



kakadu[®]

NATIONAL PARK

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Working together

TOURISM INDUSTRY UPDATE

YEGGE SEASON

EDITION NO: 04

24 APRIL 2015

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Yegge is Here!

With endless blue sky days on their way, the land is slowly drying out and allowing us to appreciate the magic of Kakadu from a different perspective. A change of season is in the air!

Yegge is Kakadu's cool but still humid season, around May and June. It's when drying winds and flowering Darwin woollybutt tell Bininj/Mungguy that it is time to start burning the woodlands in patches to 'clean the country' and encourage new growth for grazing animals.

You might see some of this seasonal burning along the Arnhem Highway over the next few days – remember to slow down, turn on your lights and drive carefully through the smoke.

Jarrangbarnmi (Koolpin Gorge), 2 Mile Hole and the Manngarre rainforest walk have all recently opened.

Merl, Mardugal 1 and 2, and Muirella Park campgrounds are now also open.

Sign up to our road report to receive up-to-date information on site access and road conditions: [kakaduroadreport.wordpress.com](https://www.kakaduroadreport.wordpress.com)

Facebook

Check out our Facebook page to see the latest info on the park

<https://www.facebook.com/KakaduNationalPark>

Don't Forget Your Permit!

All commercial tourism operators permitted to operate in the park should have received their 2015/16 standard land-based in the mail by now, complete with permit conditions and vehicle stickers. Thank you to everyone that has applied so far!

Please make sure to replace your old permit and conditions with the new ones and remind your guides to always carry a copy and familiarise themselves with the approved sites on the permit, and to stick to those when conducting a tour in the park.

If you are considering adding Ikoymarrwa or Jarrangbarnmi (Koolpin Gorge) to your tour itinerary, please do the right thing and apply for a licence to access these exclusive sites. Avoid getting caught by our compliance team – on-the-spot fines may apply.

KAKADU APPROVED TOUR OPERATOR	
	April 2015 - March 2016
TRADING NAME	Conditions of use
<input type="text"/>	
PERMIT/LICENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valid only when permanently affixed to your windscreen or fixed, forward side window (Drivers side preferred).• Only permitted for use by a vehicle which has been nominated and approved, as part of the Commercial Tour Operator permit/licence.• Expired stickers must be removed from the windscreen.• Approved operator must carry a copy of the permit/licence and conditions or keep a copy in the vehicle.
<input type="text"/>	
	NON TRANSFERABLE

Calling for Commercial Business Ideas for Kakadu Bird Week, 14 – 21 October 2015

Do you have a soaring idea that will really make Kakadu's Bird Week fly? We are seeking interest and proposals for unique birding experiences for visitors during our 2015 Bird Week in Kakadu.

If you have a great business idea you'd like to try, would like to work together with Kakadu's traditional owners and park staff we'd love to hear from you. Ideas could include unique bird watching dining experiences or specialised tours. Or if you'd just like to be involved in Bird Week or have a special/discount we can help you promote during this time, please contact us also.

Put your ideas in writing to Tracey Diddams, Manager Tourism and Visitor Services.

tracey.diddams@environment.gov.au – what are you waiting for? Flock to it!



Seen Anything New Lately?

Kakadu maintains an incidental sightings database, similar to the [Atlas of Living Australia](#). We welcome any unusual sightings of plants or animals (native or introduced) that you encounter in Kakadu National Park, whether out on a bushwalk or in your backyard. To submit a record, please send an email to: Kakadu.Research@environment.gov.au.

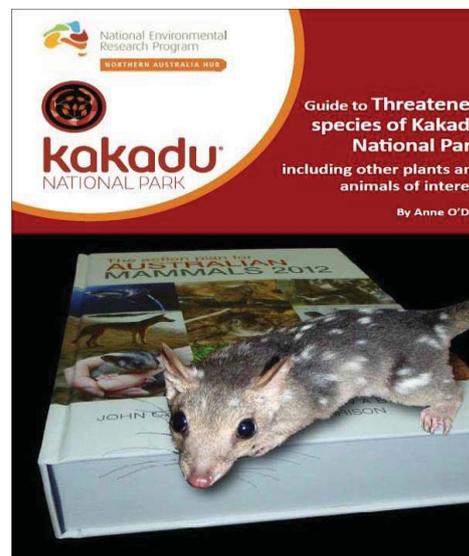
If you would like to submit a record, then we like to know:

- The date and time you saw it.
- What you saw.
- Where you saw it (the more specific, the better).
- How many there were.
- Any other habitat notes or other relevant information.

It is even better if you can get a photo!

Unsure of your species identification? There is an excellent [Field Guide to NT Fauna](#) available from the AppStore (Apple) and Play Store (Android). You can also download the [Guide to Threatened species of Kakadu National Park](#) from the NERP Northern Hub.

Keeping this database helps us record and track information on species found in the park, particularly those we know the least about like rare and threatened species. We also use this database to generate reports to the Board of Management on species observed in the park.



International Day for Biological Diversity

Kakadu is home to 68 types of mammals (almost one-fifth of Australia's mammals), more than 120 reptiles, 26 frogs, over 300 tidal and freshwater fish species, more than 2,000 plants and over 10,000 species of insects. It also provides habitat for more than 290 bird species (over one-third of Australia's birds). Kakadu's stunning biodiversity is internationally recognised in its listing as a World Heritage Area.

Each year on 22 May, we celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity. The Day is used to increase understanding and awareness of all biodiversity issues around the planet. This year's theme reflects the importance of efforts made at all levels to establish a set of [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and the relevance of biodiversity for the achievement of sustainable development.

For more information regarding the International Day for Biological Diversity, please visit:

<https://www.cbd.int/idb/>

Show Us Your Logo

We've recently noticed a few TV plated vehicles getting around the park, which is great to see. Please remember to follow permit conditions to save confusion and help make our lives a little easier.

32. The permittee must ensure that all vehicles used for the permitted activity are identified as being used by the permittee through signwriting, magnetic stickers or a signboard visible through the windscreen, and display a current Parks Australia Permitted Tour Operator vehicle sticker on the driver's side of the windscreen.

Our Compliance Team will be looking for sign writing on your vehicles over the coming months.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this permit condition, please contact Kakadu.permits@environment.gov.au.

Know Your Kakadu – All About Weed Management

Weeds compete with native plants for light, moisture and nutrients and often do not provide appropriate food and shelter for native wildlife. Particularly invasive weeds reduce plant and animal diversity, change burning regimes, and alter the structure, function and species composition of natural ecosystems.

Kakadu remains one of the most weed free conservation areas in Australia. Only a few species of weeds found in the park are considered invasive: mimosa, salvinia, para grass, mission grass, gamba grass, candle bush, calopo, gambia pea, golden shower, poinciana and coffee bush. Of these, mimosa, salvinia and para grass are given priority for control because of their potential to spread over large areas.

Controlling these plants takes a lot of effort. For example, since the 1980s a dedicated team of rangers have been working to locate and destroy mimosa by pulling out or mattocking (cutting the tap root) small plants and applying herbicides to larger ones.



Mimosa (*Mimosa pigra*)

ANZAC Day Celebrations in Jabiru

This year being the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings, Kakadu will be celebrating ANZAC Day in style.

Please join our servicemen and women, along with local Police, Emergency Services, Council, Parks, and ERA, friends and relatives, and community members in attending a dawn service and centenary march from Jabiru Town Plaza to Lake Jabiru before an RAAF Hornet fly-over at about 8.30am.

Guests will be invited to take tea and coffee or a traditional 'shotgun breakfast' in the Plaza after the dawn service. From there, the march to the lake is scheduled to kick-off at 7.15am, where everyone will be treated to a bacon-and-egg breakfast and a good chat.

If you are in or around Jabiru, please come and share this special day with us.

We would like to know what you are interested in learning about regarding Kakadu.

If you have any suggestions as to what you would like included in a future edition of the Industry Update, please forward your suggestion to Kakadu.permits@environment.gov.au

For more information about Kakadu National Park contact Bowali Visitor Centre on (08) 8938 1120 or visit our websites.

Visitor Information

www.parksaustralia.gov.au/kakadu

Useful forms and information

www.environment.gov.au/resource/tourism-operators