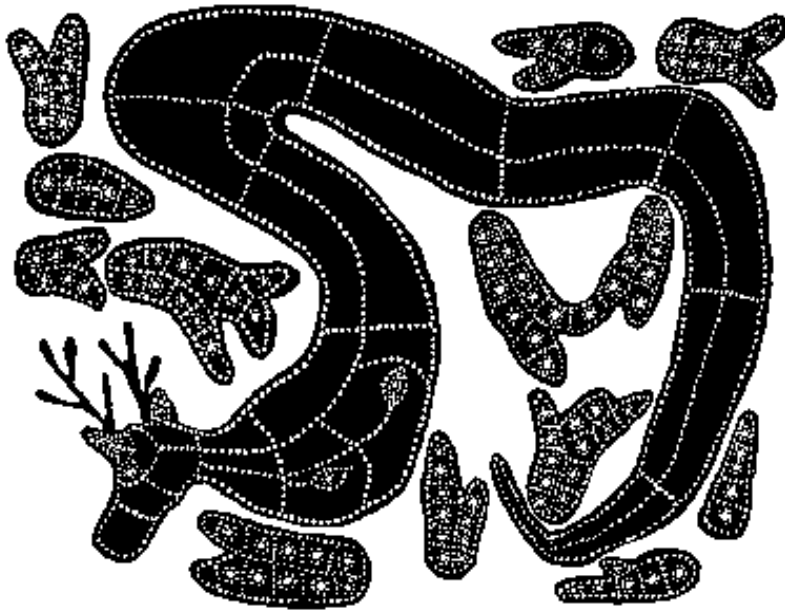


# NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD



## ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

September 2016

The Hon Lauren Moss MLA  
Minister for Parks and Wildlife  
Parliament House  
DARWIN NT 0800

Dear Minister

On behalf of the Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board, I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Board for the year ended 30 June 2016.

This report is required under section 12 of the *Financial Management Act* and section 26 of the *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act*.

Ms Lisa Mumbin  
Chair

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park (the Park) is a National Park of significant international value located 30km North-East of the town of Katherine. The Park comprises of a land mass of some 295 000ha at the South-Western end of the Arnhem Land escarpment.

In 1989, in accordance with provisions of the *Aboriginal Lands Rights (NT) Act 1976*, the land was vested in the Jawoyn Aboriginal Land Trust and is therefore owned by the Jawoyn Aboriginal people, who maintain a close cultural connection with this land and actively participate in its management.

Following negotiations between the Northern Territory Government and the Jawoyn Aboriginal Land Trust, a joint management arrangement was arrived at and enshrined in legislation. The *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act 1989* (the Act) provides for the lease of the land comprising the Park; its declaration as a National Park to be managed for the benefit and enjoyment of all people, preservation of the rights of the Jawoyn people as they relate to the land and for them to participate in the management of the Park. Jawoyn people receive benefits in the form of lease rental and a percentage of the Park's revenue, and preference in employment and business matters. The 99 year lease is held by the Conservation Land Corporation for management by the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (the Commission).

The Park has highly significant visitor and tourism values. The Nitmiluk Gorge is the single most visited tourist attraction in the Katherine region and a key economic driver of the region. The Park offers visitors from around the world a true "Territory" experience.

The Park protects important biodiversity conservation values represented by a diversity of landscapes of international and national significance, including part of the most species rich landscape in the Northern Territory. Areas of the Park fall within two 'Sites of Conservation Significance', the Arnhem Land Plateau and Yinberrie Hills, which, when combined, take in over 80% of the Park. A large proportion of the Park is included in the 'Arnhem Plateau Sandstone Shrubland Complex' which is listed in the endangered category in the list of threatened ecological communities under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1990 (Ct)*.

## 2. THE NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD

The Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board, established under the Act, is a body corporate with its own common seal. Subject to the *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act*, the Board, in its corporate name, is capable of holding and disposing of real (including leasehold) and personal property and of suing and being sued.

The Board consists of 13 members appointed by the Minister, of whom:

- a) eight shall be traditional Aboriginal owners of the Park appointed on the nomination of the Jawoyn Association;
- b) at least one is to be a member of the permanent staff of the Commission

- appointed on the nomination of the Director of the Commission;
- ba) two are to each hold an appointment (whether as an employee or a Chief Executive Officer) under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act* and are to be appointed on the nomination of the Director of the Commission;
  - bb) one is to be the presiding member of the Kakadu National Park Board established under the *National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975* of the Commonwealth or another Aboriginal member of the Kakadu National Park Board; and
- c) one shall be a resident of the Katherine area appointed on the nomination of the Mayor of the municipality of Katherine.

### **Membership of the Board as at 30 June 2016:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Appointment</u></b>	<b><u>Expiry</u></b>
Ms Jane Runyu-Fordimail	10(1)(a)	6 March 2018
Mr George Runyu	10(1)(a)	6 March 2018
Ms Lisa Mumbin	10(1)(a)	17 July 2017
Mr Alister Andrews	10(1)(a)	17 July 2017
Mr Braun Bush	10(1)(a)	16 September 2017
Ms Noeleen Andrews	10(1)(a)	16 September 2017
Mr Tony Walla	10(1)(a)	16 September 2017
Mr Joshua Hunter	10(1)(a)	6 March 2018
Mr John De Koning	10(1)(ba)	28 August 2016
Mr Mark Crummy	10(1)(ba)	28 February 2019
Ms Sarah Kerin	10(1)(b)	28 February 2019
Mr Robert Jennings	10(1)(c)	1 December 2018

Membership is for three years, and members can be re-appointed. Appointments to the Board are published by the Minister in the Gazette.

### **Expiries**

The appointment of Mark Crummy under section 10(1)(ba) of the Act expired on 19 February 2016.

### **Terminations**

The appointment of Mrs Neva McCartney was terminated under section 12(1)(b) of the Act on 29 January 2016.

### **Appointments**

Mr Mark Crummy was appointed under section 10(1)(ba) of the Act on 29 February 2016.

Ms Sarah Kerin was appointed under section 10(1)(b) of the Act on 29 February 2016.

Mr Robert Jennings was appointed under section 10(1)(c) of the Act on 2 December 2015.

### **3. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD**

The functions of the Board, as set out in section 16 of the Act, are:

- a) to prepare Plans of Management for the control and management of the Park;
- b) to make decisions, not inconsistent with the Act and the Plan of Management, in respect of the Park;
- c) to protect and enforce the right of Aboriginals entitled by Aboriginal tradition to use and occupy it;
- d) to ensure adequate protection of sites of spiritual or other importance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition in the Park; and
- e) such other functions in and in relation to the Park as are imposed on it by or under the Act, the lease or the Plan of Management.

### **4. FUNCTIONS OF THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

As set out in section 17 of the Act, the functions of the Commission in relation to the Park include, on behalf of and subject to, the directions of the Board:

- a) to facilitate the preparation of Plans of Management; and
- b) to control and manage the Park in accordance with the Act and the Plan of Management.

### **5. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD**

The Board held four meetings during the reporting period as follows:

- 134<sup>th</sup> Meeting 16 July 2015
- 135<sup>th</sup> Meeting 17 December 2015
- 136<sup>th</sup> Meeting 17 March 2016
- 137<sup>th</sup> Meeting 16 June 2016

Attendance at these meetings was as follows:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>
• Ms Lisa Mumbin	Traditional owner (Chair)	2 (4)
• Ms Jane Runyu-Fordimail	Traditional owner (Deputy Chair)	4 (4)
• Ms Noeleen Andrews	Traditional owner	4 (4)

• Mr Joshua Hunter	Traditional owner	0 (4)
• Mr Alister Andrews	Traditional owner	1 (4)
• Mr George Runyu	Traditional owner	3 (4)
• Mr Tony Walla	Traditional owner	2 (4)
• Mr Braun Bush	Traditional owner	0 (4)
• Mr Mark Crummy	NTG Employee	4 (4)
• Mrs Neva McCartney	Parks and Wildlife Commission	2 (4)
• Ms Sarah Kerin	Parks and Wildlife Commission	2 (4)
• Mr John de Koning	NTG Employee	2 (4)
• Mr Robert Jennings	Katherine Resident	3 (4)

### **Proxy Members during the year:**

Andrew Davies proxied for John de Koning at the 136<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Silvia Maroney proxied for Lisa Mumbin at the 136<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **6. PARK MANAGEMENT**

### **Staff:**

On 1 July 2016, Mr Anthony Cadell commenced with the Commission as T1 Ranger.

On 15 January 2015, Mr James Gorman, T3 Ranger, resigned.

On 23 September 2015, Ms Sarah Franks, T2 Ranger, resigned. Mr Anthony Farley filled this position until 31 January 2016, when Ms Julia Beechey returned from maternity leave.

On 14 March 2016, Aaron Ledgard commenced employment as T3 Ranger.

On 1 March 2016, Ms Natalie Chester returned from a temporary transfer to Litchfield National Park.

### **Leliyn:**

On 25 January 2016, Mr David Wilkinson commenced temporary employment at Leliyn. His tenure finishes on 18 October 2016.

On 8 December 2014, Mr Chris Washusen commenced employment as T1 Ranger at Leliyn (Edith Falls). On 23 October 2015, he transferred temporarily to the Crocodile Management Unit in Darwin. On 30 May 2016, Mr Washusen permanently transferred to Keep River.

These staff changes at Nitmiluk National Park have now created a stable team to take the Park into the future.

### **Visitors:**

Nitmiluk National Park had 261,283 visitors during the year comprising of: 183,831 visitors to the Katherine Gorge and 122,821 recorded at Leliyn.

Territory Parks Alive shows were conducted twice a week at Nitmiluk and Leliyn. As always, these slideshows were well received by visitors.

Nitmiluk Tours continue to improve the surrounds of the Visitor's Centre. A bush tucker garden for visitors to enjoy and experience is under maintenance behind the visitors centre. This will be an ongoing project.

The Southern Walks are now very popular. Many visitors choose to walk to the Eighth Gorge now when the Jatbula trail is unavailable.

Upgrades to the Jatbula trail with the construction of second campsites for tour operators have commenced.

Ms Clare Pearce, 'Ranger Clare', has continued her highly successful 'Walk in the Park' program and 'Night Stalks', as well as the popular displays and information stalls at the Katherine Community Markets and the Barunga Festival. Ranger Clare and the Nitmiluk Rangers are helping with the 'Stars Program' at the Katherine High school. This program is a pastoral development/mentoring program for Indigenous girls, aimed at supporting them through high school.

Fortnightly meetings continued between the Senior District Ranger and the Nitmiluk Tours Operations Manager to deal strategically with upcoming events and operations, and to maintain a constructive dialogue.

Commission staff attended to 21 visitor emergencies during the year including five ambulance call outs and one Careflight rescue.

Ongoing monitoring of freshwater and saltwater crocodiles at Leliyn and in the Gorge continued.

***Biodiversity:***

The Integrated Conservation Strategy (ICS) and installation of long term monitoring sites has commenced with approximately half the monitoring sites installed.

***Feral Animal Management:***

Buffalo observed on the Southern Walks network and the access road were culled opportunistically. Between 17 and 19 November 2015, NT Police Tactical Response Group conducted an aerial cull of buffalo along the Katherine River Valley and Upper Ferguson River.

***Fire Management:***

In October 2015, Nitmiluk and Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation (JAAC) rangers suppressed a wildfire at the Upper Ferguson River through dry firefighting techniques.

A wildfire in Kakadu National Park, which threatened Nitmiluk National Park, saw Nitmiluk and JAAC rangers on standby while Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Ltd & Kakadu Rangers back burned off the Katherine River. However, previous fire scars and rainfall minimised the area affected by the late dry season burn.

In early 2016, with assistance from JAAC rangers, firebreaks and fire management burns were conducted along access roads, infrastructure, boundaries, and residential areas. A joint aerial burn was completed on Marrawal Plateau.



The Chief District Ranger and Senior District Ranger attended a 2-day review of fire plot programs with fire scientists, ecologists, Commission staff and Kakadu rangers.

**Weed Management:**

Wet Season weed control concentrated on key management zones including residential areas, road verges, management tracks and walking tracks at the Gorge and Leliyn areas. Jawoyn Rangers assisted with weed control at Leliyn for five days. Target species controlled include mission grass and goats head burr.

The Jawoyn Ranger group completed weed control in Nitmiluk Tours sub-lease areas.

**Capital Works:**

No capital works were completed in the year ending 30 June 2016.

**Minor New Works:**

- Construct new composting toilets on the Jatbula Trail \$266,958

**Repairs and Maintenance:**

- Savannah Gulf Cyclical Maintenance (CM) Fencing Firebreak \$ 21,184
- Savannah Gulf CM Generator Katherine \$ 1,916
- Savannah Gulf CM Remote Area Water \$ 59,684
- Savannah Gulf CM Walking Track Kath \$ 22,486
- Savannah Gulf CM Katherine \$ 14,928
- Savannah Gulf CM Radio Maintenance \$ 11,933
- Nitmiluk NP Water Treatment \$233,153
- Savannah Gulf BBQ Maintenance \$ 18,860
- Savannah Gulf Furniture Maintenance \$ 7,412
- Savannah Gulf Interpretation Maintenance \$ 3,419
- Unforseen Maintenance \$151,298
- Leliyn, Replace Water Tanks \$ 20,360
- Leliyn, Replace Gas Hot Water System \$ 5,840

## 7. PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

On 31 October 2014, the Plan of Management for the Park came into operation.

In April 2015, the Integrated Conservation Strategy was presented to the Board, followed by the Plan of Management Implementation Schedule in March 2016.

## 8. CONCESSION OPERATIONS

Concession operators play a major role in the provision of activities and services available for visitors to the Park and are a key aspect in the management of visitors to the Park. Concessions provide a source of income to both the Jawoyn and Park management through an arrangement under the Lease where concession royalties are shared between the Jawoyn and the Commission.

Concessions that operated during the year ending 30 June 2015 are:

<b>CONCESSIONAIRE AND DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EXPIRY DATE</b>
<u>NITMILUK TOURS PTY LTD</u>	
Guided Walking Tours	30/06/2016
Guided Launch Tours and Ferry Service	30/06/2016
Canoe Hire & Guided Canoe Tours	30/06/2016
Power Boat Tours	30/06/2016
Caravan Park, Campground & Kiosk	30/06/2016
Catered Cruises	30/06/2016
<u>CAMPGROUND MANAGEMENT AND KIOSK SERVICES</u>	
Campground and Kiosk (Leliyn)	31/03/2019
<u>NITMILUK TOURS AND CHOPPAIR</u>	
Helicopter Tours	31/03/2017
<u>RUSSELL WILLIS</u>	
Guided Bushwalking Tours	Currently on interim permit

## 9. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2016 are included as follows:

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**

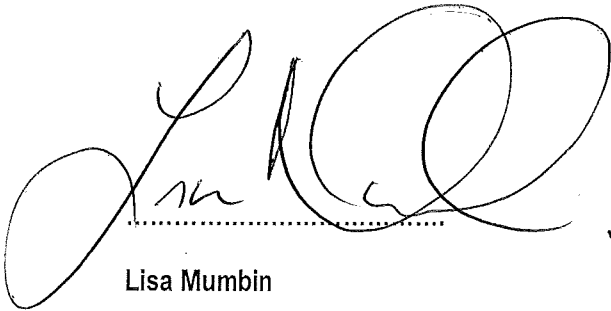
**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We certify that the attached financial statements for Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Comprehensive Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2016 and the financial position on that date.

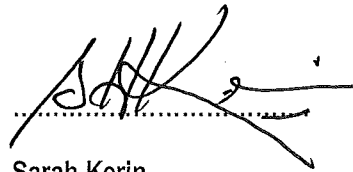
At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Lisa Mumbin

Chairperson

15 September 2016



Sarah Kerin

Board Member

15 September 2016

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

	Note	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
<b>INCOME</b>			
Park Income		927	843
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	3	93	95
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>1 020</u>	<u>938</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Payments to Traditional Owners		575	541
Payments to Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT		352	302
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	3	93	95
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<u>1 020</u>	<u>938</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
<b>COMPREHENSIVE RESULT</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Comprehensive Operating Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 30 June 2016**

	Note	2016 \$'000	Restated* 2015 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables	4	249	223
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	-	-
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	6	249	223
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Funds		-	-
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

		Equity at 1 July \$'000	Comprehensive Result \$'000	Transactions with Owners in their capacity as Owners \$'000	Equity at 30 June \$'000
2015-16	Note				
Accumulated Funds		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AT 30 JUNE</b>		-	-	-	-
2014-15					
Accumulated Funds		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AT 30 JUNE</b>		-	-	-	-

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

	Note	2016 \$'000	Restated* 2015 \$'000
		(Outflows)/ Inflows	(Outflows)/ Inflows
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Operating Receipts</b>			
Receipts from Sales of Goods and Services		901	770
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>		<u>901</u>	<u>770</u>
<b>Operating Payments</b>			
Payments to Traditional Owners		(557)	(479)
Payments to Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory		(344)	(291)
<b>Total Operating Payments</b>		<u>(901)</u>	<u>(770)</u>
<b>Net Cash used in Operating Activities</b>	7	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Increase in Cash Held		-	-
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

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- ASSETS**
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5. Property, Plant and Equipment
- LIABILITIES**
6. Payables
- OTHER DISCLOSURES**
7. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
8. Financial Instruments
9. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
10. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
11. Annual Rental Payments to Traditional Owners
12. Prior Period Adjustments



**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

**1. OBJECTIVE**

The Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board, a not-for-profit entity, is responsible for joint management of Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park in conjunction with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (PWCNT). The Board protects and enforces the rights of Aboriginals entitled by Aboriginal tradition to use and occupy the Park, prepare plans of management and ensures adequate protection of sacred and important sites in accordance with Aboriginal tradition.

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park located in Katherine operates under the *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act* which has been established to acknowledge and secure the rights of traditional Aboriginal owners and certain other Aboriginals who occupy and use the land.

**2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Statement of Compliance**

The general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*, *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The Treasurer has determined that Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board is to be treated like a Government Business Division as defined in Section 3(1) of the *Financial Management Act*. The form of Government Business Division financial statements is to include:

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) a Comprehensive Operating Statement;
- (iii) a Balance Sheet;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

**(b) Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. The format also requires additional disclosures specific to Territory Government entities.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

The form of the Board's financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current annual reporting period have been evaluated.

The following new and revised accounting standards and interpretations were effective for the first time in 2015-16:

***AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards***

This reflects amended versions of Interpretations arising in relation to amendments to AASB 9 Financial Instruments and consequential amendments arising from the issuance of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

***AASB 2013-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [Part C Financial Instruments]***

Part C of this Standard amends AASB 9 Financial Instruments to add Chapter 6 Hedge accounting and makes consequential amendments to AASB 9 and numerous other Standards. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

***AASB 2014-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9***

This Standard makes amendments to AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2009) and AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2010). These amendments arise from the issuance of AASB 9 Financial Instruments in December 2014. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

***AASB 2015-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the withdrawal of AASB 1031***

***Materiality***

The standard completes the withdrawal of references to AASB 1031 in all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, allowing the standard to effectively be withdrawn. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

***AASB 2015-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Financial Reporting Requirements for Australian Groups with a Foreign Parent***

Amendments are made to AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint ventures to require the ultimate Australian entity to apply the equity method in accounting for interests in associates and joint ventures, if either the entity or the group is a reporting entity, or both the entity and group are reporting entities. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

***AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part E - Financial Instruments)***

Part E of this Standard defers the application date of AASB 9 Financial Instruments to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

The following standards and interpretations are likely to have an insignificant impact on the financial statements for future reporting periods, but the exact impact is yet to be determined:

<b>Standard/Interpretation</b>	<b>Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after</b>
AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2014), AASB 2014-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)	1 January 2018
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, AASB 2014-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15	1 January 2018
AASB 1056 Superannuation Entities	1 July 2016
AASB 14 Regulatory Deferral Accounts	1 January 2016
AASB 1057 Application of Accounting Standards	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [Part D Consequential arising from AASB 14 Regulatory Deferral Accounts]	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations [AASB 1 and AASB 11]	1 January 2016
AASB 2014-16 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Agriculture: Bearer Plants [AASB 101, 116, 117, 123, 136, 140 and 141]	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Investment Entities: Applying the Consolidation Exception [AASB 10, 12 and 128]	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Scope and Application Paragraphs [AASB 8, 133 and 1057]	1 January 2016
AASB 2015-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128	1 January 2016
AASB 2016-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards-Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses [AASB 112]	1 January 2017

**NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK BOARD**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2016**

The following standards and interpretations are expected to have a potential impact on the financial statements for future reporting periods.

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Impact
AASB 2015-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities [AASB 10, 124 and 1049]	1 July 2016	New note disclosure to include remuneration of Key Management Personnel (KMP) and related party transactions.
2016-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 107	1 January 2017	New disclosure on the reconciliation of the changes in liabilities arising from financing activities
AASB 16 Leases	1 January 2019	Reclassification of operating leases greater than 12 months to finance lease reporting requirements
AASB 9 Financial Instruments	1 January 2018	Simplified requirements for classification and measurement of financial assets, a new hedging accounting model and a revised impairment loss model to recognise impairment losses earlier as opposed to only when incurred
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	1 January 2018	Requires an entity to recognise revenue when the entity satisfies a performance obligation by transferring a promised good or service to a customer.
AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [Part E Financial Instruments]	1 January 2018	Amends various AAS's to reflect the deferral of the mandatory application date of AASB 9
AASB 2014-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation [AASB 116 and AASB 138]	1 January 2016	Provides additional guidance on how the depreciation or amortisation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets should be calculated and clarifies that the use of revenue-based methods to calculate the depreciation of an asset is not appropriate.
AASB 2014-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15	1 January 2017	Amends the measurement of trade receivables and the recognition of dividends.
AASB 2014-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9	1 January 2018	Amends various AAS's to reflect the changes as a result of AASB 9
AASB 2014-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements [AASB 1, 127 and 128]	1 January 2016	Allows an entity to account for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates in its separate financial statement at cost or using the equity method.
AASB 2015-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-14 Cycle [AASB 1, 2, 3,5, 7, 11, 110, 119, 121,	1 January 2016	The amendments include AASB 5 change in methods of disposal; AASB 7 Servicing contracts and applicability of the amendments to

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Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Impact
133, 134, 137 and 140]		AASB 7 to condensed interim financial statements; AASB 119 Discount rate: regional market issue and AASB 134 Disclosure of information 'elsewhere in the interim financial report.

**(c) Reporting Entity**

The financial statements cover the Board as an individual reporting entity.

The Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board ("the Board"), a not-for-profit entity, is responsible for joint management of Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park in conjunction with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (PWCNT).

The principal place of business of the Board is:

Level 2, Goyder Centre  
25 Chung Wah Terrace  
PALMERSTON NT 0830

**(d) Comparatives**

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2014-15 financial year has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

**(e) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts**

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts less than \$500 being rounded down to zero, unless otherwise stated. Figures in the financial statements and notes may not equate due to rounding.

**(f) Changes in Accounting Policies**

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2015-16 as a result of management decisions.

**(g) Accounting Judgements and Estimates**

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. Notes that include significant judgements and estimates are:

- Property, Plant and Equipment – Note 2(l): The fair value of land, building, infrastructure and property, plant and equipment are determined on significant assumptions of the exit price and risks in the perspective market participant, using the best information available.

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- Corporate support by external agencies – Note 3: Support from external agencies can be reasonably estimated as a portion of Government employees' salary based on time spent on matters relating to the Board.

**(h) Goods and Services Tax**

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included where applicable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Balance Sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

**(i) Income Recognition**

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

***Goods and Services Received Free of Charge***

Goods and services received free of charge are recognised as revenue when a fair value can be reliably determined and the resource would have been purchased if it had not been donated. Use of the resource is recognised as an expense.

**(j) Cash**

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents.

**(k) Receivables**

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the Board estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analysis of the age of the receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an aging schedule in Note 8. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable and other receivables are generally settled within 30 days.

**(l) Property, Plant and Equipment**

**Acquisitions**

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$10,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$10,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

**Depreciation and Amortisation**

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

The estimated useful life of the entity's assets for the current and previous years is five years.

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

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**(m) Economic Dependence**

The Board is partially funded by the Northern Territory Government in recognition that it carries out activities on a non-commercial basis. These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis in the expectation that such funding will continue.

**(n) Payables**

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Board. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

**(o) Commitments**

The Board did not have any capital or other commitments, including lease commitments.

**(p) Financial Instruments**

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. The entity's financial instruments include cash and deposits; receivables; and payables.

Due to the nature of operating activities, certain financial assets and financial liabilities arise under statutory obligations rather than a contract. Such financial assets and liabilities do not meet the definition of financial instruments as per AASB 132 Financial Instruments Presentation. These include statutory receivables arising from taxes including GST and penalties.

Exposure to interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk, credit risk, price risk and liquidity risk arise in the normal course of activities.

***Classification of Financial Instruments***

AASB 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures requires financial instruments to be classified and disclosed within specific categories depending on their nature and purpose.

Financial assets are classified into the following categories:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL);
- held-to-maturity investments;
- loans and receivables; and
- available-for-sale financial assets.

Financial liabilities are classified into the following categories:

- financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL); and
- financial liabilities at amortised cost.

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*Financial Assets or Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit or Loss*

Financial instruments are classified as at FVTPL when the instrument is either held for trading or is designated as at FVTPL.

An instrument is classified as held for trading if it is:

- acquired or incurred principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing it in the near term with an intention of making a profit; or
- part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- a derivative that is not a financial guarantee contract or a designated and effective hedging instrument.

A financial instrument may be designated as at FVTPL upon initial recognition if:

- such designation eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency that would otherwise arise; or
- the instrument forms part of a group of financial instruments, which is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy, and information about the grouping is provided internally on that basis; or
- it forms part of a contract containing one or more embedded derivatives, and AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement permits the contract to be designated as at FVTPL.
- Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss include deposits held excluding statutory deposits, accounts payable and accrued expenses. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss include short-term securities and bonds.

*Loans and Receivables*

For details refer to Note 2 (k), but exclude statutory receivables.

*Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost*

Financial instrument liabilities measured at amortised cost include all advances received, finance lease liabilities and borrowings.

Amortised cost is calculated using the effective interest method.

Note 8 provides additional information on financial instruments.

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**(q) Fair Value Measurement**

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use. The highest and best use takes into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible.

When measuring fair value, the valuation techniques used maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs are used to the extent that sufficient relevant and reliable observable inputs are not available for similar assets/liabilities.

Observable inputs are publicly available data that are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Observable inputs used by the agency include, but are not limited to, published sales data for land and general office buildings.

Unobservable inputs are data, assumptions and judgments that are not available publicly, but are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Such inputs include internal agency adjustments to observable data to take account of particular and potentially unique characteristics/functionality of assets/liabilities and assessments of physical condition and remaining useful life.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the following fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used:

Level 1 – inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 – inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 – inputs are unobservable.



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	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>3. GOODS AND SERVICES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE</b>		
Corporate support by external organisations:		
Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory	71	85
Department of Land Resource Management	20	8
Department of Corporate and Information Services	2	2
<b>Total Goods and Services Received Free of Charge</b>	<u>93</u>	<u>95</u>
		<b>Restated*</b>
	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>4. RECEIVABLES</b>		
Current		
Accrued Revenue	249	223
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>
	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Plant and Equipment (Fencing)		
At Cost	11	11
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(11)	(11)
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		<b>Restated*</b>
	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>6. PAYABLES</b>		
Accrued Expenses		
Payments to Traditional Owners	158	140
Payments to Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory	91	83
<b>Total Payables</b>	<u>249</u>	<u>223</u>

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

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	2016	Restated*
	\$'000	2015 \$'000
<b>7. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of Cash</b>		
Nil Cash recorded in the Balance Sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.		
<b>Reconciliation of Net Surplus to Net Cash used in Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Net Surplus</b>	-	-
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</i>		
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	50	(73)
(Decrease)/Increase in Payables	(50)	73
<b>Net Cash From Operating Activities</b>	-	-

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

**8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset in one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument in another entity. Financial instruments held by the Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board include cash, receivables and payables. The Board has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

There have been no substantive changes in the Board's exposure to financial instrument risks, its objectives, policies and processes for managing those risks or the methods used to measure them from previous periods unless otherwise stated in this note.

**(a) Categorisation of Financial Instruments**

The carrying amounts of the Board's financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below:

**2015-16 Categorisation of Financial Instruments**

	Designated at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss \$'000	Financial Assets – Loans and Receivables \$'000	Total \$'000
Receivables	-	249	249
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	-	249	249
Payables	249	-	249
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	249	-	249

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**2014-15 Categorisation of Financial Instruments (Restated\*)**

	Designated at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss \$'000	Financial Assets – Loans and Receivables \$'000	Total \$'000
Receivables	-	223	223
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	-	<b>223</b>	<b>223</b>
Payables	223	-	223
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>223</b>	-	<b>223</b>

The Board has overall responsibility for the determination of risk management objectives and policies and these are designed to minimise the potential impact of such risks on the results of the Board. Further details regarding these policies are set out below:

**(b) Credit Risk**

The Board has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the agency has adopted a policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

Due to the nature of its operations, the Board considers its exposure to credit risk to be limited. The receivables are receivable from the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory who collect this money on behalf of the Board and only once the receivable is paid does the money get distributed.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and aging analysis of receivables is presented below.

External Receivables	2016 \$'000	Restated* 2015 \$'000
<b>Aging of Receivables</b>		
Not Overdue	249	223
<b>Total Gross Receivables</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses</b>		
Allowance for Impairment Losses at the Beginning of the Reporting	-	-
(Decrease)/Increase in Allowance Recognised in Profit or Loss	-	-
<b>Allowance for Impairment Losses at the End of the Reporting</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

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(c) **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash flows, and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of available credit facilities. The Board manages liquidity risk by monitoring cash flows and ensuring that funds are not distributed to the Traditional Owners and Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory before funds have been received.

The following tables detail the undiscounted cash flows payable by the entity by remaining contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Balance Sheet.

**2015-16 Maturity Analysis for Financial Assets and Liabilities**

	Non Interest Bearing \$'000	Carrying Amount \$'000
Receivables	249	249
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>249</b>
Payables	249	249
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>249</b>

**2014-15 Maturity Analysis for Financial Assets and Liabilities (Restated\*)**

	Non Interest Bearing \$'000	Carrying Amount \$'000
Receivables	223	223
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>223</b>
Payables	223	223
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>223</b>

\*See Note 12 – Prior Period Adjustments

(d) **Market Risk**

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk.

i. **Interest Rate Risk**

The Board is not exposed to interest rate risk as all financial assets and financial liabilities non-interest bearing.

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ii. Price Risk

The Board is not exposed to price risk as the Board does not hold units in unit trusts.

iii. Current Risk

The Board is not exposed to currency risk as the Board does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchase in a foreign currency.

(e) **Net Fair Value**

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements approximates to their respective net fair values. Where differences exist, these are not material.

**9. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS**

The Board had no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2016 or 30 June 2015.

**10. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure, in these financial statements.

**11. ANNUAL RENTAL PAYMENTS TO TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

The Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory make annual rental payments direct to Jawoyn Aboriginal Land Trust for distribution to Traditional Owners. Rent paid during 2015-16 amounted to \$285,825.88 (2014-15: \$285,825.88). This relates to the 12 month period commencing 10 September 2015. This annual rental payment has not been recognised in these financial statements.

**12. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS**

The prior year balance for accrued revenue and accrued expenses have been restated to adjust for overstatement of \$76,000 in both accounts. The effect of the adjustment is a nil impact on net assets on the balance sheet. This has also impacted the cash flow statement with a \$76,000 increase in both the receipts from sales of goods and services and payments to Traditional Owners and Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory, thereby having a nil impact on the overall cash at the end of the financial year.