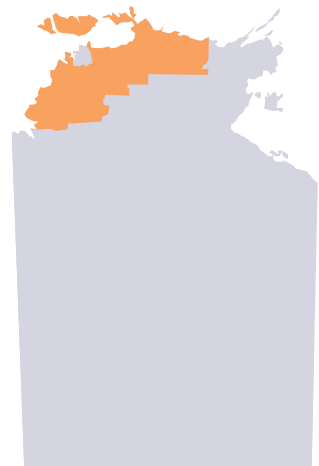


# Top End Rural

The Top End Rural region covers a land mass of 140 000 square kilometres (about 10 per cent of the Territory's area) and has many small communities. The two largest communities are Wadeye and Jabiru. Around 65 per cent of the region's population of about 14 500 people are Indigenous. It has a relatively young population, with about 47 per cent aged 24 years and under, and only 4 per cent aged 65 years and over.

Mining projects in the region include Toms Gully, Woodcutters, Ranger and the proposed Brown's Oxide mine at Batchelor. Cattle farming and agriculture are also significant industries, supported by the Douglas Daly Research Farm. A pipeline from Wadeye to Darwin is proposed to supply gas from the Blacktip gas field to meet the Territory's long-term gas requirements from 2009.

The Tiwi Islands, Litchfield National Park and Kakadu National Park attract many tourists to the region. The Daly and other rivers in the region also attract many recreational fishers and campers.



## Supporting Business

- \$0.82M to provide and manage the Douglas Daly Research Farm as the base for delivery of primary industry programs and to develop and test best farming systems for the region
- \$0.16M for animal health services, including inspection, treatment and certification, and animal disease surveillance and preparedness programs to ensure Territory livestock meet necessary standards for domestic and export outlets
- \$0.18M to identify superior African mahogany clones suitable for commercial forestry

- \$0.14M to support buffalo industry development through genetics, Tenderbuff and crossbreeding research programs

## Jobs and Training

- \$2.21M for Charles Darwin University, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and other service providers to deliver vocational education and training
- \$0.45M for Flexible Response Funding for training leading to employment for Indigenous people, including Training for Remote Youth and the Regional Training Centre

- \$73 000 for Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education tertiary programs

## Safer Communities

- \$6.7M to provide police, fire and emergency services in the Top End Rural region including nine police stations, one fire station and ten volunteer groups, and \$0.38M for repairs, maintenance and minor new works
- \$0.14M for courts to administer justice for regional and remote communities, including Wadeye, Daly River and Jabiru. Registry

## Infrastructure Highlights

- \$9.2M for Indigenous community housing organisations to construct and upgrade Indigenous housing
- \$4.66M for repairs and maintenance of roads in the region (work on flood-damaged roads will be in addition to this)
- \$4.5M for the Litchfield Loop stage 1
- \$4.5M for Wadeye – new secondary education facility
- \$1.1M for Dundee Beach – jointly-funded project with the Power and Water Corporation to extend the electricity supply
- \$1.1M to seal the Point Stuart Road to standard from Ch17 to Ch25 under the Beef Roads Upgrades Program
- \$0.96M to complete the seal on the Cox Peninsula Road from the Stuart Highway to Belyuen
- \$0.73M for Nguiu to drill and equip new bores
- \$0.5M for Mary River Wetlands – new and upgraded weirs and saltwater intrusion control works for desalination
- \$0.5M for the Gunbalanya Community Education Centre – three new classrooms
- \$0.57M for Channel Point to continue park infrastructure development, fencing and upgrade of the access road
- \$0.2M to build passing and deceleration lanes and seal the intersection at Byers Road and Stuart Highway
- \$0.2M to seal shoulders along the Arnhem Highway from Ch105 to Ch115
- \$0.15M to install flag lighting along rural arterial roads
- \$0.1M to construct guardrails at Hardy's Creek on the Cox Peninsula Road

services are provided through the Magistrates Court in Darwin

- \$0.37M for Wadeye, Jabiru and Tiwi Islands community corrections to monitor and supervise adult and juvenile clients, including successful reintegration into the community

## Better Schooling

- \$23.35M for early childhood, primary and secondary education in 18 remote schools
- \$7.1M assistance to non-government schools in the region
- \$2.33M for Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives programs to improve Indigenous education
- \$1.42M for Territory student assistance travel schemes and remote teacher housing
- \$0.95M to provide students and school support services, including curricula for schools and special needs support
- \$0.76M for Australian Government targeted programs, including Literacy, Numeracy and Special Learning Needs and the National Drug Education Strategy
- \$0.23M for programs to support students with a disability
- \$0.13M for Aboriginal Islander Education Workers
- \$0.12M in Back to School payments to assist students with the cost of essential school items
- \$65 000 for the Junior Park Ranger program, including providing resources and assistance to remote schools

## Better Health

- \$26.4M for non-acute health and community services in the region
- \$0.4M for renal dialysis services to support clients in their homes and community-based treatments



- \$0.2M for new home and community care services
- \$0.12M for Aboriginal Islander Education Workers in schools
- \$0.1M to increase visiting specialist mental health services

## Community Development

- \$3.3M in grant funding to Indigenous community housing organisations to maintain and manage community housing
- \$1M for production and supply of barramundi fingerlings for grow-out cages at Port Heard on Bathurst Island, and for liaison with international seafood industry on creation of a trepang hatchery adjacent to the Channel Island aquaculture hatchery
- \$0.36M for two development coordinators at Thamarrurr and the Tiwi Islands to assist in governance capacity development and to support regional local government
- \$70 000 across regions to facilitate and support Regional Economic Committees, to drive job and business growth, and to facilitate a number of Regional Economic Development Forums

## Lifestyle and Environment

- \$1.5M for a joint project with the Australian Greenhouse Office to harvest *Mimosa pigra* at Beatrice Hill to produce gas to drive power generators
- \$0.91M for bushfire mitigation and control operations in the Arafura, Vernon and Arnhem bushfire control regions
- \$0.58M for weed management, including expanding the Cabomba aquatic weed eradication program
- \$0.4M for weed management (mainly *Mimosa pigra*) throughout wetlands, parks and Aboriginal land around Murganella, including the Mary River Weed-a-thon volunteer program
- \$0.35M to monitor the environmental impact from operational and closed mine sites in the region, including at Nabarlek, Ranger Mine and Woodcutters
- \$0.23M for regional public library services at Jabiru, Wadeye, Peppimenarti and the Tiwi Islands
- \$0.31M to implement a policy to control native vegetation clearing in Top End Rural and Katherine regions