

'Talking Culture on Country'


Intergenerational Transfer of Indigenous
Ecological Knowledge (IEK) - Top End NT



Purpose of Talking Culture on Country IEK Program

- To address the loss of Traditional Ecological Knowledge by providing funding for Intergenerational Transfer of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge — younger people learning from older people

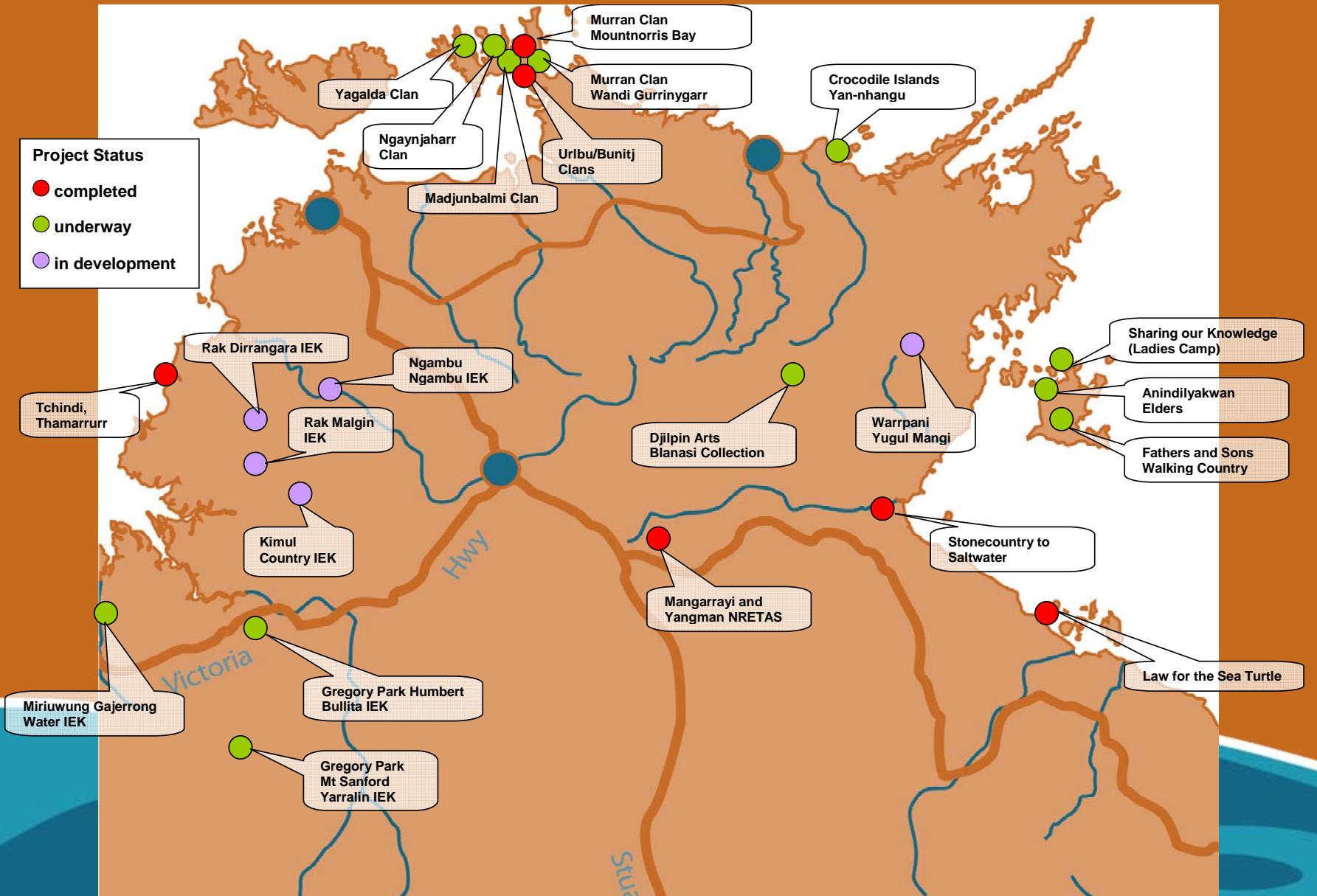
The themes and purpose of the projects must clearly be:

- developing an understanding of the complex traditional relationships between land and the people, providing a clearer understanding of traditional land management
 - nurturing an enthusiasm for cultural and natural resource management practice in the younger generation while undertaking relevant on-country activities
 - time spent in the presence of senior knowledge holders
 - learning and observing traditional custodianship and respect for the land
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Talking Culture on Country IEK Program

- For NT Groups, Commonwealth funding accessed through Natural Resource Management Board of the Northern Territory (NRMB-NT)
- 2 x IEK support officers - Central Land Council and NAILSMA
- Availability of grants publicised through networks and NRM media and through direct approaches
- Proponents of projects submit an application that gets reviewed by a Technical Advisory Panel
- IEK support officer works with proponent to draft application in a form where panel can make a decision / recommendations
- Successful applicants have funds transferred
- Panel reviews reports from projects

Map of Current NAILSMA IEK funded Projects (December 2009)



'From Stonecountry to Saltwater' Walk

Senior and junior members of the Numamudirrdi clan and Yugul Mangi Rangers recently completed a five day walk from the old mission at Ngukurr all the way to Wuyagibar on the coast on the Gulf of Carpentaria.

This walk was along a path traditionally used for generations under the direction of senior elders and was used to teach younger people about important knowledge of country and culture.

Starting at the old mission site near Ngukurr on October 6, people walked to Mangajarra, then on to Awumbunji and through to Wuyagiba finishing the walk.

Roger Numamudirrdi and his sons Clarry and Walter Rogers have really wanted to do this walk for a several years and with the help of Don Duggan and Joe Morrison started to plan.

Funding from NAILSMA's 'Talking Culture on Country' grants program and from the Indigenous Heritage Program made

it possible this year. As a young man Roger Numamudirrdi used to make this walk often with his family

The main reason for the walk was to teach traditional knowledge to younger generations that will help them care for the country properly, now and into the future.

Story telling by Roger Numamudirrdi, Clarry Rogers and Walter Rogers to the younger people and rangers to teach this knowledge took place all the way along the walk.

Young people were told about ancestral creation stories, about the significance of the places they went to, how to care for country, how to burn country the proper way and how look after



Stone Country: Freshwater spring on Wuyagibar Beach

art sites and significant areas like tool making sites, waterholes and spring-water places.

Along the way the rangers took plenty of video footage and photographs to make a DVD and photo books that will document the knowledge and help share it with the wider community in the Ngukurr area.

Clarry Rogers said about the project "Other Aboriginal people will want to do similar projects on their country; it's the start of something bigger."

'Talking Culture on Country'

grants for Indigenous ecological knowledge are available until late 2009.

If you would more information or would like to apply for a grant, get in touch with David Wise at NAILSMA ph 89467674 fax 89467677, email david.wise@cdu.edu.au or go to the NAILSMA IEK website at www.nailsma.org.au/projects/iek

This project is supported by funding from the Commonwealth Government through the Natural Resource Management Board of the Northern Territory.

Kelvin Rogers burning Nguliyanga flood plain under direction from his father and uncle. This plain only dries out enough for fire during very late dry season



Yugul Mangi ranger Priscilla Dixon using digital video camera at Yadanggala Waterhole during Stonecountry to Saltwater Walk



Fish Trap near Wuyagibar on Wuyagibar plain. One of the sites of significance young people were taught about during the Stonecountry to Saltwater walk



Walter Rogers (standing) and Simon Ponto (Yugul Mangi ranger). Walter is teaching Simon about the freshwater springs in the Wuyagibar area



narnu-Yuwa ki-Wundanyukawu
'Law for the Sea Turtle' LiAnthawirriyarra Rangers, Borroloola



Yanyuwa children at Maaybayny – North Beach of West Island, Borroloola Coast



Sea Turtle Laying eggs at night



In the morning, return to the Sea



LiAnthawirriyarra Sea Rangers who assisted with the camp



Mangarrayi song birds & kingfishers

Jininggirrij Willy Wagtail



Biny'min Mistletoebird



Jawayagwayag Flycatcher



Jordogmin Blue-faced Honeyeater



Gorrogorromin Kookaburra



Dorrowol Forest Kingfisher



Bararuwan Dollar Bird



Birridbirrid Bee-eater



Mangarrayi turtles & crocs



Dirrag

Saltwater Crocodile



Gorronani Snapping Turtle



Jabada Saw-shelled Turtle



Nganymarlin Stinking Turtle



Marndirrin Yellow-faced Turtle



Jarnamanjarr Long-necked Turtle



Warrbiyan Freshwater Crocodile



This poster has been prepared to promote Mangarrayi song bird & kingfisher knowledge. It is based on the knowledge of Jessie Roberts and Sheila Conway.

Poster prepared by Glenn Wightman, Parks and Wildlife, NRETA. Linguistic support Eugenia Collyer, Diwurruwurru-jaru AC. Photographs Ian Morris, Michael Barrett and Glenn Wightman.



This poster has been prepared to promote Mangarrayi turtle and crocodile knowledge. It is based on the knowledge of Jessie Roberts, Sheila Conway, Edna Parra and Eileen Daylight.

Poster prepared by Glenn Wightman, Parks and Wildlife, NRETA. Linguistic support Eugenia Collyer, Diwurruwurru-jaru AC. Photographs Ian Morris & Arthur George





Bararuruwan

Dragonflies

Odonata, Anisoptera



FEATURES

Distinctive often colourful insects with elongate body and large wings giving them a helicopter-like appearance.

KNOWLEDGE

When there are lots of these dragonflies around you know it's a good time to go fishing for **yurramij** – they are really fat.



FEATURES

Delicate bright green grasshopper-like insect.

KNOWLEDGE

This grasshopper has a story with the wild yam **minyjawurr** (*Dioscorea bulbifera*). When it is singing it is singing up the wild yam. Old people would hear the katydid singing and know that it was time to go looking for those yams.