

# UMUWA STATEMENT ON BUFFEL GRASS



HEALTHY COUNTRY - NO BUFFEL GRASS

BUFFEL CHOKING COUNTRY

Nganana Anangu tjutangku tjanpi kuranya nyanga palunya ngalya katintja wiyatu. Palu kuwari tjanpi kuranya nganampa mantangka ngaranya munu nganampa ngura kurani munu community munu culture kulu.

Tjanpi kuranya ngalya katingu puluka tjutaku kutju mai munu ulpuru kulu wiyanytjikitjangku. Panya kuwari tjanpi kuranya ala lipiringu munu iluntanu nganampa ngurangka. Ka nganana kuwari putu ngurini mai putitja tjuta. Panya tjala, malu, kumpurarpa, wiriny-wirinyapa, ultukunpa, wan-gunu, kaltu-kaltu, arnguli, kurku munu punu putitja kutjupa tjuta kulu panya kuwari nganana putu ngurini munu nganampa tjulpuntjulpunpa munu inunyti kulu wiyaringu. Tjanpi kuranya warpungkula pulkaringkupai warungku kampanyangka munu kapingku puyinyangka. Ka nganana nyanga palunya ngalya katintja wiyatu panya tjanpi kura nyanga paluru panya witu-witu pulka mulapa. Ka nganana mukuringanyi alpamilantjaku nganam-pa ngura malangkungku wiru kanyintjaku. Ka kuwari tjilpi pampa tjuta ulanyi ngura nyanga palumpa. Panya kuwari ngura pulka tjuta anganu tjanpi kuralu panya punu wiru tjuta pakantjtjangka.

Panya nganana kuwari tjtiji tjuta katintja wiyaringu putikutu panya tjanpi kuralu iwara patinu munu punu nganmanypa pakantja tjuta wiyanu. Ka nganampa tjtiji tjutangku kuwari putu nyanganyi panya tjanpi kuralu uwankara patinu munu kuwari witu-witu pulka ngaranya panya nganampa tjtiji tjuta nintintjaku. Ka nganana nyanga palunya ngalya palunya ngalya katintja wiyatu. Panya nganampa culture kuwari kurani, ka anangu tjuta kuwari tjturu-tjturu nyinanyi. alpamilantjaku. Munu nganana kuwari mayatja pulka tjutangka tjanpi nyanga palunya nyakuntjaku, panya kuwari kurani tjanpi kuralu nganampa ngurangka munu nganampa ngura pulka tjuta kulu. Nyanga palunya ngura nganampangka wiyantjaku.

Ka nganana Anangu tjuta tjunguringkula tjungungku palyanma tjanpi kura nyanga palunya wiyantjikitjangku. Panya warka pulka mulapa nyangatja ngaranya tjanpi kuranya wiyanytjaku. Ka nganana mukuringanyi governmentu kulu nganananya mula-mulangu pulkara alpamilantjaku. Ka nyanga palunya nganana mukuringanyi tjanpi kuranya alpamilantjaku. Munu tjanpi kura nyanga paluru anu ngura winkikutu, munu tjititiringka tjarpangu, munu tjtiji tjutaku inkapingka kulu.

Ka tjtiji tjuta nganmanypa para-wirtjapakalpai pukulpa munu inkapai, ka kuwari wiyaringu. Ka tjanpi kura nyanga palula, liru tjarpapai munu kumpil-pa ngaripai ka tjilpi pampa tjana kulu kulira nguluringkupai tjanpi kuralu anganyangka ka nganana nyanga palula-tjanalanguru pikatjararingkupai, ngaalytjararinganyi panya tjanpi mpa anangu tjuta kuwari nguluringanyi pikatjararingkutjakutawara Panya nganana mukuringanyi pulkara alpami-lantjaku nganampa ngurangka. Ka nganana kuwari pulkara mukuringanyi government uwankarangu nganananya kulintjaku munu alpamilantjaku tjanpi kura nyanga palunya wiyantjaku. Panya nganana rawangku wangkangi tjanpi kura nyanga palunya palu mula-mulangu nganananya kulintja wiyatu.

Ka nganana nyanga palunya mula-mula wangkara palyantjaku ngaranya, ngura nganampa, culture munu community kulu kunpu ngaranya tjaku. Ka nganana mukuringanyi, governmentu tjanpi kura nyangapalulanguru

Translated by Langaliki Robin, Joanne Ken and Dom Barry

We, the First Nations people of the desert, did not bring Buffel Grass to this land. But it is here and it is killing our Country and threaten-ing our communities and culture.

Buffel Grass was brought to our Country to feed cattle and keep down the dust. But it has spread across much of our land. It is chok-ing our Country. We can't get bushfoods where we used to. Honey Ant, Malu (Red Kangaroo) and our native plants are getting harder to find. Our wildflowers are disappearing. The Buffel grows too fast and burns too often for our Country. It's the first plant that grows after rain and fire. It is killing our Country and while we didn't bring it here, we live with the consequences. We need support to get our healthy Country back.

Older people mourn for the Country that used to be. The plants and animals, the special and sacred places are covered in Buffel where once many native plants grew. We can't take our kids out to learn culture, the hunting tracks are covered and the plants that sustained us for thousands of years are disappearing. Our kids are growing up seeing only Country with Buffel Grass and it's getting harder to teach our kids the stories for this Country. It is threatening our culture, we didn't bring it here and our people are suffering the consequences. We need support to keep our culture strong.

Buffel Grass is all around our communities. It grows right up to our houses, in our backyards and front yards and our kids' playgrounds. Kids can't run around like they used to. The Buffel hides snakes and makes it hard for our old people to get around safely. We can't es-cape it. We suffer health problems like asthma from the Buffel flowers and the smoke from the fires. Our homes and communities are at threat from fire from the Buffel Grass. We didn't bring it here and our people are at risk. We need support to protect our communities.

We are calling on governments at all levels to recognise the impacts and the threats that Buffel Grass has on us, the First Nations people of desert Australia. For too long we have been pushed to the side when making decisions about this tjanpi kura (bad grass). We need serious action taken to reduce this threat to our Country, our culture and our communities. We need support from governments and people to help us manage this dangerous weed that is taking over the deserts. We call on federal, state and territory governments to recognise the threat of Buffel Grass to our Country, our culture and communities and do what is needed to stop the march of this weed across our Country.

We stand together with desert people across Australia calling for support on this problem. Buffel Grass is a dangerous threat to us and we need to be resourced to manage it.

- Angie Reid
- Glady's Brown
- Clifford McIndress
- David Eston
- Wilson Mandjaku
- Paul Hejans
- Sonya Braybon
- Stu Broadfield
- Kim Keels
- PRESTON KELLY
- Cleveland Kantawara
- Clint Wheeler
- Emmon Campbell
- Nick Asussuwa
- Nelsar. Tex
- Biony Janny
- Maggie Kavanagh
- Peter See
- Chantal Fowler
- Garth Cott
- JONATHAN ATKINS
- Malcolm Lindley
- Kirsty Doolan (TOAC)
- John Millon
- Shirley Parker
- Lynette Wilridge
- Karina Chilcott
- Lisa Taylor
- Janet Smith
- Joseph Hancock
- Patrick Nelson
- Evans Noakes
- Aphar - Paruku + Kumirki Ranger
- Anne Ovi
- Lenie Anderson
- Madeleine Dion
- Stephanie Chungera
- Lance Palmer
- Keith Gorey
- Clifford Woodford
- KEVIN KOPP
- Steve Davenport and all the kids
- Kaplu Dyananti Woodcut
- Hayley Mulardy
- Emma Carlett
- Som Murray-Yilka (LAWDORA EUMNIS W.A)
- Shawn Nicholls
- Kathryn Brown
- Linda Harpur
- Joe Jos Burton
- Tim Leane
- Joseph Grant
- Colin Joseph
- Wally Doolan
- Benadict Mosquito
- Muhammad Beanie
- Olivera Lipcar
- Belinda Macgregor
- Keanna Wilson
- Judy Dunlop
- Floyd James MWA Rangers
- Julie Lewis
- Cliff Smith
- Andrew McIndress (IDA)
- Somuel Galova
- Wanda Bellou
- Alfred Nganyarra
- Dyanne Mosquito
- Abraham Culyon (RL)
- JOSEPA ANGIE
- Tim Schneider
- PATRICK KATIMBOLT
- BRETT JENNINGS (MANWARU RANGER)
- PATRICK REID
- CRIC JOHNSON
- L. Nathan Smith
- ITTO SAMSON
- Ben Brown
- SHAWNE LONG
- LENA LONG
- Birrikkuru Rangers
- Tim McEath (Federal government)
- Stella Shipway (BHA)
- Jamie Brown (KAC)
- Sylvia Haines
- Shane Masters - AWC
- Ngarra Rangers
- BEVAN BENT
- Justin Andrews
- Tim Lyons
- Leah Davidson
- Romano Jackman
- Ed Blackwood
- Kinickuru Rangers
- Mansa Bradshaw
- David O'Byrne
- Jimmy Geking - DKA
- Neil Collins - APY Land Management
- Justin McKinnon
- Will Towrie APY/spurys
- ANTHONY POKICK - HART RANGERS
- Peter Worrap
- CLC Lyanalya Apule
- Lynda Lechleitner
- Shannon Palmer
- Alisha Raggatt
- NAOMI LEWIS - AWC Ngarrlityu
- IRIA KVEN - AWC MANHAYEN
- BEV SIOHU - TAJWANPA
- ANUSHA GORAY
- CARITA NELSON
- Adnan Appo
- JOE PALMER
- Eloise Bentley
- Tanya Shal
- Kristina Kwanig
- Annabel Dixon
- Dannica Skultz (Kiwinkuru 1st)
- Jacob Loughridge (Nyangumarta IPA)
- Courtney Brown - Korojarri
- Oska Mills - APY
- Sordy Miller
- Cody Vere - Farwest
- Zia Vinycomb - Tjanmanu Women's Group
- Jackie Coates
- Joyce Tullock - Taylor Wiluna Rangers
- Geraldine Yamma
- Sonia Kenny
- Angela Ebotarinja
- Maree Harrison
- Tom Rogge (KAC)
- Amber Bowden Skulla
- Kathryn Sinclair
- Haylee D'Agui
- Angela Purvis
- Pia Nuru (Almigidal Corporation) emsc
- Apatex Land Management
- Adrian Pasington
- Francois Coast Aboriginal Co-op, RANGERS
- Dave Purvis
- PAUL CARRISSE
- KIM CLAUSE