

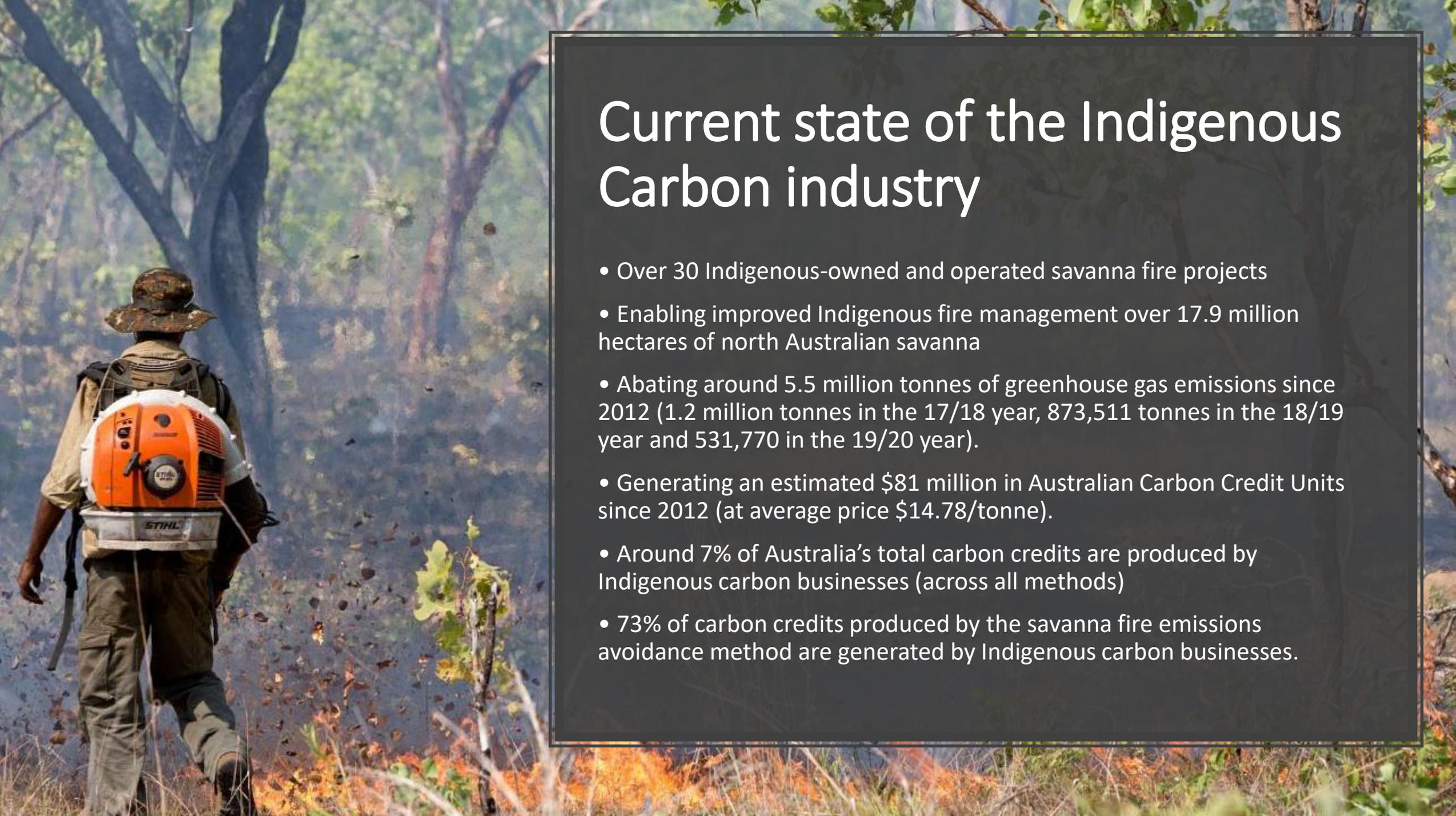


ICIN

Indigenous
Carbon
Industry
Network

2019/20 Full Report

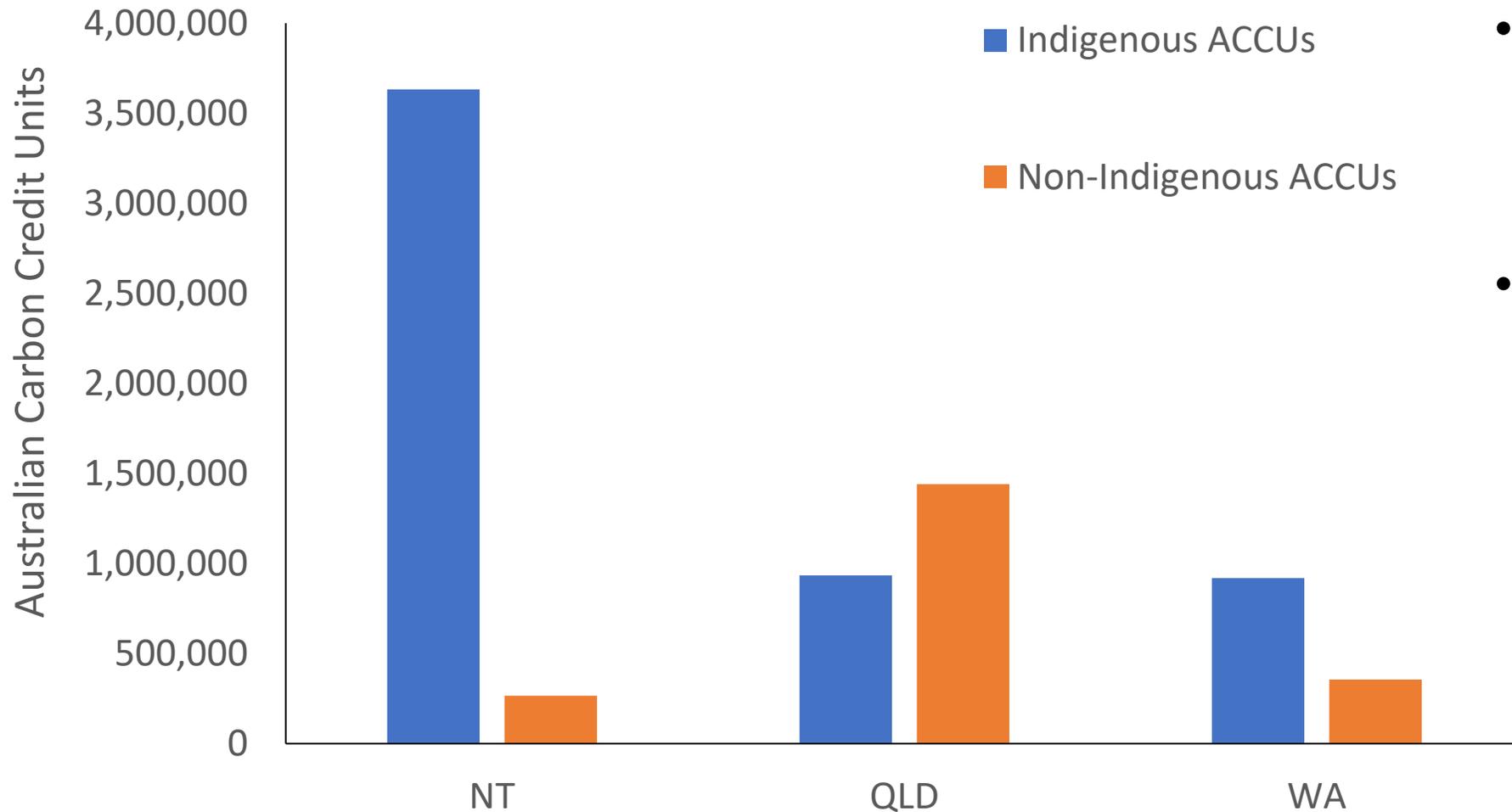
June 2020



Current state of the Indigenous Carbon industry

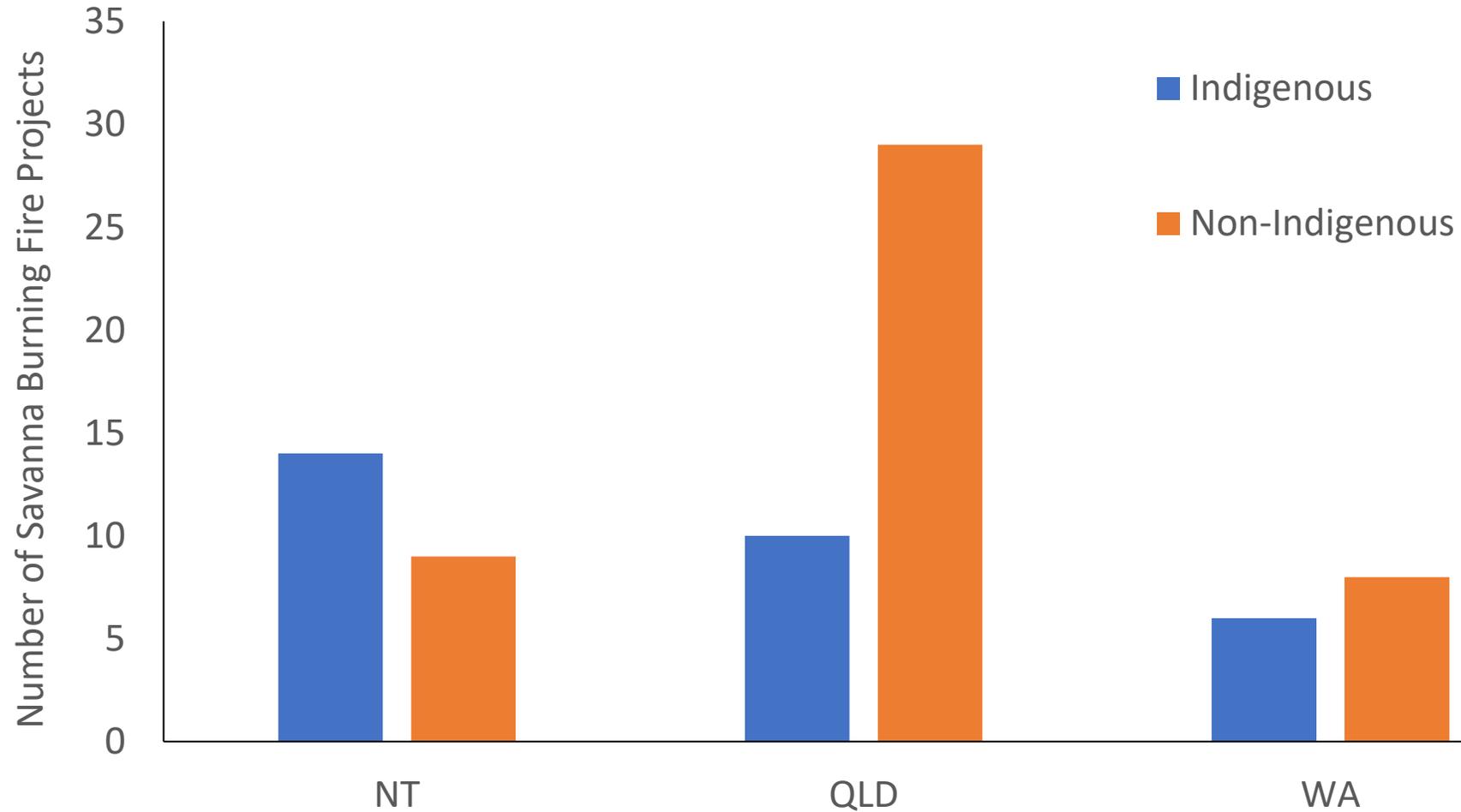
- Over 30 Indigenous-owned and operated savanna fire projects
- Enabling improved Indigenous fire management over 17.9 million hectares of north Australian savanna
- Abating around 5.5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions since 2012 (1.2 million tonnes in the 17/18 year, 873,511 tonnes in the 18/19 year and 531,770 in the 19/20 year).
- Generating an estimated \$81 million in Australian Carbon Credit Units since 2012 (at average price \$14.78/tonne).
- Around 7% of Australia's total carbon credits are produced by Indigenous carbon businesses (across all methods)
- 73% of carbon credits produced by the savanna fire emissions avoidance method are generated by Indigenous carbon businesses.

Savanna ACCU issuance by state to date



- Over 7.5 million ACCUs issued to savanna burning methodology
- 73 % of ACCUs have been produced by Indigenous savanna burning projects

Savanna fire projects by state to date

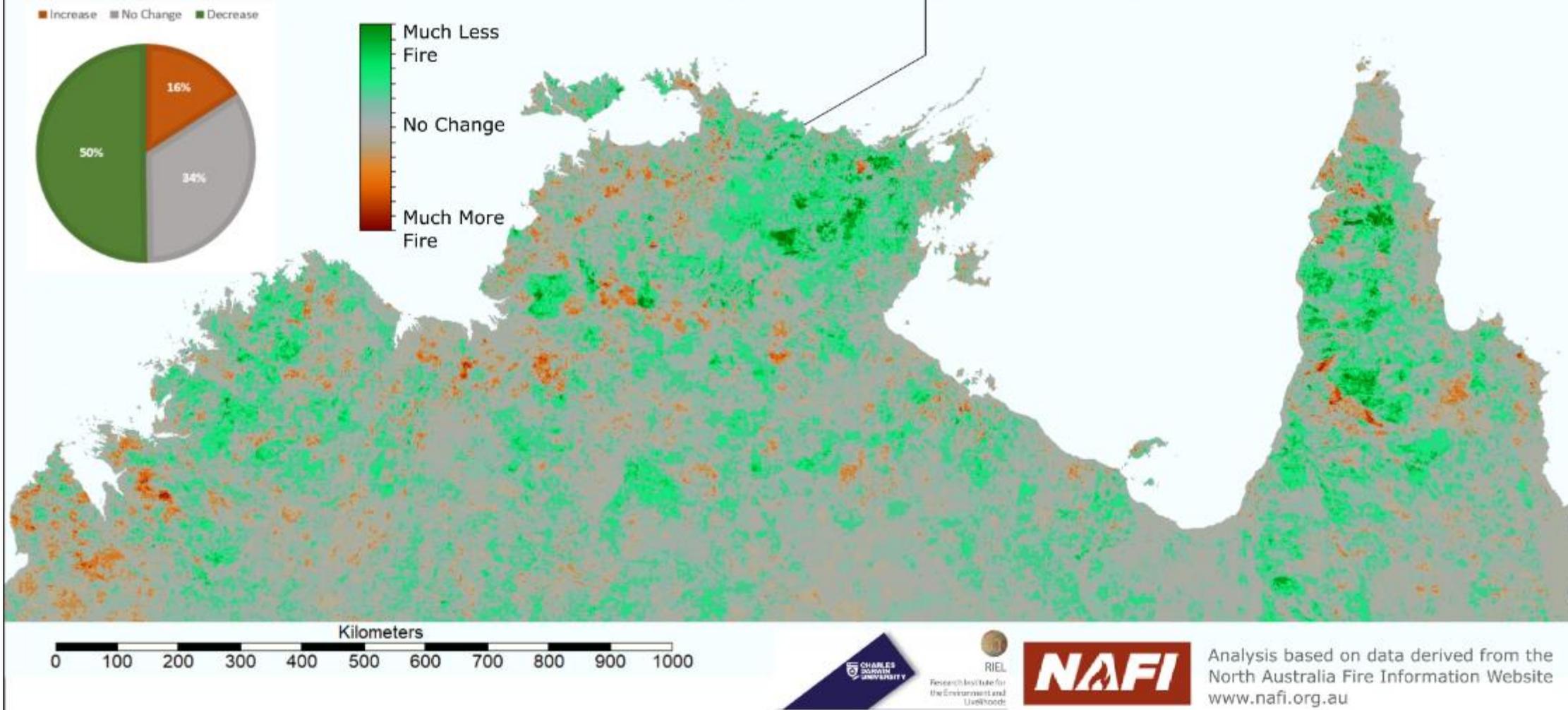


North Australia fire management

A comparison of average fire frequency between 2000-2006 and 2013-2019

361,400km² the area with a reduced number of late dry season fires.

340,400 km² the area with a reduced number of all fire.



Additional Benefits

- Enables improved fire management outcomes across vast landscapes where access by road is limited.
- Unique in that it generates multiple environmental, cultural and social benefits as well as significantly abating greenhouse gas emissions.
- Provides meaningful training and employment opportunities on country in very remote areas where jobs are scarce.
- Enhances opportunities to access country, intergenerational exchange of traditional knowledge and practices.
- Empowers land managers by providing an independent source of income.
- Improved biodiversity outcomes of global significance.
- The economic value of these additional 'co-benefits' are becoming more formally recognised through different evaluation frameworks (Aboriginal Carbon Foundation Core Benefits Verification Framework, Biodiversity credits, Healthy Country Plans)



Key Areas for Investment of Revenue

Source: ICIN survey of member organisations, August 2019



Carbon projects directly increase the capacity of Indigenous land management organisations

In the recent ICIN survey, all 17 participating organisations reported an increase in capacity as a result of their engagement in the carbon industry, through:

- **Better equipped ranger groups**
(More rangers employed, better access to training, new infrastructure)
- **Better governance outcomes**
(Increased confidence through ownership of the project and greater engagement of Traditional Owners in local decision-making processes)
- **Organisational growth**
(More staff, new infrastructure)
- **Investment in community infrastructure** (roads, outstations)
- **Increased financial sustainability** due to raising an independent source of income
- **New partnerships** with other supporting agencies



What is the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network?



Initiated by Indigenous carbon businesses at 2018 Savanna Fire Forum



Filling a critical gap in industry coordination



Supported by an Interim Steering Committee of 9 member orgs



Including 34 member organisations across north Australia



Broader network including 200 people



Funded by Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy, Northern Territory Government and Queensland Government.



Employs part-time 0.8 Coordinator hosted by Warddeken Land Management.

What is the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network?

The Network includes representatives from 34 Indigenous-owned organisations engaged in the savanna carbon farming industry across north Australia.

Established 2018 as Interim ICIN Steering Committee (until June 2020)

- Kimberley Land Council (Kristina Koenig)
- Arnhem Land Fire Abatement NT Ltd (Jennifer Ansell)
- Tiwi Land Council (Willie Rioli)
- Northern Land Council (Anthony Kerr/ Matt Salmon)
- Warddeken Land Management Ltd (Shaun Ansell/ Dean Yibarbuk)
- Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (Jonathan Green/Paul Donohoe)
- Olkola Aboriginal Corporation (Debbie Symonds/ Joanne Griffin)
- Kowanyama Land and Sea NRM Office (vacant)
- Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation (Tom Vigilante)

In 2019/20 the network was coordinated by Anna Boustead and Eric Lede.

Current Members List



- Aboriginal Carbon Foundation
- Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Ltd
- APN Cape York
- Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation
- Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation
- Balkanu Development Corporation
- Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation
- Cape York Land Council
- Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation
- Demed Aboriginal Corporation
- Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation
- Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation
- Kakadu National Park
- Kimberley Land Council
- KIRP Kakadu
- Kowanyama Land Management Office (Shire Council)
- Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation
- Mapoon Land and Sea Rangers (Shire Council)
- Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation
- NAILSMA
- Nitmiluk National Park
- Njanjma
- Northern Land Council
- Nyaliga Aboriginal Corporation
- Nyamba Buru Yawuru
- Old Mapoon Aboriginal Corporation
- Olkola Aboriginal Corporation
- Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council
- Thamarrurr Development Corporation
- Tiwi Land Council
- Warddeken Land Management Ltd
- Wilinggin Aboriginal Corporation
- Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
- Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation

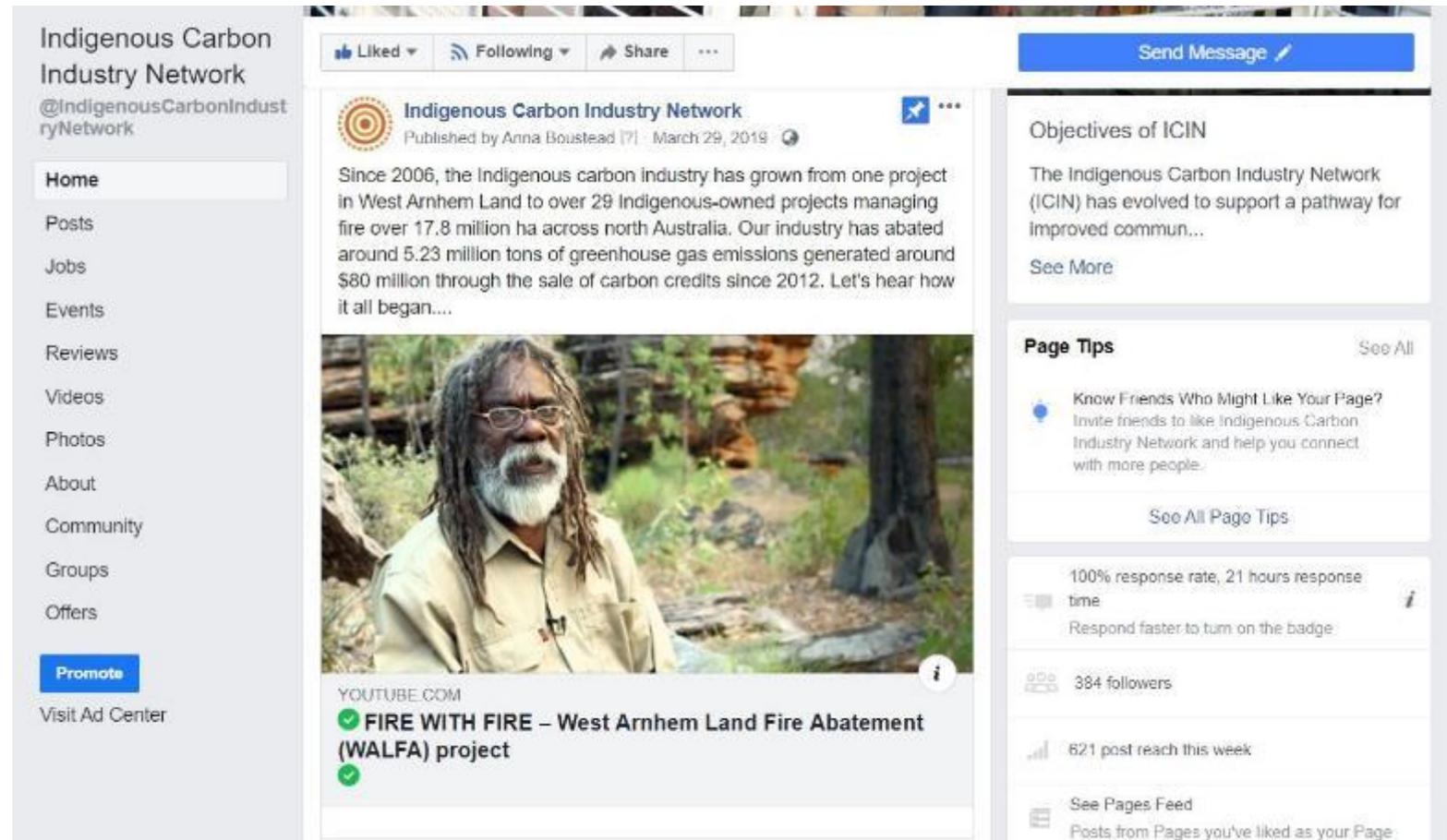
Communicating through the Network:

1. Social Media

Share videos, photos and stories on our Facebook Group page, follow ICIN on our [Facebook page](#) or contact us via Messenger

Current audience: 384 followers grown from 100 followers in 2019

Goal: 500 followers



Indigenous Carbon Industry Network
@IndigenousCarbonIndustryNetwork

Home
Posts
Jobs
Events
Reviews
Videos
Photos
About
Community
Groups
Offers
Promote
Visit Ad Center

Liked Following Share ...

Indigenous Carbon Industry Network
Published by Anna Boustead [?] · March 29, 2019

Since 2006, the Indigenous carbon industry has grown from one project in West Arnhem Land to over 29 Indigenous-owned projects managing fire over 17.8 million ha across north Australia. Our industry has abated around 5.23 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions generated around \$80 million through the sale of carbon credits since 2012. Let's hear how it all began....

YOUTUBE.COM
✓ FIRE WITH FIRE – West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (WALFA) project

Send Message

Objectives of ICIN
The Indigenous Carbon Industry Network (ICIN) has evolved to support a pathway for improved commun...
See More

Page Tips See All
Know Friends Who Might Like Your Page?
Invite friends to like Indigenous Carbon Industry Network and help you connect with more people.
See All Page Tips

100% response rate, 21 hours response time
Respond faster to turn on the badge

384 followers

621 post reach this week

See Pages Feed
Posts from Pages you've liked as your Page

2. ICIN Bulletins (external)

- Report from the coordinator
- Updates from the carbon industry
- Updates from our members
- Links to media articles
- Links to research papers
- Upcoming events

Received by around 200 people across the network from both member and associate member organisations.

Distributed every two months

To join the list, email icin@warddeken.org.au



The screenshot shows the top portion of an email newsletter. At the top left is the ID '315233'. To its right is the title 'The Latest Indigenous Carbon Industry News'. Further right are links for 'Subscribe', 'Past issues', and 'Translate'. Below these is a link to 'View this email in your browser'. The main header features the ICIN logo, which consists of a circular graphic of dots forming a target-like pattern, followed by the text 'ICIN Indigenous Carbon Industry Network'. Below the logo is a photograph of a panel discussion on a stage. The photo shows several people seated on a stage in front of a large blue screen displaying the text 'CREATING NEW MARKETS: DESIGN, ENGAGEMENT & IMPLEMENTATION'. Below the photo is a caption: 'ICIN Steering Committee member Debbie Sprynda, CEO of Orlia Aboriginal Corporation discusses emerging markets at the Carbon Market Institute Summit in May'. Below the photo and caption is the section title 'Report from the Coordinator'. Under this title is a sub-section 'Funding update' with the text: 'We are pleased to announce that the Australian Department of the Environment and Energy, Northern Territory Government and Queensland Department of Environment and Science have renewed funding to support the network for another year.' At the bottom of the visible content is another paragraph: 'In our first year we have brought together 34 Indigenous organisations supporting carbon businesses across north Australia, developed a policy position paper, hosted the North Australia Savanna Fire Forum and delivered a communications strategy.'

3. Member Alert Emails

- Member-only time sensitive information
- Regular (twice weekly)
- Opportunities to contribute to policy submissions
- Upcoming events
- Media articles
- Opportunities to present
- Distribute draft documents for review



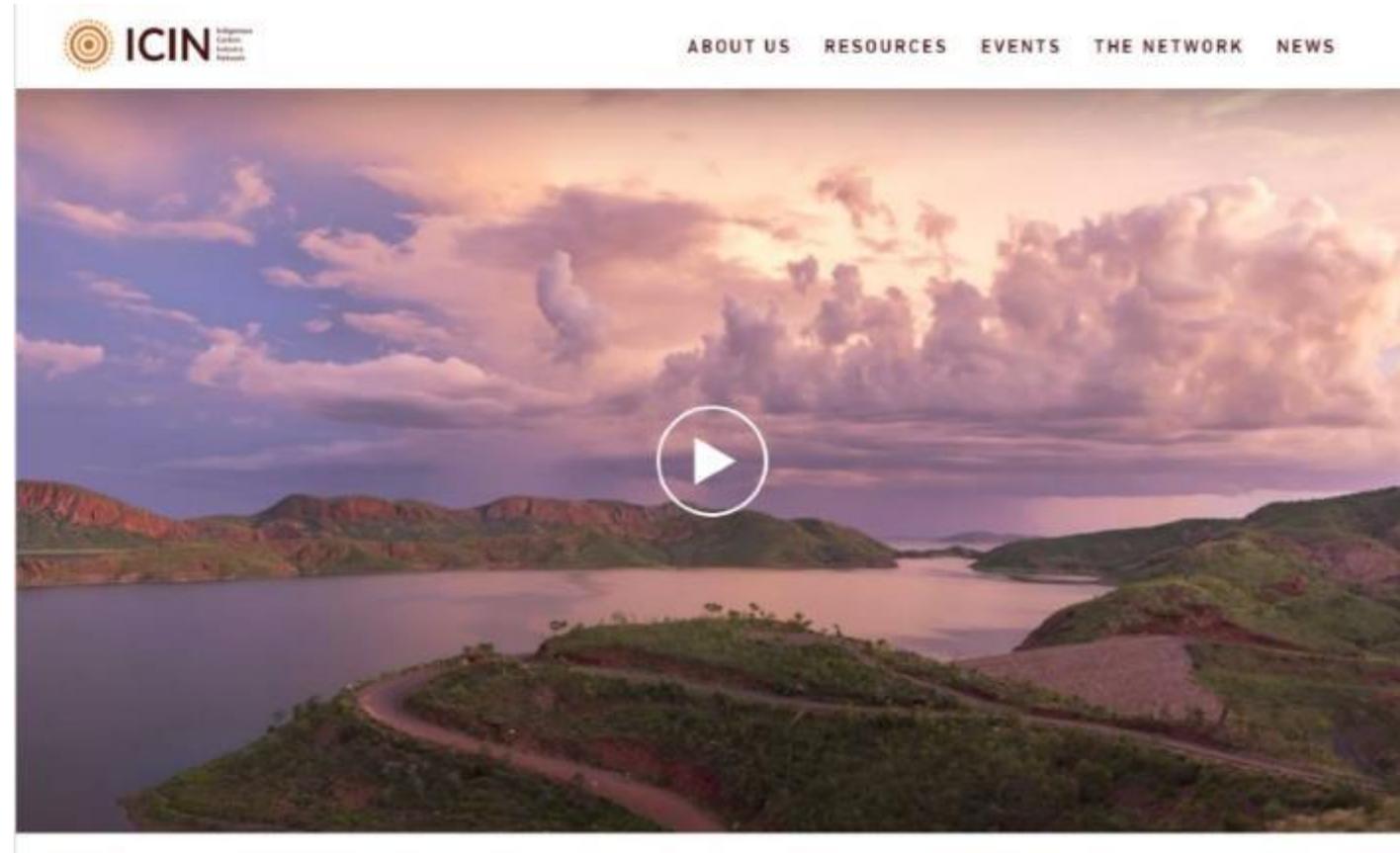
4. ICIN Website (in development)

- \$10,000 raised from The Nature Conservancy towards this project

Launching

July 2020

www.icin.org.au



5. North Australia Savanna Fire Forum website

www.savannafireforum.net

- Reports
- Presentations
- Program
- Photos
- Fire scar maps
- Videos



2020 NORTH AUSTRALIA
SAVANNA FIRE FORUM
18 - 19 FEBRUARY | CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY, CASUARINA CAMPUS, NT

Home Program Resources Photos

Speakers. Networking. Connections.

The Savanna Fire Forum aims to facilitate discussion and enabling the sharing of experiences from across northern Australia and identifying critical issues for the future of the industry.

For two days in Darwin, on beautiful Larrakia country, this forum provides a place for fire managers, Indigenous land managers, carbon industry practitioners, scientists, policy makers and other interested parties from across Australia to reflect, connect and share knowledge about savanna fire management.

6. Resources

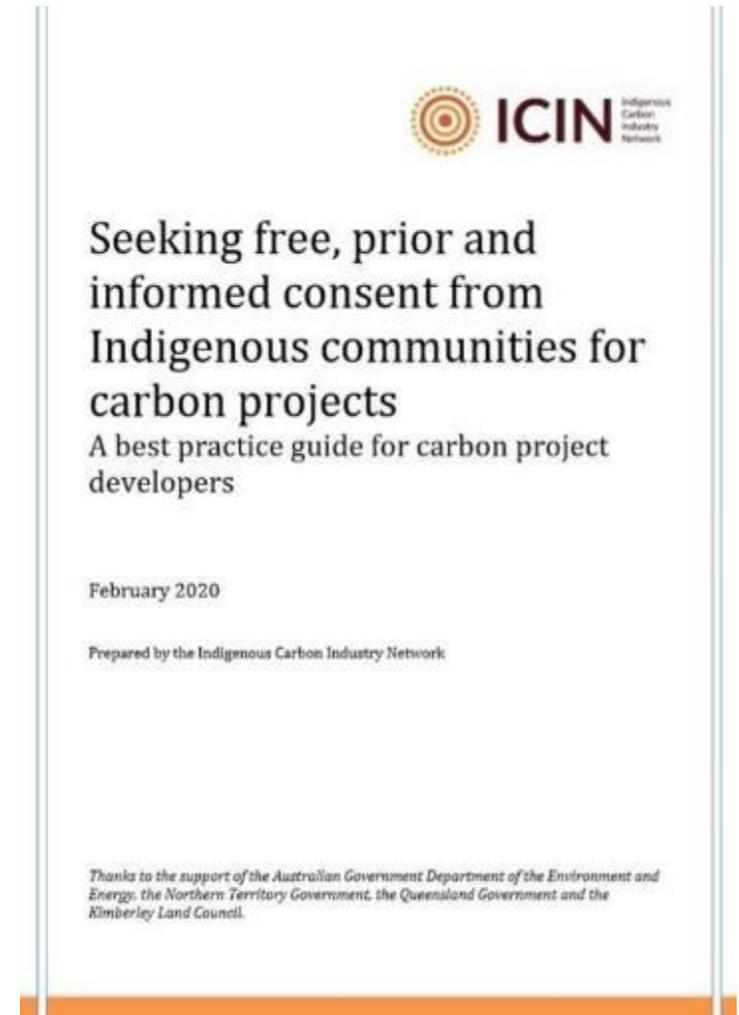
ICIN published the **Best Practice Guide to Seeking free, prior and informed consent from Indigenous communities for carbon projects** in February 2020.

ICIN strongly recommends that carbon proponents adopt this guide in accordance with the principles stated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, which Australia has endorsed.

[Download the guide here.](#)

The guide is now recommended for referral within the Carbon Market Institute Code of Conduct as a result of the ICIN submission to the Independent Review of the Code.

The guide is also referred in advice targeted at new carbon proponents produced by the Carbon Market Institute, the Clean Energy Regulator, as well as the Queensland Government Land Restoration Fund and the Western Australian Government.



Video: Northern Australia fire management with the Emissions Reduction Fund

(Australian Government/ Bush TV with input from ICIN members)



2020 Savanna Fire Forum Report

- The 2020 Savanna Fire Forum Story Report is available here

www.savannafireforum.net/copy-of-key-resources

- The Nature Conservancy sponsored ICIN to develop a video report of the 2020 North Australian Savanna Fire Forum, due for release end of July 2020
- The video will be distributed via social media channels, to participants via Mail Chimp and live on the Savanna Fire Forum website.

7. Policy Submissions

ICIN worked with its members in the relevant states/territories to research and develop policy submissions in response to the following (click hyperlink to access):

Northern Territory

- [Environment Protection Bill 2019](#) : [Final Review Report Here](#)
- [Climate Change Response](#)
- Environmental Offsets Framework (workshop)
- Gamba Grass Management Plan

Western Australia

- Climate Change Strategy

Australia

- [Inquiry into the Faunal Extinction Crisis](#)
- [Joint Standing Committee on Northern Development \(44\)](#)
- [Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements](#)
- Emissions Reduction Fund Review (Climate Change Authority) (meeting)
- Technology Investment Roadmap to a Low Emissions Economy (workshop)
- Climate Market Institute: Code of Conduct Review



ICIN Presentation to Northern Territory Parliament Committee re: NT Environment Protection Bill
(pictured above, CEO ALFA NT, Jennifer Ansell and Acting Coordinator ICIN, Eric Lede)

North Australia Fire Information (NAFI) Service

- ICIN is part of a working group aiming to see NAFI (www.firenorth.org.au) resourced in the long-term.
- In May, ICIN coordinated [22 organisations to sign a letter](#) directed to the Minister for Environment, Sussan Ley, seeking assurance of the long-term funding of the NAFI Fire North website and hotspot tracking tool, which our members rely upon to inform their fire management planning as well as fire suppression.
- This brought together representatives from a wide range of sectors.
- In response, in June the Australian Government agreed to fund NAFI in the 2020/21 year. Long-term funding needs will be assessed as an output of the Bushfires Royal Commission.



The screenshot displays the NAFI website interface. At the top, the header reads "NAFI NORTH AUSTRALIA & RANGELANDS FIRE INFORMATION" with links for "Disclaimer", "Charles Darwin UNIVERSITY", and "Supporters". Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs: "Fire Maps", "Track Fires", "Fire History", "Data", "Report", "Tools", "Help", and "Standard map". A sidebar on the left contains a "HIDE MENU" button and a list of "Areas" under "Preset Areas": Cape York Peninsula, North East Qld, The Gulf Qld, Central Qld, Central West Qld, West Qld, South Qld, NT North, NT Central, NT South, South Aust, WA Kimberley, WA Pilbara, WA Desert, WA Gascoyne, and WA South. Below this is a "Go to Location" field. The main content area features the NAFI logo, a satellite map of Australia, and a "Latest Cloud Conditions" section with a fire icon and the text "Click on map to see fires in that region". To the right of the map is a vertical menu with buttons for "What's new?", "Help", "Information Hub", "NAFI on Google Earth", and "Contact us". At the bottom, a "Read this first" section contains two bullet points: "Hotspot location on any map is only accurate to within 3.5 km" and "The hotspot symbol on the maps does not indicate the size of the fire". A "24 of 24 - Clipboard" notification is visible in the bottom right corner.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Crisis: Impact on the industry

- In March, governments across north Australia acted quickly to restrict travel to remote Indigenous communities and across state/territory boundaries in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as to put social distancing rules in place.
- The Coronavirus crisis affected different regions across the north in different ways. Fortunately, to our knowledge all Indigenous ranger groups managed by our members had the opportunity to undertake their fire management planning together with Traditional Owners for their savanna carbon projects before the social distancing rules came in.
- Early Dry Season burning went ahead in the Kimberley and Arnhem Land regions, but social distancing rules meant that there was generally fewer people employed to manage fire while restrictions were in place and that more aerial support was needed. Savanna burning on Cape York was delayed as it was not deemed an “essential activity” by the Queensland Government, although fortunately this coincided with a later burning season due to wetter conditions on the East Coast so there was no overall negative impact on the savanna carbon farming projects due to Coronavirus restrictions.
- ICIN supported an ABC News story featuring Indigenous rangers in Arnhem Land working hard conducting Early Dry Season burning on their savanna carbon project areas through the crisis.

[The story and video \(May 8, 2020\) is available here.](#)

NT Indigenous rangers take to skies to care for country during coronavirus

By Chelsea Heaney

Posted 8 May 2020, updated 8 May 2020



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Crisis: (continued)

- In response to concerns raised by members, in March ICIN sent a letter to Minister for Emissions Reduction, Angus Taylor, seeking that the Australian Government ask the Clean Energy Regulator to make the Emissions Reduction Fund more accessible to sellers of ACCUs in light of the economic pressures placed on communities as a result of the crisis.
- As part of a national response, ICIN welcomed the Clean Energy Regulator's decision to bring forward the December 2020 auction to September.
- Additionally, ICIN also welcomed the opportunity for the Clean Energy Regulator to continue to offer Options Contracts, which enable the Seller to sell ACCUs to the ERF as a right, but not an obligation, meaning sellers do not get locked into contracts to sell ACCUs at low prices through the ERF and have the option to sell ACCUs at a higher price to another buyer if they choose to.
- The COVID-19 crisis limited travel after March, meaning workshops in April/May were cancelled and nearly all correspondence with members after this time was via email, phone or online meetings such as Zoom.

8. Media Support

- ICIN supported a number of media articles in 2019/20 by linking journalists with member organisations and providing background to the Indigenous carbon industry.
- ICIN also spoke out to raise awareness of the value of the Indigenous carbon industry, the NAFI Fire North website tool and to promote the 2020 North Australia Savanna Fire Forum.



Media Articles

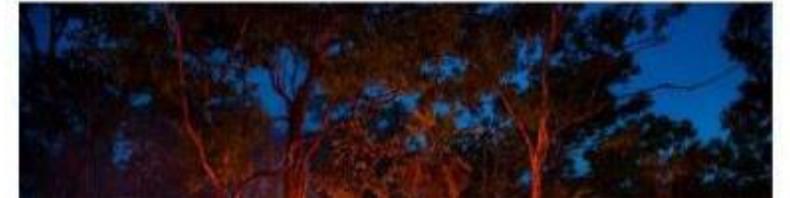
- New York Times (16 Jan 2020): [Reducing Fire and Cutting Carbon Emissions, the Aboriginal Way](#)
- SBS News (19 Feb 2020): [Northern Australia's burning practices could be the answer to preventing future bushfire disasters](#)
- ABC TV (26 March 2020): [Songlines: Solutions to Climate](#)
- ABC Rural (29 April 2020): [Outcry across Australia as fire managers fight to save NAFI](#)
- ABC News NT (8 May 2020): [NT Indigenous rangers take to skies to care for country during coronavirus](#)



AUSTRALIA The New York Times

Reducing Fire, and Cutting Carbon Emissions, the Aboriginal Way

An indigenous sage in southern Australia, Indigenous fire-promoters techniques that have sharply cut destructive bushfires in the north are (inspiring new strategies).



Northern Australia's burning practices could be the answer to preventing future bushfire disasters





9. Meetings

- Annual ICIN Meetings to coincide with Savanna Fire Forum
- ICIN Steering Committee phone meetings every 2 months
- Regular face-to-face and phone meetings with members, supporters
- ICIN Government Working Group Meetings across all jurisdictions
- Savanna Fire Forum Working Group Meetings
- Meetings with members and governments to support policy submissions
- Carbon industry meetings to keep ICIN up-to-date and engaged
- Facilitate regular contact with the Clean Energy Regulator
- Inform Carbon Market Institute Code of Conduct Review
- Engage in discussions through the network to share updates about emerging research and market opportunities



Carbon Methods Technical Workshop

Hosted by Darwin Centre for Bushfire
Research

Darwin, February 20, 2020

- Around 60 researchers, Indigenous carbon businesses and government representatives attended.
- Research results find that if taken up, improved accounting of carbon in the landscape by including Living Biomass could multiply the recognized carbon benefits from fire management by up to 5 times. However, it requires the current science to be reviewed so that the methods of measuring carbon are consistent and fit with international rules. There are a number of policy barriers which need to be addressed by governments and regulators before the method can be integrated into government policy.



10. Events

- Attend Regional Fire Forums
- Attend Carbon Market Institute Summit and Workshops
- Attend National Biodiversity Offset Conference 2019
- Present at Territory NRM Conference 2019
- Host North Australia Savanna Fire Forum 2020



Otto Champion (*Senior Ranger, ASRAC Rangers, and Director, ALFA NT; pictured above with Acting ICIN Coordinator Eric Lede*) spoke on a panel about **'Right Way Engagement: Not Wrong Way – Better Together'**.

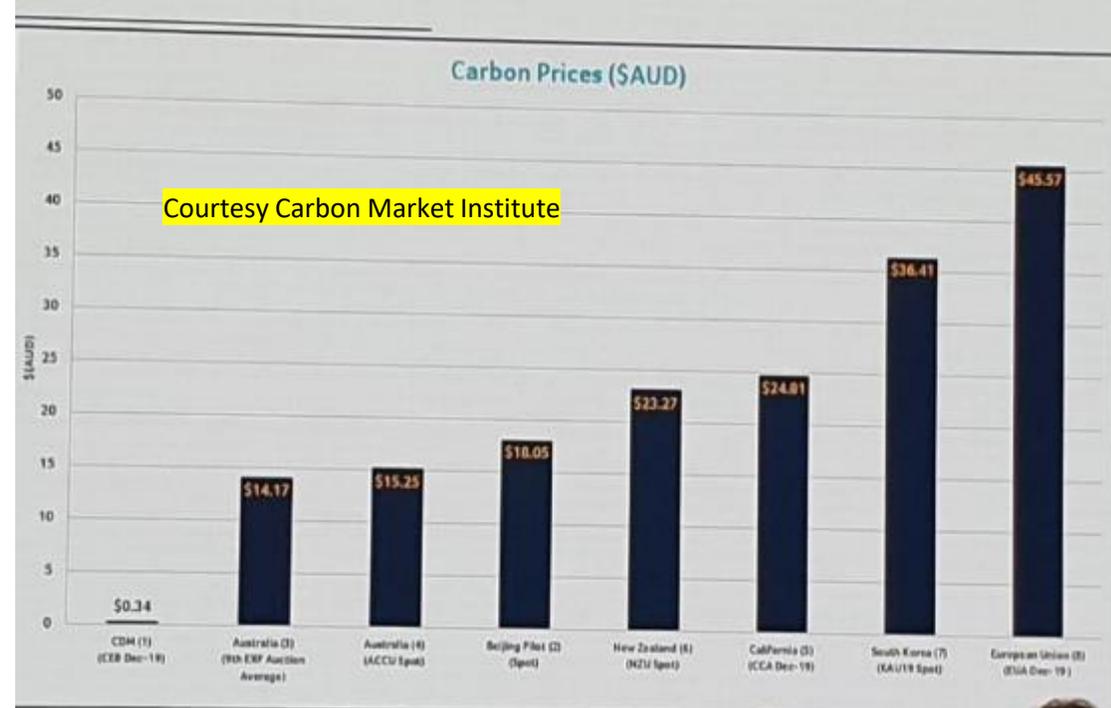
Carbon Market Institute (CMI) Carbon Farming Forum

October 2019, Sunshine Coast, Queensland



Key Outcomes

- The Carbon Market Institute showed that the price of Australian Carbon Credit Units is likely to rise significantly in the next 5 years, when viewed in the global context (\$45.57 on the EU market compared with \$14.17 here)
- Otto Champion (*pictured right*) made a powerful presentation that spoke in depth about the need for appropriate engagement with Traditional Owners, the importance of Traditional Knowledge throughout the carbon project process, the social, cultural, and environmental benefits of indigenous carbon projects, and the path forward.
- Discussions revealed that development of methods to account for blue carbon are evolving, but may be difficult to apply in a north Australian context due to the lack of direct threats to mangroves.





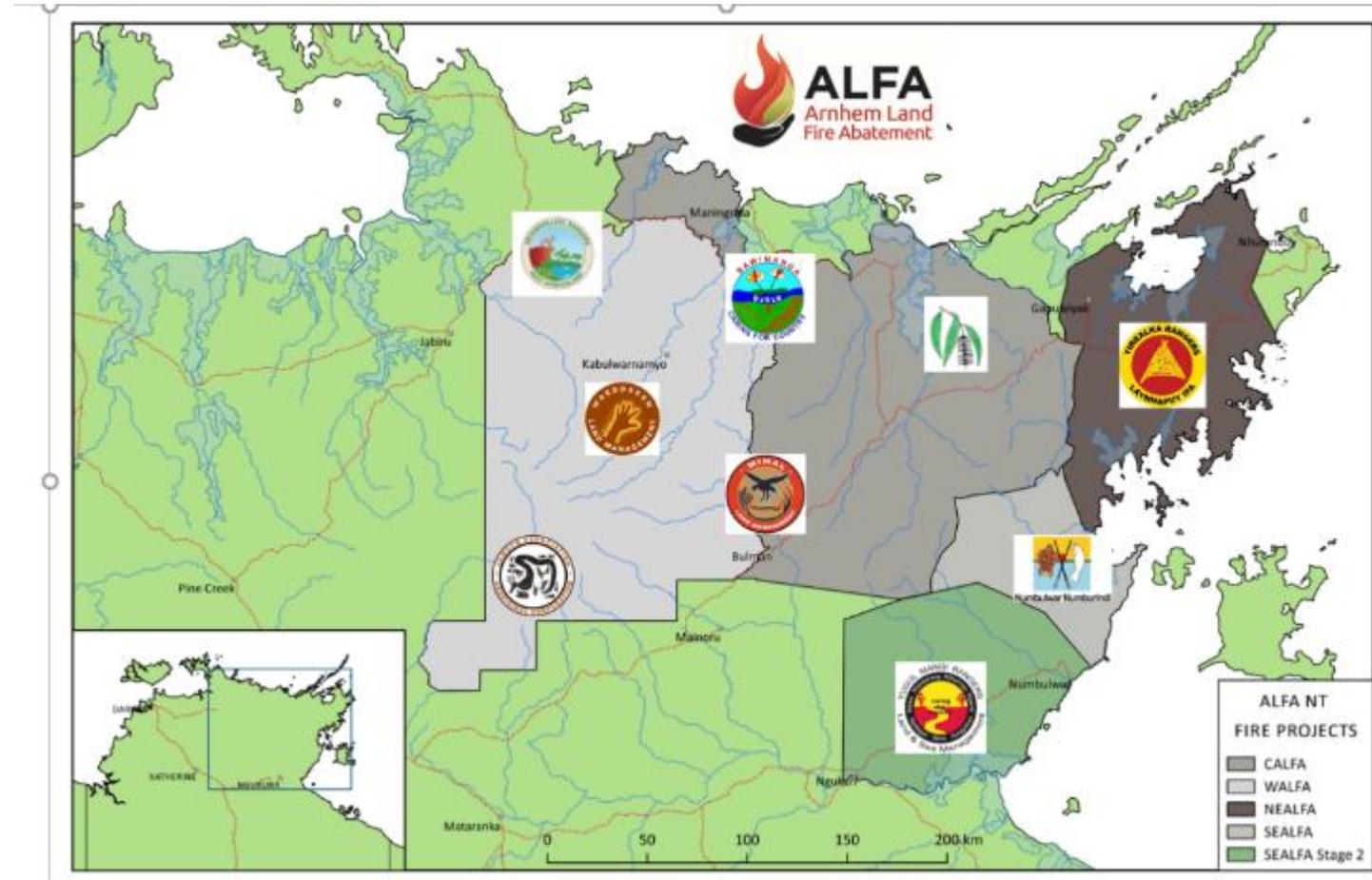
Territory NRM Conference November 2019, Darwin

- Several ICIN members presented at plenary sessions and other workshops, including the Tiwi Island Rangers (*above left*) who talked about their small mammal research with Hugh Davies and the Mimal Women Rangers (*below left*) who spoke about the mural they had created at the 2019 NT Women's Healthy Country Forum they hosted.
- ICIN presented a poster on Outcomes of the 2019 North Australia Savanna Fire Forum.
- ICIN Coordinator Anna Boustead presented to the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience workshop about risks and opportunities presented by climate change to the Indigenous carbon industry.

Arnhem Land Fire Abatement NT End of Fire Season Meeting

December, 2019

- ALFA NT is an Aboriginal-owned, not for profit company initially created by the Aboriginal ranger groups operating the WALFA project. The company has since expanded to register and support other fire projects in Arnhem Land. Nine Aboriginal ranger groups, consisting of Traditional Owners and their families, operate the five ALFA fire projects.
- At the 2019 End of Fire Season Meeting, groups talked about the challenges they faced managing very hot wildfires due to extreme fire weather, the likes of which many Traditional Owners and rangers had not experienced before. The drought, high temperatures and high winds also meant that for many areas, there was only a small window of opportunity to do early dry season savanna burning. The high demand for fire fighting took a toll on fire managers, many of whom were fighting fires for weeks at a time.



Dean Yibarbuk, Chair of Warddeken Land Management (*pictured below*) spoke of the importance of the project for providing younger generations with employment opportunities looking after country and supporting handing down of traditional knowledge to next generations.



The Yugul Mangi Rangers (*pictured above*) presented their Seasonal Calendar which showcases their detailed traditional knowledge of their country, including when is a good time to collect food, burn country and what signs to look out for, including some translations in language.

Carbon Market Institute
Queensland Government Land Restoration Fund
Workshop
Brisbane, January 2020

- The \$500 million Land Restoration Fund offers opportunities to land managers in Queensland to access resources to support new and emerging carbon projects.
- The Queensland Government will pay a premium for social, cultural, environmental co-benefits generated as part of the project.
- This is a great opportunity for Indigenous land and sea management groups.
- Refer to the [LRF Guidelines](#) for more information.



ICIN 2020 Workplan

This year ICIN aims to:

- Launch the ICIN Website with support from The Nature Conservancy
- Launch the 2020 Savanna Fire Forum video report
- Conduct consultations with member organisations to inform ICIN's governance structure, future funding and processes.
- Build on our Member Alerts and Bulletins and linking these with our website and social media to support information sharing and engage our members in a timely way.
- Continuing to work with our members to support better engagement in policy development processes
- Work towards a 2021 Savanna Fire Forum

Thank You

Thank you to all of the people and organisations who have contributed so generously to the ICIN, particularly to our Steering Committee members, host and funders for supporting the ICIN in 2019/20.

- Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
- Northern Territory Government Department of the Chief Minister and Bushfires NT
- Queensland Government Department of Environment and Science
- The Nature Conservancy
- Warddeken Land Management Ltd



ICIN Indigenous
Carbon
Industry
Network



Contact

Coordinator, Anna Boustead

icin@warddeken.org.au

p. 0417 989 577

[Facebook/IndigenousCarbonIndustryNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/IndigenousCarbonIndustryNetwork)