Environment Centre NT

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Gamba Grass Territory election briefing note

Fund the fight for increased gamba action to protect lives, homes and landscapes

Over the past two years, ECNT, along with Pew Charitable Trusts have been part of the Gamba Grass Roots alliance that has been working with local stakeholders and building public support for increased action to deal with dangerous gamba grass. It is clear that community members affected by the spread of gamba are looking to the NT Government for support and leadership on this issue.

We are writing to all Northern Territory political parties to seek their commitment to increase investment in gamba grass control to protect lives, homes and landscapes, including vital environmental assets like Litchfield National Park.

An effective, urgent response to a growing gamba grass problem is needed.

The spread of dangerous gamba grass represents a threat to lives, homes and landscapes across the Top End. We request that all parties commit increased resources for:

- Community outreach and education:
- Improved management of public land:
- Enhanced compliance and enforcement:
- Strategic collaboration
- Get Territorians back to work as part of a gamba surge that can set the Territory up to succeed in this fight (ie Gamba Army).
- Provide extra resources for a new gamba plan to work

Delayed or inadequate investment in gamba control will only lead to a continuing escalation of fire fighting and weed control costs, accompanied by increased risks to homes, farms, businesses, natural areas and the tourism industry.

Significantly increased investment in early intervention efforts is the best, most cost effective way of reducing the risk of more destructive gamba fueled fires.