

Angas Downs

Central Australia

Declared an Indigenous Protected Area in June 2009



“Ara nyangku tjungurni Anangu-ku ara (Tjukurpa/Wapar) munu piran-ku (scientific) ara wirura Malu; Kalaya;Tinka munu Tjulpu tjuta-ku ngura, palyanyku atunymankunytjaku, nganampa ngura munu mai ngaranyangka uranma”

“Mixing Anangu customary knowledge — the Tjukurpa (law) with Piranypa (non-Anangu) scientific knowledge to improve wildlife habitat, enhance landscapes and harvest species on a sustainable basis.”

(One of the key strategies for the Angas Downs Anangu rangers)

Angas Downs Indigenous Protected Area stretches across more than 320,000 hectares of Australia’s Red Centre, where the hot, arid sand plains reveal an incredibly rich biodiversity.

Rare birds such as the painted snipe make use of nationally-important wetlands, while animals like the vulnerable mulgara, the fawn hopping-mouse and reptiles like the thorny devil all find a home here.

Angas Downs is also of great historical and cultural value with many Anangu culturally important sites including waterholes, engravings and ceremonial sites.

Part of the Nyangatjatjara region of the Northern Territory’s south-west, Angas Downs pastoral lease is owned by the Imanpa Indigenous community.

Residents of Imanpa include Matutjara descendents – the original occupiers of the Angas Downs region – Yankunytjara and Pitjantjatjara.

The Yankunytjara and Pitjantjatjara have maintained a continued connection to the property, including its past life as a sheep and cattle property.

Angas Downs pastoral lease was first taken up by William Liddle in 1927. His descendants continued to run sheep and cattle on the property until the 1990s.

The Imanpa Development Association purchased the lease in 1994 on behalf of the Imanpa community. The association's trading company Lisanote Pty Ltd now manages Angas Downs on behalf of the community.

Today Traditional Owners continue to work as Indigenous rangers on the property, sharing their knowledge with young Anangu to make sure Angas Downs is managed with Anangu customary knowledge as well as scientific knowledge.

These rangers are supported by the Australian Government's Working on Country program, part of its Caring for our Country initiative.

The rangers are working on several projects to restore and protect the native habitat of Angas Downs, in line with a plan of management.

Some of these projects include cleaning out traditional wells, installing solar pumps, erecting exclusion fences, feral animal control, implementing a fire management routine, weed control and creating a wildlife sanctuary.

Part of the Red Centre National Landscape and Tourism NT's newly promoted Red Centre Way, and only 130 kilometres from Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park, Angas Downs also has significant potential for Indigenous tourism operations.

Like all of Australia's Indigenous Protected Areas, Angas Downs is part of the National Reserve System – our nation's most secure way of protecting native habitat for future generations.

Angas Downs is Australia's 29th Indigenous Protected Area. Declared in June 2009, Angas Downs is managed under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Protected Area Category 6: as a protected area with sustainable use of natural resources.



For more information about Indigenous Protected Areas, visit www.environment.gov.au/indigenous/ipa or contact the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts' Community Information Unit on Freecall 1800 803 772

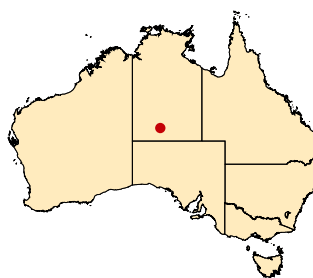


Photo Credits: All photos taken by Dr George Wilson, Australian Wildlife Services. Front – Angas Downs Indigenous Protected Area. Back – (Left) Quandong harvesting. (Right) Learning from elders. (Bottom) Desert oak, *Allocasuarina decaisneana*.

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CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

