

22 years looking after the **KIMBERLEY**



Bedford Islands, Buccaneer Archipelago

Annual Report 2018

environs
KIMBERLEY
SAVING THE NATURE OF THE KIMBERLEY





CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Kate Golson, Chairperson

2018 has been a year of much progress for EK on many fronts.

The professionalism and commitment of the staff is evident in the report by Kimberley Nature Project (KNP) coordinators, Malcolm Lindsay and Lu Beames. While federal government support for conservation activities is at an all-time low, KNP has kept long-term projects going, including regional leadership on weed management, and maintained relations with its partner organisations. The team has even expanded into new areas like wetlands protection — all significant achievements. The success of all the staff in securing grants underpins this important work.

On the advocacy and campaign fronts, Director Martin Pritchard has turned our sights (back) to the Fitzroy River system. Here, EK is collaborating with traditional owner groups and the Martuwarra Council, the WA Government and wider community to ensure that this very special area is protected from encroaching large-scale irrigation and fracking.

Financially, EK is in good stead despite the vagaries of funding, under the watchful eye of our Finance Officer Christine Elsasser.

Making our own money has always been an integral part of EK's sustainability. Events and Fundraising Coordinator, Tess Mossop, outlines the year's successes with our Annual Art Auction, the second of EK's Concerts for the Kimberley, and,

scheduled for the last part of the year, the second Perth art auction, and EK's Xmas raffle. Over the year we have experienced continued growth in member numbers, and we are now using online tools to review and build on this.

Also on the fundraising front, Martin made a second year of visits to meet with major donors on the east coast, with fruitful results, and we will be developing a corporate fundraising program in the New Year.

At the 2017 AGM, we welcomed new members Nik Wevers and Sean Salmon onto the Board, who between them bring a wealth of experience and skills in financial management and community engagement — and we farewell Ben Cavuoto, who returned to Victoria. This year, we farewell Jan Lewis and Alex Mountford, who leave us with a big gap to fill. We have yet to find out who will step into their big shoes (nothing personal).

Among the main Board priority tasks we completed in 2018 were the strategic and operational plans, and Policy and Procedures Manual, and we continue to attend to improving Board governance, in areas such as the recruitment of new members and the evaluation of our roles and responsibilities.

Here's to the next year of saving the nature of the Kimberley.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Martin Pritchard, Director

As the Kimberley gains more attention through Instagram, Facebook and the tourism industry you would expect that the extraordinary landscapes and cultural experiences that capture the imagination of global citizens would be inspiration enough to ensure protection for this remarkable region.

Unfortunately, this is not the case. Despite the region holding a special place in Australia's psyche, barely 7% of the land mass is protected in conservation reserves. The 93% of the Kimberley without statutory protection is still seen as fair game by the mining, fossil fuel and industrial agriculture industries.

That is why EK's efforts as a bulwark against these destructive industries are so important, and without us there is no doubt the gates would open to the bulldozers, drill rigs and Haulpaks that have destroyed much of the Pilbara and the great woodlands that once occupied what is now the West Australian wheatbelt. Despite the increasing evidence showing that the old, trickle-down economy does not work to lift people out of poverty and bring genuine prosperity, but causes so much damage to our wildlife and landscapes, the push is still on.

Sources of funding for our work are becoming fewer and, in order to thrive and ensure that much of the Kimberley remains protected, we have to go further afield, build on our consultancy services and continue to develop the partnership arrangements we have with many groups and organisations. The Kimberley Nature Project team, under Malcolm and Louise's leadership, has been doing this and has managed to keep important conservation work going, as well as ensure staff numbers are stable, as can be seen in the KNP report. The work that our Office Manager, Christine, and Community Projects and Events Officer, Tessa, do has never been more important.

Momentum is building for the protection of the Fitzroy River and 'The Kimberley – Like Nowhere Else Alliance' is now operating strongly. We've campaigned for 22 years for no dams on the Fitzroy and Margaret Rivers and we've finally got a government that has adopted our policy. We commend the McGowan Government for this. While we have achieved a lot — see Jason's report — there is still much work to be done to protect the Fitzroy in perpetuity. We are fortunate to have a strong partnership with Pew Charitable Trusts in this work and in our efforts to protect the Buccaneer Archipelago.

The EK Board has done exceptional work this year, as mentioned in the Chair's report, and Kate Golson and the rest of the Board have continued to take a strongly proactive approach to governance. Kate has again provided invaluable high level support and advice to me and I thank her for that.

With a Federal election due next year, we look forward to policy commitments that will ensure the protection of the Kimberley, such as increased funding for Aboriginal Rangers and Cultural and Natural Resource Management, core funding support for conservation groups and stronger national environment laws. We also seek commitments for World Heritage Listing, no new fossil-fuel projects but support for renewable energy instead, increased protection for marine life and support for the new economy through a redirection of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF).

This last year has been a great challenge to EK, and we deeply appreciate the continued support of volunteers, members, donors and partner organisations, which is essential to achieving successful outcomes for the environment. We look forward to continuing our work with you to protect the Kimberley in the next year.

CAMPAIGNS REPORT

Martin Pritchard, Director

The Northern Australia development agenda based on the old economies of mining, fossil fuels and industrial agriculture has been revived and is a major focus of our advocacy work. As a result, the National Heritage-listed Fitzroy River has been at the centre of the land-use debate in the Kimberley over the past year.

We have been gathering evidence on the failures of this agenda, which does not lead to meaningful, family-friendly jobs. On the contrary, it has led to spectacular failures of public policy, as shown in the report we commissioned on the Ord by The Australia Institute. As well as the destruction of Kimberley ecosystems, taxpayers forked out \$6 million for every job created, as the Barnett–Grylls Government poured hundreds of millions of West Australian taxes into the project. Despite such investment, the socio-economic situation in Kununurra is not improving. Another report we commissioned on irrigation in the Kimberley by The Australia Institute showed that 'despite decades of government subsidies to irrigation in the East Kimberley, agriculture employs 9% of workers there, compared to 6% in the West Kimberley'. Investing billions in irrigation is not the way to improve job prospects and economic development here, particularly when it's so damaging to the environment. We're making sure that the lessons of Camballin are not forgotten.

There are many challenges ahead in our work to protect the Fitzroy River and Catchment from a Murray–Darling-type disaster, but our engagement with the McGowan Government has been positive to date and Traditional Owners' resolve to ensure the future health of the River is inspiring.

Plans for a pipeline to transport fracked gas from a Mitsubishi well near Noonkanbah to Derby and Broome were provided to us during the year. The plans highlighted the fact that, despite the McGowan Government's moratorium on and inquiry into this polluting business, industry was busy planning behind the scenes, expecting a green light to frack the Kimberley. We wrote a comprehensive submission to the fracking Inquiry detailing the appalling mismanagement and industry failures surrounding the three test-wells that have been fracked in the Kimberley. The revelation that Buru Energy pumped radioactive water out of a well near Noonkanbah was a shock to many, but when you're drilling deep into the earth where ancient

radioactive rocks lie, it should not be a surprise. We helped make sure that the story was well publicised. Imagine what would happen with more than 40,000 gas-fracking wells, as has been estimated for the Kimberley.

The McGowan Government has vowed to ban fracking in the South West and Perth, but has yet to explain why, if it's too risky there, it isn't too risky in the Kimberley. We are sending a message to Premier Mark McGowan and his government that the Kimberley cannot be sacrificed to fracking just to appease any concerns industry might have about its development agenda. Fortunately, our Member of Parliament for the Kimberley, Josie Farrer MLA, has called for a ban on fracking and by doing so has broken ranks with the government. She has called for support to make this happen and we have already begun activating the community.

Despite the push by people like Gina Rinehart for industrial development of the North, there is an exciting emergence of new economic opportunities. Cultural tourism, Bush Products, Renewable Energy and Carbon Management are industries that can not only enhance the environment but provide durable, family-friendly jobs that people like to work in. They are the Kimberley 'start-ups', and we have been advocating and supporting the community to ensure government supports them rather than research into cotton and beef production. The latter is already heavily backed by corporate interests, and government funding becomes a subsidy for the very wealthy.

This next year will define the McGowan Government's commitment to the environment in the Kimberley. It can choose to industrialise through fracking and irrigated agriculture, or it can follow a path to a deeper, long-lasting prosperity for our region. As a community, we need to make sure the government knows how much we care about this place and the lengths we'll go to to protect it.



"I urge all my Kimberley mob and the people of Western Australia to join me in keeping the pressure on the State Government until we see a full ban on fracking in the Kimberley and all of Western Australia."

Josie Farrer, Member for the Kimberley, June 25 2018



KIMBERLEY NATURE PROJECTS

Malcolm Lindsay and Louise Beames,
Kimberley Nature Project Coordinators

Another cycle of the six local seasons has occurred, and what a Man-gala (wet) season we had!

The Kimberley Nature Project has had another successful year, working with our Aboriginal and conservation partners to help conserve and protect the ecologically and culturally important species and habitats of the Kimberley.

We continue to work on our long-term projects (i.e. Dampier Peninsula's Endangered Monsoon Vine Thickets, regional leadership in weed management, bilby conservation, supporting Aboriginal rangers) and with our long-term partners (e.g. Karajarri, Nyul Nyul, Bardi Jawi, Yawuru and Bunuba Rangers; Kimberley Land Council, Bush Heritage and SKIPA). At the same time, we are developing and expanding newer projects (i.e. largescale revegetation, night parrot conservation, Kimberley wetlands) and partnerships (e.g. Nyikina-Mangala, Paruku, Ngurrura and Wunggurr Rangers, and the University of Western Australia).

Our fantastic KNP team continue to be enthusiastic, competent, effective, full of good humour and a joy to work with. Despite some changes to the team last year, we still have one of the most consistent and long-term conservation teams in the region, which is critical to maintaining relationships and retaining competence. This year we welcomed a new ecologist, Jessica Miller, to the team who is a perfect EK fit, with strong and broad experience in field ecology, environmental management, policy and campaigning, and most importantly, a willingness to bake cakes.

Over the past few years each KNP team member has transitioned into managing all facets of their projects, from grant writing, execution, management, reporting and acquittal, with only occasional help from us coordinators. This not only eases our management responsibility, but also provides independence, ownership and experience for the staff.

All staff members led one or multiple funding applications this year, which for some grants allowed us to submit multiple applications written by different staff members. Unlike other organisations working in conservation in the Kimberley, we have to raise 100% of our wages every year. Although this is an unfortunate reality, it does mean that we highly value new project ideas and partnerships, and that we are held to account more often for our conduct with project partners, project outcomes and value for money. Despite this, and the very difficult environmental funding situation of late (43% reduction in the Federal environment budget between 2013 and (according to forward estimates) 2021-22 (Australian Conservation Foundation)) we have built and then maintained our income, projects and team size over the same period. Recently we have diversified our income sources, conducting more consultancy work, accessing wider philanthropic funding and partnering more with university researchers.



The flood, Buckley's Plain, 2018

Here is a brief snapshot of what our Kimberley Nature Project Team members have been up to over the last year



Ayesha Moss, Main Projects: The Kimberley Community Seedbank, Dampier Peninsula Monsoon Vine Thickets

Ayesha has kept the seedbank growing, helped train and build capability with women rangers in seed collection, storage and propagation. Along with supporting Karajarri Rangers, she has developed a sustainable plant product for sale (seed packets). She helped establish the Kimberley Aboriginal Bush Plant Resources Alliance (KABPRA) with Aboriginal plant-product producers wanting recognition and support in accessing marketing opportunities in the conservation economy. Lastly, Ayesha has provided important support to the Monsoon Vine Thicket project and organised a Nyul Nyul language workshop to clarify plant names.



Fiona West, Main Projects: The Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project

After coming back to the position last year, Fi has brought her unmatched energy and enthusiasm for all things seagrass. She successfully obtained more secure funding for the project from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, established a new site at Black Ledge inside the Roebuck Bay Marine Park and ran a highly successful series of seagrass monitoring training events. Lastly, Fi has been invaluable to the organisation in giving training and support on all matters social media and promotions.



Jessica Miller, Main Projects: Nyikina-Mangala wetland, Bunuba plants and animals book, Neem management methodology trial

Jess quickly fell into the role and took control of a range of projects, extending a project on Neem management into an experimental trial of new herbicide treatments, which she recently presented at the 21st Australasian Weeds Conference. She has also initiated our relationship with the Nyikina-Mangala Rangers through a project on biodiversity and weed management around key wetlands. Lastly, she is helping the Bunuba Rangers produce an Animals and Plants Book with cultural information and language names.



Kylie Weatherall, Main Projects: Monsoon Vine Thicket Revegetation, Kimberley Community Seedbank

Kylie has worked the hardest in the field this year, on a number of revegetation sites near Monsoon Vine Thicket patches on the Dampier Peninsula with the Yawuru Country Managers and Nyul Nyul and Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers. She kept her infectious cheer and good humour up despite one patch being totally flooded during the large wet season, leaving few surviving plants. In contrast, her other sites were very successful, as was her ability to bring in a wide range of supportive project partners. Lastly, Kylie has played an important role with women rangers, working closely with the new Yawuru Women Country Managers and even briefly acting as the Bardi Jawi Oorany Women's Ranger coordinator.

KIMBERLEY NATURE PROJECTS



Louise Beames, Main Projects: Wathaurong business planning and conservation support, KNP Coordinator

Louise continued her important work in Victoria with the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative, finalising their conservation business plan and facilitating communications to support the Indigenous Protected Area consultation process. Despite being in Victoria, Louise was also integral to the functioning of Kimberley Nature Project, in particular leading the support for the Seedbank Project, weed management projects and the Paractia Project, and grant writing for the group. Towards the end of the year, Louise has taken up part-time employment with the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water to work within the state-wide Wildlife Programs Unit.



Malcolm Lindsay, Main Projects: Threatened fauna conservation, Monsoon Vine Thickets, KNP Coordinator

Malcolm continued with his support for Kimberley rangers' conservation work with threatened fauna, supporting work on bilbies and helping facilitate the Kimberley Night Parrot Working Group with the Kimberley Land Council and the Paruku Rangers, to make sure Aboriginal rangers were a key leader in the research and management of the species. Malcolm continued to co-lead conservation planning projects in the region, with the finalised Bunuba Healthy Country Plan with support from Bush Heritage Australia and the nearly finished Conservation Action Plan for Monsoon Vine Thickets. As a coordinator, he led the support for the Seagrass Project, Monsoon Vine Thicket Project and biodiversity surveys, as well as establishing new Kimberley projects and partnerships that should bear bush-fruit next year.

Ayesha Moss, Kylie Weatherall and Karajarri Women Rangers and Traditional Owners seed collecting



Jess Miller and Nyikina Mangala Head Ranger Nathan Green checking traps



Volunteers monitoring seagrass, Demco site



KIMBERLEY MARINE PROJECTS

Jason Fowler, Marine Project Officer

Kimberley marine conservation has taken another leap forward in 2017–18. Planning for the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Park has begun. We have been busy collecting footage and gathering information on the recreational and commercial use of the area and giving advice to Parks and Wildlife planners.



Adele Island, Buccaneer Archipelago

Adele Island is a massive seabird colony lying offshore from the Buccaneer Archipelago. It is surrounded by a huge coral reef platform and lies adjacent to two other large reefs, Beagle Reef and Mavis Reef. Astonishingly, these three reef complexes have yet to be included in the Buccaneer Marine Park despite being in WA State waters and our responsibility! We are pushing the State Government to include the Adele Island group in the Buccaneer Marine Park.

For the past six years we have spent countless hours researching and filming Snubfin Dolphins and trying to convince government staff and politicians of the importance of this localised group of weird-looking dolphins. Recently Parks and Wildlife Service published a Roebuck 'Fin Book', which documents the bay's 130 resident Snubfin adults. We did much of the writing in the book, with help from Dr Deb Thiele. The book is accompanied by a new Snubfin app, which is used to record sightings.

These two new tools will go a long way to conserving Roebuck Bay's Snubfins and greatly improve scientific knowledge over time — a vastly different situation from what we faced six years ago when we began working on Snubfins and commercial gillnets were ripping them to bits and catching their food, gas developments loomed and the population was in deep trouble. Today the wounds have healed, newborns are popping up everywhere, and there are no nets and no gas. The future looks great for Roebuck's Snubfins, something EK can be very proud of; however, for a completely secure future there is a need for a sanctuary zone in the marine park — something the WA Government has vowed to investigate.

The biggest wet season on record in Broome meant that the antiquated sewage treatment ponds overflowed twice, pouring millions of litres of sewage into Roebuck Bay. In response we gathered dozens of emails calling on the Minister for Water to do something. Now WaterCorp has begun the process of planning for the decommissioning of the old treatment plant to ensure this never happens again.

The Fitzroy River campaign has taken centre stage in 2018. With corporate pastoralists pushing hard for vast water allocations to irrigate thousands of hectares for cattle fodder, the threat to the Fitzroy became very apparent.

Gogo station has proposed an irrigation project of 8,355ha, requiring 50 billion litres of water per year — and this is just stage 1. This project area lies adjacent to the abandoned Pillara Lead and Zinc mine. Our research revealed that the Pillara mine is a classified contaminated site; it has been pouring out groundwater through a vent shaft onto the surface, which is ontocontaminated with Copper, Lead, Zinc, Arsenic and Thallium. For years this water has flowed towards what is now a proposed irrigation area!

Downstream at Livering Station lies a particularly abundant tributary known as Snake Creek. The station has a water allocation of six billion litres per year for growing cattle fodder. This water allocation is much smaller than Gogo's would be, yet in 2016 locals contacted us to say the creek was dry, with dead fish, crocs, cherabin and mussels.

To better understand what impacts industrial irrigation would have on the river, we met with dozens of Australia's leading river scientists. The concern from the scientific community was overwhelming, so we facilitated the Fitzroy River Science Statement, which was co-authored by nine leading experts and signed by a further 100 river scientists.

With this knowledge we went on to meet many of the traditional owners, pastoralists and fishers who live, work and play on the river. Momentum is building to rein in the extreme ambitions of corporate pastoralists/irrigators and prevent the ecological disasters seen in most other Australian river systems.



Fitzroy River



EK EVENTS

Tess Mossop, Community Projects and Event Coordinator

ART AUCTION – EK is branching out

EK's inaugural Aboriginal Art Auction, Fremantle 2017



Inspired by the annual EK Art Auction event here in Broome, last October we held the inaugural EK Aboriginal Art Auction at Kidogo Art House in Fremantle.

The event was opened by Dr Carmen Lawrence, with speeches by special guest-artists Mervyn Street (a Gooniyandi man from Fitzroy Crossing) and Edwin Lee Mulligan (a Walmajarri/Nyikina man from Noonkanbah), all of whom generously gave their time to support EK.

The success of this event has prompted us to plan another Perth art event for later this year (29th November at Gallows Gallery in Mosman Park). More details to come shortly.

This year's 15th annual Broome EK Art Auction was also, once again, a great success, with a record number of artists contributing work, and over 100 stunning pieces of art sold on the night.

These EK Art events continue to provide a great opportunity for artists from across the Kimberley to display their work and sell pieces to crowds of enthusiastic art buyers, and play a significant part in supporting the work of EK.

Together these two events raised over \$50,000 for the organisation, and EK sends a huge thank-you to all the artists, galleries, musicians, volunteers, local businesses and generous art lovers and buyers for making this possible.

CONCERT FOR THE KIMBERLEY 2018

Last year John Butler volunteered his time to play the first-ever Concert for the Kimberley in support of EK. This year it was the wonderful Missy Higgins, along with local legends the Mexicans, Tanya Ransom, Wil Thomas, the Nomadics and visitor Charlie McGee.



Missy's support for protecting the Kimberley has been solid for 10 years now.



People flocked from all over for this very special opportunity to celebrate the Kimberley with Missy Higgins and a host of top quality local and visiting musicians, right here in Broome. With tickets sold out at the Convention Centre, over 74,000 people across the world joined us online to hear about the work of EK and watch a live-stream of Missy's Set.

Our appreciation goes out to Missy and everyone else who supported this event – with all your help we were able to raise over \$20,000 to support the work of EK – Thank you!

“The Kimberley holds a special place in my heart so I’m always happy to help EK out to protect it. I want my kids and grandkids to experience the same wonder and magic of this country, as I have.”

Missy Higgins



TREASURER'S REPORT

Laurel Sutcliffe

Environs Kimberley felt the pressure of declining revenue due to reduced government grants and a tightening economic outlook in the reporting year ended 30 June 2018. Despite this, total income fell by only 5.9%.

Total Income was \$876,048 (2017: \$931,300). Grant Income was down 13.6% to \$367,795, as Governments continued to reduce funding available to NGOs.

Income from Donations, Fundraising and Memberships was up 20.4 % to \$297,501, principally in Donations and Fundraising events. We continued to work on attracting non-grant related project work with income from other sources, but income was lower by 20% to \$198,806.

Total Expenditure was \$919,300 (2017: \$938,027), with decreases in employment and operating costs but an increase in project costs.

Employment Costs continue to be Environs Kimberley's biggest expense, although the current year has seen a 4.7% decrease to \$573,654.

Operating costs increased by 15.5% to \$211,550, reflecting additional costs for our fundraising events.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30th June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	579,128	616,244
Trade & Other Receivables	25,309	46,450
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	604,437	662,694
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	29,487	38,219
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	29,487	38,219
TOTAL ASSETS	633,924	700,913
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade & Other Payables	156,023	167,069
Provisions	57,671	66,298
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	213,694	233,367
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	21,775	25,841
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	21,775	25,841
TOTAL LIABILITIES	235,469	259,207
NET ASSETS	398,455	441,706
TOTAL EQUITY	398,455	441,706

Statement of Change in Equity

For the year ended 30th June 2018

	Retained Earnings	Assets Gifted	Total members Funds
	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1st July 2016	445,819	2,615	448,434
Net income to members	(6,727)		(6,727)
Balance at 30th June 2017	439,092	2,615	441,706
Balance at 1st July 2017	439,092	2,615	441,706
Net income to members	(43,251)		(43,251)
Balance at 30th June 2018	395,841	2,615	398,455

Expenditure on Projects decreased by 12.4% to \$134,096.

Operating deficit for 2018 was \$43,251 (2017 loss: \$6,727). The major proportion of this deficit is expenditure of project funds received but not spent in the previous financial year.

Members Funds (Net Assets) are totalling \$398,455, still a sound position as Environs Kimberley moves into the new financial year with significant new projects and consultancies on the horizon.

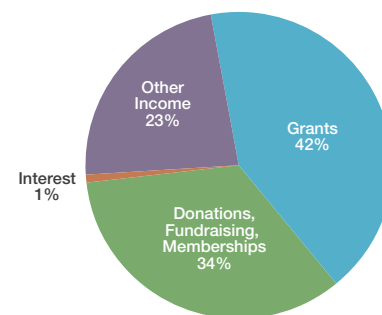
EK would like to thank Kevin Smith for his assistance with this report.

Income Statement

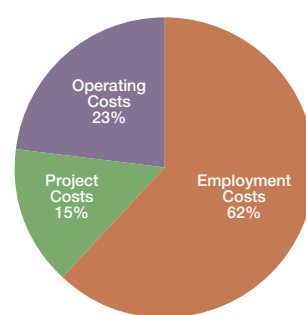
For the year ended 30th June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Grant Income	367,795	425,713
Donations, Fundraising, Memberships	297,501	247,025
Interest	11,947	10,953
Other Income	198,806	247,609
TOTAL INCOME	876,048	931,300
EXPENDITURE		
Employment Costs	573,654	601,748
Project Costs	134,096	153,082
Operating Costs	211,550	183,197
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	919,300	938,027
NET INCOME	(43,251)	(6,727)

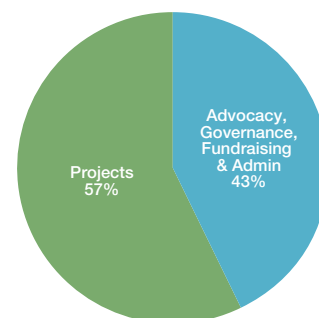
Where our money comes from



Where our money goes



What do we spend our money on



ENVIRONS KIMBERLEY BOARD



Kate Golson, Chairperson

Born in Canberra, Kate Golson first arrived in the Kimberley in 1992. She has worked with a host of community organisations as well as universities and government on projects ranging from community development, native title, cultural heritage protection through to sustainable development, cultural and natural resource management and tropical river research. She has extensive experience in social research, community engagement, communications, and monitoring and evaluation, and holds a BA and MA in Anthropology from Sydney University.



Jan Lewis, Secretary

Originally from England, Jan worked in the public service, with Oxfam and as a high-school teacher in the UK, Zambia and the Bahamas before arriving in the Kimberley in 1982. Here, she has lived in Kununurra, Wyndham and Broome, been an educator and community services professional and has served on many boards and committees. Jan is a volunteer bird researcher. She holds a MA in Development Studies from Murdoch University, a BSc (Honours) in Geography from Leeds University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from Bristol University.



Laurel Sutcliffe, Treasurer

From Victoria, Laurel gained a BA and a Diploma in Education from Melbourne University and taught at schools in Victoria and Papua New Guinea before moving to the Kimberley in 1986 to work in Aboriginal education. She lived at Yakanarra community near Fitzroy Crossing for 20 years as the school administrator and principal, while raising a young family. In 2006, she moved to Broome and has been teaching at Broome Senior High School ever since.



Kat Taylor

Kat arrived in the Kimberley in 2010. She is an environmental educator and water specialist and has extensive experience working for Aboriginal and environmental organisations (including the Kimberley Land Council, and the Centre for Appropriate Technology and Arid Lands Environment Centre in the Northern Territory) and in government. Kat is studying for a PhD in water policy at ANU and holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (Honours) and a Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology from Murdoch University. She co-presents The Sound Environment show on Radio Goolarri in Broome.



Peter Mitchell

Peter grew up in South-west WA and holds a BA degree from Curtin University. His early work was in the mining and surveying industries in outback WA. In 1988 he settled in Broome, where he has worked in various roles including the Telecentre Coordinator, and for the Department of Child Protection and Kullarri Employment Services. Peter was a Broome Shire Councillor for six years and is a founding member and former chair of EK. He also spent several years living and working in Halls Creek, where his first child was born. He is the CEO of the Men's Outreach Service in Broome, is a board member of the Australian Men's Health Forum, and received the 2017 Kullarri NAIDOC Person of the Year Award.



Nik Weavers

Long-term resident of the Pilbara and Kimberley, Nik has been employed by and sat on the Boards of numerous not-for-profit community organisations. She has also been a Board member of the Broome Port Authority and the Kimberley Development Commission, and served for 10 years as a Shire of Broome Councillor, including six years as Deputy Shire President. Nik is committed to the sensible preservation of the natural environment of the Kimberley, while supporting development that creates opportunities for Kimberley people.



Shaun Clark, Vice Chair

A landscape supervisor, Shaun has a particular interest in Aboriginal knowledge of fauna and flora. A former Geikie Gorge National Park Ranger, he has had a long involvement with the Aboriginal communities of the Dampier Peninsula and significant environmental management experience. Shaun has worked in many fields, including computer programming, agriculture, horticulture, irrigation, landcare and Indigenous community development. He has taken part in various environmental projects in the West Kimberley such as weeding, bush regeneration and coastal protection.



Carmel Leahy

Born in central western NSW, Carmel is a teacher, linguist and literacy specialist who has worked at various schools and institutions, including Yakanarra Community School in the 1990s, Broome Senior High School, Mabu Yawuru Ngan-ga language centre and Nyikina Mangala Community School. She is currently a teacher at Yiyili Aboriginal Community School. Carmel is an active member of the Society for Kimberley Indigenous Plants and Animals (SKIPA). She has a Bachelor of Education in Multicultural Education from Edith Cowan University, a Master's degree in Applied Linguistics from Charles Darwin University and Cert III in Conservation and Land Management.



Craig Phillips

Craig was born in Melbourne and moved to the Kimberley in 1994. His previous roles include Managing Director of OEM Supplies — Northwest, Victorian sales manager of Columbus Mufflers, and West Australian sales manager of Lukey Mufflers. In Broome, Craig runs a computer IT sales-and-service company. He has served on the boards of the Broome Chamber of Commerce, the Small Business Centre West Kimberley and St. Mary's College, and has been an EK Board member since 1999.



Alex Mountford

Alex arrived in the Kimberley as a graduate teacher from her hometown of Melbourne in 2007 after completing a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Melbourne followed by a Graduate Diploma of Education (Primary) at LaTrobe University. She has lived mostly in the remote community of Yiyili, between Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek, working as a classroom teacher and literacy specialist teacher at the Yiyili Aboriginal Community School, and became principal this year.



Ben Cavuoto

Ben is an ecologist with 20 years of experience working in Natural Resource Management, with a special interest in nature and culture conservation. He is experienced in running projects and on-ground activities and writing submissions. His other interests and skills are in wildlife and conservation biology, botany, field surveys, revegetation, bushcare and the collection, banking and storage of seeds. Ben was born and grew up in Adelaide SA and arrived in the Kimberley in October 2015.



Sean Salmon

After growing up in Country Victoria and attending University in Ballarat, seeking adventure Sean travelled to the Kimberley in 1996 and has remained here ever since. He enjoyed working in the Pearling and Fishing industries on the remote Kimberley coast, and finally completed his degree in Education in 2006 whilst working on community landscaping projects. Sean's teaching career began in Wyndham in 2007. In 2009 he returned to Broome with his partner and two sons and continues teaching in Broome, specialising in Indigenous Education.



EK has been dedicated to protecting the Kimberley's land and waters for twenty-two 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. Our overriding objective is that the lands and waters of this special part of the world be protected and sustainably managed. We continue to work closely with Aboriginal ranger groups and local communities, and collaborate with a broad range of organisations and agencies, to achieve this end.



Office: 44 Blackman St, Broome
Western Australia 6725

Post: PO Box 2281, Broome Western Australia 6725

Telephone: 08 9192 1922

www.environskimberley.org.au



@EnviroKimberley



environs.kimberley



@environskimberley