

MARION SCRYMGOUR
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

3 May 2005

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT, PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

The Martin Government is backing the Territory's unique lifestyle by protecting and enhancing our environment and preserving our heritage, Minister for Environment and Heritage Marion Scrymgour announced today.

"Budget 2005 includes additional funding to monitor and protect the environment, support local environmental groups, and invest in heritage projects," Ms Scrymgour said.

BALANCING GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Protecting our environment is an important part of enhancing our Territory lifestyle.

Budget 2005 is backing environmental protection, with:

- \$4.5 million for the Office of Environment and Heritage
- \$1 million for environmental assessment and compliance monitoring activities for development projects
- \$500 000 for the Mary River desalination project
- \$300,000 for the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management
- \$840,000 to assist the sustainable management of marine activities and species
- \$710,000 for grants and assistance to local environmental groups
- \$480,000 for programs to protect the environment from cane toads
- funding for a 24-hour pollution hotline response service

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Budget 2005 continues the Martin Government's protection and preservation of the Territory's heritage, with:

- \$1 million for heritage areas repairs and maintenance
- \$227,000 for Northern Territory Heritage Grants
- \$114,000 for the National Trust NT

"The Territory is an amazing place to live and visit and we want to keep it that way, while allowing development to go ahead in a responsible way," Ms Scrymgour said.

"The Martin Government is continuing its commitment to environmental protection with Budget 2005, as well as remembering and celebrating our past and those people who helped build the Territory."

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