

Aboriginal tour body backs heritage listing

THE Kimberley's peak indigenous tourism body has thrown its full support behind national heritage listing of a large part of the north and west Kimberley.

After meeting with the Federal Minister for Environment, Tony Burke last Friday in Fitzroy Crossing, the Fitzroy River Aboriginal Tourism Association, which represents and advocates for Aboriginal tourism operators in the Fitzroy River region, said it supported the proposed listing on the National Heritage Register.

FRATA vice-chairman Ronnie Jimbidie said the national heritage listing would give the Kimberley the iconic status it deserved and provide a welcome boost to tourism, in particular Aboriginal tourism.

"As operators of Aboriginal Tourism enterprises we cater for tourists from around Australia and around the world," Mr Jimbidie said.

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- FRATA VICE-CHAIRMAN RONNIE
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Tourist operator and FRATA member Neville Poelina said the Fitzroy River sustained lives and was central to the area's culture and heritage.

“We need all people to respect the river to ensure both people and country remain healthy and safe and it can continue to provide sustenance.”