

Water

Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement

\$21.3 M
package

\$20 M
for water
investigations

\$455,000
for water monitor
training

\$900,000
in service contracts
for water monitors

What is in the package?

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has contributed \$21.3 million to secure the cultural, social and economic benefits of water.

Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserve

- » Creation of a Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserve across the Agreement area consisting of 25 gigalitres per year for use or trade.
- » Establishing these Reserves can provide the Traditional Owners with access to groundwater through water licences to facilitate business development.
- » Water will be released from the Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserve through the normal licensing process under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914, relevant state-wide policies and water allocation plans.
- » The reserve will be solely for the use of Yamatji Nation people through the Regional Corporation.

Funding for Groundwater Investigations

- » \$20 million funding to contribute to the investigation of viable water resources in the Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserve.

Aboriginal Water Monitor Training

- » \$455,000 for a water monitor training program through Geraldton TAFE so Yamatji Nation Traditional Owners can develop accredited monitoring skills and deliver monitoring services to DWER, other government agencies and the private sector.
- » \$900,000 for service contracts to DWER to employ qualified Yamatji water monitors.

Aboriginal Liaison Officer

- » Funding for up to five years to assist the Regional Corporation to develop the water reserves, manage contracts and licencing processes and coordinate the delivery of the Aboriginal Water Sites Restoration Project (see Culture and Heritage Fact Sheet).