

# Recycled water to irrigate trees

■ Glenn Cordingley

Recycled water will be used to irrigate thousands of native trees planted over 17ha in Broome as part of a project to give jobseekers new skills.

The trial between the Water Corporation and Mamabulanjin Aboriginal Corporation in Broome involves growing native trees to provide seeds for land restoration programs in the area.

Water Corporation North West regional manager Rhino Trollo said it was an exciting opportunity to expand the uses of treated wastewater for irrigation.

"This is the first time Water Corporation has trialled the use of recycled water to grow native trees, and we are pleased to be working with Mamabulanjin on a project that redefines how recycled water can be used," he said.

Mr Trollo said a number of Broome's public open spaces and the golf course were irrigated with recycled water, which provided a sustainable and safe alternative to using drinking water.

Mamabulanjin Aboriginal Cor-

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Neil Gower

poration chief executive Neil Gower said the native trees would be used to revegetate the area and provide people with valuable skills and experience to improve their career prospects.

"Mamabulanjin has a strong background in native horticulture and building the capacity of Aboriginal traditional owners to care for country through local provenance seed collection and propagation," he said.

The first stage of the project is supported by the Federal Government's Green Army program and will be delivered by Mamabulanjin in partnership with youth employment service CoAct.

About 800 native trees are expected to be established in the first stage of the project, starting this month.

Up to 12,000 trees are to be planted by the end of next wet season.



Mamabulanjin Green Army supervisor Sharon Todd, Water Corporation operations manager Paul Beard, Water Corporation regional manager Rhino Trollo, Mamabulanjin operations manager Matt Wagner and Mamabulanjin chief executive Neil Gower. Picture: Water Corporation

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