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ANNUAL REPORT / JUL 2021

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MIMAL LAND MANAGEMENT

# OUR VISION

# NINAL AND NANAGE-NENT

IS FOCUSED ON BRINGING BENEFITS TO COUNTRY AND CULTURE FOR DALABON, REMBARRNGA AND MAYILI LAND OWNERS AND PEOPLE IN SOUTH CENTRAL ARNHEM LAND.



ANNUAL REPORT / 2021

# **OUR STORY**

**"SINCE I CAME ON** THE BOARD I HAVE SEEN BIG CHANGES, **FROM WHEN WE STARTED MAKING** THE PLAN AND **CHANGING OVER FROM NLC TO WHERE** WE ARE NOW. IT'S A **GREAT PRIVILEGE TO SEE HOW MIMAL** HAS GROWN AND THE **CHANGES WE** HAVE MADE." **ANNETTE MURRAY** - DEPUTY CHAIR

It's an extensive area that the Mimal Rangers look after and care for. It covers extensive tracts of the traditional lands of Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali peoples, totaling approximately 1.8million hectares in central Arnhem Land.

As Aboriginal landowners, we inherit cultural rights and responsibilities to country that forms part of our deep ancestral connection to place. Drawing on over 50,000 years of knowledge and practice in monitoring and managing the landscape, Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali peoples are experts in looking after our country.

While our knowledge and practice goes back deep into the past, we have new environmental threats to manage, which require new technologies and methods. The Mimal ranger program enables us to draw on our inherited knowledge, while also learning new approaches to keeping country healthy

Our ranger base is located in the small community of Weemol, which is about

300kms north east of Katherine and is the hub for all our operations. It also acts as a hub for the wider community.

Many different plants and animals and a number of distinct ecological areas including ruwurrno and rorroba (grassy plains) to badno and ngalwad (rock country), berrhno and mininyburr (woodland and forest) and djula and wah (freshwater country) call our country home. Throughout these areas there are a number of special places including rock art sites and sacred sites that hold special significance to our people.

The seed for a Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali land management program was sown in the late 1990's through a series of participatory planning workshops held in Bulman and Weemol. In 2001, the first formation of the Mimal Ranger program emerged which was supported through the Community Development Employment program (CDEP) run by the long dismantled Weemol Community Council.

As the federal government realised the important role Indigenous Ranger programs play in supporting Australia's biodiversity values, more funding was provided in the form of Working on Country (WoC) ranger employment

contracts and the ranger program was separated from the CDEP.

When community councils were dismantled across the NT, the Northern Land Council (NLC) then took on the role of hosting the Mimal rangers and did so for more than 15 years. However, our community and elders had a vision for how we wanted our range program to grow. We decided becoming our own corporation, with local governance dedicated to supporting land management and cultural activities, was the best way of fulfilling that vision. And so, Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation (MLMAC) was incorporated in 2015 and in October 2017 the NLC divested the 20 year old ranger program with all Mimal ranger associated contracts, leases and infrastructure to MLMAC.

Over the last three years, we have significantly grown the ranger team and delivered more employment and training for staff. We've enhanced community and landowner engagement and participation, while strengthening our governance structure and processes. New partnerships have been developed, we've increased revenue, upgraded our assets and improved and expanded the projects we run, which

support healthy country and strong community. The Mimal ranger program is now in the hands of landowners and we are well on our way to achieving the aspirations that were first envisaged by our elders, some of whom have since passed. We believe they would be proud of the progress we have made.



## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

At Mimal Land Management, we are proud to employ a lot of people in the community. Other local employers keep telling me that we are taking all their staff, but that's not the case. People are choosing to come and work for us. They want to work for our Aboriginal organisation and they want to be part of our ranger program working to look after country.

It is not so much the money that drives people to join Mimal, it is that people want to be a ranger. They want to get out on country, learn new skills and be able to talk with family about their experiences out bush. People are proud to be a ranger and that makes me proud of our program.

We had some setbacks with the pandemic, but we keep making Mimal stronger and we had some exciting new developments in 2021. I'm especially happy about the progress we have made with the Learning on Country (LoC) program as it continues to grow and deliver more activities for our kids. Having a full time LoC Coordinator has been so important in ensuring our rangers can run regular and well planned programs with our kids. I hear my grandkids talk about it when they get home from school and they get excited, it's fantastic. LoC along with the culture camps that Mimal facilitates help teach kids about the importance of looking after country. It teaches them about weeds, feral animals and looking after native plants and animals. It has also been really important in helping kids identify themselves in skin and language groups and see how they connect to each other. It even helps adults know how we are connected through ceremony.

The culture camps are a big thing, getting kids and people out on country to different areas. Kids learn from elders and listen to stories about how it was and how different places came to be - our creation stories. I'd like to see Mimal keep doing what they are doing and supporting our rangers to step up and take on new responsibilities. I want to see senior rangers talk up and also mentor younger rangers.

It is important for young people to learn from us Elders, but young people can also teach us a thing or two about technology and can easily learn new skills. In partnering with non-Indigenous people and organisations we can get help to bring in some of these new technologies and methods that support the important work our rangers do in keeping country healthy.



## **OUR BOARD**

Koiyek Class	Buldjdjan Class	Karri Class
Annette Murray	John Dalywater	Delma McCartney
Jill Curtis	Lydia Lawrence	Abraham Wesan
Kenneth Murray	Wondrick Redford	Joseph Brown

Mimal elects new board members every two years via mobile polling. An independent overseer visits each community where members reside to collect votes, which are then counted at the following AGM.

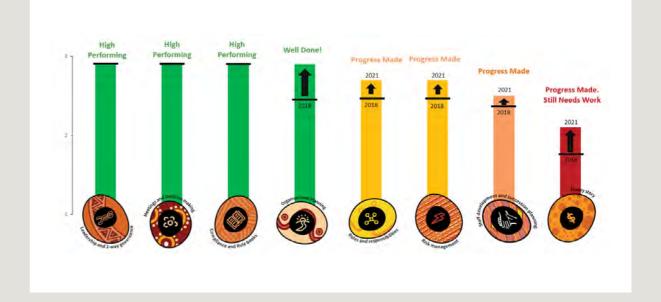
We have nine directors on our board with three directors from each of the three 'classes'. These three 'classes' represent clan groups from three different regions within our management area - Bininj Koiyek (clans from the East), Bininj Buldjdan (clans from the middle) and Bininj Karri (clans from the West).

Anyone who has a connection to one or more of the approved clans and estates can become a member. Connection is recognised as those with patrilineal

descent (through fathers country) as well as affiliations through mothers, mother's mothers, mother's mother's mothers and father's mothers country. The board of directors may also choose to accept other kinds of affiliation.

We held a ballot over several months at the end of 2021. There were four candidates for the Bininj Karri class, seven for the Bininj Buldjdan class and six for the Bininj Koiyek class. Our AGM was delayed until January 2022 and so the ballot box was not opened until that time. The board for 2021 remained the same throughout 2021, with the new members elect commencing in January 2022. These members will serve for a two year term through until the end of 2023.

# GOVERNANCE



Mimal is committed to transparency, accountability and the ongoing strengthening of our organisation. Our second governance review was concluded in 2021 with Aboriginal Governance and Management program (AGMP) engaged for the task. Overall the results were positive. In four of the eight healthy governance categories, AGMP assessed we received a 'great' or 'well done' result, with three categories demonstrating 'progress made', and one category indicating more work is needed. The review conducted by AGMP shows that over a few short years

we have made significant progress in strengthening our organisation and governance. It also highlights some areas that we can continue to improve on and we will seek to implement the recommendations AGMP outlined.

**Overall, MLMAC have made** a remarkable achievement towards strengthening the governance areas identified by AGMP in the 2018 **Governance Health Check.** - Aboriginal Governance and Management Program, **Governance Health** Check Report 2022

#### **CEO'S REPORT**



2021 has been another exciting year for Mimal with lots of activity and positive outcomes for country and people. Despite the best efforts of the pandemic to disrupt things, Mimal staff and community kept on adapting to the challenges and importantly everyone stayed safe.

Our Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) consultations were in full swing this year and the Strong Women's Healthy Country Network has fired back up with incredible energy and a huge turn out at the second forum.

This has contributed to a stronger women rangers program and a noticeable increase in participation of women at all levels of the organisation. After a false start due to covid Mimal's first season managing mustering was a very successful first outing with over 4000 head mustered and no incidences for the whole season. Mustering has a long history in the management area and currently is the more effect tool to deal with feral buffalo numbers. Unfortunately it does not do much to deal with the horses, pigs and donkey's which is part of the reason we have a number of feral exclusion fences in the management area.

Exclusion fences are a sort to medium term protection for sites of social and cultural significance and they also provide useful data for monitoring and evaluation of management actions. However the overall challenge of the equivalent of some 50,000 head of cattle grazing still remains one of our top threats and one we are working hard with partners organisations to solve.

Mimal continues to build fruitful partnerships with research and project based organisations and deepen the relationship with the organisations that have been with us on the journey of the last six year since incorporation. Of particular success has been the support of philanthropic organisations, Bush heritage have been a solid partner form the start, supporting our ten year Healthy Country plan and the healthy waters project. This year they also supported a project to develop a number of fire training videos which will be useful for all Arnhem land groups and beyond.

Karrkad Kanjdji Trust has also been building into an important source of support to deliver on top priority projects. Our partnership has solidified the delivery of our Learning on Country program which is key to the future of land management and our Women ranger program which has been a priority of the board from the beginning. Protection and maintenance of culture, language and special places is often difficult to fund through other funding sources and yet it underpins the success of our land management. Karrkad Kanjdji Trust continues to be a vital income stream to achieve our targets.

Heading into 2022 we expect the existing programs to build on their successes, we aim to complete our IPA consultations, start on our new base redevelopment and there are some exciting projects in filming, feral animals and training in the pipeline!

While we reflect on a huge year with many wins we also felt the impacts, not just of the global and national challenges but locally we lost a number of people, many too soon in their lives. The combined impacts of poverty, poor health, education and support services are an ongoing issue that often flows into our space and are not to be ignored.

Mimal as the largest employer in the area by a long way, Mimal is central to so many peoples lives and a valuable resource for the area. We deliver exceptional land management with an amazing team of Rangers, community members and support staff who all go above and beyond. Mimal is a real counter to the challenges that people live with every day and it has been another amazing year with so much more to come.

# STRATEGIC PLANNIG



# **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

#### INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA AND HEALTHY COUNTRY PLAN

At the end of 2019, Mimal were successful in securing three years of funding to consult with traditional owners and custodians regarding support for an IPA. Mimal have sought to make the consultation process very comprehensive.

After a year of delays and setbacks to the IPA consultation process due the pandemic, in 2021 we were able make up lost time and conduct extensive community consults. Consultants working on the project visited 37 locations and managed to consult with 862 people. Consultations revealed overwhelming support for the establishment of an IPA.

In August, 2021, some 40 senior people representing adjoining Arafura Sea Ranger Aboriginal Corporation (ASRAC), South East Arnhem Land (SEAL) and Mimal areas met at the Goyder River crossing to make decisions and resolve issues and concerns about boundaries and Shared Management Areas.

The meeting resulted in clear instructions and the final boundaries were determined. This was also an important opportunity for many senior people to gather, many of whom had not seen each other for years.

Mimal has now negotiated Shared Management Agreements with all neighbouring IPAs and with Mainoru Station. Progress was made on the IPA Plan of Management (PoM). This document is drafted to reflect the values and priorities of landowners and custodians in terms of how the IPA should be managed.

The IPA PoM will build on the HCP and include some extra details as required by the terms of an IPA agreement. The IPA PoM also provides an opportunity to revisit the values and priorities captured in the HCP.

Mid-year meetings were held in Weemol, Beswick and Barunga to workshop the PoM with landowners and custodians. All of the key assets listed in the HCP remain a priority and additional focus will be given to the issue of livelihoods and supporting job opportunities for families and young people.

The IPA PoM builds on the strong foundational work of the HCP and in time the IPA PoM will become the key document in guiding Mimal management of the IPA. Application of the Monitoring Evaluation Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Framework is ongoing, as we are dedicated to ensuring continued improvement of our work plans and reporting.



# NONEN RANGERS

MIMAL **WOMEN RANGERS CONTINUE TO GO FROM STRENGTH** TO STRENGTH, TAKING THE LEAD IN A NUMBER OF KEY AREAS. IN PARTICULAR, WOMEN HAVE PLAYED A LEADING **ROLE IN THE LEARNING ON** COUNTRY (LOC) **PROGRAM** DEVELOPING **RESOURCES**, ENGAGING **ELDERS AND** LEADING ACTIVITIES WITH KIDS.



## **WOMEN RANGERS**

After a difficult year in 2020 adapting to frequent cancellations and shifting plans, the second Strong Women for Healthy Country forum was held in 2021 in Katherine and provided a welcome opportunity for Mimal women rangers to meet face to face, share experiences and build strength together. This time there were over 280 participants from all over Australia.

"The most important message for us...was to share how Indigenous women can implement governance in a traditional context. That was our vision and I'm pretty sure they felt empowered. Everybody collectively felt empowered to be able to see us Indigenous people doing something for ourselves" – Chantal Miller

Mimal again played a lead role in organising the 2021 Strong Women for Healthy Country to ensure momentum gained from the successful 2019 forum was not lost. For this reason too, Mimal have been dedicated to securing funding for a Strong Women for Healthy Country Network Coordinator, which we achieved in 2021. This role works with women rangers across many groups and Mimal are pleased to host the position, which was filled at the end of 2021.

Increasingly, Mimal women rangers are playing a more active role in fire management work, which is often a male dominated field. During the pre-burning season, women rangers travelled to neighbouring communities and led fire-planning meetings with female traditional owners that live further afield to ensure they were consulted.

Mimal women rangers coordinated the third and largest women's fire camp held at Niminirrilli, which saw five neighbouring ranger groups come together along with NT Parks and Wildlife. This camp provided a safe space for women to learn and practice fire management skills and to share knowledge around burning practice, equipment maintenance, fire fighting methods, and how fire fits into seasonal calendars, bush food production and harvesting.

This was also the first year that women were involved in helicopter access fire suppression work. Due to the limited firefighting tools that can be carried into these remote areas, this is highly skilled and risky work that contributes to our carbon abatement project.

Some other exciting projects Women Rangers have been working on include our Talking on Country project which supported getting Dalabon speakers out on country during the wet season and accessing hard to access places by helicopter. Here Elders shared stories about country in language and women rangers documented them to enter into the Cultural Heritage Information Management Mapping System (CHIMS).

Women also progressed work on the seasonal calendar project in partnership with Bush Heritage. A further highlight was a Women's Healing workshop at Nguriki hosted by Warddekan rangers. This was a rare opportunity for Dalabon women to come together and share knowledge.

In 2021, the Mimal women ranger program achieved great outcomes for country and community and Mimal is dedicated to ensuring that the women ranger team are given the support they need to continue their outstanding work.



#### **FIRE MANAGEMENT**

Mimal rangers are repairing country by revitalising the traditional burning regime of our ancestors, a land management practice they applied as they travelled through country. Our traditional burning regime has the additional benefit of generating income for our ranger program as it is a recognised carbon abatement methodology.

Under this methodology our early burning season goes until 31st of July. Any fires after this time are considered late season fires and we put all our efforts into fire suppression. These late fires burn hotter and are also extremely damaging to country.

Over the 2020/21 rainy season, we had a big wet. This meant higher fuel loads and the country took longer to 'dry out'. The rangers worked hard to get as many firebreaks in place within the short window where the ground was dry enough, but before July 31st were cut off.

We had more late season fires than usual with rangers responding to 20 or so fires, mainly caused by lightning strikes. For the most part, the winds were light and forgiving and all fires were suppressed within a few days at most. A number of late fires burnt simultaneously, stretching our firefighting teams. Fire suppression is hot and exhausting work, but the more experienced rangers stepped up to the task, often leaving at daybreak to extinguish fires before they got out of hand.

Overall the 2021 fire season was a successful year for country, community and climate – being one of our more successful years in terms of carbon credits generated.

We were also pleased to participate in the Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (ALFA) pre-season planning meeting hosted by Bawinanga Rangers. Over 100 rangers gathered from across Arnhem Land to plan the 2021 burning season. This was a welcome opportunity to meet faceto-face after a year of Covid restrictions prohibiting large gatherings.

We also carried out traditional owner consultations in Weemol, Bulman, Beswick, Barunga and Katherine, with women rangers leading consults with women custodians – many of whom had not previously been consulted in relation to burning. It is great to see women becoming more involved in all aspects of fire management from custodian consultations, fire planning, using GIS mapping tools, burning and fire suppression work.



#### **HEALTHY WATERS**

Djula and Wah country represent more than water and biodiversity hotspots. They are places of spiritual significance created by ancestral beings.

The Healthy Waters Project remains a centrepiece for Mimal rangers and for traditional owners, protecting these special places remains a top priority.

"...this here used to be green water nice and clean, healthy water and then slowly over the years I don't know... last time I came here I was very sad to see this place really dry. No water... and my brother and I sat down and cried because we never saw it like that before... It broke our hearts to see the changes of how the waterways were lost'.

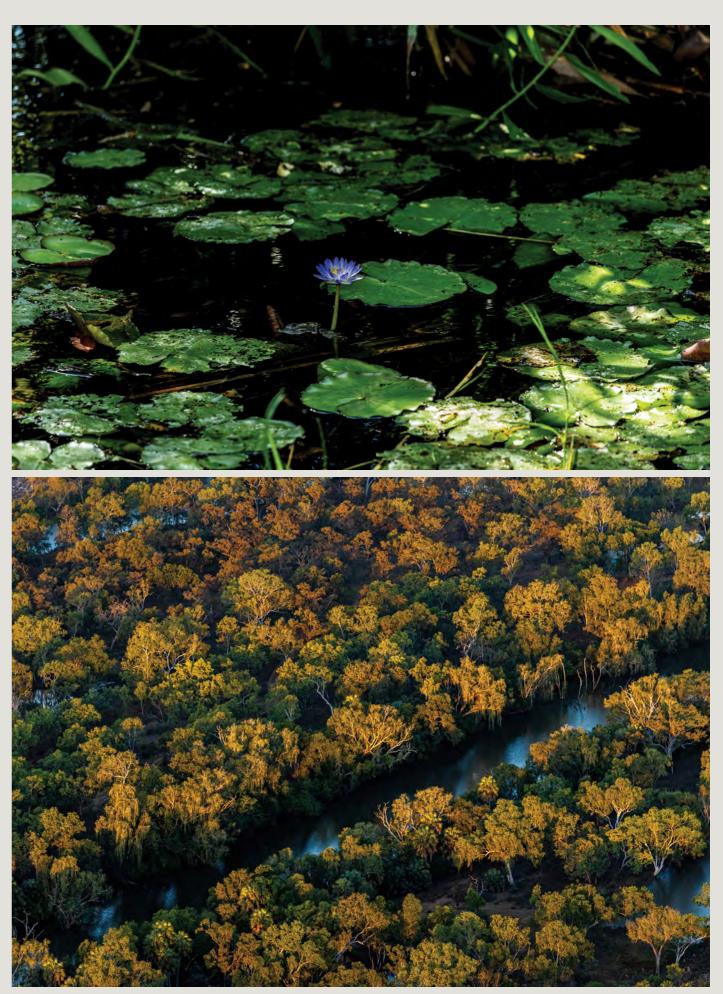
– Annette Miller

There are a number of threats placing Djula and Wah country at risk, one of the key threats are large feral herbivores. With climate change posing another risk as rainfall patterns change. Bush Heritage has been a key partner in supporting our Healthy Country project, which incorporates a wide range of activities in response to a number of Healthy Country Plan goals, including:

- Supporting the Learning on Country program,
- Establishing a nursery,
- Supporting the Women's ranger program,
- Biodiversity protection,
- Feral animal management through feral herbivore exclusion fencing.

After completing fencing projects at Weemol Spring and Mt Catt Spring, Mimal rangers began construction of a third feral animal exclusion fence at Midnight Spring. Prior to fencing, Bush Heritage ecologists assisted our team in conducting baseline surveys of the area to enable a comparison over time and to measure the benefits of the fencing project.

It's too early to draw any conclusions on the benefits of the fencing project, but after the great success of similar projects at Weemol and Mt Catt we are hopeful the Midnight Spring fencing project will also restore the spring to good health.



# **THREATS**

#### FERAL **ANIMALS**

Feral animals, especially large herbivores, cause significant damage to native species and habitats and pose a risk to many of the assets that are important to landowners and custodians. Among the most numerous and, possibly, the biggest threat, is the buffalo.

Feral animal management is a huge and complex problem. Adding to the challenge, is that Buffalo has become a valued source of hunted meat for our community and delivers significant savings compared to meat purchased from the local shop. There is also an economic return per head harvested during mustering which flows to landowners.

A key part of the challenge is to manage the population to a level that minimises damage to culturally important assets and to biodiversity, while sustaining a population to ensure mustering operations remain viable and there are enough animals for hunting.

After taking over the buffalo mustering agreements for our management area and securing funding for a Feral Animal Management Coordinator

role, we have been able to make meaningful progress on managing buffalo. In 2021, Mimal had our first very successful buffalo muster of 4000 head. This makes Mimal one of the largest buffalo producers in Australia.

Our new Feral Animal Management Coordinator also started in 2021. They are responsible for overseeing the mustering subcontractors, working with landowners and custodians through our Feral Animal Sub-Committee and working with rangers in protecting cultural and biodiversity assets.

Two productive feral animal subcommittee meetings were held in 2021, bringing together both local and more remote members. An areawide strategy for managing feral animals was developed and will focus our ongoing activities. It was agreed that harm minimisation strategies, such as fencing, targeted removal of animals from special places and mustering, is the preferred approach.

Investigations are also underway exploring how we might add value to the per-head of cattle returns by calculating emission reductions through mustering and the potential for generating carbon credits.

#### WEEDS

Weeds can devastate country. They can change fire regimes, choke waterways, affect the health of native fauna, out compete native plants and make it difficult to access country.

Mimal is lucky in that we do not have a large infestation of Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) in comparison to some other land management areas in the NT. However, we remain vigilant to ensure damaging weeds do not establish here.

This requires regular monitoring of target areas where weeds are most likely to appear including cattle yards and roadsides. We also seek to educate our community to multiply the number of eyes on the lookout for weeds, and most people know to report to the rangers any sightings of unusual plants.

Management of weeds is hard, dangerous and resource intensive work that requires sustained effort and strategic planning to ensure the best outcomes. Wet season is often the best time to treat weeds, as they are in a growth phase and likely to have better uptake of herbicides. It can also provide an opportunity to break the seed cycle.

As part of our Weemol Spring Rehabilitation Plan we have been focusing efforts on treating gmelina and hyptis within the Weemol Spring fenced area. With sustained effort, we have eradicated these weeds from the area and now continue to do annual follow-up spraying to treat new seedlings as they appear.

Rangers have also been using a cyber tracker to map infestations of weeds to inform our management strategy. A number of new rangers have also been trained in chemical handling and we have developed easy to follow herbicide mixing charts to guide rangers when mixing different quantities. As well as developing safety guideline posters to complement lessons learnt in training.

# LIVING CULTURE



# **LIVING CULTURE**

#### SEASONAL CALENDAR

Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali people have intimate ecological knowledge and use this knowledge to interpret changes in weather and seasonal transitions. These ecological indicators also signify the right time to harvest or hunt certain bush foods.

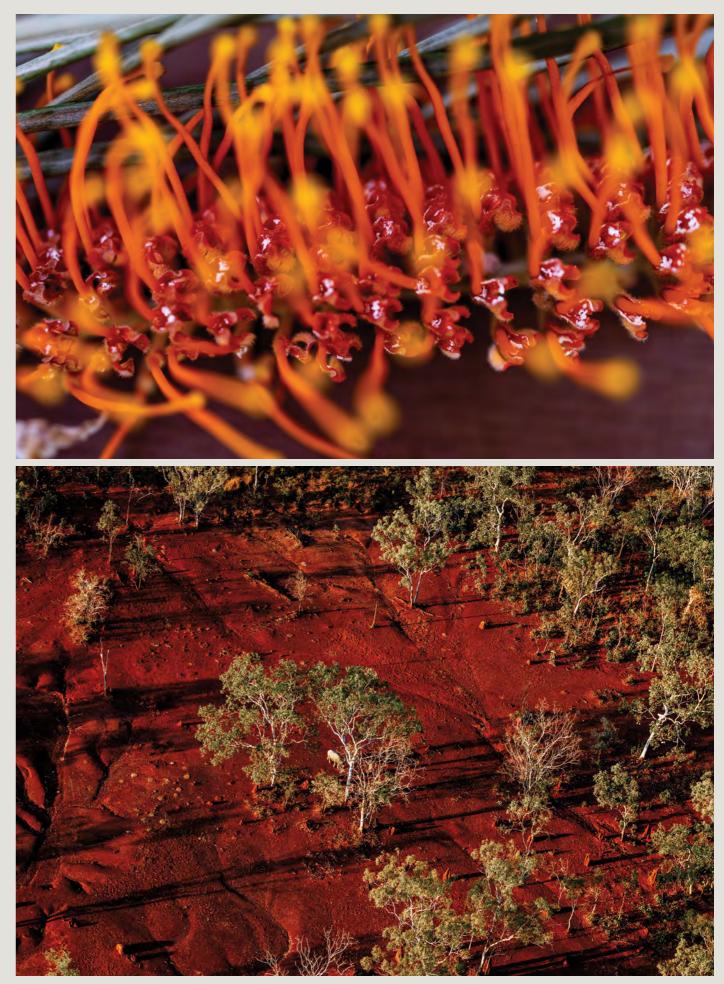
The Mimal women rangers, in partnership with Bush Heritage, initiated a seasonal calendar project. This involved holding a series of workshops with Dalbon and Rembarrnga speakers throughout 2020 and 2021. The Dalbon and Rembarrnga calendars were completed in 2021 and are ready to be used by the community as an educational resource and the rangers as a work planning tool.

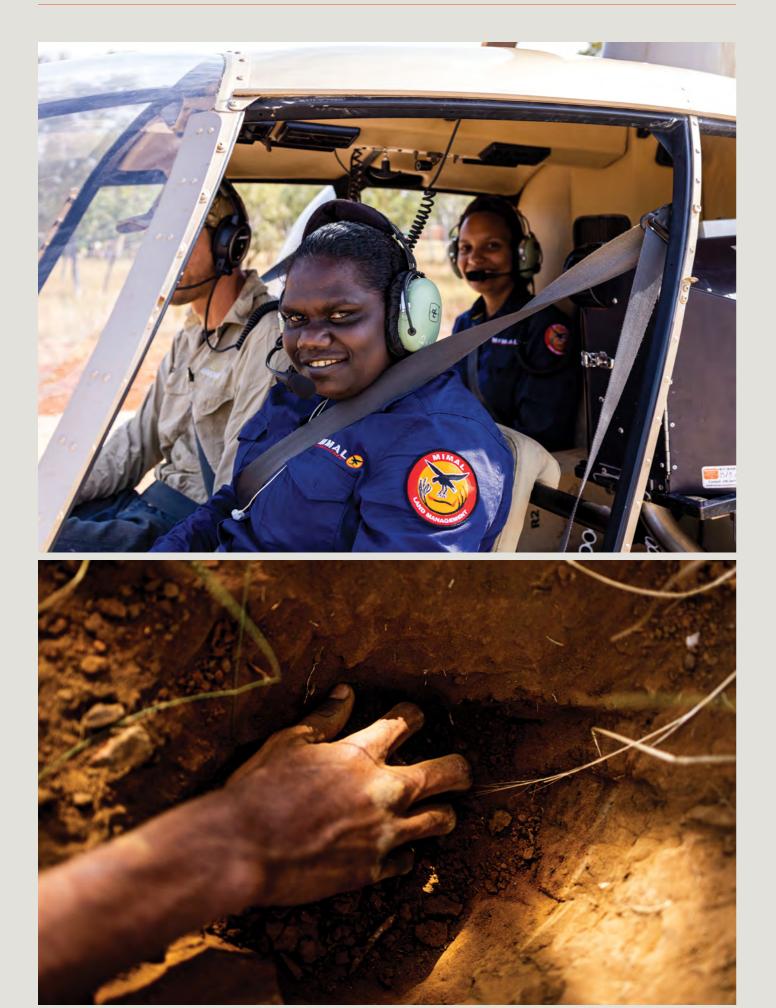
"The flowers of the wooly bark tree come into play around about Marlawurru season and it tells us the season to go and collect and harvest freshwater mussel and it tells us when a goanna or something like that is fat"

– Chantal Miller

A highlight of the project was to bring together Dalabon and Rembaranga speakers to share language, knowledge, stories and songs. This project has created enthusiasm and drive to do more language projects.

"...through this seasonal calendar they are now talking, there's a lot of talk in the community. They're saying we want to learn (language) too so we're trying to teach people young and old." – Annette Miller





# **LIVING CULTURE**

#### ROCK **ART**

Looking after 'our special places' is a key asset in our Healthy Country Plan and remains a strong priority for custodians.

Up until the late 1960s, Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali peoples were still travelling through these difficult to access parts of country and protecting certain special places.

Now, after decades of absence from managing this landscape, some of our important and ancient rock art sites have been damaged beyond repair by fire, feral animals and other natural processes. This highlights to us how critically important rock art conservation is.

This was the final year of our three year funding granted through the Northern Territory Government's

Aboriginal Ranger Grants program, which enabled Mimal to map and record rock art sites in remote areas that required a helicopter for access.

Our final rock art survey focused on an area called Bokarrak and an area upstream from Barnkey, 12 new sites were recorded at each of these areas. Over the three years 46 rock art sites were mapped and recorded as part of this project.

Mimal is committed to recording and conserving rock art sites as well supporting the maintenance of cultural connects and intergenerational transfer of knowledge. There is still much more work to be done in this capacity however, and given accessing these areas is costly, more funding is needed to continue this critically important work.

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THE LEARNING ON COUNTRY PROGRAM ENJOYS STRONG COMMUNITY AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT BECAUSE IT BRINGS TOGETHER TWO KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS THAT LINK CULTURE AND SCHOOL CURRICULUM.



#### **LEARNING ON COUNTRY**

Our Learning on Country (LoC) program has been action packed this year, as we demonstrate to students a 'two toolbox approach' to learning that incorporates both Western and Indigenous knowledge systems. This program provides culturally appropriate education and training that helps inspire and guide remote students into employment pathways.

Some of the highlights for 2021 included a three day LoC camp at Australian Wildlife Conservancy's Wongalara reserve, a neighbouring area to the South on the Wilton River, where students learnt scientific monitoring techniques and also learnt stories of the area from elders and traditional owners. This was an ambitious endeavour with 14 students participating, 10 elders and community members and 9 rangers all travelling in an eight-vehicle convoy. However, ultimately it was a great success. Another highlight was a three-week project with male students where they learned from elders how to identify the right trees for making didgeridoos (Morlu in Dalabon), and how to cut, shape and sand them. The older boys were also shown how to make clap sticks, as well as learning to play didgeridoo and how to dance. For our elders it is important that this knowledge is passed on and not lost.

Students also participated in important biodiversity projects including the Midnight Spring biodiversity surveys, and worked with the rangers to install Savanna Glider boxes. They also received training and guidance in identifying weeds and native flora species in addition to participating in the Weemol Spring Rehabilitation Project.



# **FINANCE REPORT**

#### STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2021

1	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and other income	3	3,988,625	2,452,590
Employee expenses		(1,495,540)	(1,305,319)
Other expenses		(402,519)	(380,586)
Consulting and professional fees		(396,077)	(420,773)
Repairs and maintenance		(279,406)	(474,703)
Consumables		(210,408)	(130,917)
Depreciation expense		(190,598)	(233,830)
Rotary hire		(155,360)	(267,313)
Insurance		(108,001)	(76,860)
Donations		(60,000)	-
Accounting and audit fees		(49,670)	(39,500)
Profit/(Loss) before income	tax	641,046	(877,211)
Income tax expense	1(b)	-	-
Profit for the year		641,046	(877,211)

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2021

ASSETS	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,107,481	1,385,653
Trade and other receivables	5	1,653,223	257,937
Total Current Assets		2,760,704	1,643,590
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	678,653	797,042
Total Non-Current Assets		678,653	797,042
Total Assets		3,439,357	2,440,632
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7	316,869	161,341
Tax liabilities		186,974	7,196
Employee benefits	8	76,065	53,692
Total Current Liabilities		579,908	222,229
Total Liabilities		579,908	222,229
Net Assets		2,859,449	2,218,403
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		2,859,449	2,218,403
Total Equity		2,859,449	2,218,403

#### Independent Audit Report to the members of Mimal Land Management Limited Aboriginal Corporation

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation (the "Corporation"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income, statement of changes In equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

#### **Summary Financial Statements**

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Mimal Land Management Limited Aboriginal Corporation and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

#### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report There On

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated the 30th November 2021.

#### Responsibilities of Directors for the Summary Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in Note I.

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements* to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Perks Andit

PERKS AUDIT PTY LTD 84 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800

PETER J HILL Director

Dated this 30th day of November 2021



# **INPORTANT MENTIONS**

# **THANK YOU**

Mimal would like to thank all the partners, funders and friends of Mimal with whom all the great work we do would not be possible;

Australian Federal Government	CSIRO	
• NIAA	NAILSMA	
• DAF	Indigenous Land and	
• Dept Environment	Sea Corporation	
Northern Territory Government	APONT	
Flora and Fauna	WWF	
• Tourism	Warddeken Land Management	
Education	Arafura Swamp Rangers	
• Weeds	Djelk IPA - Bawinanga	
Territory Natural Resource	Jawyon	
management (TNRM)	Adjumarllal	
NT Buffalo industry council	Dhimurru	
Roper Gulf Shire	Thamarrurr	
AAPA	Flinders University	
ALFA NT	Charles Darwin University	
Karrkad Kanjdji Trust	St Johns	
Bush Heritage	Train Safe	
TNC	Mainoru Station	
AWC – Wongalara	Northern Land Council (NLC)	
PEW		
Pollinate		
ELP		

# **IMPORTANT MENTIONS**

At the end of 2021, Peter Cooke retired from his multiple roles with Mimal. His formal engagement began in 2014, with consultations to incorporate Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation as an independent corporation. As interim CEO, Peter assisted the board to achieve final and full independence from NLC governance in 2018, until the appointment of Dom Nicholls. After Dom's employment, Peter became the Mimal board's Governance Support Officer, assisting and advising the Mimal Board and attending to ORIC compliance matters, maintaining minutes, conducting membership recruitment and managing elections. His history with Bulman people began in 1972 as he drove from Darwin up the old Maningrida road to start work there. Driving his 2WD Peugeot 404 ute through Bulman late in the day he met Nellie and Tex Camfoo who generously invited this mununga stranger home for a feed and some advice on navigating the bush tracks to Maningrida. Peter's connections and friendships with Dalabon, Rembarrnga and Mayali people grew from a variety of jobs at Maningrida in the 1970s and later, through work to establish the West Arnhem Land Carbon projects, ethnographic mapping of Central and Western Arnhem Land for the Northern Land Council and subsequently as

Executive Officer for Caring for Country and the first CEO for Warddeken Land Management. Peter's experience in supporting Aboriginal landowners and custodians in establishing their own corporations and running their own affairs has been invaluable in creating a democratic, transparent and sustainable corporation. He was also a key part of strengthening organisational processes and empowering directors to excel in their role as representatives of Mimal members.

Looking back Peter said: "It is a great source of personal pleasure to see how strongly MLMAC has grasped opportunities only possible since independence. MLMAC's achievements have surged forward under local control. Visions that people articulated clearly to Terry Mahney back in the 1990s have now been achieved or surpassed. Another great privilege has been working with landowners and rangers to begin recording and conserving the rich cultural narrative found in the rock art of the Mimal area."

