

Ranger Achievements 2015

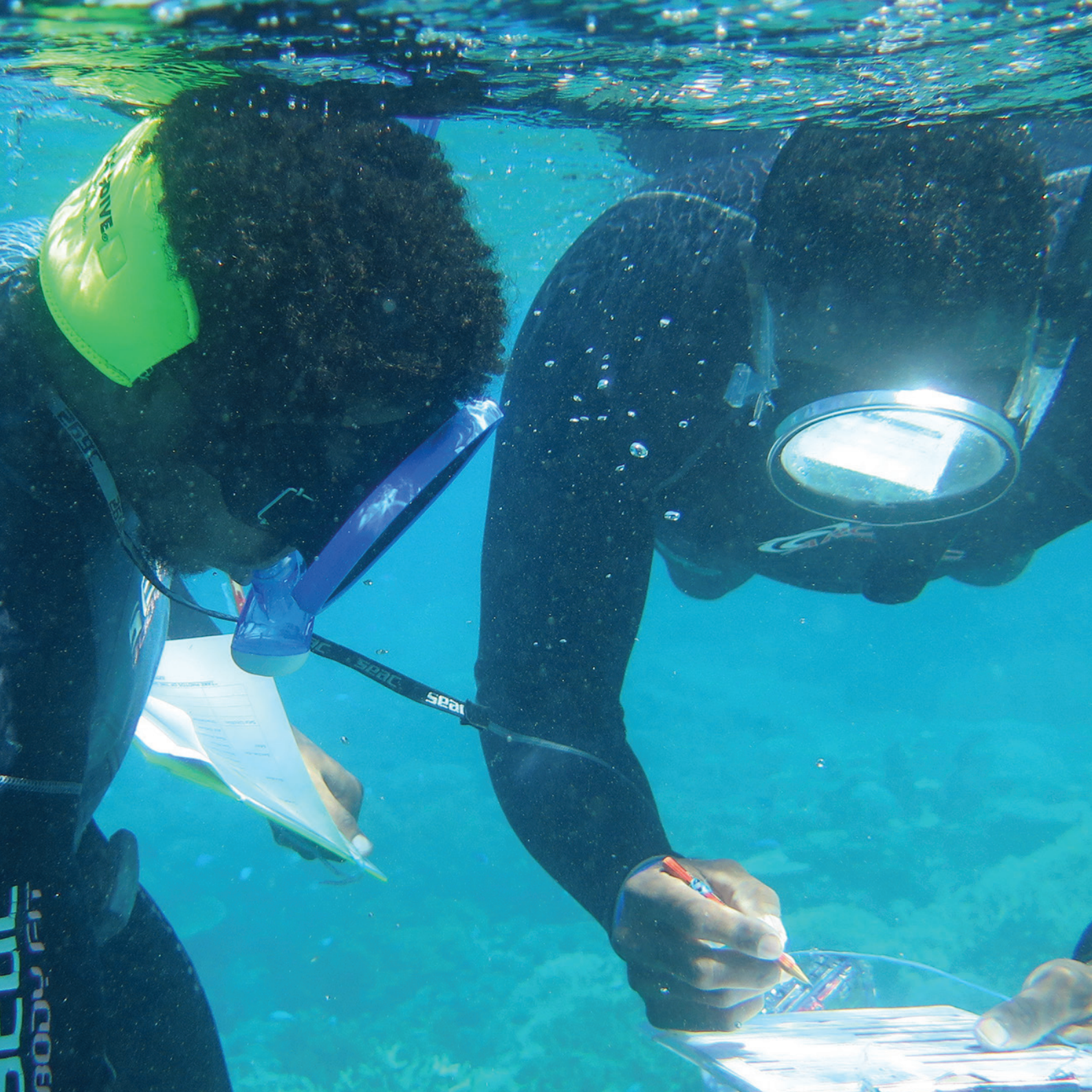


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**Torres Strait Regional Authority
Land and Sea Management Unit**



Introduction

The Land and Sea Ranger Program is funded by the Working on Country element of the Australian National Landcare Program and is administered and delivered by the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Land and Sea Management Unit (LSMU). The TSRA delivers the initiative with participating Registered Native Title Bodies Corporates (RNTBCs) and communities across the 13 outer islands (14 communities) supporting 13 Ranger Groups.

The LSMU strives to encourage and support Traditional Owners in sustainably managing the land and sea resources of the Torres Strait through the employment of Indigenous Rangers.

- Ensure Ailan Kastom (Island Custom) is protected and reflected in natural and cultural resource management decisions.
- Ensure that culturally significant places and features of the marine and terrestrial environment are appropriately recorded and protected by the respective Traditional Owners.
- Enable and encourage learning about the natural and cultural (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) environment and best practice natural resource management.
- Address local and regional planning issues and align land and sea management with communities' existing plans, aspirations and priorities.
- Mitigate the impacts of marine debris, pollution from local shipping and boating activities, and minimising land based pollution in the region.
- Improving the information base, including through monitoring and raising awareness of the impacts of marine debris

The programme focuses on:

- Dugong and turtle management
- Fisheries
- Indigenous protected areas (IPA)
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Sustainable horticulture
- Terrestrial biodiversity conservation
- Invasive species management
- Seagrass monitoring and other research activities
- Land and sea rangers project
- Climate change and coastal management
- Research initiatives

BADU



Image: Frank Loban

Frilled Lizard



Image: Frank Loban

Mangrove Monitor



Image: Frank Loban

Badu Fauna Survey Team

“ Mura Baduglau Rangers have been trained in trapping methods and have conducted joint patrols with TSIRC ”

Marine debris including ghost nets located within the Mura Badhulgal land and sea country has been removed



Image: TSRA

Climate Change workshop Badu

“ Mura Badhulgau Rangers developed an annual animal survey program which includes conducting flora and fauna surveys on scheduled land patrols ”



Image: Frank Loban

Rangers erecting signs on Badu Island with Senator Nigel Scullion present



Image: Frank Loban

Ranger Frank Nona conducting beach patrol

MABUIAG



Image: Frank Loban

Ranger Willie Babia on Sea Patrol

According to the Goemulgau Dugong and Turtle Management Plan (2011-2016) The Goemulgau vision for dugong and turtle management in the land and sea country of the Goemulgau Management Area is:

“Sustainability of Sea based resources and the reinforcement of traditional values, cultural protocols and ethics for the traditional people of Mabuiag”



Image: TSRA

Creating the Ranger Achievements DVD



Image: Matt Dunn

Ranger Ted Whap at Dhimuru Ranger Exchange



Image: Matt Dunn

Maizab Kaur Turtle hatchling survey



Image: TSRA

Rangers work around Mabuigi community



Image: TSRA

Dugong & Turtle Meeting Mabuigi



Image: Frank Loban

Tangaroa Blue activities

Rangers have coordinated shoreline clean up and revegetation. These activities have been used to educate communities on shoreline sensitivity



Image: Frank Loban

Ranger Wigness sifting through debris



Image: Frank Loban

Near Western Rangers participating in land patrol

Mua Tagalgau Rangers



Image: TSRA

Ranger Erimiah Manas assisting mosquito spraying and clean up



Image: Tristian Simpson

Ranger Jackson Ware at Maizab Kaur participating in turtle nesting survey



Image: TSRA

Ranger Fred Wapau and Ranger Guyai Uiduldam on land patrol



Image: TSRA

Mua Ranger on Sea Patrol

BOIGU



Image: TSRA

Ranger Nelson Gibuma with Barramundi



Image: TSRA

Ranger and My Pathway participants conducting weed spraying

“ Rangers have facilitated the transfer of knowledge from elders to young people about the plants and animals on our island (utilizing the TEK system) ”



Image: TSRA

Ranger Ishmael Gibuma checking swamps for invasive fish species



Image: Mark Geyle

Senior Ranger Nelson Gibuma conducting weeds surveys

Malu Kiai Rangers



“ A brochure of pest fish species has been developed and circulated throughout the community to raise awareness ”

Image: TSRA



Senior Ranger Nelson Gibuma and Ranger Ishmael Gibuma

Image: TSRA



Ghost net found during sea patrol



Image: Matt Dunn

Ranger Supervisor Dimas Toby during beach patrol at Warul Kawa

Image: TSRA



Ranger Nelson Gibuma & co worker



Image: TSRA

Rangers and TO's travelling to Warul Kawa to participate in biodiversity surveys. George Nona, Terrence Whap and Nelson Gibuma

DAUAN



Image: TSRA

Senior Ranger Tenny Elisala



Image: TSRA

Simakal Rangers participating in Sea Patrol

“Dauanalgaw land and sea country has been monitored for new weeds”



Image: TSRA

Rangers fence erected around sacred site



Image: TSRA

Senior Ranger Tenny Elisala and Chicka Turner install cultural site name



“ Significant sites are identified and are protected as directed by Traditional Owners ”



Image: TSRA

Rangers conduct weed spraying



Image: TSRA

Rangers installed cultural site name. Senior Ranger Tenny Elisala with assistance from Senior Ranger Herbert Warusam from Saibai and Ranger Supervisor Dimas Toby



Image: TSRA

Rangers work to eradicate Agave weed



Image: TSRA

Ranger Laurie Elisala. Australian Marine Safety Authority School visit on Maritime safety

SAIBAI



Image: TSRA

Rangers commence work on community garden



Image: TSRA

My Pathway workers assist Rangers erect sign with cultural site name



Image: TSRA

Planting begins on Saibai farm



Image: TSRA

Rangers visit to Tagai College – Saibai Campus to discuss invasive fish species (Climbing Perch) project



“ Native plant survey undertaken to determine species present. During land swamp patrols, rangers are involved in identifying native plants. The information is then shared with the Terrestrial officer for further investigation ”

Image: TSRA



Ranger Herbert Warusam operating Ranger vessel



Image: TSRA

Sea Patrol around Dauan Island

Image: TSRA



Rangers and community members complete sign erection



Image: Matt Dunn

Rangers work tirelessly on weed control and eradication of Leucaena



Image: Matt Dunn

Beach Patrol on uninhabited islands



Image: Nick Layne

Ranger Richard Kepa rescuing turtle hatchling

“Rangers have assisted in the transfer and preservation of traditional and cultural activities including, recording knowledge from elders and passing knowledge onto community members”



Image: TSRA

Central Island Rangers participate in revegetation project on Guiya Island



Image: TSRA



Ranger Richard Kepa surveying lama Well

Image: Tristan Simpson



Rangers take part in Hawksbill survey around the Central Islands

Image: TSRA



Senior Ranger David Baragud and Ranger Richard Kepa at Sassie Island

“Rangers continually engage with local community and share information about local plants and animals. For example, one Ranger found a trapped juvenile turtle in the community and talked to the childrens about looking after turtles. Rangers are also developing a animal and plants calendar that outlines what plants and animal are doing at each time of the year ”



Iamalgal Rangers conducting Sea Patrol at Gebar Island

Image: TSRA

WARRABER

Image: Tristan Simpson



Ranger Mark Pearson participating in Coral Monitoring



Image: Nick Layne

Warraberalgal Rangers installed No Vehicle access signs

Image: TSRA



Ranger Joel Billy and Ranger Aken Baragud IPA surveys



Image: TSRA

Ranger Aken Baragud and Ranger Young Billy GPS markings of Cultural sites

Image: TSRA



Rangers and Traditional Owners conduct survey on uninhabited islands



Image: Tristan Simpson

Ranger Mark Pearson watching sunset during coral monitoring trip



“Rangers have continued to support the nursery expansion to use the facility to propagate native plants for rehabilitation projects”



Image: TSRA

Ranger Supervisor Laura Pearson with lizard found during IPA survey



Image: TSRA

Rangers participate in GPS training at Warraber Island



Image: TSRA

Rangers inspecting on Ulu Island as part of IPA survey



Image: TSRA

Ranger Young Billy conducting Ulu Biodiversity survey

PORUMA

Image: Nick Layne



Seagrass monitoring at Poruma Island

“ Turtle surveys have been undertaken to identify nesting populations and nesting success rates. Rangers regularly engage with community about turtle and dugong management. Rangers regularly present at the school on turtle and dugong management and other topics) ”

Image: Matt Dunn



Ranger Freddie David



Image: TSRA

Ranger David Pearson beach profiling during Warraberalgal and Porumalgal IPA surveys of uninhabited islands



Image: Nick Layne

Rangers conduct beach and land patrol on Atub Island

Porumalgal Rangers



“ Rangers have been taught how to use Elliot traps and how to undertake passive surveillance ”

Image: TSRA



Rangers working on weed control

Image: TSRA



“Tangaroa Blue” activities on Poruma Island

Image: TSRA



Ranger David Pearson participates in community clean up

Image: TSRA



Rangers working on Country

Image: TSRA



Land and Beach patrol-turtle nesting count on uninhabited islands around Poruma

MASIG

“ Rangers have continued their support role in the development and maintenance of food gardens and helping the community understand and improve soil quality ”



Image: Matt Dunn

TSRA Rangers dispose of debris collected from IPA clean-up on uninhabited island around Warraber, Poruma and Masig



Image: Matt Dunn

Beach profiling on Masig Island



Image: Matt Dunn

Rangers conduct beach clean-up of IPA uninhabited islands around Warraber and Poruma



Image: TSRA

Ranger Loice Naawi working with Warraber Senior Ranger Mark Person and Ranger Young Billy planting fruit and vegetable seeds



Image: TSRA

Ranger Edna Nai showing school students how to plant Arrowroot (Gassi)

“ Coral monitoring was conducted by co - owners of the Masigal sea country During 6 - 19th Oct 2015 – Reef Health Indicator survey (RHIS) sites were set up Masig and other islands and Manta towing was conducted around Masig and surrounding islands ”



Image: TSRA

Senior Ranger Francis Nai conducting seagrass monitoring on Mer Island



Image: TSRA

Masigalgal Rangers and Supervisors work on Beach profiling



Image: TSRA

Ranger Loice Naawi participate in Tangaroa Blue beach clean-up on uninhabited islands around Masig

UGAR

Image: Matt Dunn



Ranger Joseph Dorante measuring changes to beach (beach profiling)



Image: Matt Dunn

Leucaena weed eradication project on Ugar

“ Ugar Rangers have supported Traditional Owners in the transfer and preservation of Traditional Cultural knowledge for future generations ”



Image: Matt Dunn

Eradicating Leucaena on Ugar Island



Image: Matt Dunn

Badu, Erub and Mer Rangers assist Ugaram Rangers do weed control project

“ All marine debris including ghost nets located within the Ugar Ged Kem Le Zeuber Erkep land and sea country have been removed ”



Image: Matt Dunn

Rangers conduct beach clean up



Image: Matt Dunn

Beach profiling on uninhabited islands around Ugar

“ Erubam Le Rangers participated in the Marine Green Turtle Nesting & Hatching Surveys along with the assistance from TO’s other Ranger groups, Sea team & researchers ”



Image: Tristan Simpson

Ranger Boggo Gela participates in Coral Monitoring



Image: Tristan Simpson

Ranger Aaron Ketchell and Tristan Simpson conduct turtle hatchling survey at Maizab Kaura



Image: Matt Dunn

Erubam Rangers with Senior Supervisor Matt Dunn



Image: TSRA



Ranger Aaron Ketchell operating Ranger vessel

Image: TSRA



School visit to Erub Campus

Image: TSRA



Ranger Barry Pau addresses school kids at Erub campus

“ Weekly talks with school kids have been held to increase understanding and gain support for Ranger activities ”



Ranger Aaron Ketchell participating in beach patrol

Image: Matt Dunn

Image: Tristan Simpson



Ranger Tauki Passi doing Coral monitoring

Image: Tristan Simpson



Turtle hatchling at Dauar Island

Image: Tristan Simpson



Ranger Supervisor Laura Pearson and Senior Ranger Supervisor Troy Stow conduct surveys on Dauar Island

Image: Tristan Simpson



Ranger Wuni Wuni Tapau and Ranger Supervisor Lau ra Pearson

“ Meriam Gesep A Gur Keparem Le
Rangers have been involved in turtle
tagging surveys on Dauar Island ”

Image: Tristan Simpson



Rangers participate in Turtle hatchling survey

Meriam Gesep A Gur Keparem Le Rangers



Image: Tristan Simpson



Rangers conduct survey on Dauar Island

“ Marine debris patrols have been carried out and debris has been removed from Mer and Dauar ”



Community Beach clean-up Mer Island

Image: TSRA

Image: Matt Dunn



Senior Ranger Supervisor Troy Stow and Senior Ranger Aaron Bon conduct beach patrol



Dauar Island Turtle Tagging team

Image: TSRA



Conclusion

This collection of images and quotes provides the reader, as well as our own staff, with an opportunity to reflect on the tremendous positive achievements they have accomplished over the last 12 months.

The key focus for the Environmental Management Program is to support Torres Strait Islander communities to successfully address environmental management priorities with the Indigenous Rangers conducting land and sea natural resource management activities. The project is creating employment opportunities for local Indigenous people and developing their capacity to deliver land and sea management initiatives in

Torres Strait. The Rangers are implementing current land and sea management activities and play an important role in developing and coordinating the delivery of all projects.

As part of the Performance Development Planning process, Rangers have been involved in: Certificate II in Indigenous Leadership Training, Australian film and television training, Supervising Your Team with Confidence and Writing Skills in the APS. They have also attended: the World Indigenous Network Conference, Indigenous Leadership Forum, Puliima National Indigenous Language and Technology Forum, the National Landcare Conference and Ranger Exchanges.

We believe the success of the Land and Sea Management Unit has been based on our holistic approach in engaging and involving the islander communities around natural and cultural resource management. Through successful partnerships we continue to pioneer a grass-roots community-based planning and management approach with the Torres Strait Island people, the Queensland and Australian Governments, and the nation as a whole.

We would like to acknowledge the Registered Native Title Bodies Corporates throughout the Torres Strait for their guidance to make us aware of land and sea country matters of importance to their communities and thank them for their support throughout Ranger project activity planning, development and implementation.

With your continued endorsement the Rangers will continue to build their confidence to undertake activities to benefit their communities.

*Shaun Barclay, Program Manager (Environmental Management),
Land and Sea Management Unit, Torres Strait Regional Authority*



Australian Government

