



# Natural Resource Management Board (NT) Inc.

## Projects Receive NRMB Funding

The Natural Resource Management Board (NT) today released details of the final 64 projects approved in its 2004-06 Natural Heritage Trust Regional Investment program.

These projects include crocodile management at Murwangi Community Aboriginal Corporation in Arnhem Land as well as estimating greenhouse gas emissions from savanna fires.

Board chairman Sue van-Cuylenburg said program funding topped \$16 million, which is the single largest block of public funding invested specifically to conserve the NT's biodiversity assets and establish sustainable, profitable natural resource management practices.

"As a long-time Territorian, I take immense pride in supporting these projects," Ms van-Cuylenburg said.

"The NRM Board is directing cash investments to researchers, pastoral property managers, conservationists, Indigenous ranger groups, and natural resource management agencies to assist them in their strong desire to conserve the Territory's natural heritage."

The funds are managed by the NRM Board under the regional component of the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust and National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality programmes.

The process is co-sponsored by the NT Government through the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts and the Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines who collectively match the Australian Government funding with more than \$60M of investments in biodiversity and sustainable natural resource management.

"The Territory's unique combination of incredible biodiversity and largely undeveloped landscapes is a national treasure," Ms van-Cuylenburg said.

"The projects we are announcing today complete the suite of investments outlined in the Board's first Regional Investment Strategy.

"We are keen to see the projects launched and look forward to their contributions to the NT's environment and sustainable resource management.

"It's quite exciting to again point out that these are community-driven projects.

"We listen to people who live on the land. Their expertise is essential to determining the most sensible way to invest in protecting, and sustainably managing, the Territory's natural resources.

“With the growing realisation down south that the current drought may be business-as-usual, it is ever more critical that our use of natural resources is well informed and managed.”

The next Regional Investment Strategy for the three year period from 2007 is currently being developed by the NRM Board in close consultation with key stakeholders across the Territory. Following an extensive technical and policy review, the new investment strategy is expected to be announced in mid-2007.

For summary details of funded projects, and for more information on the NRM Board’s operations, please visit the NRMB (NT) website at [www.nrmbnt.org.au](http://www.nrmbnt.org.au)

Ends

**Media Note – For more information contact the NRMB (NT) office at 08 8999 4425**

Issued: 8.30am Friday, 3 November 2006