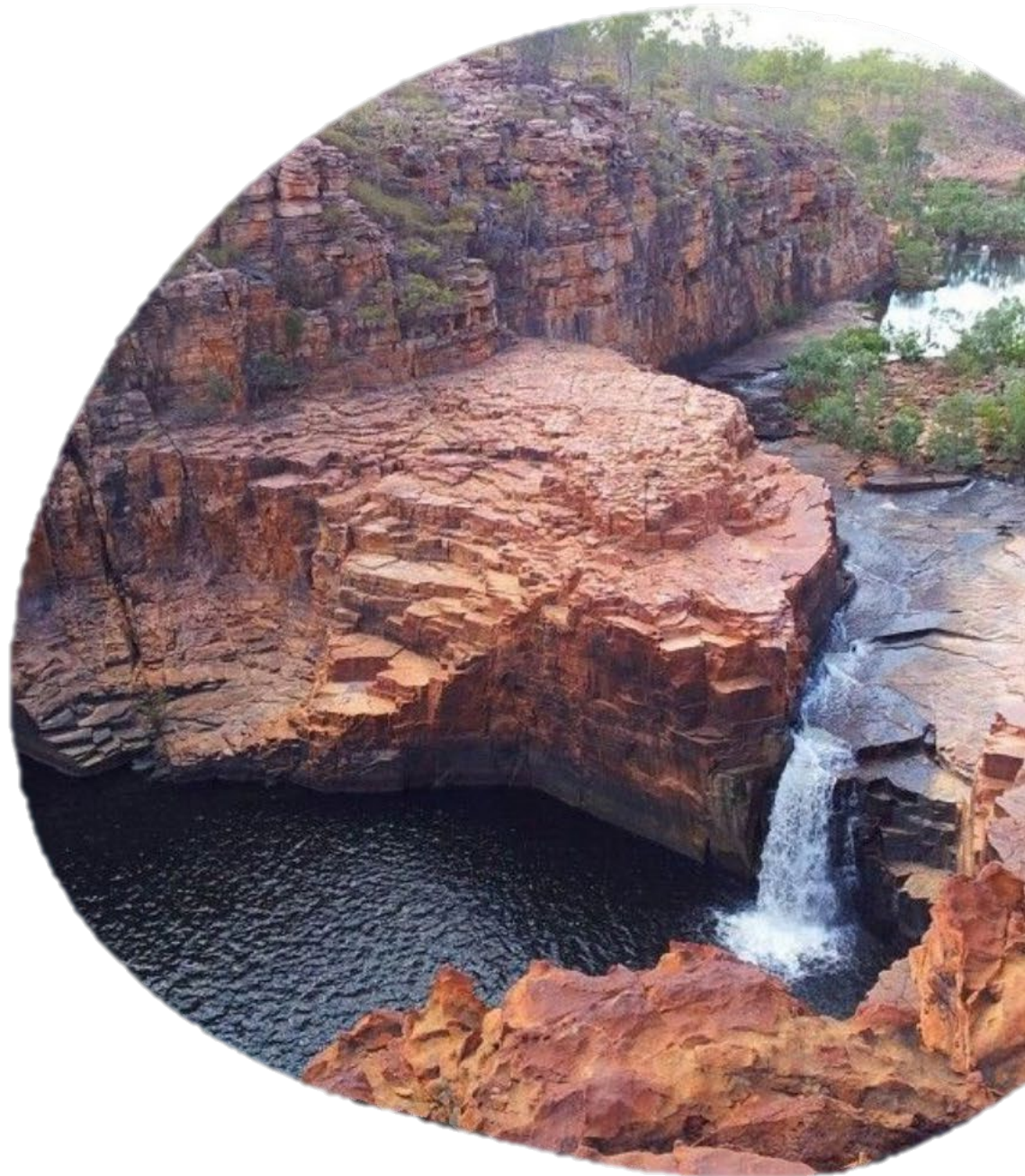


Bagala Traditional Owners Decision Making Agreement Bagala Aboriginal Corporation

Implementation Plan 2022-2025



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Barunga Sports Hall

Bagala Traditional Owners Decision Making Agreement Bagala Aboriginal Corporation Implementation Plan 2022-2025



Esther Bulumbara

Esther Bulumbara
Senior Bagala Traditional Owner

Nell Brown

Nell Brown
Senior Bagala Jungayi



**NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL**
Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life

Joe Martin-Jard

Joe Martin-Jard
Chief Executive Officer
Northern Land Council



Natasha

The Hon Natasha Fyles MLA
Chief Minister
Northern Territory Government



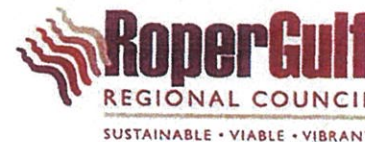
**JAWOYN
ASSOCIATION**
SHARING OUR
COUNTRY

Lisa Mumbin

Lisa Mumbin
Chairperson
Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation

Selena Uibo

The Hon Selena Uibo MLA
Minister for Treaty and Local Decision-Making
Northern Territory Government



Tony Jack

Tony Jack
Mayor
Roper Gulf Regional Council

Jake Quinlivan

Jake Quinlivan
Regional Executive Director
Department of the Chief Minister
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Regional Director Housing
Program Office Big Rivers
Department of Infrastructure,
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Housing and Communities
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**National Indigenous
Australians Agency**

Tom Dyer

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Jessica Powter

Jessica Powter
Regional Director
Department of Industry, Tourism
and Trade
Northern Territory Government

Kylie Anderson

Kylie Anderson
Commander
Northern Territory Police Force

2. Abbreviations

ACFC:	Arnhem Crows Football Club
BAC:	Bagala Aboriginal Corporation
BSWG:	Banatjarl Strongbala Wimun Grup
CM&C:	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
DIPL:	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
DITT	Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade
IP:	Implementation Plan
JAAC:	Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation
LDM:	Local Decision Making
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
NIAA:	National Indigenous Australians Agency
NLC:	Northern Land Council
NT:	Northern Territory
NTPFES:	Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services
NTG:	Northern Territory Government
ORIC:	Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations
RISE:	Nyirrunggulung-RISE Community Development Program
RGRC:	Roper Gulf Regional Council
TFHC:	Territory Families, Housing and Communities
TODM:	Traditional Owners Decision Making
TOS:	Traditional Owners

3. Context

The Bagala TOs are the recognised land owners for the Barunga and Wugularr communities in the Big Rivers Region.

Barunga is an Aboriginal community located 80 kilometres south-east of Katherine and is home to approximately 400 people. It is well known for the Barunga Statement, which requested a treaty between the Commonwealth Government and Indigenous Australians in 1988. It is also the home of the Barunga Festival, an annual celebration of music, sport, arts and culture.

Situated only 31km from Barunga is the Aboriginal community of Wugularr. Commonly known as Beswick, the TOs preference is for the community to be referred to as Wugularr. Located on the banks of the Waterhouse River, 118 kilometres south-east of Katherine, Wugularr has a population of approximately 600 people. This Country is known for its beauty and culturally significant landmarks, such as Malkgulumbu (Beswick Falls).

Both communities are currently covered by the JAAC LDM Agreement, which also covers Manyallaluk and multiple homelands.

In Aboriginal culture, TOs are the custodians and decision makers for the land. This TODM Agreement aims to empower the Bagala TOs as decision makers for their community, working

alongside JAAC as a partner and service provider. By including JAAC throughout the consultation process, Bagala have ensured the Agreement will be mutually beneficial and provide strong outcomes for community members.

CM&C Big Rivers staff assisted the consultation and development of the TODM Agreement, with facilitation support provided by Katherine based not-for-profit Circulanation. This agreement spans three years, 2022-2025, with short (1 year) and medium term (2-3 years) actions being identified.

By signing this TODM Agreement, the parties acknowledge their commitment to fully implementing actions in a transparent, consultative, and accountable manner. All parties will work together based on the overarching LDM guiding principles, which are:

- Self-determination;
- Flexible place-based approaches;
- Co-design; and
- Community control.

4. Bagala Traditional Owners

The Bagala TOs are a Jawoyn clan group who are the recognised land owners of the Barunga and Wugularr communities, located on the Beswick Aboriginal Land Trust. Bagala TOs are defined as the patrilineal descendants of the Lamjorroc, Bulumbara, Moreen and Anderson ancestors.

The rights of TOs are legally recognised under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (the Act). The Act states that TOs have 'primary spiritual responsibility' and are the key decision makers for the land which they own.

The Bagala Traditional Owners are:

- Elizabeth Moreen
- Veronica Moreen
- Demitrious Anderson
- John Anderson
- Seamus Anderson
- Dayleen White
- Tyler Anderson
- Stephen Anderson
- Tamika Anderson
- Gwyn Bulumbara
- Symeon Bulumbara
- Charlane Bulumbara
- B Bulumbara (dec) (and children)
- Raelene Bulumbara (and children)
- Esther Bulumbara (and children)
- Crystal Bulumbara (and children)
- Joyce Bulumbara (and children)
- Ambrose Bulumbara
- Aileen Bulumbara
- Megan Bulumbara
- Lauren Bulumbara
- Damien Bulumbara

Traditional Ownership is passed down through generations from TOs to their children. Cultural protocol dictates seniority and authority among TOs based on factors such as age, gender and family groups.

TO groups are also supported by 'Jungayi'. Jungayi are the traditional 'land managers' charged with ensuring that TOs and visitors are caring for Country appropriately. Jungayi are also determined by family relationships being the children of female TOs.

The current senior Bagala Jungayi are:

Nell Brown
Simon Brown

5. Bagala Aboriginal Corporation

BAC was formally established by the Bagala TOs in 2014 to support community members by reducing disadvantage, providing employment opportunities and improving health and wellbeing. Currently Aboriginal Investment Group supports BAC by providing administrative and backend support to their operations including the Bagala Store and Bagala Bus.

The BAC Board of Directors consists of between four and eight directors at any given time with at least four of the directors required to be TOs. This board composition ensures BAC continues to empower and represent the views of the Bagala TOs. For these reasons, BAC will be utilised as the operational corporation responsible for delivering on several actions throughout this TODM Agreement on behalf of the Bagala TOs.

The current BAC directors are:

- Esther Bulumbara (Chairperson)
- Charlane Bulumbara
- Crystal Bulumbara
- Raelene Bulumbara
- Braun Bush
- Danielle Bush
- Trephina Bush
- Nell Brown



Pandanus weaving

6. Vison

This TODM Agreement supports the aspirations and vision of the Bagala TOs to create economic growth, opportunity and independence, enabling the progress of the Barunga and Wugularr communities and their residents.

Statement from senior TO:

We as the Bagala Traditional Owners are excited to have finalised this agreement with our partners from the NTG, NLC, NIAA, JAAC and RGRC. This agreement supports our vision and will also grow our organisation to be financially strong and independent. Our goals are designed to facilitate this independence and grow our capacity for the future, to deliver larger projects and better outcomes in our communities.

- Esther Bulumbara



Heritage Park, Barunga

7. Implementation Plan

There are four strategic priorities identified for the IP 2022-2025. These strategies have been developed through engagement and consultation with LDM Partners and in alignment with the Bagala TOs priorities and vision.

The IP commences 7 December 2022 and expires 7 December 2025. Following this plan parties should meet again to formalise a new IP. Responsibilities for the execution of specific actions are outlined within the IP.



LDM workshop, BAC board and partners

Strategic Priorities and Objectives

Strategic Priorities	Objectives
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in the growth and capacity building of BAC • Provide training for residents aligned with employment and business opportunities • Develop local employment opportunities • Regain control of community assets
Health and Community Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities for TOs to support or develop local initiatives • Ensure the safety of community members • Improve health, wellbeing and education
Infrastructure and Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise JAAC as the preferred contractor for civil and construction works in community • Generate economic opportunities through leasing of assets • Revise Barunga and Wugularr town plans, service delivery and assets with NTG partners
Culture and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and preserve culture and heritage • Develop a strategy to share culture and history • Support positive and culturally-appropriate practices on Bagala Country

Monitoring and Evaluation

The IP will be an evolving document and through regular engagement between the partners will be assessed and updated as required. Partners commit to meet and formally review the execution of the IP annually.

This review process will allow the partners to:

- I. Report on the progress of actions and to work together to address any emerging barriers to successful implementation;
- II. Measure and report on key socio-economic outcomes;
- III. Agree on any changes within the IP to reflect changing priorities, addressing emerging opportunities or issues and/or alternative approaches which may be required; and
- IV. Ensure communities continue to be informed of the IP and any successful outcomes are profiled.



Malkgulumbu

Economic Development

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM (1 Year)				
1	Appointment of a BAC CEO/Project Officer to support the TOs vision and actions within the TODM Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete employee recruitment Independent accounting, bookkeeping and management processes implemented 	BAC	CM&C
2	Implementation of Information Technology systems, website and other enabling systems to support BAC operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website established IT and governance systems implemented 	BAC	CM&C / DITT
3	BAC board members and TOs supported to receive governance training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training identified and completed by majority of eligible participants. 	BAC	CM&C / ORIC
4	Leasing and utilisation of BAC assets to NTG and other service providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEH leases signed and implemented Developed strong revenue stream from leasing of assets 	BAC	NTG / NLC
5	Development of a strategic plan for BAC to guide future vision, objectives and goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic plan is developed by BAC 	BAC	JAAC / CM&C / RGRC
6	Provide training and shadowing opportunities for community members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programs established for residents in community identified areas of interest and industries 	BAC / JAAC	NIAA / RISE / DITT
7	Secure funding for the refurbishment of proposed site for Bagala Social Club.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding secured from NTG or other partners 	BAC	NTG

*Note that Government funding opportunities will continue to be subject to the required terms and conditions for approval, program availability, ability to complete the work identified in the application process and program budgets.

Economic Development (continued)

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
MEDIUM TERM (2-3 Years)				
8	Establish a Social Club board and governance structure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board appointed Governance structure developed and shared with stakeholders 	BAC	CM&C / DITT
9	BAC to secure S19 leases from NLC for commercial gravel extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application by BAC to DIPL for transfer of S19 leases Commercial gravel extraction by BAC commences 	BAC	DIPL / NLC
10	Explore a transition of operations of the Beswick Store and Social Club to BAC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore feasibility and capacity of BAC for this project BAC take over leases and operation of both businesses 	BAC	NLC / NTG

Health and Community Wellbeing

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM (1 Year)				
1	Establishment of a partnership between Bagala TOs and NTPFES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a formal set of protocols with TOs and local NTG partners 	TOs	NTG / NTPFES
2	Establishment of a Barunga-Wugularr Community Law and Justice Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and formalise membership, terms of reference for the Law and Justice Group Development of an Action Plan for the Group 	CM&C	TOs
MEDIUM TERM (2-3 Years)				
3	Explore options to develop or support a domestic and family violence support program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic and family violence support program is available to residents 	BAC	ACFC / TFHC
4	Explore opportunities to expand the activities of BSWG and increase culture, wellbeing, healing and sharing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase frequency of activity in Wugularr and Barunga of BSWG Increase in the engagement of women and girls in activities 	JAAC / BAC	NIAA / NTG
5	Undertake a feasibility study for a water play facility in Wugularr and Barunga.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility study undertaken and next steps identified if project proceeds 	BAC	RGRC / NTG

Infrastructure and Housing

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM (1 Year)				
1	BAC utilise JAAC as the preferred contractor for civil and construction opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAC partner with JAAC as preferred contractor where they have capability and capacity NTG recognise JAAC as preferred service provider 	BAC	JAAC / NTG
2	Undertake an investigation into flood issues in Barunga, lots 158, 159, 160, 162, 163, 183, 184, 185, 195, 281.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood investigation completed and shared with community Next steps identified 	TFHC / DIPL	BAC / RGRC
3	Resurfacing, irrigation, and drainage of football oval at Barunga.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football oval is refurbished and ready for use 	RGRC	JAAC / BAC
4	Moving forward NTG must rectify any defects to buildings and lots prior to the end of their lease and handover to Bagala/Beswick Land Trust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future buildings and lots are repaired or returned to a greenfield site prior to being handed back Ongoing action – nil lots currently identified for handover 	NTG	BAC
5	BAC to develop MOU with JAAC to identify mutually beneficial opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOU developed 	BAC / JAAC	CM&C
6	All new Section 19 leases including community housing to be leased to BAC for sub-leasing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new S19 leases provided unless it is to BAC. 	NLC / BAC	RGRC / JAAC / NTG
7	Undertake planning and consultation for relocation of Maranboy Police Station to Wugularr or Barunga.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and consultation completed 	NTPFES	DIPL / TOs

Infrastructure and Housing (continued)

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
MEDIUM TERM (2-3 Years)				
8	NTG to lease housing for staff from BAC. Up to three 2x2 bedroom duplexes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed lease agreements Works commenced 	BAC	NTG
9	Undertake a review of the Barunga and Wugularr Housing Reference Group Terms of Reference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviews completed and endorsed. 	TFHC	TOs
10	Review of the town plans, service delivery and assets with NTG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of town plans completed and adjustments made accordingly Service delivery and assets reviewed, future planning completed 	BAC / DIPL	NLC
11	Development of Town Beautification plan for Barunga and Wugularr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RGRC Town Beautification plan is developed with the Bagala TOs 	RGRC	TOs / NLC
12	Explore opportunities for township leasing by BAC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a Strategic Engagement plan 	BAC	NLC / NIAA
13	New Wugularr oval developed outside of flood zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site identified Works commenced 	NTG	JAAC / BAC / RGRC

Infrastructure and Housing (continued)

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
MEDIUM TERM (2-3 Years)				
14	Works completed to raise the Waterhouse River Bridge to improve flood immunity and access to the Wugularr community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works planned and shared with community • Works completed 	DIPL	NLC / JAAC / RGRC
15	Share information and timeframes with community on planned Central Arnhem Road upgrades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned works shared with community and ongoing updates provided 	DIPL	BAC / JAAC
16	Mediation undertaken to demolish single men's quarters in Wugularr and rehouse residents in appropriate permanent accommodation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediation completed • Residents rehoused • Men's quarters demolished 	DIPL / TFHC	BAC / NTG
17	BAC to register as a Community Housing Provider.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application submitted • Commence activities as a provider 	BAC	JAAC / NTG

Culture and Heritage

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM (1 Year)				
1	Bagala TOs to apply to the Place Names Committee to have the legal name of Beswick changed to Wugularr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wugularr is approved for addition to the Place Names Register 	BAC	RGRC / NLC / DIPL
2	Bagala TOs to work with NLC and NTG to outline cultural protocols on Bagala Country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural protocols developed and implemented 	TOs	CM&C / NLC
3	Bagala TOs to consult with community and develop policy and procedures for 'death and funerals' for service providers and third parties operating within Wugularr and Barunga.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and Procedures delivered to all community services providers 	BAC	JAAC / RGRC
4	BAC to work with JAAC to identify ways to best preserve and share culture and history.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAC and JAAC meet to work through ideas and options such as a library or culture centre 	BAC	JAAC / RGRC
5	JAAC to train BAC members to deliver a cultural induction program customised for Barunga and Wugularr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JAAC deliver training sessions to BAC members 	JAAC	BAC
6	Work with Skinnyfish to develop a strong understanding between both parties regarding the Barunga festival and its operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAC is comfortable with operation and able to provide support 	RGRC / TOs	JAAC