



## CHIEF MINISTER

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Ms Deb Hall  
Friends of Casuarina Coastal Reserve  
Via email: [deb@fccr.org.au](mailto:deb@fccr.org.au)

Dear Ms Hall

Thank you for correspondence of 28 July 2024 providing the opportunity to complete your questionnaire on behalf of Friends of Casuarina Coastal Reserve Inc, Rapid Creek Landcare Inc and Casuarina Coastal Reserve Landcare Group.

My Government understands that the natural environment is integral to the Territory lifestyle. The Lawler Labor Government is committed to consulting with the community and other stakeholders; we will balance the need for economic development while protecting our natural environment. I know that when we do this, it provides the best possible outcomes for Territorians.

As you may be aware, following public consultation my Government announced that the Casuarina Coastal Reserve, and an additional 33 hectares are proposed to become the Territory's newest National Park. Expanding Casuarina Coastal Reserve into a National Park, will enhance the value of the location and ensure the habitat of endangered species and recreational space is there for generations to come.

Throughout this term of Government Labor has progressed significant environmental reforms and safeguards to ensure our environment and water are protected. I strongly believe that Labor is the best option for Territorians who are passionate about protecting the natural environment.

Thank you again for the opportunity to complete your survey. Friends of Casuarina Coastal Reserve Inc, Rapid Creek Landcare Inc and Casuarina Coastal Reserve Landcare Group provide an important role in our community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eva Lawler'.

EVA LAWLER

- 1 AUG 2024

## **NT Election 2024 – Questionnaire for Candidates**

### ***1. If elected, will you commit to increasing operational funding to the Parks and Wildlife Commission NT by at least 20% by 2026?***

Funding for Parks and Wildlife has increased by 13%, approximately \$6 million over the last four years of this term of Government.

In March 2023, the Territory Labor Government released the NT Parks Masterplan outlining the strategic direction for the NT Government's 85 parks and reserves, providing long-term certainty and purpose to park management, Traditional Owners, Territorians and potential investors. Released alongside the Masterplan was the NT Parks 10 Year Activation Plan, which maps out the projects required for the first decade of the Masterplan.

A re-elected Labor Government will continue to implement the NT Parks 10 Year Activation Plan that provides a strategic framework to guide future programs, projects and partnerships. To ensure this can be achieved, we will continually review the necessary funding for the Parks and Wildlife during the next term of government.

### ***2. If elected, will you ensure that cleaning of visitor facilities in Casuarina Coastal Reserve is no longer the responsibility of rangers?***

### ***3. If elected, will you pledge to establish dedicated weed management and feral animal control rangers in Casuarina Coastal Reserve?***

Statutory planning processes for the new national park will commence soon. As part of the planning, the NT Government's statutory weed management plan will be applied to the Casuarina National Park. Initial work has commenced to ascertain resourcing needs and support, such as the costs for cleaning and maintenance services required for Casuarina Coastal Reserve.

A re-elected Labor Government will consider this in the next term of government.

### ***4. If elected, will you commit to ongoing operational funding for LandcareNT, as per the rest of Australia, to support the important work of volunteer landcarers?***

If re-elected the Lawler Labor Government will support this work by providing Landcare NT with \$150,000 this financial year. Also, we will work closely with Landcare NT on a longer-term funding agreement under the Environment Grants Program commencing in the 2025/26 financial year.

This commitment has been communicated directly to Landcare NT.