



Australian Government
Indigenous Business Australia

10 May 2010

MEDIA RELEASE

Indigenous Business Australia Recycles 5-Star Resort

In what is arguably the greatest example of recycling in Australian Tourism, core buildings and infrastructure from the 5-star resort Wrotham Park Station Lodge in Central Far North Queensland are being recycled in the construction of Wildman Wilderness Lodge in the Northern Territory.

Following the purchase of Wrotham Park in November 2009, Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) moved a team of builders onto the site and dismantled the entire resort infrastructure down to the fixtures and fittings in 28 days.

The cabin structures, verandas and awnings, the central lodge with bar and restaurant facility, staff accommodation units, power generators, water and sewage treatments systems and key electrical infrastructure were dismantled and transported to the new location.

It took 18 triple road trains to transport the dismantled infrastructure 2800kms across country to Darwin where it is currently awaiting the end of the wet season to be transported the final stretch to Wildman for construction to begin.

Although the relocation of a 5-star Resort may seem unusual, it is substantially cheaper than the cost of building new facilities at Wildman.

IBA has entered into a joint venture partnership with Anthology, The Traveller's Collection – a company that provides premium quality experiential tourism.

Along with being part owners in Wildman Wilderness Lodge, Anthology will also be responsible for marketing and managing the business.

IBA Deputy General Manager Kaely Woods stated that IBA's strategy looks to create pathways for Indigenous Australians that will help unlock the wealth potential of their land.

"We have commenced discussions and negotiations with local Indigenous groups seeking to become partners in this venture.

"In conjunction with Anthology, IBA will also be exploring avenues to provide economic development opportunities for local Indigenous groups to provide aboriginal cultural touring and content in the area," Ms Woods said.

Wildman Wilderness Lodge will be situated on the beautiful Mary River Wetlands – half way between Darwin and Kakadu.

When completed at the end of 2010, Wildman Wilderness Lodge will offer 5-star accommodation in either luxury air conditioned cabins or spacious custom designed safari tents

About IBA: Indigenous Business Australia is a statutory authority that is committed to Indigenous economic development through the provision of home loans, small business development and specialised joint venture opportunities for Indigenous Australians.

Media contact: Daniel Hughes 02 6121 2731, 0427 011 938 or daniel.hughes@iba.gov.au



5th Floor Bonner House West, Neptune St, Woden ACT 2606 | PO Box 38 Woden ACT 2606
Phone (02) 6121 2700 | Fax (02) 6121 2730 | www.iba.gov.au | ABN: 25 192 932 833