act Officer** who keeps a data-base of relevant notifications.

The **types of future acts** to which the right to negotiate applies are summarised in s25 of the **Native Title Act** as certain future acts done by the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory that are of any of the following kinds:

- certain **permissible** lease and **licence** **renewals**;
- creation of certain **mining** **rights**;
- variation (to extend area) of a right to mine where the act passes the **freehold** test;
- the **compulsory** **acquisitions** of native title rights and interests by a **government** for third parties where the act passes the **freehold** test; and
- other acts approved by the **Commonwealth** **Minister**.

The **Management Plans** for the conservation areas will need to address the consequences of any decision that allows mining to occur.

### Important documents

**Legislation:**

- Native Title Act 1993 (Reprint 1, Federal)
- Mining Act 1978 (Western Australia)

**Policy:**

- Guidelines for Mineral Exploration and Mining Within Conservation Reserves and Other Environmentally Sensitive Lands In Western Australia (Department of Industry and Resources Information Series 11). Document located at: http://www.doit.wa.gov.au/mineralsandpetroleum
### Glossary of Miriwoong (Miriuwung) words

Note on spelling: Spelling is based on the advice of Mirima Dawang Woollab-gerring Language and Culture Centre except where alternative spelling has been adopted in Corporation names and names for Community Living Areas (including the words Miriuwung and Gajerrong). Also note that the spelling agreed for the new conservation parks at Goomiyig and Barrberrm in the Ord Final Agreement is Goomig and Barrbem respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bandaba</td>
<td>Place name, Valentine Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrberrm (Barrbem)</td>
<td>Place near Zimmerman Range. Also the name of the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darram</td>
<td>Place name, Bandicoot Bar. Also the name of the new Conservation Park at Packsaddle Swamp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawang</td>
<td>Particular tract of traditional country and the traditional owners who are connected to it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawuwang</td>
<td>People who are traditional owners of a particular tract of country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gajirrabeng</td>
<td>Gajerrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ganngooning</td>
<td>Red water lily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardiya</td>
<td>European people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galamanda</td>
<td>Area name, Goose Hill station and surrounding area including Parry’s Creek. Also name of the Dawang group associated with this country. Also name of a particular hill in this area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galija</td>
<td>Place name, Molly Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrayiling</td>
<td>Elders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gam-Garnbe</td>
<td>Place name, Barbeque Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giya</td>
<td>Group to the south of Miriuwung-Gajerrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goolalawa</td>
<td>Name for the Incorporated Goose Hill Community, and also the name for a place on the Ord River near Galamanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goomiyig (Goomig)</td>
<td>Cave Springs. Also the name of the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goorboome</td>
<td>Kumberumla outstation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaiying</td>
<td>Place name, Bubble Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamood</td>
<td>Bush turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jemando-Winingim</td>
<td>Weaber Range. Also the name for the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jendooboogeng</td>
<td>Wallaby-rat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayba</td>
<td>Place name, Middle Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mijing</td>
<td>Limestone. Also the name for Ningbing Range and the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngamoowaalem</td>
<td>Place name for Livistona Range; also Cycas spp. Also the name of the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilligem</td>
<td>Milligan’s Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thegooyeng</td>
<td>Place name, Black Rock Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardanybeng</td>
<td>Traditional Owner group associated with Mijing Conservation Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawoolme</td>
<td>Place name, Packsaddle Creek. Also the name of the new Conservation Park in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirram</td>
<td>Traditional Owner group associated with Barrberrm (Barrbem) Conservation Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirriwharim</td>
<td>Name of Community Living Area near Molly Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirriyilbem</td>
<td>Place name, area on the Keep River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weerawoorrem</td>
<td>Community near Packsaddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yirralalem</td>
<td>Place name, Packsaddle Springs. Also the name of the nearby Community Living Area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>