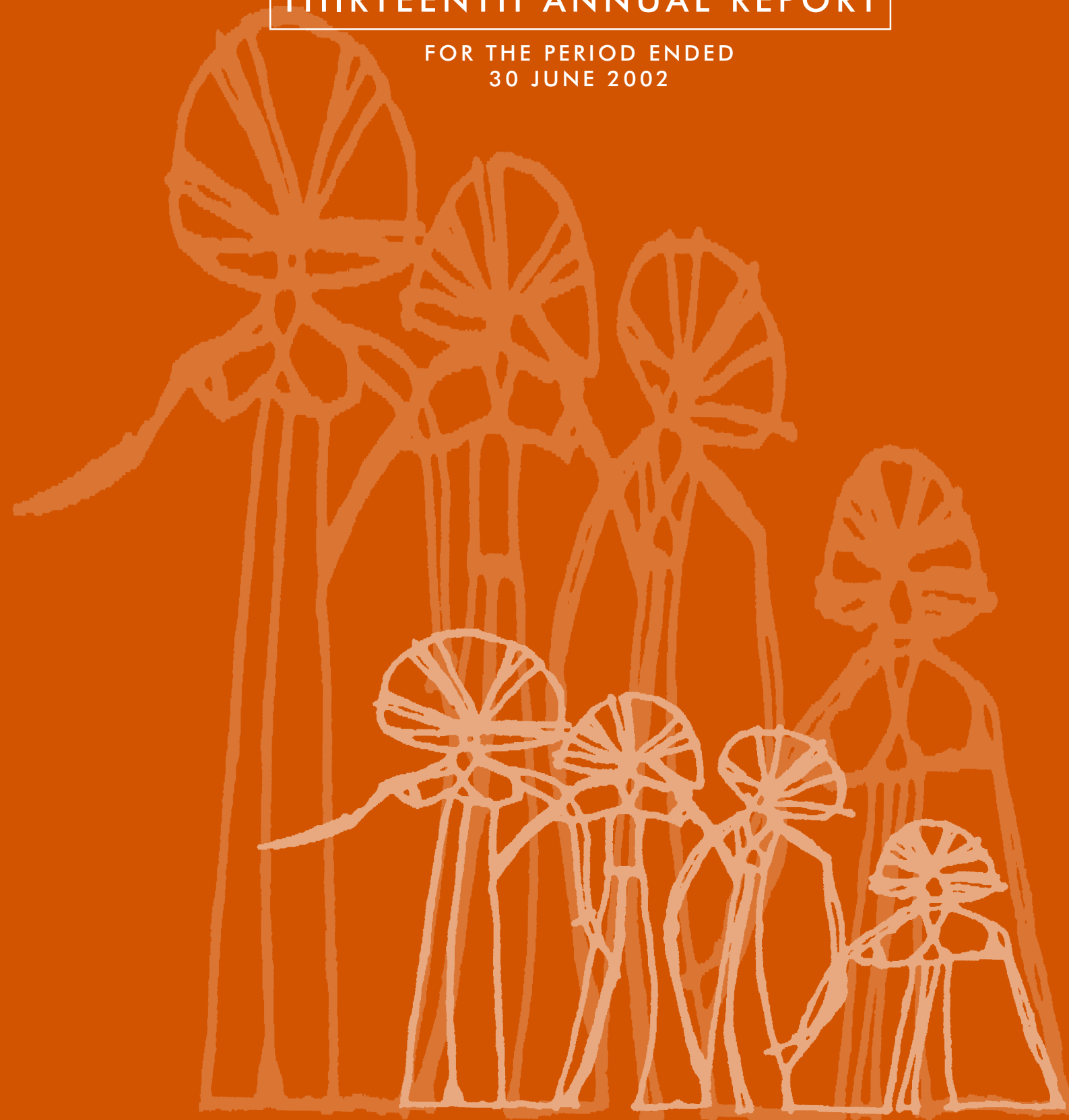


NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
30 JUNE 2002





ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

GPO BOX 1890
DARWIN NT 0801
TELEPHONE: (08) 8981 4700
FACSIMILE: (08) 8981 4169

30 October 2002

The Hon John Ah Kit MLA
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Indigenous Affairs
DARWIN NT 0800

Dear Minister

I have the pleasure to submit to you, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14(1) of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*, the Annual Report for the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority for the financial period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

The Report refers to the thirteenth year of operation of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.

Yours sincerely

Roy Hammer

ROY HAMMER
CHAIRMAN

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN



I have been a member of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority for the past ten years and Chairman since 1997. I think the work of the Authority is very important for my own people and for all of us in the Northern Territory.

We won the right to have our sacred sites protected and this is now in the *Sacred Sites Act*. Our sacred sites were given to us from the Dreamtime. We say our culture and law lies under the ground. We Aboriginal people were the first people here in Australia. Today there are many other people with us. We all stand here on the same ground. So it is very important for us to help the other people in the Northern Territory understand our law and customs. Not only people whose ancestors have come from England and Europe. Chinese people have been here for a long time too, and there are others from Asia, India, Africa and New Guinea. We respect their traditions and custom too. We all have to live together.

The other Board members of the Authority come from places across the Northern Territory. We have members from Central Australia, the Top End and from the Tiwi people, and there are the same number of men and women. This allows us to work with custodians all over the Northern Territory. We try to have our meetings in different places so that we can meet custodians and other people from these places.

This Authority works to protect sacred sites for Aboriginal people. Aboriginal people have to be asked about developments and have the chance to protect their sacred sites. That fits with our own Aboriginal way of doing things and helps us all work together.

While it is good for Aboriginal people that sacred sites are protected in the Northern Territory, our Aboriginal heritage in the land is an important part of the heritage of the Northern Territory that we want everyone to understand.

Roy HAMMER

ROY HAMMER
CHAIRMAN

FROM THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN



We Aboriginal people have come to understand the ways of Government law. We really want the Government to understand our law and culture. We all have to understand one another.

Our Board is made up of custodians who are respected in their communities because they know their culture and custom. On the Board, we sort out problems by talking about them in our own way and deciding the best thing to do. We are trying to do the best for all Aboriginal people to protect our sacred sites and culture, what was given to us from the Dreamtime.

Mining, pipelines and railways, we have these today. But we still look after our law and culture. These developments still have to fit our ceremony and law. So, we are really pleased that today Aboriginal people are asked about these things through this Authority.

Today, the railway is being built between Alice Springs and Darwin according to the rules we agreed to protect our sacred sites. This is suitable for Aboriginal people and the rest of the people in the Northern Territory.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nellie Camfoo".

NELLIE CAMFOO
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN



CORPORATE OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVE OF THIS REPORT

The objective of this report is to fulfil the requirement of Section 14(1) of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* which states in part that the Chairman shall, as soon as practicable after 30 June in each year, submit to the Minister a report on the administration and operation of the Authority during the previous twelve months.

The report includes personal perspectives from the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Authority Board as well as a report by the Chief Executive Officer. The report aims to:

- Document the statutory charter for the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.
- Outline the functions and objectives of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.
- Report on major issues and challenges from the perspective of the executive members of the Board and Chief Executive Officer.
- Provide comprehensive financial statements.
- Report on how successful the Authority has been in providing required services (outputs).



Custodians Lesley Foster and Mick Waake inspect the railway overpass near Ali Curung.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTION

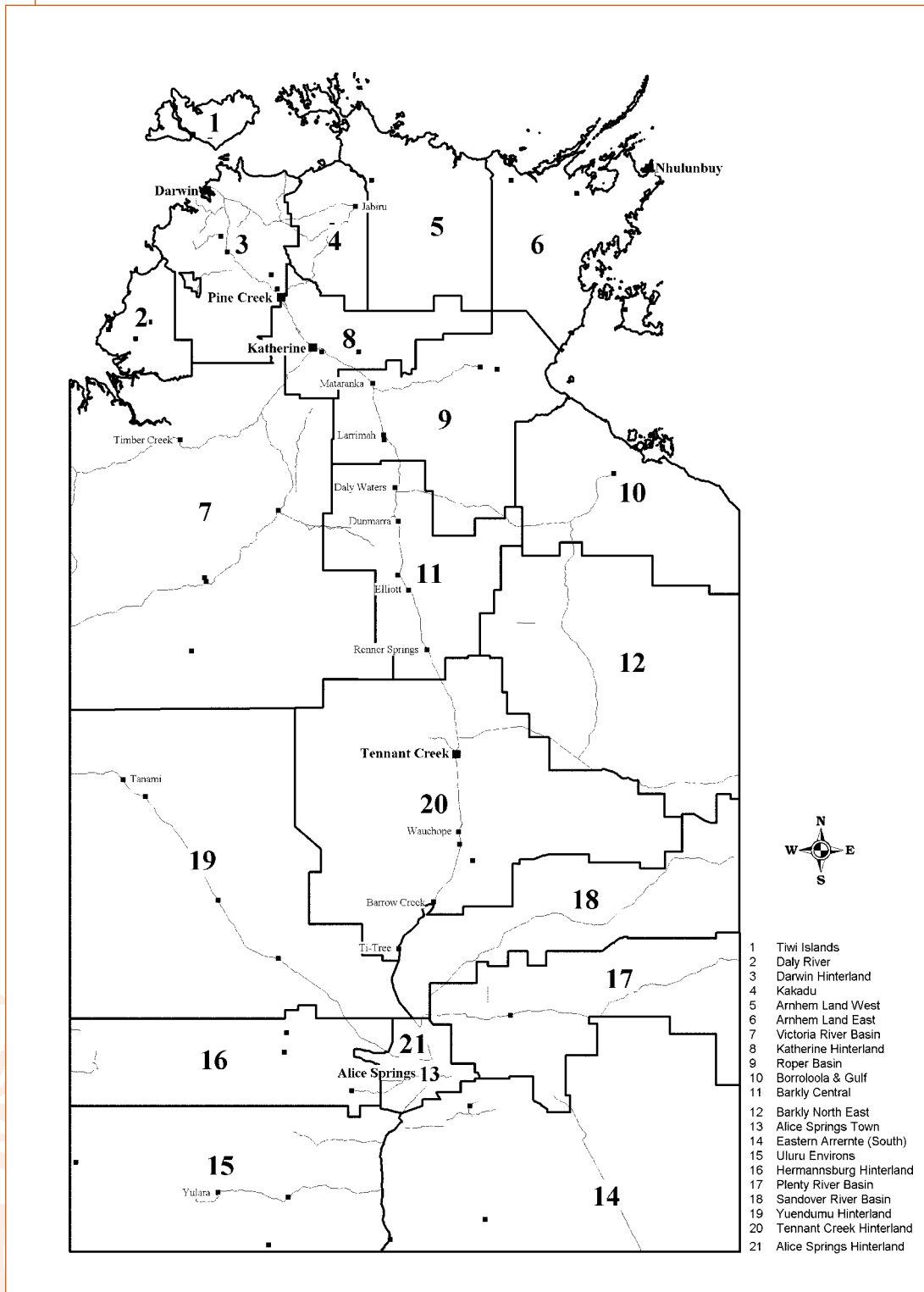
To protect sacred sites and the traditional interests in sacred sites of Aboriginal custodians by documenting and securely holding a record of the traditional information on which legal recognition of these interests depends and providing authoritative advice in order that these interests are incorporated in decisions about land use.



Ivy Yajingali, George Huddlestone, granddaughter Rebecca and Cornelia Vervoorn with spinifex.

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS USED BY THE AUTHORITY



CORPORATE OVERVIEW

OFFICES OF THE AUTHORITY

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority maintains a central office in Darwin and a regional office in Alice Springs. Normal office hours are 8.00am-4.30pm Monday to Friday.

DARWIN

The Darwin office is located on the 1st Floor, T.I.I. Building, 74 Cavenagh Street, Darwin. Postal address: GPO Box 1890, Darwin, 0801.

Telephone No: (08) 89814700, Facsimile No: (08) 89814169.

The administrative and registry functions of the Authority have been centralised in the Darwin office.

The Chairman of the Authority, Mr Roy Hammer, is based in Borroloola.

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr David Ritchie, Principal Anthropologist, Dr John Avery, Senior Anthropologist, Mrs Lesley Mearns, Manager Corporate Services, Mrs Helen Rostedt, and Sites Registrar, Mr Barry Renshaw, are based in the Darwin office.

ALICE SPRINGS

The Alice Springs office is located at Belvedere House, corner of Bath and Parsons Streets, Alice Springs. Postal address: Post Office Box 3656, Alice Springs, 0871.

Telephone No: (08) 89526366, Facsimile No: (08) 89522824.

Chairman of Alice Springs Regional Committee, Mr Wenten Rubuntja, and Regional Officer, Dr Sarah Dunlop, are based in the Alice Springs office.

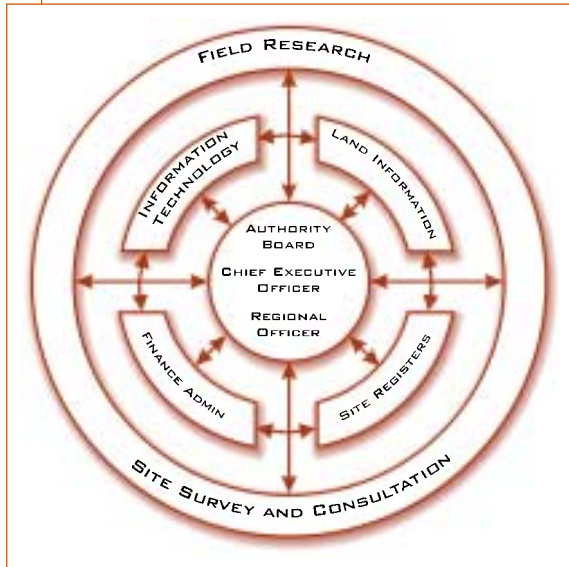


CORPORATE OVERVIEW

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY BOARD

Chairman Mr R Hammer • **Deputy Chairman** Mrs N Camfoo
Members • Mr B Abbott • Ms J Egan • Mr S Kulmilya • Ms L Pula
Mr C Puruntatameri • Mr P Simpson • Ms E Snowy • Mr S Tipungwuti
Mr J Pinney • Mr C Lovegrove, MBE



DARWIN OFFICE

Chief Executive Officer
Dr D Ritchie (to 7 October 2002)
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Dr J Avery (from 7 October 2002)
Executive Secretaries
Ms K Black / Mrs J Chad

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION Manager Corporate Services

Mrs H Rostedt

Administration Officer

Mrs H Buse

Receptionist

Ms I Bridges

External Records

Ms Y Forrest

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Information Systems Manager

Mr R Champion

Information Technology Assistant

Ms D Liddle

SITE REGISTERS

Site Registrar

Mr B Renshaw

Assistant Registrar

Ms K Brahim

LAND INFORMATION

A/Senior Land Information Officer

Ms C Di Pierro

FIELD RESEARCH

Principal Anthropologist

Dr J Avery

Senior Anthropologist

Mrs L Mearns

Research Officers

Mr K Mulvaney, Dr W Zukowski

Ms C Vervoorn

ALICE SPRINGS OFFICE

Regional Officer

Dr S Dunlop

(Mr A Allan from 1 January 2003)

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

Office Manager

Ms J Hardman

Librarian

Ms M Ellis

FIELD RESEARCH

Research Officers

Mr A Allan

Ms E Blockley

Ms C Strelan

Ms E King

Ms A Markham

HIGHLIGHTS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

HIGHLIGHTS 2001-2002

- The Authority protected over 250 sacred sites by way of conditions on works contained in 122 Authority Certificates and 11 Consultation Notification Processes under the Alice Springs to Darwin Railway Authority Certificate (C2000/050). The CNP are operationally equivalent to Authority Certificates.
- The Authority's fieldwork program expanded to meet the special requirements for ongoing consultation, site marking and fencing required for the Alice Springs to Darwin railway.
- Major surveys commenced for the Darwin to Moomba and Nhulunbuy gas pipeline corridors.
- The Authority entered 53 sites in the Register of Sacred Sites and identified 379 new sites for Authority records.

DIRECTIONS FOR 2002-2003

- The Authority will continue to protect several hundred sites by way of conditions applying to activities under Authority Certificates.
- The heavy demand for Authority resources for consultations, site marking and fencing for the Alice Springs to Darwin Railway will continue.
- The Authority will work with custodians on projects designed to enhance the scope and quality of site information held in Authority archives.
- The Authority will continue to review materials for the Registration of sacred sites requested by custodians.
- The Authority will assist museums and Aboriginal groups with the repatriation of skeletal remains of Aboriginal origin removed from the Northern Territory.
- In the event that the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Bill 1998* is passed by the Commonwealth, the Authority will obtain accreditation under the resulting Act.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



Custodians during a break in consultation about the railway north of Tennant Creek.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS

This year marks the end of the three-year term of the current Authority Board. The year is marked by a dramatic increase in the number of people seeking information from the Authority's Registers about the existence of sacred sites. The trend noted in the previous report in the number of Authority Certificate applications in the Alice Springs region continued with a 23% increase over the previous year.

The Authority was also involved in substantial consultations associated with the Alice Springs to Darwin railway project.

It is a requirement of the Certificate (C2000/050) issued for the project that the Authority arranges on-site meetings with custodians and ADrail engineers to negotiate details of each section of the works within a specified time-frame. This process was designed to ensure that issues relating to sacred sites do not hold up construction and it is a credit to custodians and Authority, ADrail and Land Council staff that all issues have been resolved and that construction remains ahead of schedule.

From 29th January 2002 for the remainder of the financial year I was seconded to the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs. Dr John Avery administered the Authority on a day-to-day basis in my place, as Acting Executive Director. I attended Authority Meetings and retained the statutory powers and delegations of Chief Executive Officer during this period.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

MEETING THE OBJECTIVES AND ACHIEVING STATED OUTCOMES

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The task given to the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority by the Northern Territory Parliament is to implement the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

It is expected that the work of the Authority will enhance relations between Aboriginal Australians and the wider Territory population by increasing levels of certainty when identifying the constraints, if any, of land-use proposals arising from the existence of sacred sites.

OUTCOME PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Increased level of certainty for those wishing to commit resources for economic development.
- Increased appreciation within the community and Government of the value of Aboriginal sacred sites and the traditional interest in sacred sites.
- Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority to be an integral part of Government decision-making in relation to resolution of issues involving sacred sites.

SERVICE (OUTPUT) PROVIDED BY THE AUTHORITY

The Authority provides the service specified in the *Sacred Sites Act* for the protection and registration of sacred sites and the avoidance of sacred sites in the development and use of land.

The service provided by the Authority includes documenting and maintaining confidential records and information provided by Aboriginal custodians in support of requests to have sites officially recognised, carrying out, on request, site avoidance surveys and maintaining public Registers of Registered sites and Certificates issued as a result of site avoidance surveys, as well as enforcing the provisions of the Act. Details of the processes involved in providing these services is contained in the section headed "Functions of Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority" (pg 29). These areas of the Authority's work are itemised below, along with performance measures designed to give an indication of how successful the Authority has been at producing the service required.

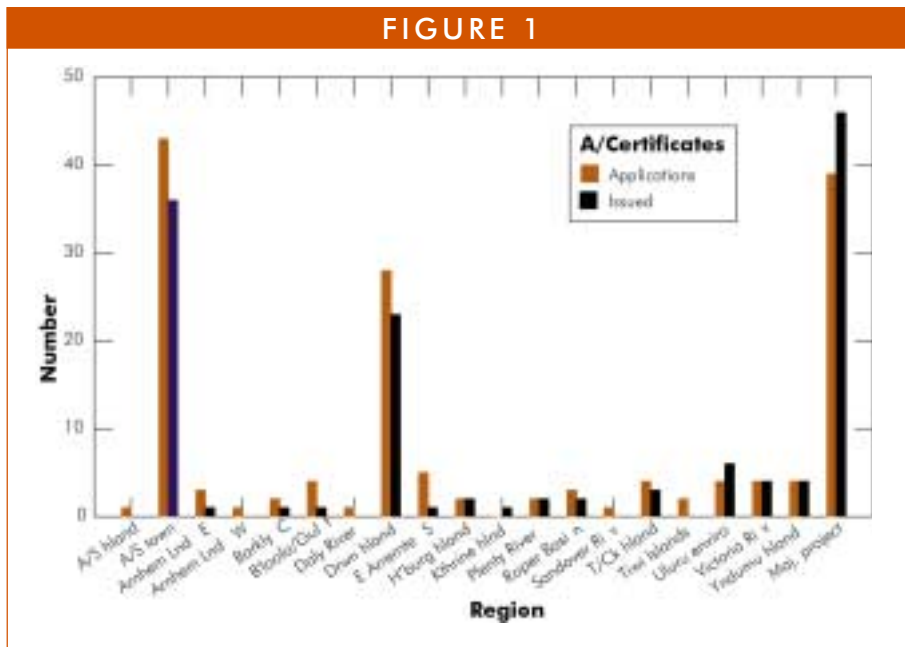
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

SITE AVOIDANCE SURVEYS

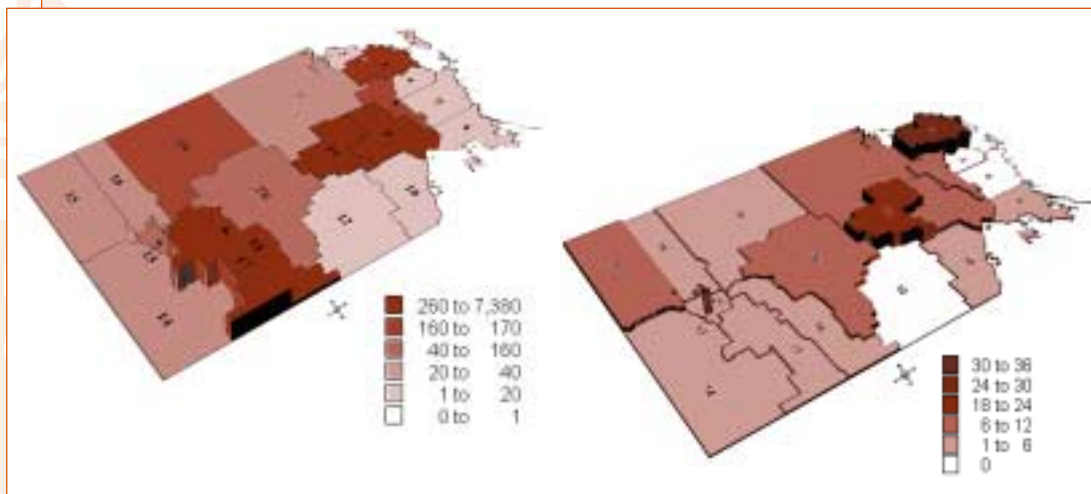
On request, the Authority carries out surveys to determine the constraints, if any, imposed by the existence of sacred sites on works anywhere in the Northern Territory. The Authority consults with custodians and issues a Certificate setting out the conditions under which the proposed works may proceed.

- Quantity -

The Authority received 153 applications for Authority Certificates. This figure includes applications for variations to existing Certificates for complex projects such as the Rail Project as these involve similar consultation and survey requirements. This represents an 8% decrease over the previous year. The following Figure shows the spread of applications and the 133 issued Certificates by region.



The following two Figures show the total area (km²) of 2001-2002 Certificate works per region compared with the number of Certificates issued per region 2001-2002.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Quality -

The quality of the site avoidance surveys carried out by the Authority is measured by counting the number of people appealing to the Minister for a review of the Authority's actions because they are aggrieved by a decision or action of the Authority, or by the failure of the Authority to act within a reasonable time-frame. The procedure for such appeals is established under Division 3 of the Act and may be analysed in three stages:- firstly, appeals to the Minister s30; secondly, matters referred by the Minister for review s30(4); and thirdly, instances where the Minister has been forced to take executive action because of the failure of the Authority to resolve outstanding issues.

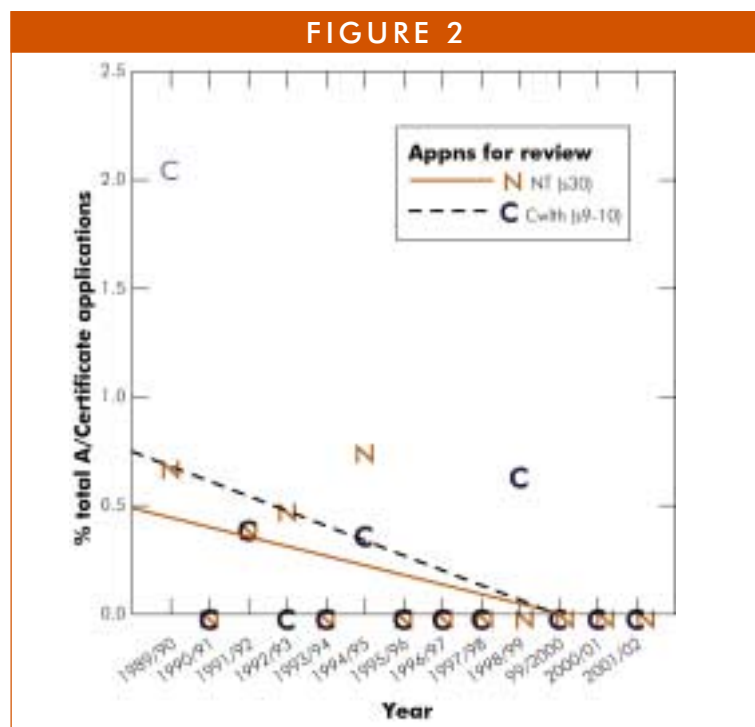
The Authority seeks to keep appeals to the Northern Territory Minister to less than 1% of all applications.

A significant increase in the number of matters requiring Ministerial intervention is a signal that the desired outcome of minimising opportunity for socially divisive controversies is not being achieved. There were no appeals to the Minister this year.

Aboriginal clients who are concerned that the Authority (or the Northern Territory legislation) is not able to protect their sites may apply to the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for protection of their sites under Section 10 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act*. Applications to the Federal Minister are an indication that Aboriginal clients lack confidence in the ability of the Authority to protect their sites. A decision by the Federal Minister to intervene is invariably marked by a high degree of controversy. There were no appeals to the Federal Minister relating to sites in the Northern Territory this year.

The Authority seeks to keep appeals to the Federal Minister to less than 1%.

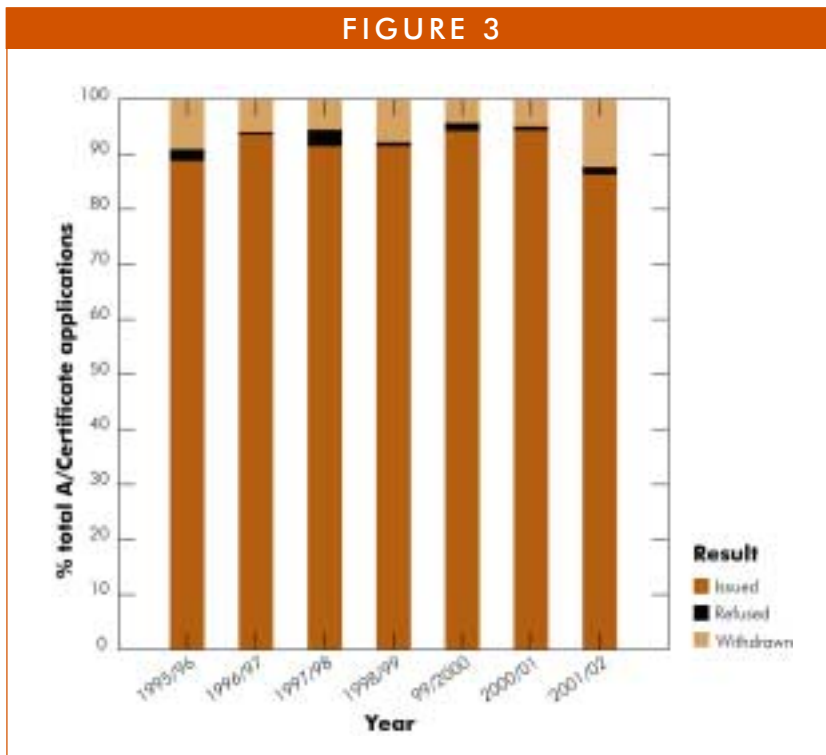
Figure 2 shows trends in the number of applications to the Territory Minister (s30) and Federal Minister under s10 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act* over the last thirteen years.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Another measure of the quality of the site avoidance surveys is the ratio between the number of Authority Certificates issued and the number of Certificates refused. A Certificate issued is a signal that, in the words of the Act, "a practical balance" between the need to preserve a particular site and some other land use has been achieved. The lower the ratio between the number of Certificates refused and the number of Certificates issued, the fewer opportunities there are for socially divisive controversies over the existence of sacred sites.

A comparison between Certificates issued and applications withdrawn and refused over the last seven years is shown in Figure 3. The percentage of applications refused is up this year. Two Certificates had to be refused as compared with one in the previous year. Nineteen applications were withdrawn compared with seven in 2000-2001. This higher number appears to be partly the result of projects being deferred by applicants.

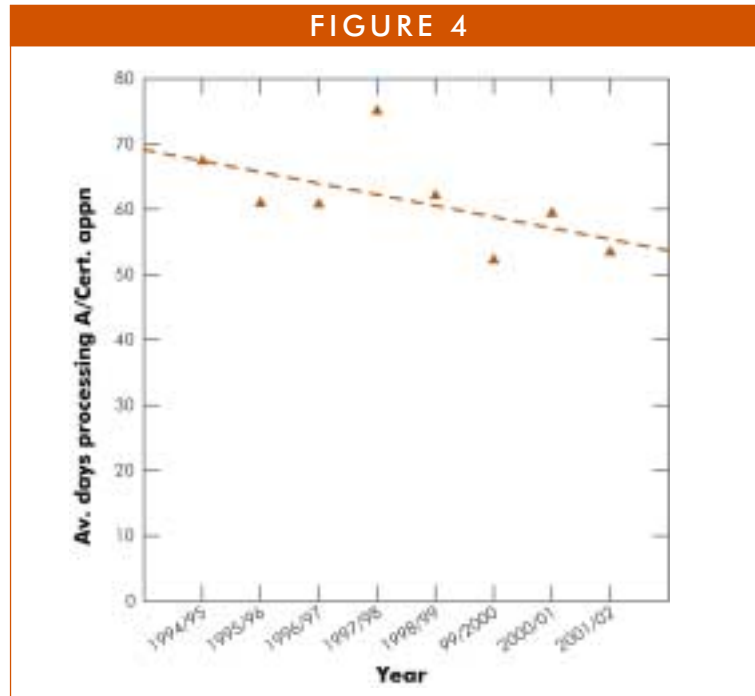


- Timeliness -

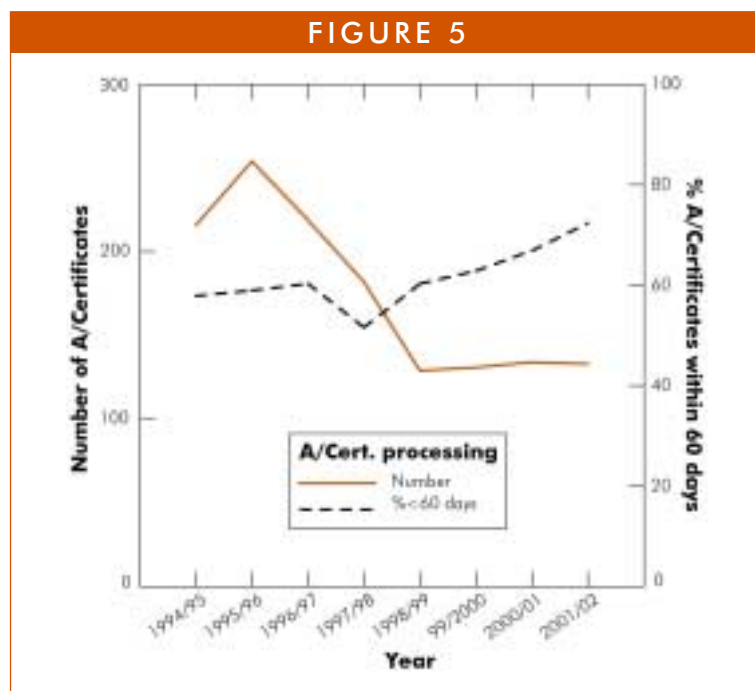
Timeliness in achieving this output can be inferred from the statistic representing the average lapsed time between each Certificate issued/refused and the date of its request. Calculation of this statistic requires some care, as extended negotiations over the issue of Certificates do not automatically indicate uncertainty or delays imposed on the developer. In some cases lengthy consultations result from some developers changing their plans or from developers seeking ongoing dialogue with custodians in order to achieve a mutually satisfactory resolution of site issues.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Figure 4 shows that the average elapsed time between applications and issue/refusal has been decreasing over the last five years.



While the number of Certificates issued has remained relatively constant over the last few years, there has been a consistent improvement in the 'timeliness' of responses to applications, shown in Figure 5.



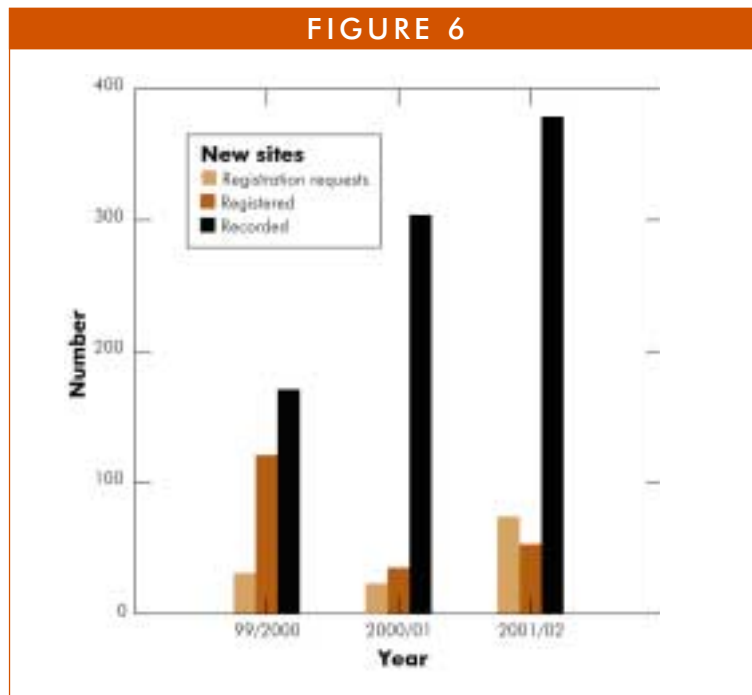
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

DOCUMENTING, EVALUATING AND REGISTERING SITES

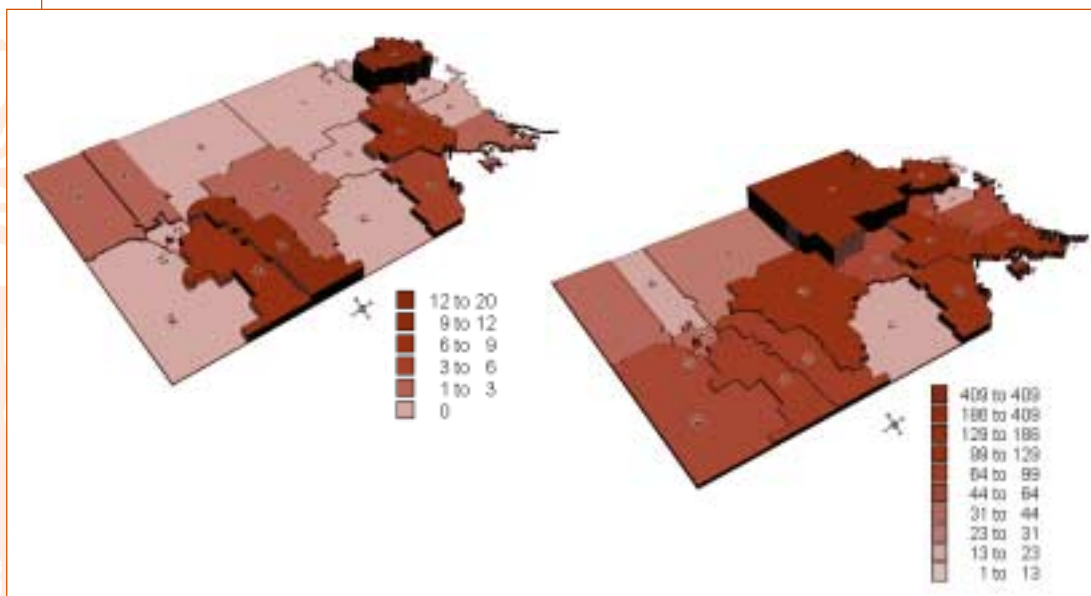
The Authority receives requests for site protection from Aboriginal custodians, documents information provided by custodians in support of their requests, executes protection measures for sites and maintains confidential records of traditional information.

- Quantity -

Figure 6 shows the number of all new sites recorded by the Authority in relation to requests for site Registrations.



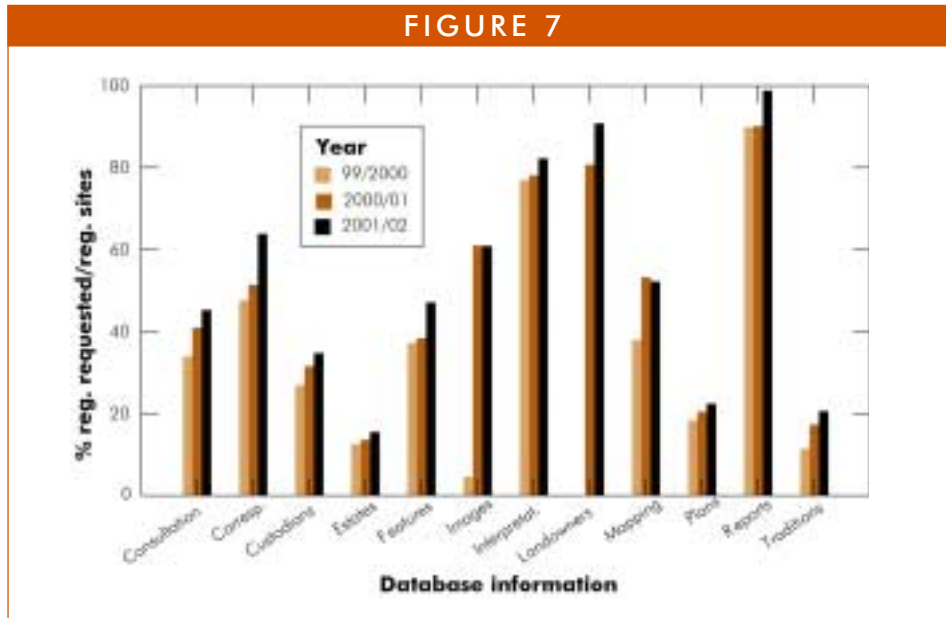
The following two Figures show the total number of 2001-2002 site registrations per region compared to the total number of registered sacred sites per region.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

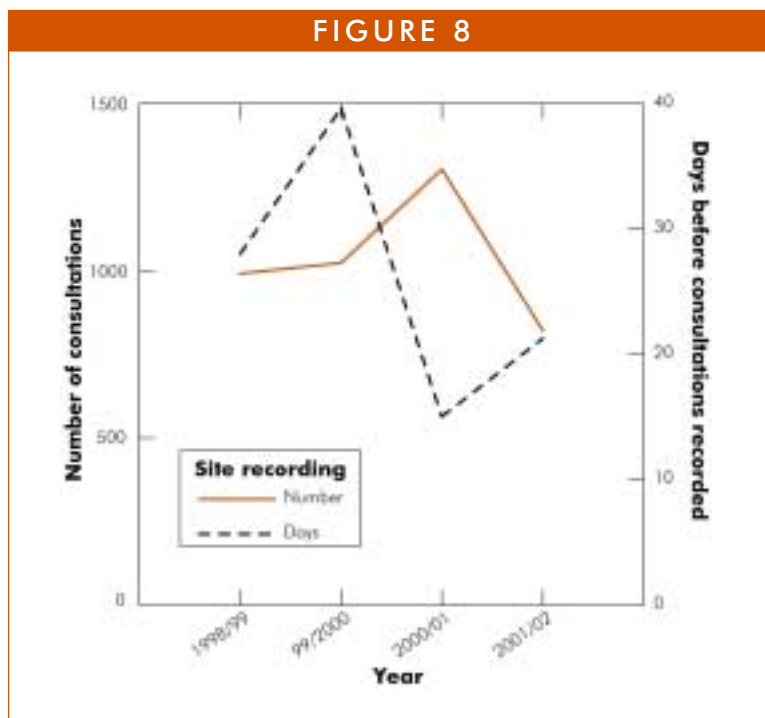
- Quality -

Figure 7 refers to sites which custodians have asked the Authority to register (including those already registered). It shows the percentage of sites for which the Authority has already collected different types of documentation.



- Timeliness -

Figure 8 shows the number of consultations with custodians and the days elapsed before these data were recorded in the Authority's database.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

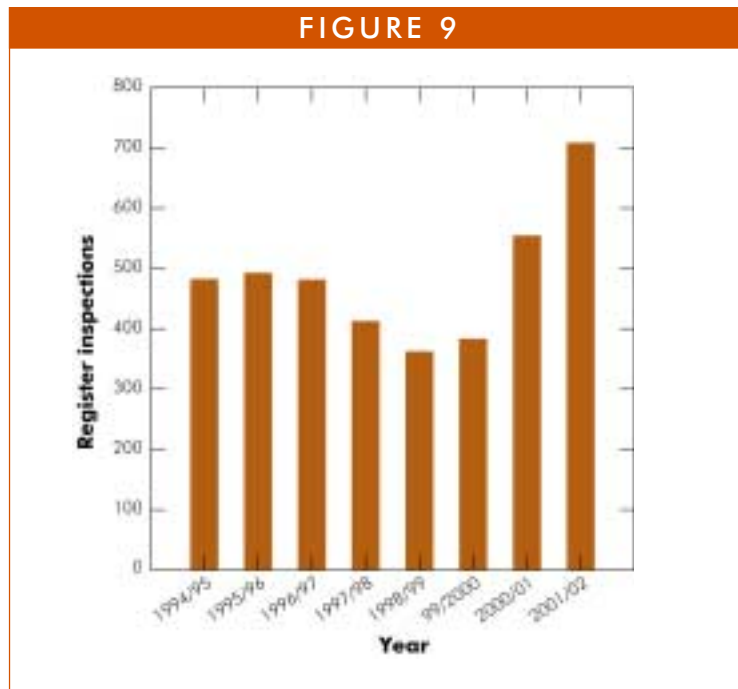
MAINTAINING PUBLIC REGISTERS WHICH INCLUDE PARTICULARS OF REGISTERED SACRED SITES AND AUTHORITY CERTIFICATES

A major function of the Authority is the establishment and operation of two public Registers. These are the Register of Sacred Sites and the Register of Authority Certificates.

- Quantity -

In the year under report, the Authority responded to over 710 requests to inspect the Authority's Registers, a 30% increase over the previous year.

Numbers of responses to Register inspections and requests for information over the last eight years are shown in Figure 9.



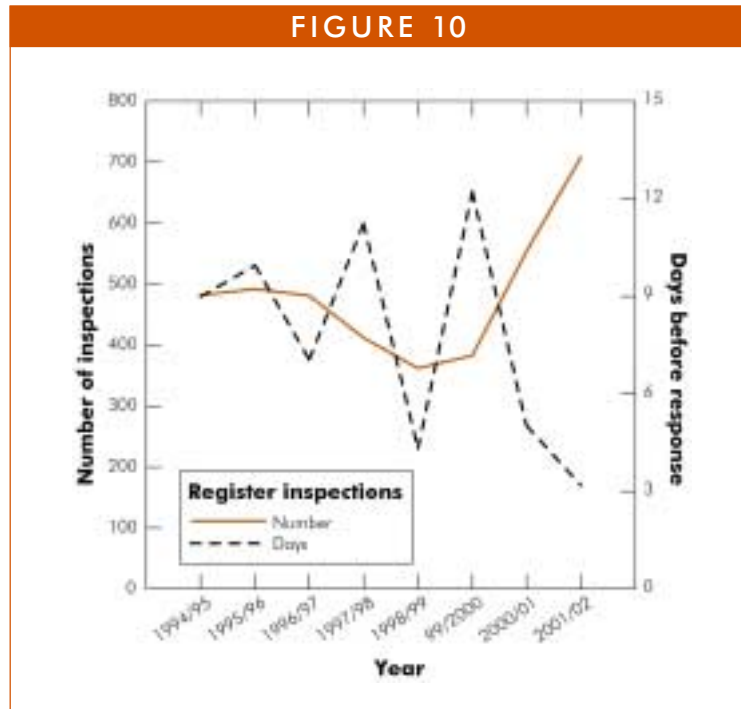
- Quality -

All responses recorded above were made in accordance with the quality assurance principle that written requests receive comprehensive written responses and that clear, new maps are generated to meet the specific requirements of each enquiry.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Timeliness -

The following Figure 10 shows the average elapsed time between requests for information and a written response. Despite the large increase in the number of requests, there has been a significant improvement in processing time.



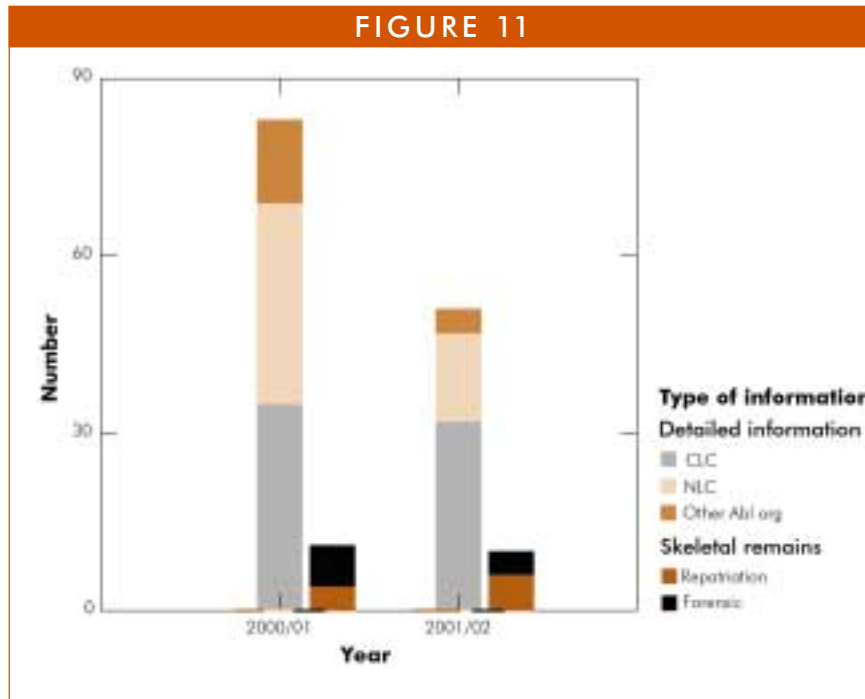
ADVICE TO CLIENTS AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY

As the authoritative body for site protection, the Authority provides objective advice relating to the identification and protection of sacred sites in the Northern Territory. In the period under report, the Territory's native title representative bodies were major clients requesting this service. The other significant area of advice requested relates to Aboriginal skeletal remains, under protocols developed with the Coroner's Office and Northern Territory Police (see section "Responsibilities under Heritage Conservation Act" (pg 28).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Quantity -

Figure 11 shows the number of requests received from native title representative bodies for detailed information on Aboriginal traditions relating to sites and the number of requests received for advice relating to skeletal material.



- Quantity and Timeliness -

The same quality assurance process established for enquiries to the Public Registers is applied to the provision of advice under this section. Comparative data will be provided in future Annual Reports.

ENFORCING OFFENCE PROVISIONS THROUGH THE COURTS (S39)

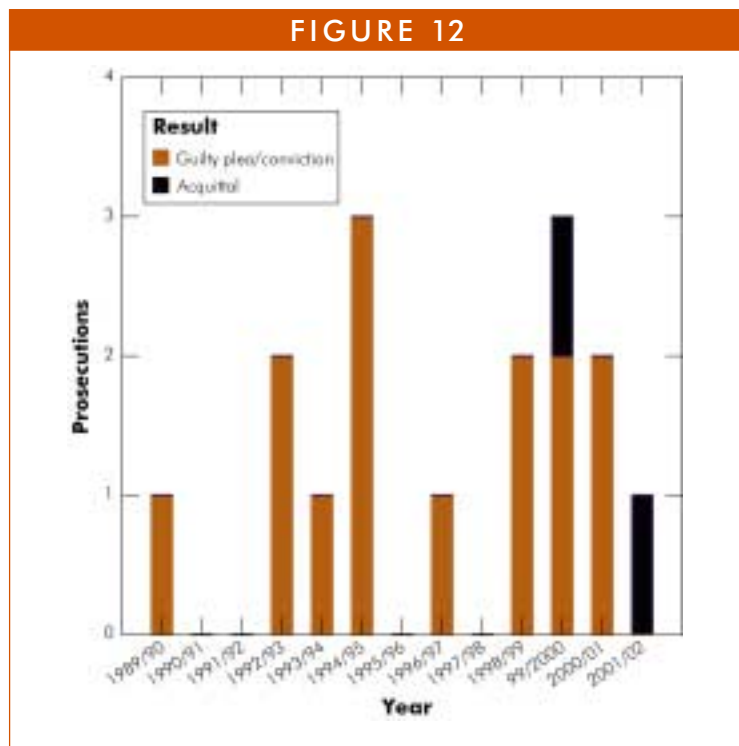
The Authority issued complaints against people in relation to three separate incidents involving breaches of the Sacred Sites Act.

A complaint against Mr Hans Mosshammer in relation to works carried out on a sacred site in Alice Springs was issued. The charges were dropped on the advice of custodians when Mr Mosshammer entered into an agreement with custodians and AAPA. It was unnecessary for Mr Mosshammer to enter a plea in court. The Authority Board was pleased to resolve the matter in this fashion.

Complaints were laid against two fishermen in relation to Ngandadauda Creek, which is on the coast of Arnhem Land. Police have not located one of these men, Michael Plant, to whom they will issue a warrant in relation to the matter. Charges against Barry Johnston were heard on 8 May 2002 but were dismissed by the magistrate after legal argument. The Authority has taken advice on the legal point and is satisfied that it will not present problems for future prosecutions under the Act.

In June 2002 complaints were issued against M&D Cattle Contracting Pty Ltd in relation to works carried out on land in the vicinity of the Victoria River. The matters were not heard in the present year.

Figure 12 shows the number of successful prosecutions each year under the current legislation.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

REVIEWS & AUDITS

REVIEW OF OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

A Review of Office Administration concluded in March 2001 identified a number of generally minor areas for improvement in the activities of the office administration section. These recommendations have been implemented in the current financial year.

REVIEW OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

A review of Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) conducted by Risk Management Services was completed in November 2001. This topic was identified as part of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority's Strategic Audit Plan.

The objective of this review was to determine whether the Authority has appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard the health and safety of its employees.

The Authority is compliant with the mandatory requirements of the Work Health (OH&S) regulations and has appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard the health and safety of its employees, particularly given the nature of the work performed by its field research staff.

The commitment of the Authority to OH&S is demonstrated by its high emphasis on fieldwork safety and training at its Darwin and Alice Springs offices and the low incidence of work injuries over the past five years. Because of its small size there is less formalisation of OH&S processes, such as formalised Terms of Reference for a Health and Safety Committee, however staff at both offices feel they are free to raise OH&S issues with the nominated OH&S officer and receive a prompt response.



Andrew Allan with a digital GPS interviewing Ginger Wikilyirri (right) and Walter Pukutiwara at Kulpitjata.

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY



Authority Board:

L-R: S. Tipungwuti, B. Abbott, J. Pinney, R. Hammer (Chairman),
N. Camfoo (Deputy Chairman), P. Simpson, T. Camfoo, S. Kulmilya, E. Snowy,
C. Puruntatameri.

THE ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Section 5 of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* establishes an Authority by the name of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority as a body corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal. The Authority is a prescribed statutory corporation within the meaning of, and for the purposes of, the *Financial Administration Audit Act*. Under Section 6 it is prescribed that:

- (1) The Authority shall consist of 12 members appointed by the Administrator by notice in the Northern Territory Gazette.
- (2) Ten members of the Authority shall be custodians of sacred sites appointed in equal number from a panel of 10 male custodians and 10 female custodians nominated by the Land Councils, or otherwise as provided in subsection (5) or (6).
- (3) The Administrator shall appoint from members nominated for the purpose by the Authority an Aboriginal member to be the Chairman of the Authority and another, of the opposite sex to the person appointed as the Chairman, to be its Deputy Chairman.
- (4) A member holds office as a member for such period, not exceeding 3 years, as is specified in the instrument of his or her appointment but is eligible for reappointment.

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

MEMBERS OF THE ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

MR R HAMMER	Chairman and Northern Land Council nominee, Borroloola, appointed 10 January 2001
MRS N CAMFOO	Deputy Chairman and Northern Land Council nominee, Bulman, appointed 14 July 1999
MS E SNOWY	Member and Northern Land Council nominee, Timber Creek, appointed 14 July 1999
MR S KULMILYA	Member and Northern Land Council nominee, Timber Creek, appointed 14 July 1999
MS J EGAN	Member and Central Land Council nominee, Yuendumu, appointed 14 July 1999
MS L PULA	Member and Central Land Council nominee, Utopia, appointed 14 July 1999
MR P SIMPSON	Member and Central Land Council nominee, Tennant Creek, appointed 14 July 1999
MR B ABBOTT	Member and Central Land Council nominee, Wallace Rockhole, appointed 14 July 1999
MRS C PURUNTATAMERI	Member and Tiwi Land Council nominee, Bathurst Island, appointed 14 July 1999
MR S TIPUNGWUTI	Member and Tiwi Land Council nominee, Bathurst Island, appointed 14 July 1999
MR J PINNEY	Member and NT Government nominee, appointed 14 July 1999
MR C LOVEGROVE, MBE	Member and NT Government nominee, appointed 14 July 1999

Caption...

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

MEETINGS OF THE AUTHORITY

Section 12 of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* provides that the Chairman “shall call such meetings of the Authority and committees of the Authority as are necessary for the performance and functions of the Authority” and that “the Chairman shall call not less than four meetings of the Authority in each full calendar year of its operation”.

Below is an outline of dates, venues and attendances at Authority meetings for the period of the Financial Year under report:

6 - 7 September 2001	Alice Springs
5 - 6 December 2001	Darwin
13 - 14 March 2002	Darwin
26 - 27 June 2002	Darwin

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS OF THE AUTHORITY BOARD

Mr R Hammer (Chairman)	3	Mr J Pinney	2
Mrs N Camfoo (Deputy Chairman)	4	Mr P Simpson	3
Mr B Abbott	3	Ms J Egan	0
Ms E Snowy	2	Mrs C Puruntatameri	4
Mr S Kulmilya	2	Mr S Tipungwuti	4
Mr C Lovegrove	4	Dr D Ritchie, CEO (non-Board member)	4
Ms L Pula	3		

In addition, other attendees were:

Mr T Camfoo (seconded member)	4
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At quarterly meetings of the Authority, sub-committees, consisting of male members of the Authority and female members of the Authority, convene to discuss gender-restricted issues related to Aboriginal sites and other aspects of Aboriginal tradition. The sub-committees did not exercise their delegated powers during the period under report and instead referred matters back to the full Board for resolution.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY ABORIGINAL SACRED SITES ACT 1989

The *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* (No. 29 of 1989) is substantially based on the *Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* (No. 116 of 1978) which was enacted by the Northern Territory Government as complementary legislation in accordance with Section 73(1) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

The *Land Rights Act* provides the head of power to the Northern Territory Government for the making of laws for the protection and the prevention of desecration of sacred sites in the Northern Territory. A sacred site is defined in the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* as:

“...a site that is sacred to Aboriginals or is otherwise of significance according to Aboriginal tradition, and includes any land that, under a law of the Northern Territory, is declared to be sacred to Aboriginals or of significance according to Aboriginal tradition”.

The *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 26 May 1989 and came into force on 15 August 1989. The purpose of the Act, stated in the preamble is:

“...to effect a practical balance between the recognized need to preserve and enhance Aboriginal cultural tradition in relation to certain land in the Territory and the aspirations of the Aboriginal and all other peoples of the Territory for their economic, cultural and social advancement, by establishing a procedure for the protection and registration of sacred sites...and...establishing a procedure for the avoidance of sacred sites in the development and use of land...”

This goal informs the specific program objectives of the Authority.

In summary, the legislation requires the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority to receive requests for site protection from Aboriginal people, document the information provided in support of such requests, enter the documentation in a Register and execute protection measures for all sacred sites. In addition the Act requires that the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority shall provide services including site avoidance surveys, an appeal procedure and a public Register.

RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT 1991

Section 10(j) of the *Northern Territory Sacred Sites Act* specifies one of the functions of the Authority is to “perform such other functions as are imposed on it by or under this or any other Act...”. The *Heritage Conservation Act 1991* places a number of additional duties on the Authority as outlined below.

Section 29(2) of the *Heritage Conservation Act* states that “The Minister or the Minister’s delegate shall not permit an action in relation to an archaeological object prescribed for the purposes of Part 6 which is sacred according to Aboriginal tradition unless he or she has sought and taken into account the advice, if any, of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority established by the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* given after consultation with those Aboriginals it considers to be the traditional owners of the object”.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER

The Chief Executive Officer of the Authority holds two delegations relating to the *Heritage Conservation Act*. The first delegation (NT Government Gazette 15/44 5/4/95) from the Minister for Conservation enables the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority to make decisions about what may happen on an Aboriginal burial site. The second delegation (NT Government Gazette 15/19 10/5/95) from the Director for Conservation makes the Authority's Chief Executive Officer a person who should be advised of the discovery of an Aboriginal burial site or skeletal remains.



Helicopter in use during site survey.

FUNCTIONS OF ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

OVERVIEW OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of the Authority prescribed in Section 10 of the Act relate to the protection of Aboriginal sites in the Northern Territory and may be reduced to the following:

- Receive requests for site protection from Aboriginal custodians, document information provided by custodians in support of their requests, execute protection measures for sites and maintain confidential records of traditional information.
- Establish and maintain a Register to be known as the Register of Sacred Sites and such other registers and records as required by or under this Act.
- Carry out surveys to determine the constraints, if any, imposed by the existence of sacred sites on work on land anywhere in the Northern Territory (the Authority consults with custodians and proponents of work to reach a mutually acceptable agreement and issues a Certificate setting out the conditions under which the proposed works may proceed).
- In the event of an appeal against a decision or action of the Authority, convene, review and report on matters arising from the appeal. In these circumstances the Authority must notify all parties affected by the review and invite written representations. When the resolution of the matter is not possible the Authority must provide the Minister with a report and recommendation. Such appeals are rare - there have been none in the last seven years.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER

- Make available for public inspection the Register and records of all agreements, Certificates and refusals, except to the extent that such availability would disclose sensitive commercial information or matters required by Aboriginal tradition to be kept secret.
- Enforce the Act.

REGISTRATION OF SITES UNDER SECTION 29

One of the major functions of the Authority is to maintain a Register of Sacred Sites.

The central principle underpinning the process of registration is that the process may only be initiated by Aboriginal custodians themselves. Notwithstanding the fact that registration requires that information about a sacred site be placed on a public Register, demand to have sites registered has been consistently strong with the result that there is a backlog of such applications before the Authority at any one time. The Authority prioritises work on this backlog by concentrating on sites that are located on land where the underlying title is not held by Aboriginal people and/or where there are grounds for believing the site may be under threat. The process of registering a site begins when Aboriginal custodians make an application to the Authority requesting that a particular site be registered. In some cases additional protective measures, such as signs, fences and even sheds for storing sacred objects, are requested.

As soon as practicable after receiving such an application the Authority must consult with the Aboriginal custodians of the site to determine:

- the traditional basis of custodianship;
- the names and addresses of custodians;
- the traditional story of the site;
- the location and extent of the site;
- the traditional restrictions applying to the site;
- the physical features of the site;
- the period of registration;
- the restrictions applying to traditional information about the site.

Under Section 28 of the Act at least twenty-eight (28) days before a sacred site can be registered, the Authority must issue invitations to affected landowners to make submissions about the proposed registration. Any submissions relevant to the proposed registration receive due consideration. However, it is important to appreciate that the grounds for the Authority to Register a sacred site are primarily whether the site is a sacred site within the meaning of the Act. The Act envisages that there may be detriment to a landowner whose land contains sacred sites but that this arises from the existence of the sites, which receive protection under the Act, not from registration.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER

The Authority's findings regarding the traditional aspects of the site become public when the site is registered. Information that is required by Aboriginal tradition to be kept secret is not included on the Register of Sacred Sites. Before a site is registered, Authority staff are not permitted to release any information without the express permission of the Authority. However, the Authority provides landowners with details of the area proposed for registration along with the invitation to make submissions.

In the great majority of cases, the landowner is best advised to state "the immediate or possible detrimental effect, if any, the fact that the site is a sacred site may have on the owner's proprietary interest in the land". This is the only matter arising from landowners' submissions on which the Authority is required to make findings, and its findings on this matter are recorded in the public Register of Sacred Sites.

If a landowner is constrained in some way by the existence of a site (whether registered or not) he or she may apply for an Authority Certificate covering his/her proposed uses for the land. An Authority Certificate issued as a result of this process may specify conditions under which the proposed works or uses can proceed and would protect the landowner from prosecution relating to the site as long as he/she has acted in conformity with the Certificate.

Between July 2001 and June 2002, the Authority received 74 requests to have sites registered.

The Authority entered 53 sites in the Register of Sacred Sites.



Significant rock formation, Wilton River area.

ISSUE OF AUTHORITY CERTIFICATES UNDER SECTION 22

Section 20 of the Act (Clause 1) states that “a person who proposes to use or carry out work on land may apply to the Authority for an Authority Certificate”. The following flow chart (pg 33) represents the steps involved in processing an application under this section of the Act.

Under Section 22, the Authority shall issue a Certificate when it is satisfied that the work or use of the land can proceed without there being a substantive risk of damage to a sacred site on or in the vicinity of the land or when an agreement has been reached between the Aboriginal custodians of any affected sites and the applicant for the Certificate, setting out conditions on which work may be carried out or use made.

Should custodians express a willingness to enter into an agreement within the meaning of Section 22(1)(b) the Authority will not be directly involved in the negotiation of such an agreement. The Authority’s role in such circumstances is that of an arbiter, not a broker. The Authority must satisfy itself that the custodians of the site have reached an agreement with the applicant. In reaching any conclusion on this issue, the Authority must be satisfied that the agreement accords with the wishes of all relevant custodians. In practice, this means that the Authority needs to be satisfied that all relevant custodians have been adequately consulted so that they are aware of the substance of the agreement and informed about the nature of the proposed works and any agreement outcomes.

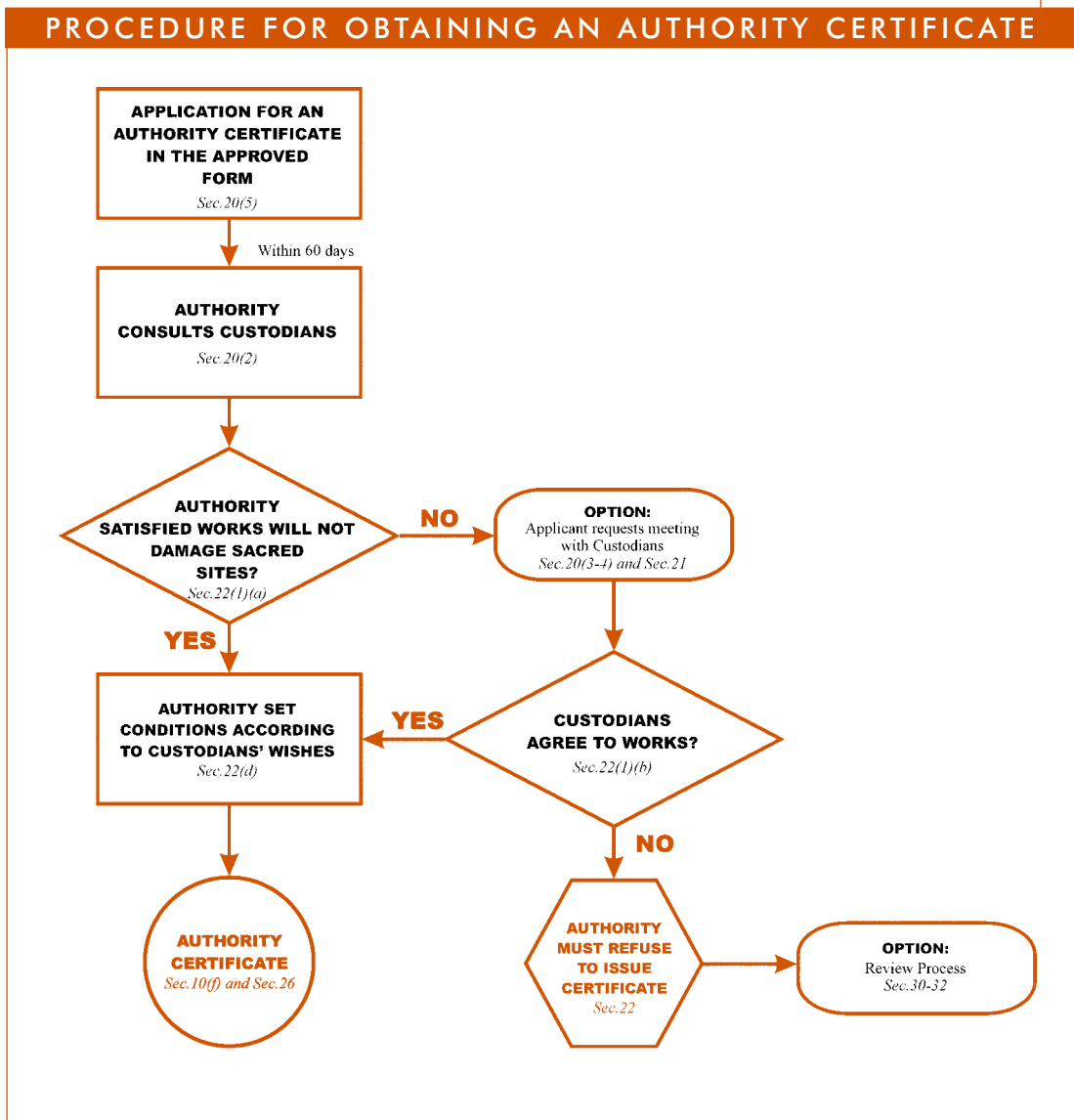
Custodians will be consulted as to which person or organisation they wish to represent them in negotiation. If requested, the Authority will arrange for an independent negotiator to be appointed to assist custodians. Any agreement will then be referred to the Authority for consideration.

The holder of an Authority Certificate is indemnified against prosecution under the Act if, at any time in the future, it is argued that a sacred site has been damaged or entered and the holder of the Certificate can show that they acted in accordance with the provisions of the Certificate (s25 and s34).

Once the Authority has received an application the Authority must, within sixty days, consult with custodians of sacred sites, on or in the vicinity of the land to which the application relates, which are likely to be affected by the proposed work.

If, following this consultation, the Authority determines that there are either no sites likely to be affected by the proposal or that custodians have agreed to the proposed works, then the Authority has delegated the Chief Executive Officer to issue the appropriate Certificate, upon receipt of written advice from the Authority officers attending the meeting, of the outcome of the consultation.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER



During the period ended 30 June 2002 the Authority received 153 applications for Authority Certificates and Certificate-related site protection instruments. Of these applications 133 were issued, two were refused and the remainder either withdrawn or carried over to the new financial year.

LEGISLATIVE CHARTER

INSPECTION OF AUTHORITY'S PUBLIC REGISTERS

All members of the public, including developers and landowners, may seek advice on the location of sacred sites by requesting access to the Register of Sacred Sites. The Register of Certificates is also a public register. The Authority provides maps, indicating the boundaries of all Registered sites, and any other sacred sites which have been recorded, since all sacred sites are covered under the offence provisions of the Act.

Aboriginal custodians may decide whether the benefits of increased protection afforded to sites entered in the Register of Sacred Sites outweigh any detriment in having certain information about these sites available on the public Register established under s10(d). The Authority also keeps records of sacred sites that have been brought to the attention of the Authority by custodians. These records are separate from the Register and details of these records are available to the public at the discretion of the Authority. Much of this information has been provided to the Authority by custodians as the basis (and justification) for conditions on proposed works or use of land imposed by Authority Certificates (s22).

The public may also request access to other relevant information concerning sites, including records of any agreements or Certificates. However, such access is subject to restrictions which protect knowledge required by Aboriginal tradition to be kept secret, and information of a sensitive commercial nature. The Authority responded to a total of 710 requests for access to the Register of Sacred Sites during the year.

PROJECTS FUNDED BY EXTERNAL GRANTS

The Authority administers grants from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Research Grant Scheme. Details of projects being undertaken are as follows:

- *Ulpmerka Rock Art Recording* - Researcher Ben Gunn completed the project and lodged copies of his report with the Authority on 11 June 2002.
- *Wenten Rubuntja's Life Story* - Researcher Jenny Green is continuing with this project. It will be completed in 2002-3.

HUMAN RESOURCES - MANAGING OUR PEOPLE

OVERVIEW

The principles of human resource management contained in the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act* inform the human resource management policy and procedures of the Authority although the Authority is not an 'agency' under that Act. The Authority complies with provisions of anti-discrimination legislation, in particular, the Northern Territory's *Anti-Discrimination Act*. The Authority provides a safe and healthy working environment and safe plant and equipment by maintaining an Occupational Health and Safety Program in which all employees are actively encouraged to participate to ensure compliance with the *Northern Territory Work Health Act*.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The Authority employs staff under the relevant provisions of the *Sacred Sites Act 1989*. As a consequence, the Authority is not a prescribed agency within the meaning of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993*. The Commissioner for Public Employment has approved terms and conditions for staff employed by the Authority as required by the *Sacred Sites Act*. The Commissioner for Public Employment has not approved any additional terms or conditions for staff employed under s17 of the *Sacred Sites Act* in the period under report.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Authority's Equal Employment Opportunity Plan focuses on the following objectives.

The Authority aims to ensure that all staff regardless of sex, race, disability, religion, political belief or marital status are able fully and equally to:

- develop their abilities and potential;
- contribute to the success of the Authority's objectives; and
- share in the benefits of employment according to their contribution.

The plan to achieve these objectives includes the provision of Equal Employment Opportunity Awareness Sessions for management and the dissemination of information relating to equality of opportunity and prevention of discrimination to all staff. In addition, the Plan includes a process for resolving any staff grievances as well as specific mechanisms for dealing with incidents of workplace harassment. These last two areas are outlined under their respective headings below.

INTERNAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Procedures for the resolution of grievances arising in the workplace emphasise conciliation. The procedures were adopted after extensive consultation with the stakeholders including staff, unions, the Commissioner for Public Employment and the Office of Anti-Discrimination.

- There was one grievance arising from Authority staff within the period under report. The matter was dealt with under AAPA's procedures with assistance from EAS.

HUMAN RESOURCES - MANAGING OUR PEOPLE

WORKPLACE HARASSMENT

The objective of this policy and associated procedures is to provide guidance for employees on the prevention and elimination of any form of harassment of employees within the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority. It also provides procedures for the resolution of both formal and informal complaints. Staff with managerial responsibilities are made aware of the Authority's obligations under the *Anti-Discrimination Act* and the principles of equity and merit which underpin the Authority's Equal Employment Opportunity objectives.

- There were no allegations of workplace harassment made within the period of the report.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

In accordance with the *Northern Territory Work Health Act* the Authority's Occupational Health and Safety objective remains the prevention of occupational injuries and diseases and has sought to identify, assess and control risks arising in the workplace.

The Authority has incorporated occupational health and safety into the Internal Audit Program (see pg 24 above, "Review of Occupational Health and Safety").

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

- There were no worker's compensation claims made within the period of the report.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Training Policy is designed to ensure that the Training and Development Program focuses on providing the skills and competencies necessary for staff to perform the tasks involved in achieving the desired outcomes of the Authority. The Authority's training policy recognises that training (and hence, learning) is a continuous process integrated with and running parallel to work. Work experience is the primary source of learning and therefore the area where most of the Authority's training is focused.

The Authority spent \$21851 on training programs in 2001-2002 representing 2.05% of total salary expenditure.

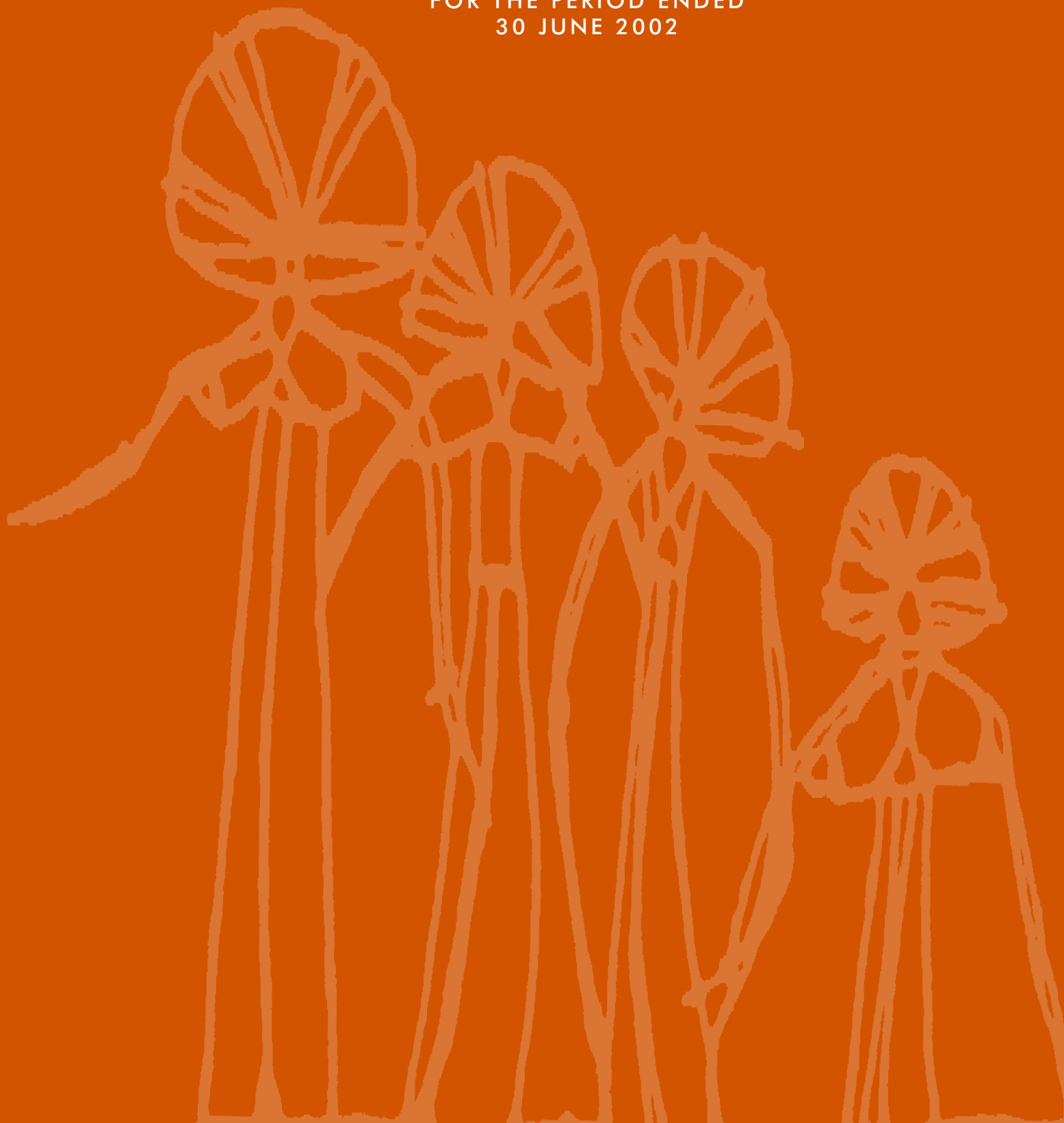


Site survey on Elkedra Station

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
30 JUNE 2002



STATEMENT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AS ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER

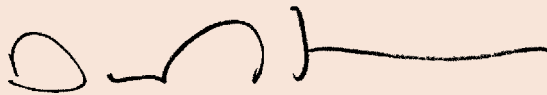
To the best of my knowledge and belief the system of internal control maintained by the Authority provides reasonable assurance that:

- proper records of all transactions affecting the Authority are kept and that Authority employees observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's Directions and;
- Authority procedures ensure control over expenditure, receipts and public property.

I am not aware of any indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error or omission from the accounts and records taking place in the period under report.

In my opinion the financial accounts for 2001/2002 included in this Annual Report have been prepared from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions and other information required by Part 2 Section 5 of the Treasurer's Directions.

I further advise that I have complied with Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment relating to Approved Terms and Conditions for Authority staff and pursuant to Section 17(1) of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*.



DAVID RITCHIE



ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

ACTIVITY/PROGRAM		
	FINAL ALLOCATION \$000	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE \$000
Protection of Sacred Sites	2 652	2 638
Protection of Sacred Sites	2 652	2 638
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2 652	2 638

RECEIPTS BY ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT		
	ESTIMATED RECEIPTS \$000	ACTUAL RECEIPTS \$000
Taxes, Fees and Fines	21	23
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT	21	23

OPERATING ACCOUNT		
	ESTIMATED RECEIPTS \$000	ACTUAL RECEIPTS \$000
Charges for Goods and Services	365	390
Miscellaneous Receipts	6	9
Advances Received	26	38
GST	-	-2
Total Operating Account Receipts	397	435
Transfers from Consolidated Revenue Account	2 241	2 241
TOTAL RECEIPTS TO AGENCY OPERATING ACCOUNT	2 638	2 676

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

EXPENDITURE BY STANDARD CLASSIFICATION FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

CATEGORY OF COST/STANDARD CLASSIFICATION		
	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2000-2001 \$000	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2001-2002 \$000
PERSONNEL COSTS	1 479	1625
Salaries	1 188	1259
Payroll Tax	91	83
Fringe Benefits Tax	15	10
Superannuation	87	94
Other Personnel Costs		
Higher Duties Allowance	8	20
Leave Loading	12	15
Northern Territory Allowance	8	8
Other Benefits paid by Employer	35	27
Overtime	-	-
Other Allowances	2	38
Recreation Leave Fares	18	10
Termination Payments	15	61
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES/EXPENDITURE	26	25
NT Government Repairs and Maintenance Program	9	11
General Property Management	10	-
Power	6	8
Water and Sewerage	1	6
OTHER OPERATIONAL COSTS	956	953
Communications	24	35
Consultants' Fees	173	179
Consumables/General Expenses	24	13
Document Production	17	15
Freight	5	1
Furniture and Fittings	2	2
Information Technology Services	226	255
Insurance Premiums	27	35
Legal Expenses	51	9
Library Services	3	5
Marketing and Promotion	1	1
Membership and Subscription	3	2
Mobile Plant	-	4
Motor Vehicle Expenses	17	185
Office Requisites and Stationery	13	7
Official Duty Fares	46	39
Other Plant and Equipment	7	4
Recruitment Expenses	24	12
Regulatory and Advisory Boards and Committees	59	64
Relocation Expenses	3	9
Survey, Drafting and Drilling Costs	19	2
Training and Study Expenses	12	22
Travelling Allowance	45	52
Bank Charges	-	1
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	65	35
Purchase of Capital Assets	65	35
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2526	2638

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS				
	EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS SCHEDULES	ADJUSTMENTS		TREASURER'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT (SCHEDULE 1.4)
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Expenditure by Activity				
Protection of Sacred Sites	2 638			2 638
Total Outlays	2 638			2 638
Receipts by Source				
Charges for Goods and Services	390			390
Advances Received	38			38
Miscellaneous Receipts	9			9
GST	-2			-2
Total Receipts	435			435
USE OF BALANCES	2 203			2 203

WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

CATEGORY	\$000
WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS UNDER THE ACT	
Amounts written off or waived by Delegated Officers	NIL
Amounts written off, postponed or waived by the Treasurer	NIL
WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS AUTHORISED UNDER OTHER LEGISLATION	
Amounts written off or waived by Delegated Officers	NIL
TOTAL	NIL

ABORIGINAL AREAS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DEBTORS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

ACTIVITY/PROGRAM							
	EXTERNAL			INTRASECTOR			TOTAL \$000
	CHARGES \$000	OTHER \$000	TOTAL \$000	CHARGES \$000	OTHER \$000	TOTAL \$000	
Protection of Sacred Sites							
GROSS DEBTORS	52	50	102		6	6	108
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	3	3	6		-	6	6
NET DEBTORS	49	47	96		6	6	102
Classified as:							
Current	49	47	96		6	6	102
Non Current	-	-	-		-	-	-
NET DEBTORS	49	47	96		6	6	102

CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

ACTIVITY/PROGRAM							
	EXTERNAL			INTRASECTOR			TOTAL \$000
	CREDITORS \$000	ACCRUALS \$000	TOTAL \$000	CREDITORS \$000	ACCRUALS \$000	TOTAL \$000	
Protection of Sacred Sites							
Protection of Sacred Sites	6	37	43		5	5	48
TOTAL	6	37	43		5	5	48
Classified as:							
Current	6	37	43		5	5	48
Non Current	-	-	-		-	-	-
TOTAL	6	37	43		5	5	48

EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS OUTSTANDING
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

ENTITLEMENT	
	\$000
Current	
Recreation Leave	205
Recreation Leave Fares	10
Leave Loading	29
Long Service Leave	168
Non Current	
Long Service Leave	17
TOTAL	429

METHODOLOGY

1. RECREATION LEAVE

The value of recreation leave entitlements is calculated by PIPS based on employees' actual salaries and entitlements at 30 June 2002.

2. RECREATION LEAVE FARES

Recreation Leave Fares entitlements are calculated based on 2001/02 actuals.

3. LEAVE LOADING

The value of leave loading entitlements is calculated by PIPS based on employees' actual salaries and entitlements at 30 June 2002.

3. LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Long Service entitlement is calculated in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AAS30. The calculation takes into account the probability of employees reaching ten years of service, the future increases in salary costs and discount rates to achieve the net present value of the future liability.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority was established as a body corporate on 15th August 1989 by the *Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*.

The functions of the Authority are:

- Protect sacred sites.
- Establish and maintain a Register of Sacred Sites.
- Respond to requests from Aboriginal custodians for site protection.
- With the approval of Aboriginal custodians, issue Certificates setting out conditions under which developments may proceed without endangering sites of cultural importance.
- Carry out surveys to determine the constraints, if any, imposed by the existence of sacred sites on works or use of land.

The Authority is predominantly funded by annual appropriations by the Northern Territory Government to meet proposed cash expenditure on both operational and capital items during the financial year.

1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority is an agency for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act*. The Authority has presented the financial statements in accordance with Treasurer's Directions Part 2 Section 5.

(a) Receipts & Expenditure Statements

The accounting records have been kept on a cash basis and represents monies paid or received during the financial year.

(b) Accounts Payable Statement

The statement has been prepared on an accrual basis. It represents unpaid invoices and non-invoiced orders for goods and services received, as at 30 June 2002.

(c) Accounts Receivable

The statement has been prepared on an accrual basis. It represents debit notes issued and still outstanding as at 30 June 2002.

(d) Assets

The Authority records the purchase of its assets in a register which states the date of purchase and cost value as well as the depreciated value of the asset.

NOTE 2: AUTHORITY FOR TRANSACTIONS

(a) Allocation Expenditure

Expenditure of \$2.638 million incurred by the Authority for the year ended 30 June 2002 was made under the authority of the annual allocation from the Consolidated Revenue Account and the authority of the Treasurer's Warrant.

(b) Receipts

Receipts of \$435,000 collected by the Authority were credited to the Authority's operations account. Further receipts of \$23,000 collected for regulatory fees were allocated to the Consolidated Revenue Account.