



MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 December 2022

Kija Rangers Secure \$1.3 Million of Funding from WA Government

The Kimberley Land Council is pleased to announce that the Kija Rangers have received \$1.3 million worth of funding over the next three years.

The Kija Rangers have done an exceptional job caring for country, and this funding, delivered via the WA Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program, will provide much needed support for and recognition of the value of their work.

KLC CEO Tyrone Garstone said the funding will mean security and expansion for the Kija Women's Ranger program.

"The women's ranger program in the Kimberley has grown significantly, with women rangers bringing invaluable skills and knowledge to land and sea management," Mr. Garstone said.

"Through development and training opportunities in the ranger program, we are seeing women take on highly skilled roles in land and sea management like skippering boats, operating incendiary machines for aerial burning activities and take part in fire management planning."

"With continued funding, we are seeing the significant and positive impact of on-country employment and leadership opportunities for women in some of Australia's most remote communities."

Last week, at the KLC's Kimberley Ranger Awards, members from the Kija Ranger team were nominated in every category for leadership and achievement. Over the last few months, the team has worked tirelessly alongside DFES to keep community and country safe from late season wildfires.

The KLC would also like to congratulate the east Kimberley's Balanggarra Rangers, who have secured \$940,000, in funding, as well as all other recipients of Round 5 Aboriginal Ranger Program funding around the State.

The KLC will continue to advocate for long-term and sustainable funding for Kimberley rangers.

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