



MEDIA RELEASE

March 2019

MG Corporation seeks funding for women's ranger proposal

MG Corporation has applied for funding from the State Government to develop a women's ranger project to employ MG women on country in the East Kimberley.

Under the proposal, three female rangers would be trained to work alongside the male rangers to jointly manage large conservation areas.

It's proposed the women rangers would be trained in three key areas; to lead and promote Indigenous tourism, help build the capacity of local firefighting crews and complement existing ranger services.

MG Corporation Executive Chair Lawford Benning said if successful, the proposal would give the female rangers the opportunity to work with private tourism providers to create a unique MG On Country experience.

"Kununurra already has a strong tourism trade, but currently there are not many Aboriginal tourism ventures in the area," he said.

"Our female rangers could be trained to lead guided walks through the beautiful Mirima National Park, imparting knowledge of MG cultural understanding, bush tucker and Dreamtime stories."

Mr Benning said it was also culturally important to have MG women employed on country.

"There are currently areas where the male rangers can't go for cultural reasons," he said.

"The women rangers would be able to accompany female Garralyel (senior elders) to these sacred sites, enabling gender specific knowledge to be passed on, as well as ensuring these sites are registered and looked after."

MG Corporation submitted the proposal on March 15 as part of the Expressions of Interest for round two of the State Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program.

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