

s22

**QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)**  
**ONLINE CAMPAIGN FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR RANGERS**  
**AND IPAS**

s47C

**BACKGROUND:**

*Country Needs People* is a campaign, <sup>s22</sup> to support land and sea management by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples. In February 2016, <sup>s22</sup> launched an online campaign and petition directed at the Minister Scullion and the Treasurer, through the *Country Needs People* website.

The online statement and petition call for the Australian Government to:

- double funding for the Indigenous Ranger and Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) funding by 2020;
- commit to longer term funding for Indigenous rangers and Indigenous protected Areas; and

CONTACT: Brant Smith <sup>s22</sup>

DIVISION: Indigenous Employment and

~~Recognition~~ Recognition DATE: ~~0213~~/054/2016

DEPARTMENTAL INPUT CLEARED BY: Gayle Anderson

s22

- support a national target of 5000 Indigenous land and sea management jobs by 2030.

The website is also encouraging people to take action by sending an automated email to Treasurer Scott Morrison, copied to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator Scullion. To date, over 1,100 campaign emails have been received.

A 30-second TV advert was launched by <sup>s22</sup> on 15 March 2016, with footage of the Prime Minister's closing the gap speech, and calling on the Prime Minister to 'invest in success' by investing in Indigenous Ranger programmes.

While the two Indigenous ranger programmes (IPAs and Working on Country) are currently funded until June 2018, <sup>s47C</sup>

s47C

#### Working on Country report

In November 2015, <sup>s22</sup> also released a new report, *Working for Our Country – A Review of the Economic and Social Benefits of Indigenous Land and Sea Management*, which highlights the social and economic benefits of Indigenous land and sea management. <sup>s47C</sup>

#### Indigenous ranger groups

Prior to the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) funding round a total of \$335 million over five years was committed to supporting Working on Country projects from 2013–18.

Through the IAS funding round, an additional \$17.4 million was invested in Indigenous land and sea management programmes through the Jobs, Land and the Economy programme and the Children and Schooling programme.

CONTACT: Brant Smith <sup>s22</sup>

DIVISION: Indigenous Employment and

~~Recognition~~ Recognition DATE: 0213/054/2016

DEPARTMENTAL INPUT CLEARED BY: Gayle Anderson

s22

There are currently 777 Indigenous full-time equivalent ranger positions were funded with 109 ranger teams. These positions employ around 2,026 Indigenous people through 452 full-time, 448 part-time and 1,126 casual jobs.

#### Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs)

Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) projects are administered by the Department, but are funded from the Natural Heritage Trust which is administered by the Minister for the Environment.

IPAs are voluntarily established by Indigenous proponents on Indigenous owned or jointly managed land or sea country and recognised by the Australian Government as part of the National Reserve System (NRS). IPAs currently cover over 64 million hectares, or more than 43 per cent, of the NRS.

IPA funding provides employment to around 645 Indigenous people through 22 full-time, 55 part-time and 568 casual positions. There are currently 72 declared IPAs and a further 18 IPA consultations underway.

#### Specialised Indigenous Ranger Programme (SIRP)

The SIRP provides \$2 million over three years (2014–15 to 2016–17) to improve marine conservation along the Far North Queensland coast and is part of the Government's Dugong and Turtle Protection Plan (DTPP) election commitment, which is the responsibility of the Department of the Environment.

The SIRP will strengthen the compliance powers of Indigenous rangers and support Indigenous communities to manage the sustainable traditional harvest of dugongs and turtles, through community led hunting permit plans.

To date, 21 Indigenous community rangers have commenced training in Certificate IV in Government (Statutory Compliance) and upon full completion of the training, the rangers will be able to apply for appointment as Marine Park Inspectors under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975. The SIRP provides direct employment opportunities for <sup>s47F</sup> in roles as Compliance Officers and community-based permitting officers

#### \$12.4 million package for biosecurity activities by Indigenous rangers

The Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper provides \$200 million over four years to improve biosecurity surveillance and analysis to better target critical biosecurity risks including in Northern Australia (including the \$12.4 Indigenous ranger initiative); \$50 million to boost emergency pest and disease eradication and national response capacity; and \$50 million to manage established pest animals (including wild dogs and feral cats).

s47C

---

CONTACT: Brant Smith s22

DIVISION: Indigenous Employment and

~~Recognition~~Recognition

DATE: ~~0213~~/054/2016

DEPARTMENTAL INPUT CLEARED BY: Gayle Anderson

s22

S22

s47C

## BACKGROUND:

The Australian Government has committed over \$350m over five years to support Indigenous ranger groups and a further \$75m over five years to support Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs).

Combined, this funding supports 777 FTE ranger positions, in 109 ranger groups, and 72 declared IPAs with a further 18 IPAs under consultation. Together, they employ over 2,600 Indigenous people in either full-time, part-time or casual jobs.

The focus of the Government's investment in Indigenous rangers and IPAs has been to create economic and employment opportunities, empower local communities, support indigenous culture and sustainably manage natural resources.

In mid-2015, the Department engaged <sup>s22</sup> to undertake social return on investment (SROI) analyses across 5 IPAs and associated ranger groups.

The purpose of the analyses was to better understand and assess the benefits from Government investment in Indigenous rangers and IPAs.

Overall, <sup>s22</sup> estimated that between 2009-2015 financial years an investment of \$35.2 million from Government (77 per cent) and other partners generated a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes valued at an estimated \$96.5 million.

Social return on investment ratios (representing the investment compared to the value created from this investment) ranged from 3.4:1 (Warddeken IPA/WoC in the Northern Territory) to 1.5:1 (Minyumai IPA, New South Wales) for every dollar invested.



# Australian Government Update

Queensland Senior Ranger and Coordinator Workshop  
Cairns, March 2016

Brant Smith  
Assistant Secretary, Environment Branch

## Today's presentation:

Where we are now

Challenges ahead

Where we are heading

# But first....some background

- A bit about me
- Environment Branch, our responsibilities
  - Indigenous environmental and agricultural policy
  - Working on Country (775 FTE rangers nationally; 182 in Qld)
  - Indigenous Protected Areas (43% of the NRS; 10 IPA projects Qld)
  - Specialised Indigenous Ranger Programme
  - Indigenous Carbon Farming Fund and Indigenous Heritage Program
  - Indigenous Advancement Strategy (particularly projects funded through the Jobs Land and Economy Programme)



Australian Government

Department of the  
Prime Minister and Cabinet

# Where we are now

- Minister for Indigenous Affairs: Senator Nigel Scullion
- Continuation of 3 priorities: adults into working, school attendance, improving community safety.
- Taking stock and building the evidence base
- Building the profile of our programmes – website & photo competition
- Piloting several models for Indigenous compliance through the Specialised Indigenous Ranger Programme and in the NT
- Developing strong partnerships with other Departments & agencies





# Challenges

- Unmet demand for ranger and IPA funding
- Post 2018 funding
- 2016 – an election year
- New Indigenous Advancement Strategy guidelines



# Where we are heading

- NGOs and philanthropic partnerships
- Enabling compliance roles and ranger capability
- Building fee for service opportunities e.g. biosecurity
- Supporting Indigenous participation in the carbon farming markets & Emissions Reduction Fund
- Collaborative Agreement for Indigenous Land and Sea Management
- Research – making it relevant to your needs





# Indigenous Affairs

Community Development Programme (formerly RJCP)

Indigenous Enterprise Development funding

NAIDOC Grant Funding



**Australian Government**  
**Department of the**  
**Prime Minister and Cabinet**

# Questions?



**INDIGENOUS RANGERS AND INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREAS:  
RELEASE OF THE SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT ANALYSES BY s22**

**TALKING POINTS**

- The Australian Government has committed over \$350m over five years to support Indigenous ranger groups and a further \$75m over five years to support Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs).
- Combined, this funding supports 108 ranger groups and 72 declared IPAs with a further 18 IPAs under consultation. There are currently 777 FTE ranger positions employing over 2,500 Indigenous people in either full-time, part-time or casual jobs.
- The focus of the Government's investment in Indigenous rangers and IPAs has been to create economic and employment opportunities, empower local communities, support indigenous culture and sustainably manage natural resources.
- In mid-2015, the Department engaged s22 to undertake social return on investment (SROI) analyses across five Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) and associated ranger groups:
  - s22
- The purpose of the analyses was to better understand and assess the benefits derived from the Government's investment in Indigenous rangers and IPAs.

s47C

s47C

- Overall, s22 estimated that between 2009-2015 financial years an investment of \$35.2 million from Government (77 per cent) and other partners generated a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes valued at an estimated \$96.5 million.
  - the social return on investment ratios - representing the investment compared to the value created from this investment - ranged from 3.4:1 s22 to 1.5:1 s22 for every dollar invested.

s47C



s22

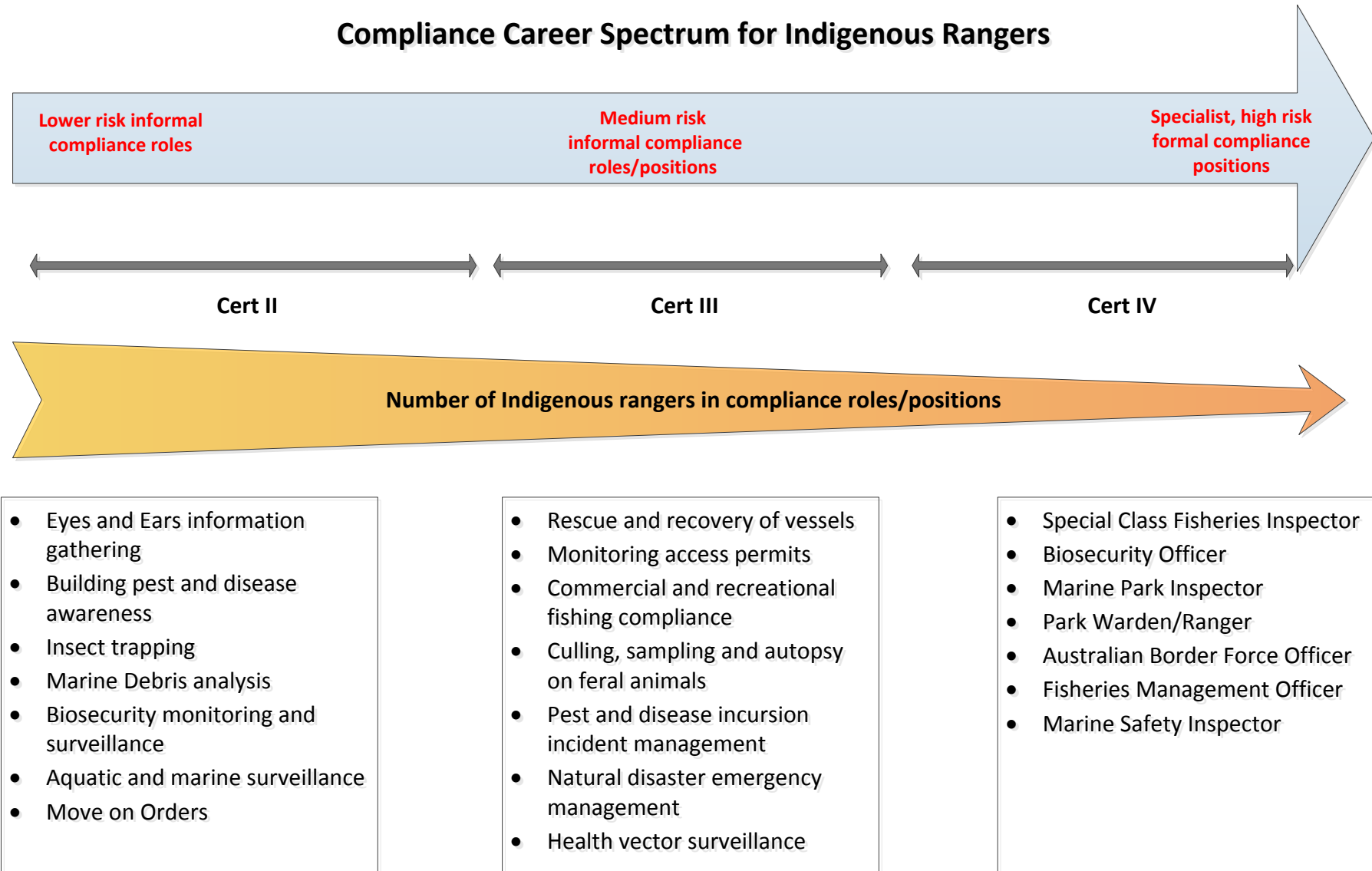
# Australian Government Indigenous Compliance Strategy

Queensland Senior Ranger and Coordinator Workshop  
Cairns, March 2016

Brant Smith  
Assistant Secretary, Environment Branch



## Compliance Career Spectrum for Indigenous Rangers



# Current Activities

- Rangers across Australia are already involved in activities with Commonwealth/State/Territory agencies
- Largely informal compliance roles to date
- Examples:
  - GBRMPA Eyes and Ears – strong history of GBR engagement
  - Biosecurity – over 40 ranger groups have fee for service agreements
  - Fisheries monitoring
  - National Parks cross-over work – joint patrols
  - Water police / Fisheries – Northern Territory
  - IPA compliance training
  - Turtle and dugong management – Torres Straits and Qld



Australian Government

Department of the  
Prime Minister and Cabinet

# PMC's role in Indigenous Compliance

s22

- Equipping rangers with the tools they need i.e. training, support, powers
- Building the professional reputation of rangers
- Overall growth in skill and progression to specialist roles
- PMC not a regulatory authority, but a coordinator and champion for rangers



**Australian Government**

**Department of the  
Prime Minister and Cabinet**

# How we're going to get there

- Partnerships – Government & non-Government
- Pilots
  - Specialised Indigenous Ranger Programme
  - Australian Maritime and Fisheries Academy pilot programme in NT

s22



**Australian Government**

**Department of the  
Prime Minister and Cabinet**

# Questions?



**Australian Government**  
**Department of the**  
**Prime Minister and Cabinet**