

# PROTOCOLS FOR ACCESS TO – AND WORK ON -

# MATUWA KURRARA KURRARA AND LAKE CARNEGIE

# CONTEXT

Dedicated in 2015, the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and Lake Carnegie are on Martu Country, and part of exclusive possession Native Title land.

Aboriginal Connection to Country is important: What you do to Country, Country does to you.

Martu people are the traditional owners and custodians of Matuwa and Kurrara Kurrara and and Lake Carnegie. Martu sacred water sites — the junu (waterhole), karo (creeks), pilkililli (claypans) are precious. Jukurrpa (Dreaming) sites and Jukurrpa tjina (Dreaming tracks) connect Matuwa and Kurrara Kurrara and Lake Carnegie to the desert Country across Western Australia, the Northern Territory and South Australia and to many other desert IPAs.

The Martu people of the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara IPA and Lake Carnegie take great pride in their traditional rights to the Country. Their decision to make Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara an IPA is a statement of their commitment to its long-term care and conservation both for their children and for other Australians to learn and appreciate this remarkable Country.

There are both Men's and Women's areas on Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara, so this means visitors should know where to travel once access permission to the property is granted.

Lake Carnegie is also an important Martu cultural site, and has important Jukurrpa (Dreaming) sites. It is a gender-specific area (primarily a men's only area) and visitors are asked to acknowledge and respect this cultural requirement.

Working together with local community, visitors, media, and scientists is an important part of developing the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara IPA and Lake Carnegie into a world-class two-way learning area where both Martu and other people can benefit from the knowledge from each other.

The Traditional Owners of the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara IPA and Lake Carnegie welcome people to their Country but also want people to respect their land.

# SCOPE

This document outlines a protocol for people who wish to seek permissions from the Native Title holders for visiting Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara and Lake Carnegie.

The intent is to standardise the process for how TMPAC becomes aware of, and manages, requests for visitation to their Country to ensure important cultural sites and other significant areas are protected respectfully, while allowing people the privileges of experiencing the area.

This document applies to the general public, scientists, media and press members, indigenous peoples from other Country.

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

People who fit the following categories do not require an approvals permit:

- Essential services providers (police, FESA, army corp, Shire).
- DBCA staff with an <u>existing</u> requirement to work at Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara and Lake Carnegie, or with <u>approved</u> permits to take fauna from the Matuwa compound for approved translocation purposes.
- Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara caretakers.
- Pastoralists with a lease in the area.

# RESEARCH EXPECTATIONS (ALIGNED TO THE TWO-WAY SCIENCE PLAN)

- Martu and researchers are working together respectfully on projects
- All research projects are communicated with the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara IPA Management Team before, during and after completion.
- Research outcomes are communicated to Martu, including school children.
- Martu input is recognised in research outputs wherever appropriate.
- Data share agreements are in place to protect Martu intellectual property.

# PROTOCOL FOR VISITORS

- Requests for visits and stays at Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara and Lake Carnegie must be made in writing to the TMPAC Environment and Operations Manager (environment@mytmpac.com.au) via a <u>Visitor Access Form</u>.
- 2. Requests of a cultural matter must be made in writing to cpa@passervice.com.au.

Note 1: Scientists who seek to commence a new research project in Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara and Lake Carnegie must follow [and submit as a separate document at the right time] the Research Project Approval Process as outlined in the Two way science Plan.

Note 2: Lake Carnegie is an important Martu cultural site, and has important Jukurrpa (Dreaming) sites. It is a gender-specific area (primarily a men's only area) and visitors are asked to acknowledge and respect this cultural requirement.

- 3. TMPAC will consider the request and consult with its members prior to a reply.
- 4. TMPAC will issue a written reply to visitors in a timely manner supporting or declining access to their land, including any special conditions.

# ACCESS APPROVAL

Short-term visitors who enter Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara or Lake Carnegie should carry evidence of TMPAC support at all times.

# **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

- Entry is not permitted without an approval in writing from a TMPAC representative.
- Some visitors may be requested to provide a Post-trip Report to TMPAC Environment Manager or TMPAC Heritage Advisor
- Visitors should present evidence of entry support upon request by Wiluna Martu Rangers and other TMPAC representatives.
- Wiluna Martu Rangers and other TMPAC representatives have the right to revoke visitors' approvals upon reasonable suspicion of a breach of their access conditions.
- TMPAC are not responsible for any personal injuries or loss of personal property while on the IPA.
- Visitors must obey all road and track signage as they relate to vehicle speed, and entry/no entry areas.
- Visitors must not interfere with Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.
- Visitors are responsible for the removal of their rubbish.
- Vehicles must remain on designated tracks only, unless special permission is granted for certain off-road driving.