

Ichthys Coastal Management Offset Fund – Successful Round 8 Grants

| Applicant | Title | Project Description | Duration |
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| Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation | Monitoring of Sea grass and Marine Life Habitat | The Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation faces growing environmental and cultural threats facing the sea country they manage. Climate change, coastal industry, fishing, and pollution are negatively impacting the area's biodiversity and cultural heritage. This grant will involve will involve mapping sea grass beds, assessing their health, and surveying species that depend on them, including turtles, dugongs, fish, whales, and dolphins. This will inform habitat preservation, guide sustainable resource management, protect biodiversity, enhance ecosystem resilience, empower Indigenous communities, and ensure intergenerational knowledge transfer, benefiting ecosystems and communities within Dhimurru's IPA. | 4 years |
| Milingimbi And Outstations Progress Resources Aboriginal Corporation | Tele-handler to support Sea Ranger operations | To be an effective Sea Ranger group and in order to monitor and manage our Indigenous Protected Area, MOPRA have to maintain a high level of maritime logistics capability. The Crocodile Island Rangers are currently involved in several turtle monitoring projects and a research partnership which involve travel to and camping on outer islands approximately 70kms sea travel from Milingimbi. The islands have no infrastructure or water source so the rangers and accompanying scientists have to be entirely self-reliant. With its large wheels and capability across the soft sand, the tele-handler will land and tow the barge to "dry dock" for servicing, survey or repairs. It will routinely fuel and load up the barge, and travel to deliver the project equipment on the outer islands. | 1 year |
| Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd | Increasing Tiwi Ranger capacity to manage Tiwi sea country biodiversity and habitats. | The Tiwi Islands are a vast and remote sea country estate and Rangers have an ongoing challenge to protect and manage the Islands' significant marine biodiversity and cultural resources. A smaller boat is required to safely access shallower areas necessary for effective sea country management. The Tiwi region supports the second highest density of dugongs in the NT, as well as important populations of the six turtle species and inshore dolphin species. The presence of habitats important to these species has not been quantified and this smaller boat is necessary for seagrass surveys, scheduled to commence this year. Cultural mapping for coastal sites inaccessible by land or in large boats will also be undertaken in this vessel. | 1 year |

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| Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation | Guwarrtji miwiyal'puy djäma / Hawksbill Turtle Nesting Project in the Laynhapuy Indigenous Protected Area | Previous surveys of turtle nesting identified the mainland coast and islands between Cape Arnhem and Cape Shield on Blue Mud Bay as important national and international nesting areas (Chatto and Baker, 2008). Since then, no further investigations have been conducted within the Laynhapuy IPA, despite turtles (Miyapinu) being culturally significant to Yolŋu and all miyapinu being listed as threatened. This is because Yolŋu need partnerships to build their monitoring capacity and outcomes. This project will focus on nesting density and movement of hawksbill turtles off Garrthalala via beach surveys and satellite tags. This work will support the Yirralka Rangers, Yolŋu owners, and caretakers to develop effective plans to contribute to miyapinu conservation and build local capacity within the IPA. | 2 years |
| Anindilyakwa Land Council | Makarda III | To effectively manage such a large expanse of sea country across the Groote Archipelago, the Anindilyakwa Rangers must maintain a reliable and fit-for-purpose fleet of vessels. After 15 years of service Makarda II, one of the predominantly used utility vessels, is reaching its end of life with extensive corrosion occurring in the hull. Through this grant Anindilyakwa Rangers will now urgently source and build a new fit-for-purpose vessel to enable the delivery of all sea country activities outlined in the Anindilyakwa IPA Plan of Management. | 1 year |
| Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation | Larrakia Biodiversity Project | The Larrakia Biodiversity project contributes to better manage and understand the behaviours, movements, numbers and locations of threatened birds, marine turtles, and marine megafauna. This grant will increase the capacity of Aboriginal rangers to better undertake land and sea management, and deliver on conservation outcomes. This project will also allow for improved data collection and management practices, continuing long-term data sets to better understand the health and populations of species, informing the Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card and enabling Larrakia to better manage conservation outcomes on Larrakia Country. | 5 years |