



kakadu[®]
NATIONAL PARK

Garri-djarrkdurrkmirri
Working together

TOURISM INDUSTRY UPDATE

KUDJEWG

EDITION NO: 1

20 January 2017

This issue

From The Director

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From The Director of National Parks

The Director of National Parks Sally Barnes and all Parks Australia and Kakadu staff send their condolences to the family and friends of the 47-year-old man taken by a crocodile at Cahill's Crossing yesterday.

Sally said Kakadu staff displayed an incredible professionalism while assisting NT Police with the incident.

"Many thanks to our park staff, who have as they always do, gone above and beyond the call of duty to help the police with their operation. I'm extraordinarily proud of all of those involved – for their professionalism, their respect and their resilience."

Please direct all media enquiries to 0439 582 686.

Cahill's Crossing is currently closed. For further updates please visit the park's Road Report - <https://kakaduroadreport.wordpress.com/>

Facebook

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

[https://www.facebook.com/
KakaduNationalPark](https://www.facebook.com/KakaduNationalPark)

2017/18 Standard Land-Based Permit Applications

It is that time of year again; annual permit applications will soon need to be lodged. A few permit applications from operators have already come in, and we will start processing applications shortly to make sure operators receive their 2017/18 permits prior to 31 March 2017, when current one-year permits expire.

In coming weeks, we will send out an application package to all current permit holders, so it is important that we have your up-to-date contact information. If for some reason you don't receive your application pack by email, click on this link to download a form <http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/tourism-operators>.

Don't forget to bookmark this page as you will find all the key information to run tours in Kakadu right here!

Duration of permit: Operators can apply for a one or three-year permit. For a three year permit, we require operators to hold current TAAL accreditation as well as satisfying all the usual permit requirements. Please note however that the three-year fee will need to be paid upfront (see page 2 of the application form for details). This option will be attractive to those operators who are looking for permit continuity and want to avoid the hassle of filling out an application every year.

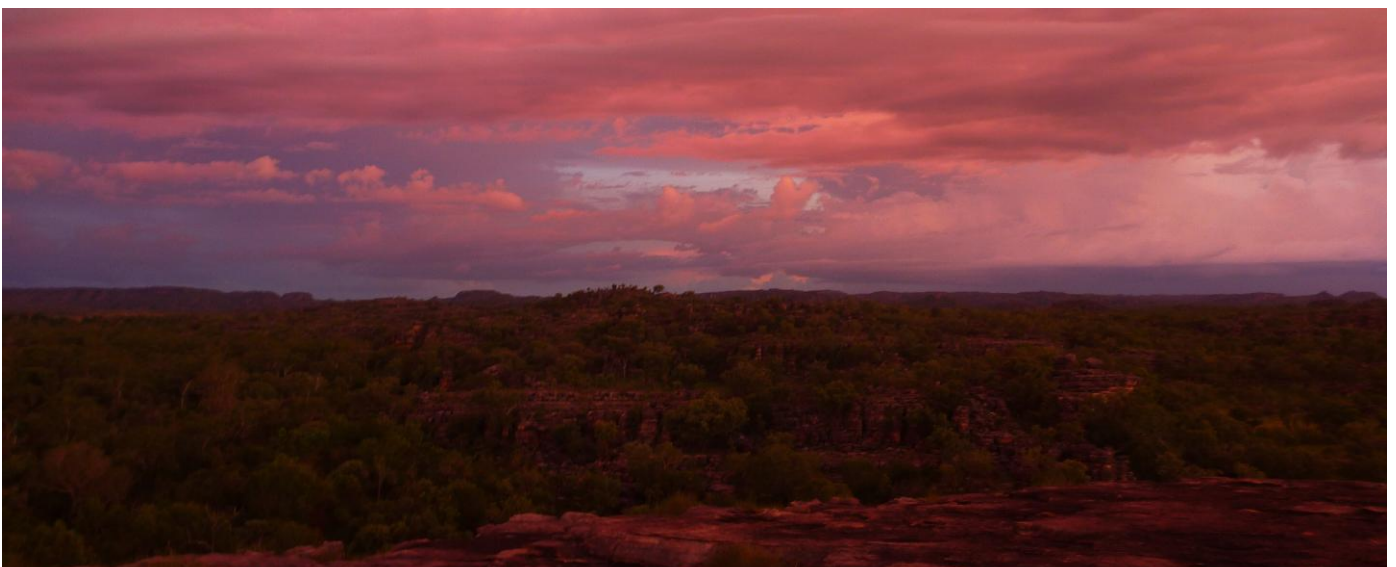
Tips for applying: For speedy processing and to avoid phone tag from us, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Please take a few moments to re-familiarise yourself with the conditions linked to your standard land-based permit – and ask your guides to do the same!
- Ensure all questions are completed – if more space is needed then attach a separate sheet
- Make sure your attached public liability schedules prove you're covered beyond 31 March 2017
- Attach your promotional material. If it's not ready we will accept a draft or alternatively your website address (please write this on the checklist on page 12)
- Ensure your tour leaders have completed the Kakadu Knowledge for Tour Guides course
- Select your permit duration and provide payment details – sorry, Amex is not accepted
- Complete the application checklist (page 12) – this is your toolkit to make sure we've got everything needed for a quick turn around
- Sign and witness the declaration and agreement pages.

Remember that it is a condition under the permit to carry a copy of the current permit conditions while conducting tours in Kakadu. If you were granted a three-year permit last year, don't forget to update us with any us with any changes/additions such as your insurance, new tour guides, new contact details or new vehicles changes/additions such as your insurance, new tour guides, new contact details or new vehicles Simply follow above link and print out the conditions that come as part of the application pack.

When will I get my permit? Please allow a minimum of 14 days for application processing.

Need more information? Please contact Kakadu.Permits@environment.gov.au or phone 08 8938 1176.

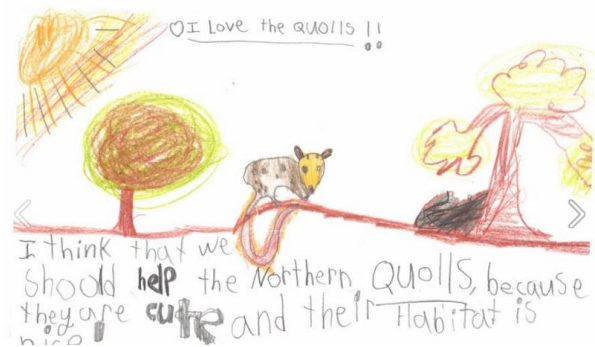


Thank You Matthew

Recently, the Tourism & Visitor Services team was delighted to receive a message from Seven year old Matthew. After visiting [Kakadu National Park](#) with his family in 2015, Matthew decided he'd like to "help the rangers of Kakadu" so started saving his pocket money.

Matthew loves wildlife – and he loves Kakadu's northern quolls. And while donations cannot be made to the park directly, Matthew loved the idea of supporting the Australian Wildlife Conservancy that works to protect the remaining populations of many of Australia's endangered species, including northern quolls which are an endangered species in the park. Matthew saved up a whopping \$150 which he has now donated to support the Threatened Species northern quoll project. www.australianwildlife.org/wildlife/northern-quoll.aspx

Matthew, you are a legend and the rangers of Kakadu salute you!



Know Your Kakadu: Yok – Northern Brown Bandicoot

The northern brown bandicoot has bristly brown fur, a pointy nose, little round ears, a roundish backside, a short tail and can weigh up to 2kg when fully grown. Bandicoots live for up to four years.

Yok (name for bandicoot in Kunwinjku and Kundjeyhmi languages) is nocturnal. At night time you can hear yok rustling through the woodlands, always busy foraging for insects, snails and small lizards. They poke around with their long and sensitive noses, and use their front feet for digging. Being omnivorous, yok also likes berries, fruit, fungi and seeds. During the day yok sleeps in a well-camouflaged hollow in the ground.

Yok are solitary, their only close encounters with other yok restricted to mating periods. Bandicoots breed up to four times a year and have the shortest gestation period (about 11 days) of any marsupial! Only 1cm long, naked and underdeveloped, the babies find their way into mum's pouch to latch onto her teats.

Relatively common here in Kakadu, yok is under threat from cats, dogs, cars, intense wildfires and flooding. Hopefully, yok populations will benefit from the Threatened Species Strategy,

www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/kakadu-national-park/management-and-conservation/threatened-species-strategy-0 the Australian Government's action-based approach to protecting and recovering vulnerable and threatened animals and plants.



From the Department of Health

(The monsoon has brought a wet and windy beginning to 2017 and people in the Northern Territory need to be aware and protect themselves from the potentially deadly disease, melioidosis.

Since October 2016 there have been 17 cases of melioidosis reported in the NT, including one death. This number of cases is higher than expected when compared to previous years.

The Centre for Disease Control is warning that contact with mud, puddles and aerosolised soil during heavy rain increases the likelihood of exposure to the melioidosis bacteria.

"During the dry season, melioidosis bacteria live deep in the soil, but during the wet season, larger amounts of the bacteria come to the surface and the potential for contact with people is increased," Centre for Disease Control Director, Dr Vicki Krause said.

"The bacteria can invade the body through cuts and sores but it can also be breathed in if it's stirred up by the wind."

To avoid melioidosis, wear waterproof footwear around mud, soil and areas of pooled water and wear gloves when handling soil or muddy items.

<https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/health-conditions-treatments/bacterial/melioidosis>



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WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2017



Photo credit: Northern Pictures

World Wetlands Day is celebrated every year to raise global awareness about the value of wetlands for humanity and the planet. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was adopted in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar, and World Wetlands Day was celebrated for the first time in 1997. The list of Wetlands of International Importance includes 2,231 Ramsar sites around the world covering over 2.1 million square kilometres.

This year Kakadu is celebrating World Wetlands Day on **Saturday 4th February** with an informative day of activities at Bowali Visitor Centre. Officers from the National Environmental Science Program, ERA, Supervising Scientist along with Kakadu Park Rangers will deliver wetland talks and have an Airboat on display. There are also Yellow Water Boat Cruise tickets to be won and a free BBQ!



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WORLD WETLANDS
DAY 2017

Everyone is welcome to join Kakadu in celebrating World Wetlands Day!

Saturday 4th February 10 am – 1 pm

- Learn about your wetland backyard
- Ranger talks and Airboat display
- Wetlands competition
- Win Yellow Water Boat Cruise tickets
- Free BBQ
- Kids activities and more!

Meet at the
Bowali Visitor
Centre



Supervising Scientist



Saturday 4th
February



PLEASE NOTE: Activities may be cancelled for reasons beyond our control.

Kakadu Bird Week 2017

2016 Kakadu Bird Week was a great hit, with almost 500 visitor engagements in activities, tours and specials offers and 33 free and paid activities/tours/specials on offer. We are interested in bird-themed activities and products that will encourage people to visit Kakadu throughout the best week to bird watch in Kakadu. It is held during the NT School holidays, so a great opportunity to leverage from this and extend your touring season too.

Tour operators and Kakadu businesses can register their interest to offer special products, packages, donations/prizes and to deliver public activities or events in 2017 email: kakaduxperiences@environment.gov.au For specials and bird week tours/activities we asked visitors to quote 'Kakadu Bird Week' at the time of booking so we could count the number of participants reached by the event. We encourage those participating to do the same.

Please submit your offers by 31 January 2017 so the program can be finalised and distributed across the nation early in the year. Tourism NT and Kakadu National Park will be working to promote this event and boost shoulder season visitation, as well as to highlight Kakadu as one of Australia's best bird watching destinations.

The program will be uploaded on Parks Australia and Tourism NT's website and social media platforms, as well as advertised in Birdlife Australia magazine and distributed as brochures around Top End visitor information points. Participating businesses will receive a Kakadu Bird Week logo and link for their marketing purposes and have their logos cross-promoted by Tourism NT and Kakadu National Park.

(By 31 January 2017) We will need your:

- Ideas
- Availability
- Any other information or contributions you can offer

Kakadu Bird Week 2017 theme: We are open for suggestions...



What's Happening to Jabiru Township?

The Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments are working with Energy Resources Australia (ERA) the Northern Land Council and Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation (the representative body of the Mirarr people) to plan for the future of Jabiru and to realise the full economic, cultural and social potential of the area. Naturally Parks Australia is involved and the local community and Kakadu National Park Board of Management will have an important role to play as things progress.

Jabiru is a town within the World Heritage Area known as Kakadu National Park and the traditional land of the Mirarr. It is home to people who work in the region and it is the major tourism hub for the park.

As operations at the Ranger uranium mine near the town come to an end ERA will be putting in place many actions to meet their lease obligations to make good and rehabilitate their areas of activity and infrastructure in the town by 2021.

At the first major planning meeting of the key sectors and agencies in Jabiru on Thursday 8 December 2016, everyone agreed that we are committed to working together, openly and in good faith and with the local community to plan the important transition ahead. This includes planning for future power and water infrastructure, service delivery including schools and medical services and long term tenure arrangements and certainty for leaseholders and businesses in Jabiru wherever possible.

To provide the facts and figures required for good decision making, the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments are commissioning a variety of economic modelling and infrastructure assessments. This work will complement and build on the Social Impact studies being undertaken by ERA at the moment.

Working together to establish a long term plan for Jabiru will be key to supporting the sustainable economic future of the town and Kakadu National Park based on tourism, entrepreneurship and regional services delivery.

We will keep you updated on how you can get involved and have a say regarding the future of Jabiru.

Crocodile Safety

Kudjewg is the monsoon season. Estuarine or saltwater crocodiles are on the move at this time of year when squally showers and violent storms cause flooding and inundation of low-lying areas. There have been a number of sightings of estuarine crocodiles in culverts and along flooded causeways right across the park and visitors to Kakadu are urged to be careful when fishing, walking or driving near water.

During the wet season, saltwater crocodiles can move large distances in search of new territories. Smaller crocodiles are often forced out of their homes by dominant male crocodiles. Hungry and on edge, they may be seeking temporary respite from larger crocs or looking for a feed of fish that congregate in culverts. These animals are likely to be very aggressive, and an attack can lead to death.



The message is clear:

Expect the unexpected, keep away from the water's edge and don't become complacent. Remember that for most visitors to Kakadu, crocodiles are an unfamiliar hazard. Explain to your clients the standard safety information as it appears on crocodile warning signs and in the park's visitor guide (permit condition 27) and always lead by example.

Licence Applications Due by end of February

Licences are currently being offered for:

Activity	Number of licences available
Sports fishing tours	Unlimited
Bush walking tours	Unlimited
Safari camps	Merl x 2
Access to Jarrangbarnmi	Unlimited casual

We invite all interested tour operators to apply by **28 February 2017**. Applications will be assessed in February.

To apply for a licence, please download this form www.environment.gov.au/parks/permits/kakadu-tours.html

For further information about licences, please contact Tracey Diddams on (08) 8938 1107

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