

Looking after the **KIMBERLEY**

ENVIRONS KIMBERLEY INC.
Annual Report 2015

OUR VISION

The Kimberley is a region where the natural environment is protected, Indigenous culture is valued and sustainability is the guiding principle.

environs
KIMBERLEY
SAVING THE NATURE OF THE KIMBERLEY



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Much of the past 12 months has been a period of consolidation, coming after a time of particularly rapid growth when our staff numbers grew to 12 and our on-ground activities extended to cover a much wider geographic area than ever before.

EK in 2015 is a stronghold of professional environmental scientific expertise, well balanced with extensive local knowledge and experience.

The past year's efforts and achievements of the Kimberley Nature Project (KNP) in the Fitzroy Valley and on the Dampier Peninsula, and our educational and advocacy activities, are outlined in the EK Director's and KNP Coordinator's reports.

As for internal matters, we are working concertedly to strengthen the organisation's systems and procedures, a high priority given the expansion of our team. These efforts have further solidified the ways in which staff and Board members are collaborating to get things done.

We have begun a comprehensive upgrade of our IT and communications systems, and in its final stage we will unveil a new website, enabling us to better interact with EK's 400+ members, its many volunteers, project partners, donors and funders as well as the wider community.

We intend that these improvements will help to streamline the production of our quarterly newsletter, an environmental voice piece like no other.



In tandem with the above, and relying greatly on the skills and experience of savvy Board members, we are well on the way to finalising not only EK's inaugural policy and procedures manual but also its first operational plan.

Our relatively stable governance structures experienced two notable changes in 2014–15: we welcomed onto the Board our first twenty-something-year-old nominee and we said farewell to our longest-serving member after 19 years.

Our efforts to achieve greater financial self-reliance through the year have proved fruitful. At the Annual Art Auction, EK's main revenue raiser, we raised more than ever before, in part through trying new ways to generate income from the event.

And the 2014 Christmas raffle netted over \$9,000. We have begun reviewing our fundraising methods to see if and how these might be improved.

I end on an upbeat note in part because of the strides we have made but also because of the strength of the EK team, staff and Board alike, and the state of our relationships with project partners, members and volunteers, and with those who have supported us, including donors and funding bodies.

Kate Golson
Chairperson, Environs Kimberley



EK staff at Gantheaume Point, Broome

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



EK is a remarkably effective regional environmental organization with two branches: one is dedicated to protecting the Kimberley from persistent threats to industrialise the region or transform its natural environment by land-clearing for large-scale irrigation and fracking; the other is our hands-on Kimberley Nature Project, working hard in the field to look after nature. We have been sustained by the commitment of our members, generous donors and supporters and, with additional funding from government and philanthropic groups, we have continued to be vigilant and to build regional resilience to defend and care for one of the world's most admired and loved natural land- and seascapes.

In 2014/15 EK confronted serious pressure on the Kimberley's environment. With 12 dedicated and professional staff, eight Board members, scores of volunteers and many partner groups and organisations, we have been able to achieve more for the environment than in any other year in our history.

Our work included the on-ground management of threatened ecosystems and species with Aboriginal ranger groups, engaging with the community, government and industry about marine protection, land clearing and fracking, and speaking out in the media when we need to.

The Kimberley Nature Project team has undertaken outstanding work on country in partnership with seven Aboriginal ranger groups in the Dampier Peninsula, La Grange and Fitzroy areas, and we continue to lead with our ecological and practical expertise.

Our past work with other groups, and the work of Traditional Owners, has led us to the point where we have election commitments from the State Government to declare 30,000km² of marine parks and 20,000km² of national park – the most extensive on the continent. These are outstanding commitments. The challenge for us and our partners has been to ensure that these commitments are fulfilled so as to attain good results in conservation and real benefits for the Traditional Owner groups who will jointly manage the land and seas.

EK has directed resources to effective environmental campaigns for Roebuck Bay, the Horizontal Falls and the Great Kimberley Marine Park. Ultimately, our vision is for the whole of the Kimberley coast to become a marine park to rival the Great Barrier Reef. With continued community support, we believe this can be achieved.

The Kimberley has significant areas of the most intact semi-arid tropical savannah on the planet. This year, State Government initiatives came to light that threaten this globally important ecosystem. More than 100,000 hectares of land in the West Kimberley has been earmarked for land-clearing and irrigation. This would cause untold damage on a landscape scale and be the first step in a push for industrial agriculture in our region. We continue our efforts to ensure that large-scale agriculture does not damage the Kimberley, especially the Fitzroy River.

EK's position on fracking mirrors that of several governments around the world and at home, as well as that of a number of Kimberley Native Title groups — that is, to declare a moratorium on the practice until it can be proven to be safe. A WA Government survey released through questions in Parliament showed that a significant majority of people were opposed to fracking in the region because the risks to water, air and health are too great. A recent independent report states that, if this fossil fuel industry gains a foothold, there could be 40,000 gas fracking wells cutting through the landscape.

As a relatively small, community-based environmental organisation, we have been able to make a positive difference to the Kimberley this year, but this has only been made possible through generous donations, grant funding, memberships, in-kind contributions and collaborations with other organisations. I thank everyone for this support and look forward to continuing to work with you in the future to protect the Kimberley.

Martin Pritchard
Director, Environs Kimberley



Lalang-garram/Horizontal Falls Marine Park

KIMBERLEY NATURE PROJECT

Coordinators Dr Malcolm Lindsay and Louise Beames



Seasoned staff members Kylie Weatherall, Neil Hamaguchi, Julia Rau and Malcolm Lindsay continued to enjoy their work and increased the depth of their project knowledge and relationships. Our three new seedling staff of last year, Ilse Pickerd, Steve Reynolds and Ayesha Moss, have this year firmly taken root and fruited, better understanding our unique approach to our projects, building relationships with partners, getting out into the field, managing projects independently and developing new ones.

We were glad to welcome Louise Beames back from maternity leave to a shared project coordinator role, bringing her much-missed wealth of knowledge, skills and energy. Unfortunately, we will shortly be saying a temporary goodbye to Ilse (off to pursue her creative talents) and Ayesha (off to bring a new life to the world). Ayesha's baby-to-be, Steve Reynolds's baby boy Luka, born this year, and Louise Beames's recent brood Kiyomi and Zenjiro, make the KNP's last four years very fertile ones indeed!

We continued our work coordinating the management of the Endangered Monsoon Vine Thicket (MVT) of the Dampier Peninsula, through fire and weed management with the Nyul Nyul and Bardi Jawi Rangers. We built new relationships conducting weeding work at the Kooljaman Resort with the Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers and volunteers from the Society for Kimberley Indigenous Plants and Animals (SKIPPA), and initiating weed mapping and management in Minyirr Park with the Nyamba Buru Yawuru Country Managers, Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW), Yawuru Rangers and SKIPPA. We now work on projects with traditional owners, rangers and land managers over the whole MVT network. This will allow us to take a more coordinated approach, to be formalised through the establishment of a Monsoon Vine Thicket Recovery Team.

We continued our close working relationship with our oldest ranger partner, the Karajarri Rangers, supporting their weed management on Anna Plains Station and near Port Smith. We also funded fencing and conducted ecological surveys around two wetlands that are soon to be restored to health through the exclusion of cattle.

Our collaboration with the Bunuba Rangers deepened further through the joint mapping and ecological surveys of the priority Vine Thickets of the Limestone Ranges, weeding work and surveys for the Vulnerable Purple-crowned Fairy Wren on Leopold Downs Station, and support for their upcoming Healthy Country Planning process. Our marine work is diversifying. The Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project is still engaging citizen scientists, whilst extending itself to include surveys of seagrass fish.

We worked with Tim Willing, of the Broome Botanical Society, on reports detailing the extent and condition, as well as recommendations for management, of two Priority 1 Ecological Communities restricted to the Broome Peninsula: Minyjuru (Mangarr) on relict dunes, and the Cable Beach Ghost Gum *Corymbia paractia*.

Lastly, we kicked off exciting new projects this year. We received funding to establish a Kimberley Seedbank Cooperative, and to create an environmental education package, the Kimberley Environmental Education Puppets, with Theatre Kimberley. Additionally, we have been leading the development of a Kimberley Bilby Project with new ranger groups (e.g. Gooniyandi Rangers), and took part in the National Bilby Summit. Finally, we saw a real need for better communication and collaboration around weeding in the region, so we organised the inaugural Kimberley Weed Forum to open that dialogue. Oh, and we also got a brand-new blue field car.

So the Kimberley Nature Project continues to play a major role in the region's cultural natural resource management landscape, helping protect and conserve the Kimberley's important species and ecosystems, whilst supporting Kimberley traditional owners through strong partnerships.

The Kimberley Nature Project would like to acknowledge all our fantastic funding bodies from the past year: the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, Rangelands NRM, State NRM, Coastwest and Lotterywest.



Weeding Monsoon Vine Thickets at Kooljaman, Cape Leveque

MARINE PROJECTS

Jason Fowler, Marine Project Officer



On gaining power in 2008, the WA Government promised to produce a Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy, which would identify high-value cultural and natural areas for priority protection, and include marine, coastal and terrestrial conservation and management plans. By 2014, planning for new marine parks was well under way, and Environs Kimberley and partner Pew Charitable Trusts, along with the Save Our Marine Life Alliance, were working together to ensure high quality conservation.

The WA Government clearly indicated in the draft management plan that the Roebuck Bay Marine Park would not include a sanctuary zone, which gives full protection to marine life, allowing stocks to recover.

For much of this year, during which time there was a public submission period, we have been providing detailed information to the local and wider community on the need for a sanctuary zone, as well as engaging with government and stakeholder groups.

17,000 submissions in support of the sanctuary zone in Roebuck Bay Marine Park have been received so far, three times more than for the protection of Ningaloo – the highest number of submissions ever received. In June, 32 marine scientists with direct experience in Roebuck Bay released a public statement calling for a sanctuary zone. In July, a letter of support from 18 Broome tourism businesses was sent to the Government, followed by another letter about sustainable fishing from 50 local recreational fishers. We developed a website, Sanctuaries Grow Fish, which explains the benefits of sanctuary zones to recreational fishing.

Alongside these efforts, we are campaigning for the Great Kimberley Marine Park, which encompasses Horizontal Falls, Camden Sound and the North Kimberley, to become the best protected marine park in Australia. 100 of Australia's eminent marine scientists have supported these efforts by signing a science statement, while 10 Kimberley tour operators have signed a tourism statement of support.



Snubfin Dolphin



Dampier Creek, Roebuck Bay

BROOME COMMUNITY

Seagrass Monitoring Project

The Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project is one of the longest running and most successful community science projects in Western Australia and engages large numbers of volunteers as well as Indigenous Rangers to monitor seagrass meadows within Roebuck Bay.

In the 2014–15 financial year, 12 seagrass monitoring sessions on Roebuck Bay were conducted. We used the Broome Seagrass Facebook page to notify more than 1000 'friends' about upcoming monitoring events, and post photos and fascinating facts about the marine ecosystem and other related stories. The project works closely with local Aboriginal ranger groups, providing training to the Karajarri Rangers (south of Broome) and Yawuru Country Managers, whilst also liaising with Nyul Nyul, Bardi Jawi and Dambimangari Rangers. A short 'welcome to country' video clip was developed with Nyamba Buru Yawuru, which we shared with volunteers and project partners.

We held a number of educational sessions in primary schools around Broome, some of them in conjunction with Department of Parks and Wildlife staff, Yawuru Rangers and the Roebuck Bay Working Group. The Seagrass-Watch workshop in September 2014 offered community volunteers and Aboriginal rangers the opportunity to increase their awareness of seagrass, local and global, and to learn about monitoring methodology and threats.



Julia Rau, Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project Officer

We learnt more about the blue-green alga, *Lyngbya*, and took part in the Roebuck Bay *Lyngbya* Conference in 2014, where many stakeholders gave presentations. A water temperature data logger was deployed at one of our monitoring sites to track changes over time, and a fish survey methodology has been developed, with regular fish surveys in Roebuck Bay.

The Seagrass Monitoring Project would like to acknowledge the generous funding and in-kind support we have received over the past year from Coastwest, Kimberley Ports Authority, Department of Parks and Wildlife and Seagrass Watch.



Seagrass monitoring volunteers, Roebuck Bay

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING ART AUCTION

Our annual Art Auction is the biggest fundraising activity Environs Kimberley organises. This year's event – our 11th Art Auction – once again brought together over 500 art lovers, who were bidding for more than 100 pieces of art supplied by local artists, art centres and galleries. Apart from the one staff member who organises the event, all the work is done by volunteers – over 70 of them.

Our Art Auction is now firmly established on Broome's events calendar, and not only raises urgently needed funds – \$50,000 this year – but also supports local artists by providing a platform for them to show and sell their art. It is a social networking event, bringing people together who care for the environment – and love art.

A huge Thank You to all our volunteers, artists, galleries and people attending the event for making it a great success year after year.

Thank you to volunteers

A big thank you to everyone who has so generously donated their time to EK again this year! Volunteers are the backbone of our organisation and none of this would have been possible without your support. Thanks again from everyone on the EK Team.



EK Art Auction 2015

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2014/15 Financial Year has been an exceptional one for Environs Kimberley, with income and expenditure soaring past the \$1 million mark for the first time in our history.

Total Income was \$1,273,230 (2014: \$979,221). Of this, Grant Income for projects was \$870,081 (2014: \$725,959), an indication of Environs Kimberley's strong presence in on-ground and collaborative projects in the region.

2014/15 saw the addition of Consultancy Services to our revenue streams, a source of income that we expect to grow in future years.

Income from Donations and Fundraising increased substantially to \$248,496 (2014: \$144,052), a reflection of the Board and staff's efforts to ensure continued funding to meet all of our needs.

Total Expenditure was \$1,118,206 (2014: \$773,137), the increase being the result of a number of factors. As noted above, the organisation has been engaged in a wide range of projects and collaborations across the region.

Increases in income have allowed Environs Kimberley to structure employee benefits packages that make us more attractive in the marketplace, with 2015 Employee Benefits totalling \$630,561 (2014: \$495,717).



Laurel Sutcliffe

This figure also accounts for additional staff recruited during the financial year.

We have been able to invest \$82,715 (2014: \$3,725) in up-to-date equipment and facilities for projects and staff, to ensure that we can sustain our role as the peak environmental body in the region.

Expenditure on Projects accounted for 61% of our spending; the other 39% was spent on Advocacy, Governance, Fundraising and Administration.

Operating surplus for 2015 of \$149,625 (2014: \$14,762) gives Environs Kimberley Members Funds totalling \$424,484 (2014: 274,859).

Increased cash balances of \$622,484 (2014: \$556,508) and reduced Liabilities of \$298,069 (2014: \$375,366) mean the organisation is in a very sound position as it moves into the new financial year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	622,484	556,508
Trade and Other Receivables	21,014	76,743
	643,498	633,251
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	207,858	152,927
Provision for Long Service Leave	25,347	19,987
Unexpended Grants	64,863	202,451
	298,069	375,366
NET CURRENT ASSETS	345,429	257,885
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	79,055	16,974
NET ASSETS	424,484	274,859

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN EQUITY As at 30th June 2015

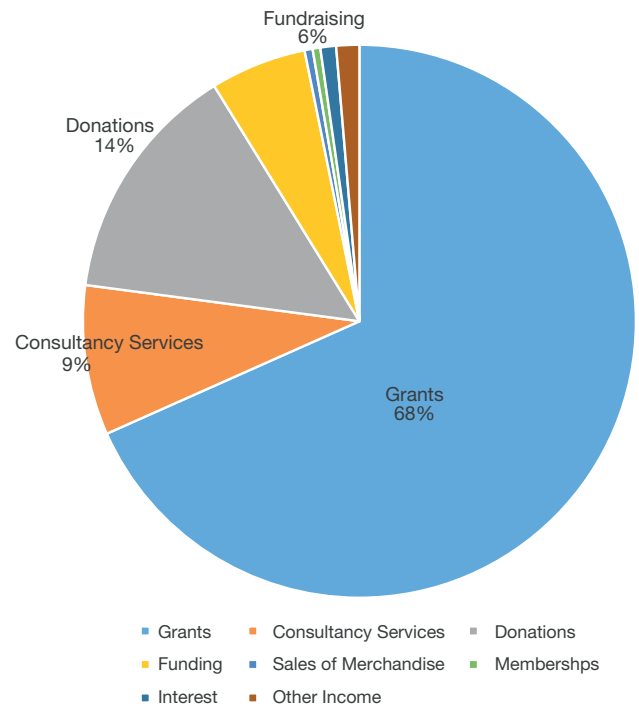
	2015	
MEMBERS FUNDS	\$	
Balance at 1 July 2014	274,859	
Operating Surplus for the year	149,625	
Balance as at 30 June 2015	424,484	
	2014	
MEMBERS FUNDS	\$	
Balance at 1 July 2013	260,097	
Operating Surplus for the year	14,762	
Balance as at 30 June 2014	274,859	

INCOME STATEMENT

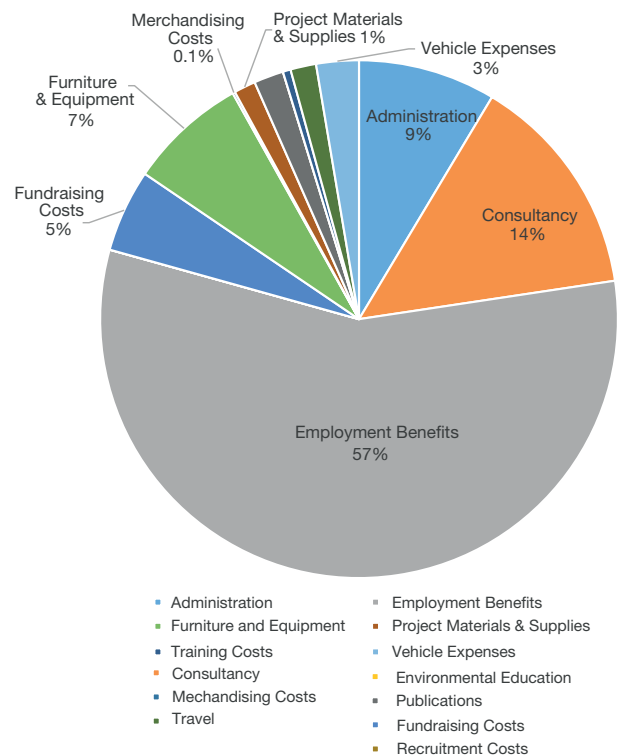
As at 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Grants	870,081	725,959
Consultancy Services	111,528	0
Donations	179,585	95,099
Fundraising	71,526	48,953
Sales of Merchandise	5,982	5,033
Memberships	5,718	5,900
Interest	11,680	11,253
Other Income	17,130	87,024
TOTAL INCOME	1,273,230	979,221
EXPENDITURE		
Administration	96,083	96,299
Consultancy	156,937	61,849
Employee Benefits	633,994	498,001
Environmental Education	25	96
Fundraising Costs	57,733	44,703
Furniture & Equipment	82,715	3,725
Merchandising Costs	1,729	813
Project Materials & Supplies	15,145	11,204
Publications	20,732	17,474
Recruitment Costs	0	919
Training Costs	5,445	2,051
Travel	17,926	12,850
Vehicle Expenses	29,742	23,154
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,118,206	773,138
OPERATING SURPLUS	155,024	206,083
Capitalisation of Expenditures	72,475	15,095
Depreciation	(13,011)	(3,966)
Unexpended Grants C/fwd	(64,863)	(202,451)
NET INCOME TO MEMBERS FUNDS	149,625	14,761

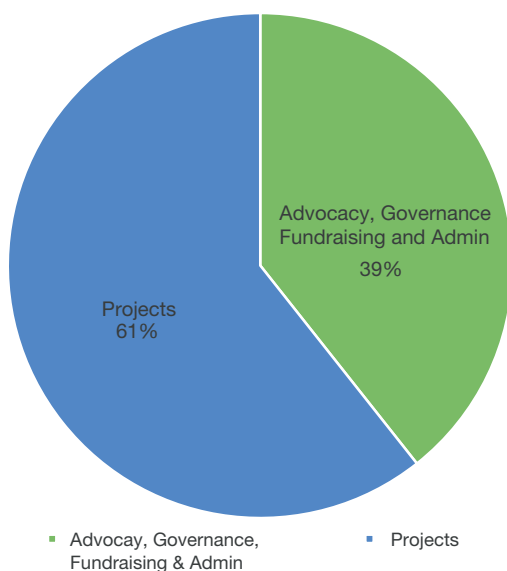
Where we get our money from



How we spend our money



Where we spend our money



ENVIRONS KIMBERLEY STAFF



Martin Pritchard – Executive Director

From a rural background, Martin has extensive agricultural experience, gained in England, Wales, New Zealand and Australia. He holds a Higher National Diploma and Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and a Post Graduate Diploma in Policy Studies, specialising in Ecologically Sustainable Development. Martin has worked in catchment management in the south-west of Western Australia, chaired a number of environmental non-government organisations and been a member of various ministerially-appointed boards. Martin has been the Executive Director of Environs Kimberley for 7 years.



Dr Malcolm Lindsay, Kimberley Nature Project Coordinator

Malcolm has a degree in marine and terrestrial ecology and conservation and has worked on a range of marine projects for industry, community and government as well as overseas. His PhD was on the marine environment of Wilsons Promontory in Victoria. Since 2012, Malcolm has been the project coordinator of the Kimberley Nature Project, alongside Louise Beames. Malcolm works across all Ranger groups, and is familiar with fire, Monsoon Vine Thickets and biodiversity work. **KEY SKILLS:** Marine sciences, project management, Bilby surveys, community engagement.



Louise Beames, Kimberley Nature Project Coordinator

Louise has coordinated EK projects and worked with KLC's Indigenous Rangers since 2007. The many projects include weed and fire management, scientific monitoring, seed collecting, flora and fauna surveys, and collating Traditional Knowledge for signs and booklets. Her scientific research with Bardi Jawi and Nyul Nyul rangers was instrumental in the listing of Monsoon Vine Thickets under the EPBC Act (1999) in 2013 and she has continued to advance knowledge about other Priority ecosystems. Her degree focussed on ecology, zoology and botany, and her Honours thesis on weed management in conservation reserves. Previous work includes ecological surveys, management planning, growing native plants, native grass harvesting and fire, weed and feral animal management.



Christine Elsasser – Administrator and Finance Officer

Christine grew up in Germany. After completing her Master of Arts in German mediaeval literature, she joined a publishing house. Since coming to Australia 16 years ago, Christine has worked for a number of organisations in various office roles, including Magabala Books, Australia's oldest independent Aboriginal publishing house. For the past eight years, Christine has been EK's administrator and finance officer.



Jason Fowler – Marine Projects Officer

Jason grew up in Carnarvon and spent his youth diving, fishing and surfing all over WA, and in particular Ningaloo. He has worked on prawn trawlers from Fremantle to Cape York and spent several years Pearling for Paspaley and Maxima. In 2000 he completed a Bachelor of Science from James Cook University, majoring in Marine Biology and Aquaculture. After moving back to Broome he went into business and started Serendipity Herbs and later, the 12 Mile Café. Jason joined EK staff in 2013 and works with State Government and stakeholders in the planning and establishment of the Great Kimberley Marine Park. This work will ensure the Kimberley coast achieves a high level of protection.



Julia Rau – Project Coordinator, Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project

Julia is originally from Berlin. In 2002 she moved to the south-west of England to complete a degree in tourism and outdoor adventure education. Since moving to Australia in 2006, Julia has lived and worked mainly in the Kimberley region and is extremely passionate about the conservation of the region's cultural and natural landscapes. From 2007 to 2011 she worked as the remote area team leader for Conservation Volunteers Australia and led many volunteer projects throughout the Pilbara and Kimberley regions. Julia took over the project coordination of the Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring project in early 2014, and works with the many dedicated volunteers, scientists, stakeholders and other supporters of this important project.



Tessa Mossop – Administration Officer

Tessa is originally from a small coastal town on the mid-north coast of NSW. She completed a combined Law and Communications degree at the University of Newcastle and was involved with various environmental organisations and community-based campaigns during this time. After graduating Tessa worked in north-east Arnhem Land as solicitor with the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency. She moved to Broome in 2011 and works part time at EK to assist with events, fundraising, membership and other activities.



Ilse Pickerd, Kimberley Nature Project, Project Officer

Ilse has a Bachelor of Science in Zoology, Conservation and Management. She has worked as a zookeeper in Peru, Bolivia, and India, providing conservation education programs across different cultures. In Alice Springs she worked as Regional Coordinator for the Barkly Tableland with Territory Natural Resource Management and as an ecologist for Low Ecological Services, where she coordinated the Land for Wildlife program. Her interest in birds and her need for salt water brought her to Broome. Ilse works predominantly in Bunuba and Karajarri country.



Kylie Weatherall, Kimberley Nature Project, Project Officer

Kylie has worked variously in Human Services, community development, tourism, art and science and studied biological sciences, conservation, Indigenous management and fine art. Kylie joined EK staff in 2011. She is also the contact person for the local Landcare group SKIPA (Society of Kimberley Indigenous Plants & Animals). Kylie works across Bardi Jawi, Nyul Nyul, Bunuba and Yawuru country.



Ayesha Moss, Kimberley Nature Project, Project Officer

Ayesha is an Ecologist and has a diploma in Information Systems and Project Management. Ayesha worked in Melbourne in mapping, waterway management and community education. She moved to Derby in 2010 and worked in health promotion and community development. Ayesha started with Environs Kimberley in 2014 and works with the Nyul Nyul and Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers and Yawuru Country Managers, focusing on Monsoon Vine Thickets and weed management.



Neil Hamaguchi, Kimberley Nature Project, Project Officer

Neil is a Broome local. He worked in the pearling industry for 15 years. Neil then did charter fishing at Montgomery Reef, Collier Bay, Rowley Shoals, Scott Reef, the Lower Ord and down to Ningaloo. Neil has also worked as a guide at Geikie Gorge, running boat tours for DPaW. Neil enjoys camping, fishing and hunting, and all the natural wonders this country has to offer. Neil works predominantly with the Nyul Nyul Rangers.



Caitlin Pilkington, Freshwater Project Officer (until December 2014)

Caitlin comes from a small country town in coastal South Gippsland, at the southernmost tip of Victoria. She has an environmental/civil engineering and science background, and worked for three years in communities in Cape York on community infrastructure projects, and with an Indigenous ranger group on a return-to-country partnership in the wet tropics.

Caitlin is passionate about the protection of rivers and wetlands, and about people having a strong say in what they want for their country.

Caitlin left us to return to Victoria after her project funding ran out.



Dr Steve Reynolds, Kimberley Nature Project, Project Officer

Steve is a Zoologist and he worked for a number of years conducting fauna surveys in WA, including the Pilbara and Kimberley. He then lived in the tropical north in Darwin for ten years, completing his PhD on the ecology and water relations of frogs in the Top End. He did research and lectured at Charles Darwin University before moving to Broome in 2014 to join the KNP team. He works mostly in Karajarri and Bunuba country.

ENVIRONS KIMBERLEY BOARD



Kate Golson, Chairperson

Born in Canberra, Kate grew up mainly between Papua New Guinea and Australia. She arrived in the Kimberley in 1992 armed with a BA and MA in Anthropology and, since then, has worked with Kimberley communities and organisations on projects concerned with sustainable development, conservation and land management, tropical river research, oral history, native title and cultural heritage protection. In so doing, Kate has worked with many local, state and national NGOs and government bodies. She joined the Board in 2007 and has been the Chair since 2009.



Laurel Sutcliffe, Treasurer

Laurel has been a member of EK since its early 'No Dam' days, and is thrilled to have watched it grow into the strong, effective, highly respected organization it is today. I'm proud to be a member of the Board and thereby contribute to EK's aim of protecting the nature of the Kimberley. In the face of the State Government's plans to mine & industrialise the region, those of us who have a different vision will need to be savvy, strategic and steadfast in our efforts to rally like-minded Australians to our cause and, from there, elect a Government whose policies support our values of sustainable development and environmental preservation.



Craig Phillips, Deputy Chair

Craig first visited Broome in 1983 and moved to town permanently in 1994. He's raised three children here, all now working in Broome. Craig opened Broome's first computer specialist store in 1999 and employs eight staff. He joined EK in 1997 and was on the Board until 2007, rejoining in 2010. In another life he worked for the ACF in Victoria with the Rainforest Action Group. He was a member of the Broome Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee for six years until 2009. Craig understands the need for economic growth and believes more job opportunities are essential to solve some social problems facing our communities, but that there must be a balance, with respect for environment, culture and community.



Bruce Gorrington

Bruce was born in Maitland (NSW) and raised in Albury/Wodonga. He is of Asian and European heritage. Apart from a short residency in Fremantle, Bruce has lived in Broome since 1998. He has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Geography and Sociology from the University of Newcastle and a Master of Social Sciences (Environment and Planning) from RMIT University. Bruce is interested in the relationship between 'Country' and people, and the sustainability of cultural and natural landscapes. From 1998 to 2005 he worked for the KLC, as a Project Development Officer and then as Manager of the Native Title Services Unit. From 2006 to 2009, he was Assistant Director of the Land Branch in the Dept. of Indigenous Affairs, Perth. In 2009, he became Research Coordinator in the Nulungu Research Institute at the University of Notre Dame in Broome. He has served on the EK Board since 2009.



Kat Taylor, Secretary

Kat grew up in Perth. After completing a riveting honours thesis on wastewater irrigation, she sailed from Cairns to Phuket, inconveniently falling in love with the ship RV Heraclitus. Kat enjoys projects that engage the community in water management. She has worked for several NGOs on projects about climate change, water efficiency and remote community drinking water supplies. Although Kat has called the Kimberley home for a few years, she periodically disappears to see her family in Perth or to travel. Kat leads a secret double life as a radio star, having been one of the original presenters of Sustenance on 8CCC, Alice Springs, and now a co-presenter of The Sound Environment on Radio Goolarri.



Carmel Leahy

Carmel has spent 28 years in the Kimberley working in the field of education. She moved to Broome from the Fitzroy Valley about ten years ago. Fresh air, clean water and unspoilt bush are key Kimberley assets of great value to her. Carmel has had the privilege of jaunting through the Great Sandy Desert in a little old Suzuki, being chased by a saltwater crocodile while kayaking down the mighty Fitzroy River, riding on horseback through the Gibb Range and many other wonderful bush adventures. She wants to see these assets respected and maintained for generations to come.



Jan Lewis

After completing university in UK and teaching at an environmental studies centre for a year, I sought adventures in sunnier, wider landscapes — spending 5 years teaching in Zambia and The Bahamas before arriving in the Kimberley in 1982. I've now spent 20 of the last 30 years in the region — 6 in the East Kimberley. My non-paid life focuses on bird research — I've volunteered on a number of research projects and run two myself. Sitting quietly by a waterhole at dawn watching finches come in to drink, especially gorgeous Gouldians, is a favourite pastime. My motivation for joining the EK Board is a strong sense of the escalating threats to the Kimberley environment, and recognition that being part of an effective organisation that works to protect habitat is better than going it alone!



Jeremy Cussen

Having grown up between Australia's east coast and Papua New Guinea, Jeremy has been active in environmental NGO's from a young age, working with local action groups in Melbourne and the UK, travelling extensively and assisting in Vanuatuan health education projects.

Jeremy moved to the Kimberley in 2012 and lived between Broome and Halls Creek for the following year, which allowed him to take part in Broome's NO GAS campaign and develop strong bonds with communities throughout the Kimberley.

Having worked with the majority of Broome's under 18's, Jeremy's aim is to educate, empower and inspire Kimberley youth to take a leading role in the conservation and enjoyment of our abundant natural resources.



Peter Mitchell (resigned from the board in June 2015)

Having taken over the role of the Board's 'éminence grise' from Pat Lowe, Peter is a founding member of EK and has significant experience in local community development and governance, including a six-year stint as an elected member of the Broome Shire Council. Peter has lived in Broome and the Kimberley since 1988, has helped raise a family of three wonderful Kimberley Kids, and is verging on the status of 'local'.



Sigurd Midema (term ended 2014)

Sigurd (aka Ziggy) has lived in Broome and remote communities in the Kimberley intermittently for over 20 years and appreciates the challenges we face in protecting the Kimberley from unfettered industrialisation. Ziggy says we are at a crossroads where we have the choice to either let development at any cost go unchallenged or support balanced development that is respectful of environment and culture and provides real opportunities and social inclusion for all the people of the Kimberley.

THANK YOU

Environs Kimberley is heavily indebted to all our funders, partner organisations and donors and we thank them for their support.

Funding Support



Partners and collaborators



Environs Kimberley has been dedicated to protecting the Kimberley's land and sea for almost twenty years.

This magnificent country faces many and increasing threats; too frequent fires, feral animals, weeds, broadscale land-clearing, dams, mining and encroaching industrial development are all putting our precious Kimberley environment at risk.

EK worked hard with the community to protect James Price Point. We are now working to protect the Kimberley from coal mining in the Fitzroy Valley and fracking on our doorstep.

Our overriding objective is that the lands and waters of this special part of the world be maintained, protected and sustainably managed. We work closely with Aboriginal ranger groups and local communities, and collaborate with a broad range of organisations and agencies, to achieve this end.

Acknowledgement of photographers

Front page: Clive Aiken (Bunuba Rangers) and Malcolm Lindsay (Environs Kimberley) under a huge cluster fig (*Ficus racemosa*) in Brooking Gorge, during surveys of Monsoon Vine Thickets in the Limestone Ranges – Dr. Steve Reynolds
 EK staff at Gantheaume Point, Broome – Damian Kelly
 Lalang-garram/Horizontal Falls Marine Park – Martin Pritchard
 Snubfin Dolphin – Dr Deb Thiele
 Dampier Creek, Roebuck Bay – Martin Pritchard
 Weeding Monsoon Vine Thickets at Kooljaman, Cape Leveque – Julia Rau

Seagrass monitoring volunteers, Roebuck Bay – Julia Rau
 EK Art Auction 2015 – Carol Shanley
 Bilby survey with Alex Watson WWF Australia, Vaughan Lee and Eduardo Maher Yawuru Country Managers and Neil Hamaguchi
 Environs Kimberley – Damian Kelly
 Monsoon vine thicket on the Dampier Peninsula – Martin Pritchard
 Golden Bandicoot – David Bettini
 Seagrass monitoring volunteers – Julia Rau
 Minyjuru or Mangarr fruit – Louise Beames
 Gouldian Finch – David Bettini

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Environs Kimberley, with a bailiwick much bigger than Tasmania, is an outstanding champion of the Kimberley environment. It's campaigns – such as defending the Kimberley coast from Woodside's proposed gas hub and state plans for an industrial port – help protect both indigenous heritage and the natural environment of global significance. EK is one of the nation's most successful and outstanding local environmental advocates.

Bob Brown

President, Bob Brown Foundation & former Senator & Leader of the Australian Greens.

The efforts by Environs Kimberley are vital to protecting the precious heritage of the Kimberley. Its dedicated team provides vital facts to inform the public and hopefully helps to influence government decisions. Without Environs Kimberley a valuable voice in saving our environment would be lost. Keep up the good work!

Di Morrissey, author.

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KIMBERLEY
SAVING THE NATURE OF THE KIMBERLEY



www.environskimberley.org.au

44 Blackman St, Broome
Western Australia 6725

Postal address:
PO Box 2281,
Western Australia 6725

Phone: 08 9192 1922



@EnviroKimberley



environs.kimberley



@environskimberley