



Tiwi Water – Have Your Say

What is the project about?

Unlike some parts of Australia, the freshwater resources on the Tiwi Islands are in very good condition. We need your help to make sure it stays that way and there is plenty of fresh, healthy water for future generations of Tiwi people.

The Tiwi Land Council and the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) – Water Resources staff are working together to develop a water resource strategy.

Who is involved?

The Tiwi Water Advisory Group (TWAG) is a part of the Tiwi Natural Resource Management Committee. This group is made up of Tiwi Land Council executive staff, Tiwi Rangers and has permanent seats for Tiwi Elders, Industry and the Tiwi College. Invitations are also provided to the Tiwi Islands Shire Council and Government organisations.

All of these people will be critical to ensure full community involvement in the water planning process. The formation of the TWAG will also serve to provide a basic structure for engagement.

What will they do?

Members will be responsible for passing on information through their respective committees, community meeting events and forums. Their role will be to facilitate input from their respective groups, review documents and supply local knowledge. The TWAG will be

supported throughout the planning process by Water Resources staff.

The Tiwi Land Council has also nominated Trustees to be delegates for the different groups of Tiwi land holders. Water Resources staff will also be working closely with land owner Trustees to help develop the Tiwi Water Resource strategy.

What's been happening?

Key achievements of the last year include:

- Working with Tiwi to visit country and talk about important water places on the islands.
- Meeting with the Land Council and Shire Council to work out the best way to engage with Tiwi people.
- Conducting community workshops to talk about managing Tiwi Water Resources.
- Working with Rangers to assess ground and surface water to check how healthy and how much water there is.



Tiwi Land Ranger Willie Rioli collects a water sample to test for nutrients at Koolinbini water hole on Melville Island.

What happens next?

- Water Resource staff will work with the TWAG to develop a draft water resource strategy.
- Meeting with Tiwi people and organisations for their input into the draft strategy.
- Providing reports to help make decisions about managing Tiwi Water Resources.

For more information

Speak to your local Tiwi Ranger or contact:

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