

Visitation Protocols

The Traditional Owners have developed a series of protocols in relation to visits to our IPA. These are detailed in the Warraberalgal and Porumalgal IPA Plan of Management:

- Visits to the islands must be approved by appropriate Traditional Owners.
- Harvesting of turtle or seabird eggs by people who are not Traditional Owners is forbidden.
- No rubbish is to be left on the islands.
- No alcohol or drugs are allowed on the islands.
- Cultural heritage sites must be respected and protected.
- Plants etc. are not to be collected from the islands, unless permission has been granted by the Traditional Owners, and no plants are to be damaged.
- Any weeds or other pests seen on the islands are to be reported to the rangers and RNTBCs.
- Where possible, seabirds on Maza Guiya and other key nesting sites should not be disturbed during the peak nesting season.
- The presence of any outsiders (i.e. non-Traditional Owners) on our IPA is to be reported to the rangers and RNTBCs.
- Damage to or theft of signs should be reported to the rangers and RNTBCs.



Beach and rugged hillside on Ulu, 12 May 2011



Bubui, 12 May 2011



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Corporation RNTBC
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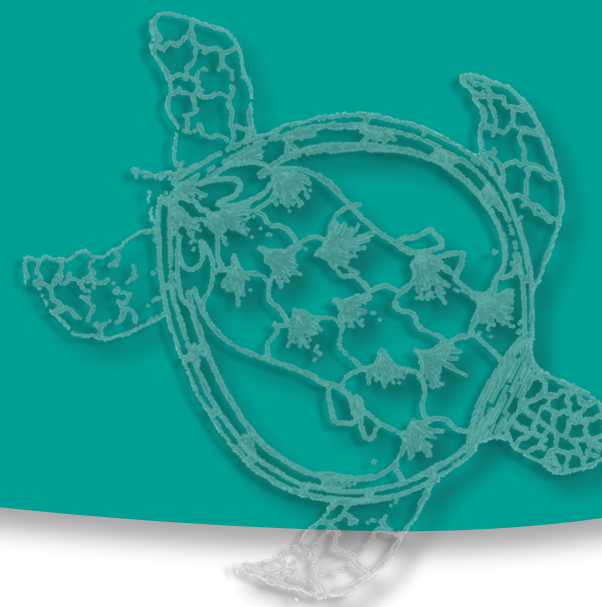


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Porumalgal (TSI)
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Warraberalgal and Porumalgal Indigenous Protected Area



Australian Government



TSRA
www.tsra.gov.au

Cultural and Natural Significance of Warraberalgal and Porumalgal

Our principles for cultural and natural resource management are based on Torres Strait Islander approaches to ownership of our lands and waters, and the specific cultural, historical and economic values of the islands, sandbanks and rocks that make up the IPA.

Significant cultural and natural resources of the Warraberalgal and Porumalgal IPA include:

- Sustainably harvested waru kakur (turtle eggs) and urui kakur (seabird eggs), and use of waters around them to hunt waru (Green Turtle, *Chelonia mydas*), fish, dive for kayar (Tropical Rock Lobster, *Panulirus ornatus*) and collect kabar (trochus, *Trochus niloticus*) and beche-de-mer. As well as collecting fruits such as the red wongai plum.
- There are zogo sites (sites where rituals were undertaken) and graves on the islands, and an ancient stone fishtrap (graz) on Ulu. These places are very important, and must always be respected and cared for.

“ We, the Warraberalgal and Porumalgal, the people of Warraber and Poruma are the owners of the Warraberalgal and Porumalgal IPA.

Our two communities are interrelated and have a shared history. We often refer to ourselves as wan pamle (one family). Together, we are part of the Kulkalgal, the people of the Central Torres Strait Islands, which also includes the people of lama and Masig.

The Kulkalgal speak Kulkalgaw Ya, a dialect of the Kala Lagaw Ya language of the Western and Central Islands of Torres Strait. ”



Location of the area in which the IPA is situated, in relation to Torres Strait

- On some of the islands you can see zarzar, temporary shelters, which are set up for picnics, or when the men are processing kabar.
- Plant trees, such as urab (coconut palm), mekei (beach almond) and bamboo on the islands.
- The islands, sandbanks and rocks are all part of Warraber territory, Elders often share stories and songs about the area. Together, this knowledge, and our ongoing ownership, use and management of them, is a big part of what it means to be Warraberalgal and Porumalgal.
- There are 65 species of birds known across the IPA.
- Maza Guiya is a particularly important seabird nesting site in Torres Strait; three species – dua (Common Noddy), and sara (Bridled Tern and Roseate Tern) are known to nest within the island's grassland / herbland vegetation in significant numbers. Three types of marine turtles are also known to nest on our islands: waru (Green Turtle), wunuwa (Hawksbill Turtle) and oni (Flatback Turtle).