

work for a staged development in land management initiatives on Aboriginal land.

The application also sought funds for a women's land management participation project to promote greater NRM awareness and engagement of women in land management programs.

- successful submission made to ABA to establish an Indigenous Land Management Project Support fund within CLC to support and expedite small to medium scale land management imperatives on Aboriginal land that meet immediate aspirations of traditional owners to address cultural and natural resource management issues on their land.

Funds have been secured for a two year period and will provide amounts from \$1,000 to \$5,000 in a responsive timeframe to support activities undertaken both by established Aboriginal Ranger groups working on Aboriginal land and new indigenous 'land-care' initiatives emerging in other communities across the CLC region.

- continued development of the CLC 'Ranger Equipment Library' with ABA funds secured in late 2004 to establish a cost-efficient pool of equipment consisting of major capital items and tools for essential training and development support for new land management groups.

- successful Community Water Grant application submitted for funds to fence springs and waterholes of cultural and biological significance on the Santa Teresa ALT to protect them against the damaging impacts of feral animals.

- engaged the emerging Amoonguna Ranger group in FEP activities in jointly-managed parks in the Eastern MacDonnell Ranges.

- completed threatened species surveys with women from Mt Liebig, Papunya and Laramba

as part of Threatened Species Network-funded project searching for populations of the Central Rock-Rat, murrjtja (mulgara) and warrana (great desert skinks).

The application of the knowledge of these women located a population of warrana on Napperby Station, extending this species' known range by 150 kilometers to the east.

- provided support to the development of emerging interest in the Kaltukatjara (Docker River) area in the south-west through:

- continued implementation of the NHT-funded project secured in 2004 for Building Capacity for Land Management and Biodiversity Survey at Kaltukatjara up to December 2005;

- provision of co-ordination and vehicle support for implementation of a DEH-funded Indigenous Heritage Programme project to protect rockholes and soakages in the Petermann Ranges from feral animal impacts. Support was provided from February to June 2006.

- longer-term support for the emerging Docker River group and the feasibility of initiating similar programmes in three other communities in the south-west region at Apatula (Finke), Imanpa and Mutitjulu was the focus of an ABA-funded project initiated in March 2006.

The primary purpose of the 'South-west Youth Diversionary project' was to assess the value and viability of establishing community-based land management programmes to provide diversionary and remedial activity for 'youth-in-crisis' in these communities, particularly those at risk of substance abuse.

- CLC also participated in briefings and negotiations with representatives of Commonwealth and NT agencies, in particular the OIPC and Office of Indigenous Policy in the Department

of the Chief Minister, toward the development of the Healthy Country, Healthy People schedule under the Overarching Agreement on Indigenous Affairs between the Prime Minister and NT Chief Minister.

The schedule is intended to be the basis for a "whole-of-government" commitment to establish a more secure and consistent funding environment to support indigenous engagement in the sustainable management of land and seas in recognition of the broad range of social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits that arise.

### **JOINT MANAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIPS AND OTHER COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.**

CLC continues to pursue co-operative arrangements with both Commonwealth and NT Government agencies to extend its capacity to:

- increase traditional owner and native title-holder participation in decisions affecting land in which they have a continuing but shared interest such as national parks and reserves;

- address the cultural and natural resource management concerns of traditional owners and related aspirations for the sustainable use of their land through additional resources and technical expertise.

Such arrangements and related initiatives active for the 2005-2006 period were as follows:

#### **Joint Management - NT Parks and Reserves**

Successful negotiations between the Land Councils and the NT Government reached agreement in late 2004 over joint management arrangements for twenty national parks and reserves in the CLC region. Traditional owners in most cases will gain some form of underlying title, play a significant role in preparing new joint plans of management catering for