



Kakadu National Park

CREATING A WILDLIFE REFUGE ON GARDANGARL (FIELD ISLAND)

This project involves practical action to improve the long-term viability of Kakadu's threatened wildlife through the management of an island refuge.

Year 1 update (3-year project)

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

- A four-night small mammal survey was carried out at Field Island in August 2015. The survey revealed a high abundance of grassland melomys, but no small to medium mammal diversity beyond this species.
- Cane toad monitoring was undertaken on the island on October 2015. Four dead toads were discovered near one of the dried-up soaks. This was unexpected, as conditions on the island were very dry this year and it was assumed toads would have long died out. Toad-control measures will therefore be implemented in 2016.
- Relocation of the brush-tailed rabbit-rat from Coburg Peninsula to Field Island is expected once approval has been finalised. If approved the relocation would take place in September 2016.
- A vegetation assessment of Field Island is underway by the Northern Territory Government Department of Land and Resource Management in preparation for the relocation.



Kakadu National Park officer monitoring cane toads at a Field Island freshwater soak