

Ken Vowles  
Minister for Primary Industry and Resources

## INDIGENOUS RANGERS UNDERTAKE FISHERIES TRAINING

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Minister for Primary Industry, Ken Vowles, this week congratulated 16 Indigenous rangers from across the Territory undertaking training towards a Certificate II in Fisheries Compliance.

“The Territory Labor Government is creating jobs for Territorians, by supporting remote Aboriginal communities to participate in the fishing industry and increase the skills and knowledge of Indigenous Rangers,” Mr Vowles said.

“Courses such as the Fisheries Compliance Course help to empower Indigenous people to manage and protect their own environment, and creates job opportunities.”

The Certificate II in Fisheries Compliance has been developed for Rangers to enable them to report on change and suspected non-compliance using observable evidence, such as photographs and global positioning system (GPS) readings.

The training covers different practical methods of gathering, collating and recording information, as well as workplace safety, relevant legislation, and fisheries management practices.

The qualification specifies the competencies that are required of people working at a local level in a ranger role with responsibility for managing the marine environment within their sea/river country, both towards recreational and commercial operators.

Once they’ve successfully completed the course, the rangers can apply to be appointed as Class 1 Fisheries Inspectors under section 7 of the *Fisheries Act*.

Fisheries Inspectors have specific powers and authority under the Act to enforce fisheries compliance matters.

Class 1 Fisheries Inspectors can lawfully inspect fishing gear that is in use and establish a person’s identity from the inspected gear.

The fisheries compliance course is being delivered by the Fisheries division of the Department of Primary Industry and Resources, the Australian Maritime Fisheries Academy (AMFA) and the Water Police Section (WPS), and is run twice each year.

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