

## Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

### Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation to receive funding from Round 6 of Aboriginal Ranger Program

Tuesday, 19 September 2023

- \$11 million shared by 12 Aboriginal organisations as part of Innovation Fund
- Aboriginal Ranger Program has created more than 650 ranger jobs on Country
- Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation awarded \$1.84 million for a skills and innovation hub

More than \$11 million will be shared among a dozen Aboriginal organisations across Western Australia in the latest round of funding for the Aboriginal Ranger Program.

The Round Six grants have been awarded to 12 projects that explore innovative ways to maximise the benefits of the program.

The successful projects under the Innovation Fund include a native seed facility, cultural-contemporary burning, fauna sanctuary planning and wetland management. Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation near Katanning was awarded \$1.84 million towards a skills and innovation hub to facilitate their ranger program.

The Aboriginal Ranger Program has created more than 650 ranger jobs on Country since 2017. It has also supported the management of nearly 500 significant cultural sites, 2,000 kilometres of tracks and weed management across 2,000 hectares of land.

Following an initial \$20 million investment, a further \$83 million has been allocated to support the development, expansion, and innovation of Aboriginal ranger groups across the State with a focus on remote and regional locations.

For more information, visit <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/management/aboriginal-engagement/aboriginal-ranger-program>

#### Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Shelley Payne

"The Aboriginal Ranger Program has a significant impact across regional Western Australia from employment and training opportunities for aboriginal people, to the implementation of programs to support our environment", she said.

"I am pleased to know Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation has been granted funding towards a skills and innovation hub from this funding round. This boost will help to support the important work of the Badgebup team and I look forward to seeing the positive outcomes."

#### Comments attributed to Environment Minister Reece Whitby:

"I congratulate the recipients of this latest round of funding and I look forward to hearing about the success of these exciting, innovative projects.

"The Aboriginal Ranger Program continues to make a real difference, providing valuable employment opportunities across our great State.

"We want to empower Aboriginal communities to care for their Country and culture. For every \$1 invested, the program creates approximately \$3 worth of social, economic, cultural and environmental value."

**Comments attributed to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Dr Tony Buti:**

"Our Government is committed to building the skills and knowledge of Aboriginal ranger teams across Western Australia and encourage shared learning.

"The Aboriginal Ranger Program creates meaningful opportunities while developing community resilience and leadership. We're continuing to invest and build on the program's success.

"This funding round ensures expert knowledge continues to be passed on to help communities care for their Country in a way that protects cultural and environmental values."

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***Attachment 1: Round 6 Aboriginal Ranger Program Recipients***

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<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Funding Allocated</b>	<b>DBCA Region</b>
Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation	BAC Skills and Innovation Hub	\$1,840,068	Wheatbelt
Binalup Aboriginal Corporation	Planning for a Binalup-Tambellup Fauna Sanctuary	\$415,105	Wheatbelt
Budadee Aboriginal Corporation	Budadee Native Seed Facility	\$757,990	Pilbara
Indigenous Desert Alliance	Southern Deserts Right Way Fire Project	\$1,643,625	Goldfields; Pilbara and South Coast
Maarli Services	Interactive gnammas mapping in Eastern Wheatbelt Rangers	\$1,653,193	Wheatbelt
Noongar Land Enterprise Group	Noongar Land Enterprise Group Rangers	\$827,557	Midwest, Wheatbelt and South Coast
Nowanup Noongar Boodjar Ltd	Integrating Cultural Fire and Contemporary Burning in the Great Southern	\$291,419	South Coast
Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd	Baluyi Bilarra Bundurr Bundurr – Plants of the Wetland & Pindan	\$354,777	Kimberley
Tarlka Matuwa Piarku Aboriginal Corporation	Western Desert Youth Rangers – Developing co-mapping and media skills	\$337,226	Goldfields
Undalup Association Inc.	Ni Kidji Gnangkaa Boodja – Listening to Mother Country	\$1,172,485	South West
Wilinggin Aboriginal Corporation	Marrirrin di Drone Program	\$439,465	Kimberley
Winjan Aboriginal Corporation	Bindjareb Boodja Baldja Ranger Innovation Project	\$1,275,504	Swan and South West