Environment Centre NT





It's time for action to protect our coasts.

The Plan to safeguard our coasts - the **NT Coastal and Marine Management Strategy** - was released in September 2019. It sets the course for the management and protection of the coastal and marine environments of the Northern Territory over the next 10 years. It commits to safeguarding our coasts and seas, ensuring they're healthy and productive, their cultural significance is recognised, and they continue to support our unique Territory lifestyle and livelihoods on the water.

Stakeholders and Land Councils worked together during this last term of Government to develop the Plan. The broader public also called for the development of the Plan, and then contributed through over 500 submissions in the community consultation process. There is widespread expectation now that the Plan will be implemented.

The recent report <u>Economic Values of the Northern Territory Marine and Coastal Environments</u> found that **our coastal waters support over 6,000 jobs and contribute \$2billion annually to the economy.** This report shows what is at risk if we fail to adequately invest in the management and protection of our Top End coasts.

Our coasts are at the heart of our Top End lifestyle. With the recognized contribution our coasts make to jobs and the economy, and with threats to these coasts on the rise, we need to implement the Plan urgently.

Will your party commit to:

In the next term of government -

- 1. Implementation of the Plan to safeguard our coasts, including:
 - a. The development of two regional coastal plans using spatial marine planning with the involvement of Traditional Owners, stakeholders and local communities.
 - b. The necessary funds to implement the Plan: \$1.2m per year recurrent (\$4.8m over 4 years).