

NRMB APPROVED COMMUNITY PROJECTS

22 December 2005

ATTACHMENT A

| Organisation | Title | \$NHT |
|--|---|--------------------|
| Roper River Landcare Group | Managing Priority Weeds in Key Areas of the Roper Catchment | \$309,280 |
| Victoria River District Conservation Association | Control of Feral Animals in the Victoria River District (VRD) | \$231,770 |
| Victoria River District Conservation Association | Developing Best Practice Community Fire Management in the VRD | \$239,000 |
| Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation | Managing Key Biodiversity Threatening Processes in the Bawinanga Management Region | \$40,000 |
| Tiwi Land Council | Tiwi Islands Pest and Weed Control | \$65,055 |
| Northern Land Council | Managing Indigenous Sea Country | \$175,000 |
| Northern Land Council | WALFA Bridging Project: Managing Fire for Local and Global Benefit | \$167,800 |
| Northern Land Council | Extending Fire Management Capacity in Central and Western Arnhem Land | \$220,200 |
| Anindilyakwa Land Council | Groote Archipelago remote communities NRM capacity development | \$92,000 |
| Central Land Council | Best practice Community Fire Management on Aboriginal Lands in Arid NT | \$287,000 |
| Centralian Land Management Association | Parkinsonia control in the Sandover River Catchment, Central Australia | \$197,598 |
| Laynhapuy Homelands Association Inc. | Laynhapuy IPA Wetlands - Buffalo Management Stage 1 (Survey and Management Planning) | \$54,516 |
| Laynhapuy Homelands Association Inc. | Laynhapuy IPA Wetlands - Buffalo Management Stage 2 (Priority Control Measures) | \$50,729 |
| Wangamaty (Lower Daly) Landcare Group Inc. | Implementing Priority Actions of the Wangamaty (Lower Daly River) Management Plan | \$61,039 |
| Greening Australia NT | Protecting central Australian rockholes and wetlands from feral herbivores | \$100,000 |
| Wangamaty (Lower Daly) Landcare Group Inc. | Lower Daly Integrated Inland Aquatic Weed Management Project | \$93,410 |
| Tangentyere Council | Resources on biodiversity threatening processes for Indigenous communities and others | \$40,000 |
| Murwangi Community Aboriginal Corporation | Fire Management Surrounding the Arafura Swamp | \$42,500 |
| Murwangi Community Aboriginal Corporation | Managing Key Biodiversity Threatening Processes on the Arafura Swamp | \$81,000 |
| Wangamaty (Lower Daly) Landcare Group Inc. | Eradication of African Big-headed Ant from the Daly River | \$77,678 |
| Tiwi Land Council | Business Support for Contract Mine-site Rehabilitation Tiwi Islands | \$87,155 |
| 21 projects | | \$2,712,730 |

PRESS RELEASE
**COMMUNITY PROJECTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES ANNOUNCED**

The Chair of the Northern Territory's new Natural Resource Management Board, Ms Sue van Cuylenburg, today released details of the first group of community projects to be funded under the Northern Territory's Regional Investment Strategy for the management of our natural resources.

"I am very pleased to be able to announce that the Natural Resource Management Board has agreed to 21 community-based projects with a combined value of \$2.7m located right across the Territory" Ms van Cuylenburg said. "Funding from the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust and Joint Australian and Northern Territory' Government's National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality have enabled these investments".

"These projects will provide support for community groups to extend their management of natural resources for productive, cultural and conservation purposes. We have given a strong preference to projects promising good landscape-scale change in the condition of our natural resources.

"The Board has earmarked an additional \$1m for local facilitators' salaries where they are not covered fully in approved projects. This will mean the continuation of the 18 currently funded local facilitator network. The Board has been particularly mindful of keeping our facilitator network together - these people are critical to the success of our investments.

"The really exciting thing is that it is communities that are driving these projects - the people who are closest to the natural resources can best identify the problems and devise practical solutions.

Some projects that have been approved (see full details in the attached list) include:

- **Developing Best Practice Community Fire Management in the VRD** (Victoria River District Conservation Association). The project will support on-ground, strategic fire management activities that will develop land managers skills, knowledge, and capacity to participate in regional fire mitigation and management in the Victoria River District.
- **Tiwi Islands Pest and Weed Control** (Tiwi Land Council). This project, run by the Tiwi Land Council, will use local Tiwi Rangers to develop management plans and implement control activities. The project will help protect the biodiversity values of the Tiwi islands through management of invasive grassy weeds, *Mimosa pigra*, and feral pig control.
- **Resources on biodiversity threatening processes for Indigenous communities and others** (Tangentyere Council). The project will support the development of information resources on biodiversity threatening process and threat surveillance to support Indigenous communities, and other landholders. These

resources will provide information about threats (fire, weeds and feral animals), strategic management of these threats and information on what other communities and regions are doing to manage these threats.

“The Board has provisionally approved other proposals from both communities and organisations, but they require some negotiation with proponents. These negotiations will be undertaken early in the new year with a view to the Board signing off on them in early February,” Ms van Cuylenburg reported.

“The interest that this has generated is overwhelming, and bodes well for community involvement in the management of our natural resources in the future. A total of 134 proposals with a combined value of around \$24.4m were received.

Understandably, some people will be disappointed that their proposal has not been immediately successful. However there will be further opportunities in 2006, and the Board will be seeking investments from many sources to assist communities improve their management of the Territory’s natural resources.”

The Australian Government will provide nearly \$20 million over three years through the *Natural Heritage Trust* and the Northern Territory Government will support this investment with in-kind contributions such as technical support, resource assessment, research and development and other functions of government.

In addition, both the Northern Territory and the Australian Governments will contribute \$1.5 million to the *National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality* in the Territory.

Contact for further Information:

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