



Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation

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Pets In The Dhimurru IPA!

In response to recent events occurring within the Dhimurru IPA whereby dogs have been reported to have attacked community members, Dhimurru has chosen to adopt an Access Permit Condition. The new condition requires persons using designated recreation areas to ensure their pets are under effective control at all times. Please keep in mind however that when entering a Designated Recreation Area or any part of the Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Area you do so at your own risk.

In order to comply with the above Access Permit condition a person is considered to be exercising effective control of their dog within the Dhimurru IPA if the dog is:

1. Restrained by means of a chain, cord, or leash that does not exceed 2 metres in length; (or)
2. The person has secured the dog by placing it in a cage, vehicle, or other object or structure; (or)
3. By tethering it to an immovable object or structure by means of a chain, cord, or leash which does not exceed 2 metres in length; (or)
4. The dog poses no threat to other members of the public or to their pets and is able to be brought to heel immediately upon being commanded to do so.

Breaches of this condition will result in Dhimurru asking the person to effectively control or remove the pet from the Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Area or in serious cases their Dhimurru Access Permit will be revoked.

These changes have no impact on police powers to investigate and prosecute in the event of a dog attack regardless of location.

It is important to note that the Nhulunbuy (Animal Control) By-Laws state that all dogs residing in the Nhulunbuy Town Lease, over the age of three (3) months old, must be registered. Dogs which reside within the township of Nhulunbuy and which have been found to have been behaving in a threatening manner in the Dhimurru IPA may be identified and have restrictions placed upon them through Nhulunbuy Corporation as well. In other words the Corporation can take action if asked to do so, whether the dog was in the town lease at the time of the incident or not.

For all matters regarding dogs and other pets in the Town Lease please contact the Nhulunbuy Corporation on 8939 2200. If you would like to make a complaint about a dog in the Dhimurru IPA then please contact our office on 08 8939 2700 or via email to nhamirri@dhimurru.com.au. Dhimurru will need sufficient information to enable identification of a dog owner if it is to take any effective action.