

## RANGERS: HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I am the Ranger for Ngambaa Nature Reserve & 6 other reserves. The Reserve conserves a large area of dry forest vegetation communities close to the coast & has a large number of rare & threatened fauna & flora species. It also contains landscapes & sites of significance to local Aboriginal communities. I have been in this job for 9 years, however, I started working as a ranger in 1993.

Whilst I was growing up I enjoyed watching documentaries on working with wildlife in Africa. This sparked my interest, I like the outdoors, learning about the environment & I like a job with a lot of variety.

When I finished high school I worked as a Jackaroo, then completed a science degree, worked in a variety of jobs including barman & operated a landscaping business. I then worked in agricultural research & while doing vegetation & soil survey work I got a temporary ranger job. About two years later I gained a permanent ranger job.

I patrol my reserves, identify works, prepare environmental assessments & liaise with a crew of field staff who undertake the work. Other work includes: meeting with park neighbours, wildlife enquiries, planning & undertaking control burning, combating bushfires, liaising with Aboriginal communities, law enforcement & dealing with many wildlife issues such as whale & dolphin strandings.

I managed the re-development of a picnic area in Yarriabini National Park, it was a degraded area with an Aboriginal site. The re-development took 18 months to plan & construct shelters, Aboriginal themes in the form of art & a large 'ceramic' rock telling cultural stories.

This year we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gumbayngirr & Dunghutti Aboriginal Peoples for the management of Yarriabini National Park, negotiation took 4 years. This agreement decides how we will involve these Peoples in the management of the park & access for them.



*"World Ranger Day is a day to think about the great work being done around the world by people sometimes taking great risks to protect the natural & cultural heritage of our parks & reserves on our behalf".*



Environment,  
Climate Change & Water  
National Parks & Wildlife Service



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