Environment and Heritage: Jewels in the Territory crown

A CLP Government will upgrade management of the Territory’s environment in a manner which provides maximum protection for our natural and cultural heritage for current and future generations of Territorians.

Annual additional funding - $2.6 million

The Northern Territory environment is a massive natural asset which benefits our tourism product, our lifestyle, our sport and recreational activities and our international scientific knowledge and reputation.

The Northern Territory has an extensive parks estate which promotes biodiversity, protects unique species, provides a visitor experience for locals and tourists and conserves our past for the future.

The Territory has an immense potential for world first scientific knowledge and research, covering desert, tropical savannah and wetland eco-systems.

We will establish a new Environment Protection and Management Authority

A CLP Government is committed to the protection of our fragile natural assets. This initiative will bring together all aspects of related resource management under one expert control to create a sustainable long term position for fragile environmental resources and include particularly, urgent additional focus on the major environmental dangers such as Mimosa Pigra, cane toad eradication, feral animals and salt water intrusion. This will also involve expanded joint Government/private sector research effort.

To avoid duplication, by focusing all related natural resource management under one umbrella, the day to day management of Territory Parks and Wildlife will be undertaken by the Authority.

We will increase Ranger positions to enable on-the-ground management to be undertaken more effectively.

We will urgently increase the effort to control major Environmental threats

Within our overall allocation, we will immediately commit $1m to the research and control effort on environmental dangers, including stopping saltwater intrusion into the Mary River Wetlands, control of Mimosa Pigra and the major emerging threat from cane toads.

We will also strictly enforce the covenants to maintain weed eradication programs on all pastoral leases.
Environment and Heritage: Jewels in the Territory crown

Parks are for All People

We will adopt the principle that Territory residents should have unrestricted access to our natural heritage assets.

The CLP will invite Traditional Owners and Land Councils to join with all Territorians in the joint management of all present Parks and future Parks in the Northern Territory.

The joint management arrangements will be on an equal footing basis with Government with an equal say in all decisions and equal participation in commercial arrangements.

Rights to land and traditional rights of Aboriginal peoples will not be extinguished by the CLP's invitation and an understanding would be reached with Traditional Owners through appropriate mechanisms to safeguard those rights without the need to pursue individual claims.

We will increase protection of Our Heritage Assets

The Territory has some of the oldest and most significant heritage assets in the world. Heritage in the Territory is about the struggles, failures and successes of over 50,000 years of human occupation of this land. It’s about the Territory’s indigenous people, its pioneers and the generations of Territorians and others who have lived, worked and died here.

Our heritage icons, from the rock art and sacred sites of our earliest inhabitants to the frail remains of pioneer buildings, concrete slabs, earthworks, mining equipment and the rusting remnants of World War II, need our protection.

We commit to the preservation and restoration of all heritage assets.

We will commission an audit of the Territory Estate, to ensure all sites of significance are on the register and are under appropriate management arrangements.

We will continue to develop and enhance the tourism heritage trail network throughout the Northern Territory.

We will increase interpretative signage to all sites of heritage significance.
Environment and Heritage: Jewels in the Territory crown

We will further develop Darwin’s Military Historical Precinct

Darwin has a unique World War II history which should be preserved as a proud part of our heritage and as an educational tourism product.

The CLP believes the entire East Point area should be maintained as a historical precinct used to depict Darwin approximately as it was in February 1942. The historic assets will be restored to full display order. Enhanced museum displays will include development of a state-of-the-art digital audio visual history of the war in Australia.

We will establish it as the North Australian War Museum and will seek support from the Commonwealth to join with us in preserving this important heritage. This will also include consideration of the development of a major Naval Museum in the Darwin Harbour area.

A CLP Government will work closely with Darwin City Council to progress this initiative and will also restore other historical sites in the Top End, such as those found at Charles Darwin National Park and other airstrips and bases throughout the northern region as attractive interpretive sites.