



# Katherine

The Katherine region has a population of around 16 600, of which about 40 per cent is Indigenous. About 45 per cent of the population is aged 24 years and under with only about six per cent aged 65 years and over. The region extends to the Gulf of Carpentaria in the east and to the Ord-Bonaparte area in the west. The region contains many pastoral properties, Indigenous communities and tourist attractions, and is home to the RAAF Base Tindal.

Its industry base is diverse and includes tourism, mining and pastoralism, mixed farming and horticultural enterprises. Katherine is developing as a road-rail transport hub servicing the region, including for horticulture output from Western Australia.

## Supporting Business

- \$0.9M to assist with the sustainable allocation of water resources of the Katherine River and adjacent aquifers
- \$0.72M for animal health services including inspections, treatment and certification services and animal surveillance and preparedness programs to ensure Territory livestock meet necessary standards for domestic and export outlets, and to develop Emergency Animal Disease Preparedness
- \$0.19M for continued strategic weed management planning and coordination, advice and extension services to landholders to promote sustainable agriculture and development in the region
- \$0.46M for integrated support to the pastoral industry through lease administration, advisory, monitoring and regulatory services

- \$0.37M for horticultural industry development including research and extension services for the mango, citrus, crop and vegetable industries and information services for industry
- \$0.25M for a collaborative research project with Heytesbury Beef and Meat and Livestock Australia to investigate the more efficient use of pastoral land
- \$0.17M to continue the Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program (TFAP 2) to complete the national tuberculosis eradication program
- \$0.5M for cattle and rangeland research programs at Victoria River Research Station
- \$0.7M for research facilities at Katherine Research Station to provide agricultural and crop research in the region and support sustainable irrigation industry development

- \$0.18M for the Territory Business Centre, the first contact point for businesses needing to access Government services and products
- \$35 000 for land information and associated services to support sustainable development
- \$0.32M for integrated land and water advice to landholders to promote sustainable agriculture and development in the region

## Jobs and Training

- \$1.8M across all regions for 250 small business training incentives valued at \$3000 each and 150 traditional trade incentives of \$7000 each
- \$0.58M for Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education tertiary programs
- \$0.92M for Flexible Response Funding for training leading to employment for Indigenous people, Training for Remote Youth and Training Centres
- \$50 000 for driver training and licensing for 16 to 18 year olds

## Safer Communities

- \$9.45M to provide police, fire and emergency services in the region including seven police stations, one fire station, two volunteer fire brigade units and three volunteer emergency services groups
- \$0.15M for volunteer bushfire brigades in the region



## Infrastructure Highlights

- \$15M Victoria Highway stage 2 – complete floodplain upgrade, lifting and strengthening sections of road pavement and four new bridges at Victoria River, Joe Creek, Lost Creek and Sandy Creek
- \$5M Victoria Highway stage 1 – continue floodplain upgrade of Victoria River and Lost Creek bridges to improve access
- \$0.63M Pigeon Hole aerodrome – relocate and upgrade to all-weather operation and upgrade emergency runway lighting system, signal area and provide shade structure. Completed work will be to Civil Aviation Authority Standards
- \$0.74M Manyallaluk Homeland Centre – complete new school including classrooms as part of the remote schools upgrade program
- \$0.71M Gregory National Park, Victoria River sector – complete river access and boat ramp
- \$0.5M Katherine Cultural Precinct – complete headworks incorporating power, water and sewerage services, stormwater drainage and roadworks prior to the construction of a centre to showcase the region's art, heritage and culture
- \$0.5M Warrego Road – complete upgrade of selected sections from Lajamanu to Tennant Creek, with appropriate clearances from the Central Land Council
- \$0.3M Dorisvale Road – beef road, complete selected gravelling and drainage enhancements to improve access
- \$0.25M Buntine Highway – beef road, upgrade to selected sections
- \$90 000 Casuarina Street Primary School – upgrade airconditioning
- \$60 000 Victoria River Research Station – replace the wind-driven pumps with solar pumping systems
- \$42 000 Jilkminggan – construct covered roof over basketball court
- \$20 000 Jilkminggan School – transportable classroom

- \$0.34M for repairs, maintenance and minor works to the Katherine region police, fire and emergency services facilities
- \$0.81M for region's community corrections to monitor and supervise adult and juvenile clients, including successful reintegration into the community
- \$0.32M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities including Beswick, Ngukurr, Timber Creek, Kalkaringi and Lajamanu. Registry services are provided through the Magistrates Court at Katherine
- \$20 000 support for the Kalano Community Patrol
- \$0.21M to continue the Community Harmony Strategy, addressing the health, wellbeing and antisocial behaviours of itinerant groups

## Better Schooling

- \$13.9M for primary and early childhood education in six urban schools
- \$14.65M for early childhood, primary and post primary education in 15 remote schools
- \$7.78M for secondary education for students at Katherine High School
- \$2.67M for isolated student education through the Katherine School of the Air
- \$2.46M for assistance to non-government schools
- \$1.76M for student and school support services including curricula to schools and special education needs support
- \$1.6M for Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Programs to improve the education of Indigenous students

- \$1.15M for Territory student assistance travel schemes and remote teacher housing
- \$0.88M for Australian Government Targeted Programs including Literacy and Numeracy Special Learning Needs and the National Drug Education Strategy
- \$0.4M for programs to support students with a disability
- \$0.18M for Aboriginal and Islander Education Workers in urban schools

## Better Health

- \$24M for acute care services in the region, including health and community initiatives to maximise access to acute care services such as road and aero-retrieval transport services and the Patient Assistance Travel Scheme, as well as inpatient and outpatient clinical services
- \$16M for non-acute health and community services in the region
- \$0.6M for renal dialysis services to support clients in their homes and for community-based treatment
- \$20 000 to extend the hours of the Sobering Up Shelter

## Regional Development

- \$3M in grants to the Indigenous Housing Authority of the Northern Territory for Indigenous community housing organisations to construct, maintain and manage housing stock for Indigenous clients
- \$0.3M for Indigenous organisations to provide a tenancy support service to assist Indigenous people obtain and maintain public housing
- \$0.55M for repairs and maintenance of aerodromes in remote areas
- \$1.03M for school and special transport services
- \$0.38M for libraries at Katherine, Pine Creek, Lajamanu, Ngukurr, Mataranka and Barunga-Manyallaluk
- \$39 000 for power and water services to proposed new houses at Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park

## Cyclone Ingrid Restoration

Cyclone Ingrid hit communities across the Territory's northern coastline on Sunday 13 and Monday 14 March 2005 causing damage to Government assets valued in excess of \$10M. After hitting communities on the northern coast of Western Australia the cyclone dissipated over the Kimberley and Katherine regions, causing flooding damage to road infrastructure valued in excess of \$2.1M. 2005-06 restoration works include:

- \$0.78M Buntine Highway – replace Negri Crossing
- \$40 000 Buntine Highway – regravelling and pavement repairs



- \$0.12M to manage Crown land and associated buildings

## Lifestyle and Environment

- \$50 000 in grants for regional and remote festivals in the region as part of 'Showcasing Territory Arts'
- \$0.21M in grants to local governing bodies for community-based sport and recreation officers to provide links between Territory sporting organisations and communities
- \$1.23M for visitor management programs in regional parks
- \$0.63M for weed management programs in parks

- \$0.48M for fire management and prescribed burning to protect life, assets and biodiversity in parks
- \$0.15M to prepare regional plans of management for parks
- \$0.37M to manage and maintain the Mt Todd mine site and to minimise the impact on the environment
- \$30 000 to monitor the environmental impact of operational and closed mine sites in the region
- \$0.17M for problem vertebrate animal management including installing a sprinkler system to deter flying foxes from roosting at Mataranka Hot Springs

- \$0.1M for a flood forecasting system for the Katherine, Victoria, Waterhouse and Roper Rivers
- \$0.13M towards a collaborative research project on flying foxes with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries, the University of California and the USA Center for Conservation Medicine
- \$0.36M for feral animal control programs
- \$0.1M for crocodile management
- \$30 000 for fire management and early burning projects in Gregory and Keep River National Parks
- \$12 000 to continue the Junior Park Ranger program



- \$25 000 for chemical storage facilities at Nitmiluk National Park
- \$0.58M for visitor facilities including toilet, access roads and campgrounds at Limmen National Park
- \$15 000 to conduct bat control programs in Katherine
- \$15 000 for the annual Devils Claw Festival involving traditional owner and volunteer assistance to survey and control the weed
- \$11 000 to upgrade toilet facilities at Big Horse Campground, Gregory National Park