



Wait-a-While

Newsletter | Edition #3 | April 2012

Highlights

- » CEO Update
- » Ranger Corner:
Djunbunji Rangers hit the water on compliance patrols + pig trapping project
- » Cairns Regional Council launches 'Reconciliation Action Plan'
- » Training with CyberTracker
- » Photos from the IPA Ceremony
- » IPA Co-Management Workshop held in March
- » Cultural Knowledge Project
- » Mayi of the Month

Initiating People, Country and Culture outcomes for the benefit and healing of the Mandingalbay Yidinji People and Community

MY PEOPLE SIGN FIRST IPA IN QLD



MY Elders and Dignitaries cut the commemorative cake at the Hilton Hotel on 26 November 2011

The announcement and signing of an Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) over Mandingalbay Yidinji Country near Cairns heralds a new beginning for land and sea management and is the first multi-tenured agreement of its type anywhere in the country.

Mandingalbay Yidinji People signed this landmark agreement with all levels of Government declaring their East Trinity Country as an Indigenous Protected Area which will provide jobs for Indigenous people and an unprecedented level of environmental protection. The ceremony held at the Hilton Hotel on the 26 November 2011 was attended by over 150 Traditional Owners and guests

including Senator Jan McLucas and local Mulgrave MLA, Curtis Pitt. Guests were treated to traditional dance performances by Mandingalbay Yidinji Elder, David Mundraby and the Yidinji Dancers.

Mandingalbay Yidinji People's 'Country' is located across Trinity Inlet from Cairns. The 9,740 hectares of Country being dedicated as an IPA includes areas of pristine mountainous rainforest, coastal woodlands, freshwater and saltwater areas of significance to the Mandingalbay Yidinji People which will be managed in accordance with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (ICUN) values for its rich biodiversity, conservation values and importantly it's Aboriginal cultural values (*continued on page 2*).



FROM THE CEO



This is the third edition of *Wait-a-While*, now a regular publication of Djunbunji Land & Sea Management Centre. Since our last edition in November 2011, Mandingalbay Yidinji People have achieved a significant milestone with the successful dedication of Mandingalbay Yidinji Country over multiple tenures in the Cairns Regional Council Local Government areas. The ceremony which was held at the Cairns Hilton Hotel on 26 November brought together Mandingalbay Yidinji People with their

IPA cover story continued...

Within the IPA area being dedicated is:

- East Trinity Environmental Reserve
- Grey Peaks National Park
- Malbon Thompson Forest Reserve
- Giangurra Reserve
- Wet Tropics World Heritage Area
- Trinity Inlet section of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park; and
- Trinity Inlet Fish Habitat Area

Mandingalbay Yidinji Indigenous Protected Area and the preparation of the Management Plan was undertaken in collaboration with our management partners: Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management,

partner agencies to celebrate over multi-tenures anywhere in Australia. The challenge now for Djunbunji Ltd is to capitalise on partnerships established and maximise the participation of Mandingalbay Yidinji People in the management of their Country. Congratulations to everyone and special thanks to Sue Medway for playing a lead role in organising the event.

On an operational level the Rangers have undertaken GPS and CyberTracker training, marine compliance training, plant identification training, chemical spraying and crocodile awareness training, all part of our aim to develop a professional Ranger service. For the first six months of 2012, three Djunbunji Rangers will be completing their Cert III in Calm at TAFE, while individual Rangers are undertaking a Cert III in Spatial Information & Surveying course, Marine Radio training, Coxswains training and other specialised training that will enhance our management capability. A particular focus for the next six months is to gain a greater presence on the water and develop our expertise to manage MY Sea Country.

On another note, Djunbunji Ltd has just been placed on the preferred supplier's list with Cairns Regional Council for national resource management purposes which will hopefully lead to commercial contracts delivering more employment to Traditional Owners and involve them in a practical sense in the management of other tenures in the IPA area outside of

Fisheries Queensland, Wet Tropics Management Authority, Terrain Natural Resource Management, and the Cairns Regional Council.

"We had a native title determination and Indigenous Land Use Agreements, but it wasn't until we started developing the Indigenous Protected Area project that we could see a way of 'putting country back together' – to manage country in a tenure-blind way with our partners."

Dale Mundraby, Chairperson, Djunbunji Ltd.

The Mandingalbay Yidinji IPA Dedication has received national, state and local media coverage.

Wait-a-While

the protected tenures which is currently our core business.

Djunbunji Ltd has also had a number of visitor groups hosted by our Rangers at our East Trinity office. We hosted the National IPA Forum Field Trip in March which saw over 40 people from other IPA programs around the nation enjoy a cultural presentation by Darryl Murgha and a walk of Gulway Mayi Bugan Trail with Victor Bulmer providing the commentary. We also hosted the CALM III students from TAFE who also thoroughly enjoyed the visit to East Trinity. We have now hosted over 120 visitors to our headquarters in the last six months so the potential exists to expand this part of our operation.

We will be hosting a community event around NAIDOC Week in June and we would appreciate any ideas readers may have for this community day. Remember our website is now online and you can view it on www.djunbunji.com.au

In order to increase employment outcomes, Djunbunji Ltd is currently seeking resumes from Mandingalbay Yidinji People to go on a database to be used for future employment opportunities with Djunbunji Ltd. If you are interested please contact Stacey at the office.

I hope you enjoy reading our third edition of *Wait-a-While* !

Ian Kuch



Unveiling of the IPA sign by MY Elders, Senator Jan McLucas and Curtis Pitt MP



DJUNBUNJI RANGERS HIT THE WATER

Wait-a-While



In November 2011, the Djunbunji Rangers commenced doing compliance patrols with Qld Marine Parks in the waters off Cairns. Our Rangers participate in the patrols off Cairns and also out from Deeral

to the Frankland's Groups of Islands. Ranger Damon Mundraby who is training to achieve his 'coxswains' qualifications said "The patrols give me practical experience and sea hours and we learn how to deal with the public".

All of our Rangers have sea logs to record their hours on marine park patrols which contributes towards the sea time required to obtain a Coxswain Certificate. More importantly, the compliance patrols prepare the Rangers for undertaking that important part of ranger work.

Kenny Kyle said "It shows the Memorandum of Understanding that Mandingalbay Yidinji People negotiated

with agencies like DERM have created a working partnership on the ground where our people are practically involved in the management of our Sea Country".

All of the patrols so far have been day patrols, but there is a possibility of undertaking longer overnight patrols in the future. Giles Mundraby said "Doing these patrols gives us the chance to look at the health of our Sea Country and assist us with the mapping of Mandingalbay Yidinji People's Sea Country".

We look forward to doing patrols with some of our other partners such as Qld Fisheries and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.



The Rangers out on the water undertaking compliance patrols with Qld Marine Parks

PIGS GALORE!

On another note, you may have read about our pig trap construction project in the first issue of *Wait-a-While*. We are now actively setting traps on the East Trinity Reserve and in December 2011 we successfully trapped our first feral pigs. Qld Parks and Wildlife Service Ranger Dan Fitzpatrick currently destroys the animals we trap.

The wet season has interrupted our trapping project but we have just recommenced free baiting the traps this week. You need to free bait traps for a couple of weeks and once the Rangers see pig tracks in and around the trap, then we set the traps. We hope to ramp

up our trapping program during this year's dry season and start trapping in other areas within the Mandingalbay Yidinji IPA.

This year we have really been completing a lot of training. By June of this year all

Rangers will have completed their Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management so we are well on the way to developing our professional ranger service.

Jeff Arneith



Left: Pig caught in trap. Right: Rangers baiting and setting the trap



CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL LAUNCHES 'RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN'

On 23 January 2012 at a Civic Reception hosted by Cairns Regional Council, Indigenous Liaison Officer, Brendan Leishman, and Cairns Mayor Val Schier launched the Council's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).



Above: Cr Val Schier, Mayor of Cairns Regional Council 'launches the plan'
Below: RAP banner

A large crowd of Councillors, Indigenous Leaders, Indigenous employees of Cairns Regional Council (CRC), and representatives from other government agencies witnessed the ceremony which was addressed by Traditional Owners, Brendan Leishman, Cairns Regional Council CEO Lyn Russell and the Mayor, Val Schier. Cairns Regional Council is the first Qld Local Government to develop a RAP and only the 12th local council in Australia that has made this important formal step towards achieving reconciliation at a local level.

The Plan was developed by Council with the aid of their Indigenous Advisory Council, an initiative of the current Council which has seen the employment of Cairns Regional Council's Indigenous Employment Coordinator, Yvette Salam and other positive steps to assist in 'closing the gap' between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in the Cairns Local Government area. The Plan sets out how the Council will in the coming years address key areas such as:

- Respect and Recognition
- Employment and Business Opportunities
- Tracking Progress

Mayor Schier who has taken a very personal interest in the development of the RAP, attending all meetings with the Indigenous Advisory Council to date, said at the launch:

"I noted when first elected Mayor, at a meeting with Council staff that virtually all of the Indigenous staff were over the age of 40. This indicated to me that there had obviously been some effort in the past from the Council to employ indigenous people but this effort had lapsed in previous years and now needed some leadership to address opportunities for Indigenous Australians with Council as well as broader issues of Cairns Regional Council being more inclusive of

Wait-a-While

Indigenous Australians at all levels of the Council's service delivery and operations. With over 8% of our constituents of Aboriginal or Torres St Island descent, it is long overdue and positive step that Cairns Regional Council makes this formal commitment to the Reconciliation process with our local Indigenous community".

A key immediate outcome of the RAP is the implementation of an Indigenous Employment Plan coordinated by Yvette Salam which will witness more employment opportunities for Indigenous people, particularly in more apprenticeships and traineeships with the Cairns Regional Council.

In that regard it was pleasing to see all general managers of Cairns Regional Council attend the event because it is those senior managers that have the job of embedding the RAP in their daily operations against targets set out in the Plan. The Cairns Regional Council's Indigenous Advisory Council in partnership with the Council has a continuing role in monitoring Council's performance in achieving the aims set out in the Plan.

Wait-a-While hopes that many other local governments follow Cairns Regional Council's lead and develop similar RAPs with their 'First Australian' community.

To view the detailed plan please follow the link to the Cairns Regional Council website at:

[http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/
community-information/
aboriginal-and-torres-strait-
islander-information/
reconciliation-action-plan/
reconciliation-action-plan-
booklet](http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/community-information/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-information/reconciliation-action-plan/reconciliation-action-plan-booklet)



TRAINING WITH CYBERTRACKER

DJUNBUNJI RANGERS GO DIGITAL!



Djunbunji Rangers with Heidi (Tangaroa Blue) and Jen (GhostNets Australia) on Toombul Beach

When Ian chanced by Riki Gunn (coordinator of GhostNets Australia) at the Qld Coastal Conference he jumped at the opportunity to raise the issue of CyberTracker training for Djunbunji Rangers. CyberTracker is a free software that once installed on portable hand held computers (PDA's) makes complex data collection easy. Many ranger organisations in Australia are already proficient in the software, calling their PDA's I-trackers or Nomads or Getecs after the brand. Djunbunji Rangers have had two Getecs for a while now and are itching to use them!

GhostNets Australia (GNA) use CyberTrackers extensively within their network of coastal ranger organisations across the top of northern Australia to collect valuable information on ghost nets (fishing nets that are lost, or abandoned at sea). However you can use these devices to record information on projects as diverse as weed management to cultural heritage to Australian Quarantine Inspection Service work.

Since ghost nets are not really an issue for the Mandingalbay Yidinji people, GhostNets Australia paired with another NGO, the Australian marine debris organisation Tangaroa Blue to deliver the

training. Tangaroa Blues specialty is collecting information on what rubbish is coming to our shores through community beach clean-ups. They have a database with over a million records of beach debris from places as far away as Hawaii and as near as Cape Kimberley.

Ghost nets are a form of marine debris – transported by the oceans, and piling up in 'hot spot' locations where currents and winds converge. The Rangers learnt that marine debris is everywhere and that no matter how small, every piece is having an impact. This threefold partnership between Djunbunji Rangers, GhostNets Australia and Tangaroa Blue was a fantastic opportunity to learn about marine debris, learn about CyberTracker and work on an environmental management issue - it became an applied training exercise.

The training with the Rangers encompassed two days - one in the office running through the software and learning the application, and the second day out on Country conducting a marine debris clean up. The Djunbunji Rangers picked up all facets of the training fast – all of us squeezed into the Senior Rangers office sharing computers and swapping tasks.

The Rangers were exceptional students with the computers and software, including making detailed queries of the data. Heidi Taylor from Tangaroa Blue was also more than impressed with everyone's attention to detail with categorising the marine debris and recording information in the field. At the end of all the hard work, and a quick cool off in the freshwater stream, it was back to the office where everyone got a chance to download the data.

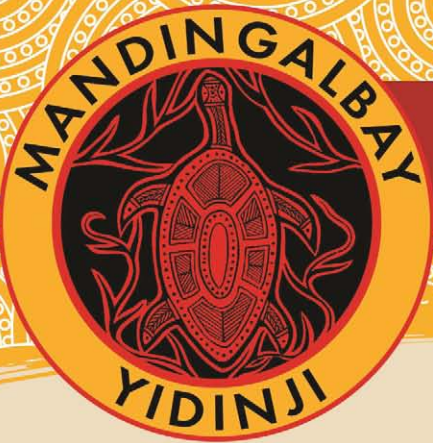
The Rangers will continue monitoring their beaches for marine debris, and will expand their use of their CyberTrackers to encompass future work with plans for a large database of all their activities.

Ranger Giles Mundraby said "Already we are using the CyberTracker to mark pig trap locations, weed infestations and cultural heritage sites". GhostNets Australia Project Officer Jen Goldberg said "It was great to meet and be able to help out my local ranger group with this training.....CyberTracker is a fantastic way to record and store data, but it is just a tool. It is the keen and interested Djunbunji Rangers who are going to make it work for them".



Leon Wallis puts the CyberTracker in action





DEDICATION OF THE INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA ON 26 NOV 2011 AT THE HILTON HOTEL



Wait-a-While



INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA (IPA) CO-MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Wait-a-While



David Mundraby and the Yidinji Dancers at Djunbunji Ltd Headquarters



From the Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation IPA Coordinator, Sue Medway

Traditional Owners, Planners and Co-ordinators from eleven IPA Co-management projects from around Australia travelled to Cairns to participate in a national IPA Co-Management Workshop held from 5 – 7 March 2012.

Groups represented were Mutawa Kurrara Kurrara from central WA; Wilinggin and Dambinangari from the Kimberley; Yawuru, Broome; Werai Forest in southern NSW; Gumma, northern NSW; Yorta Yorta, Victoria; Central QLD Coast; Blackdown Tablelands; Eastern Kuku Yalanji; and Giringun; each giving a presentation on the progress of their IPA, highlighting achievements and challenges.

Mandingalbay Yidinji and Gumma are the only Co-managed IPAs that have been dedicated.

The group was joined by representatives from the Ministers Indigenous Advisory Committee and IPA Sub-Committee, AIATSIS Native Title Research Unit, and Departmental IPA staff. The purpose of the meeting was to share experiences

and lessons learnt in developing Co-managed IPAs.

Mandingalbay Yidinji Aboriginal Corporation and Djunbunji hosted the Workshop Field Trip with assistance from Department of Environment and Resource Management, Wet Tropics Management Authority, Qld Fisheries and Terrain Natural Resource Management. Participants enjoyed a trip across Trinity Inlet to the Hills Creek Floodgates with Tony from *Catch-a-crab* with an informative commentary provided by Bruce Rampton. Steve Wilbraham and Simon van Heel met the group at the Floodgates with an informative overview of the remediation work.

The visitors enjoyed an engaging cultural heritage presentation from Darryl Murgha, while Vic Bulmer expertly guided the visitors along the *Mayi Bugan Cultural Heritage Trail*. The afternoon was capped off by a wonderful performance from David Mundraby and the Yidinji Dancers, their long wait made worthwhile by a surprise meeting with Yawuru elder Jimmy Edgar, who worked as a Cultural Advisor and appeared as a dancer in the film *Bran Nue Day*.

Key themes from the workshop included:

- The importance of establishing relationships with partners early on in the consultation process and the need to maintain strong

productive relationships with partners.

- Investment in organisational capacity.
- The need to build strong sustainable businesses.
- The value in maintaining strong communication networks for Co-managed IPAs, at the both the operational and political level.
- Benefits of IPAs are broader than natural resource management and cultural heritage conservation and include community development and wellbeing.
- Renew effort to create and support establishment of compliance and enforcement powers for Indigenous Rangers working in Co-managed IPAs.
- Multiple tenures, multiple partners, multiple opportunities.
- The development of a Co-management Indigenous Protected Area Guidelines/Toolkit.

Recommendations from the Workshop will be presented for discussion at a joint management meeting of Australian and State Government conservation agencies in April.

Workshop proceedings are expected to be released late March.





Clockwise from top: Darryl Murgha presents to the crowd, Arriving on catch-a-crab boat, cultural artefacts, Jimmy Edgar with the Yidinji Dancers, David Mundraby and the Yidinji Dancers, Darryl Murgha, Vic Bulmer guiding visitors along the Mayi Bugan Cultural Heritage Trail.



THE RECORDING OF MANDINGALBAY YIDINJI CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE PROJECT



Aboriginal cultural heritage is a very important part of Djunbunji Ranger's job

Djunbunji Ltd have commenced undertaking a comprehensive cultural mapping and recording project for Mandingalbay Yidinji traditional culture and values associated with sites within the Mandingalbay Yidinji IPA area. We call the project "The Recording of Mandingalbay Yidinji Cultural Knowledge Project". The project will run for a 26 week period up until the end of June 2012.

The specific aims of the project are to:

- a) Conduct a comprehensive cultural heritage survey of Mandingalbay Yidinji Country.
- b) Accurately locate and map known cultural sites and assess protection issues.
- c) Create a cultural overlay to current geospatial and environmental information.
- d) Train Djunbunji Rangers in the methodology of cultural surveys, recording techniques, data entry and database management

including the ongoing recording and management of cultural information.

- e) Engage the broader Mandingalbay Yidinji community in the 'Working on Country' program.
- f) Conduct community workshops on the finished resource and how to use it.
- g) Publish publicly available information on our website.
- h) Contribute to the up-skilling of Djunbunji Rangers to develop the professionalism of our ranger service.

The project is headed up by Cultural Heritage Ranger, Darryl Murgha and Djunbunji Ltd have employed two casual Assistant Cultural Heritage Ranger's to assist Darryl. They are Victor Bulmer and Javen Mundraby. Djunbunji Ltd have also engaged a Cultural Heritage Consultant to assist our Rangers and we are fortunate to have a well known local archaeologist,

Nicky Horsfall who has previously worked on Mandingalbay Yidinji Country and is familiar with the area to be surveyed.

Mandingalbay Yidinji People with knowledge of the IPA area who wish to get involved in this project should contact our Cultural Heritage Ranger Darryl Murgha at our office. We have a limited amount of wages for Traditional Owners to assist with this project. The information collected is purely for Mandingalbay Yidinji People to help keep your culture strong.



Kenny and Leon making a traditional bulmba from lawyer cane, bush string and tea tree bark



Jump online and check out the new Djunbunji Ltd website - www.djunbunji.com.au

DJUNBUNJI
LAND & SEA PROGRAM

Sitemap | News | Contact Us

Search

HOME | PLANNING | RANGERS | NATIVE TITLE | IPA | CORPORATION | PARTNERS | CONTACT US

Djunbunji Limited

Strategic Plan

Ranger Program

Native Title

IPA

Mandingalbay Yidinji Corporation

News

Djunbunji Limited
RN 1928 Yarrabah Rd
Bessie Point, QLD 4871
Tel 07 4056 8283
Fax 07 4056 8284
Email info@djunbunji.com.au

HOME | PLANNING | RANGERS | NATIVE TITLE | IPA | CORPORATION | PARTNERS | CONTACT US

© Copyright 2012 Djunbunji Ltd.
Cairns Web Design by ImageSmith

INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE FIELD OF LAND MANAGEMENT?

ARE YOU PHYSICALLY FIT, HAVE A CURRENT QLD DRIVERS LICENCE AND WANT TO WORK WITH YOUR OWN PEOPLE'S LAND AND SEA MANAGEMENT CENTRE?

Djunbunji Land and Sea Management Centre is seeking expressions of interest from Mandingalbay Yidinji People to go on a database of people interested in working with us in the future. This may be work on a casual or more permanent basis. Djunbunji have a small number of casual positions to offer in the near future and will use

this database to recruit new workers for these positions and for other positions in the future.

Please submit your current resume with a brief statement of why you are interested in working in this area to be considered for future work with our company.

All applications should be addressed to the CEO, Djunbunji Ltd, marked as *Confidential* and submitted by post to P.O. Box 329 Gordonvale 4865 or by email to reception@djunbunji.com.au

Any existing qualifications over and above the minimum described relevant to the Land Management field will be highly regarded.



MAYI OF THE MONTH

Wait-a-While

Badil / Ngijar - Cycas Media

Raw nuts and young leaves toxic /poisonous.

Many of the most important plant foods for rainforest bama were large and abundant seeds which had the major disadvantage of being poisonous.

For many North Queensland rainforest bama had a method for many thousands of years for treating these seeds to remove the poison and render their

nutritious starchy contents into edible foods.

Cooking: The seeds were cooked, most commonly by steaming in a earth oven (Kup-mari) or roasted in the ash of an open fire.

Grating: The cooked seeds were then removed, grated using grooved stone graters or mashed to a pulp using hammer stones in preparation for leaching.

Leaching: The mayi from the cooked seeds was then put in dilly-bags and soaked in running water for 1-4 days depending on species of seeds. Sometimes this process was repeated to remove the bitterness from the seeds.

Use: The leached mayi was then occasionally formed into loaves and baked on hot stones as dampers or small cakes.



HAVE YOUR SAY!

Please contact us with your news, photos and ideas for future newsletter stories. Drop into the office or email ceo@djunbunji.com.au



CONTACT DETAILS

DJUNBUNJI LTD
Land & Sea Program

RN 1928 Yarrabah Road
Bessie Point Qld 4871

PO Box 329
Gordonvale Qld 4865

Phone: 07 4056 8283

Fax: 07 4056 8284

Email: ceo@djunbunji.com.au

Web: www.djunbunji.com.au

ABN: 65 138 605 259



Djunbunji Wait-A-While Newsletter is produced with the support of



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment,
Water, Population and Communities

