



Media Release

Minister for Innovation, Tourism Industry Development
and the Commonwealth Games
The Honourable Kate Jones MP

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Design work starts on far north's historic ecotourism trail

Designers have arrived on site and will today start to collect data for the detailed business case and design of the Wangetti Trail, Tourism Industry Development Minister Kate Jones has revealed.

Ms Jones said Cairns headquartered-business World Trail had been appointed to start the work this week.

"Today is a historic day for Queensland tourism," she said.

"It was less than a month ago that we announced \$1 million for the detailed design and business case for the Wangetti Trail.

"We will be working closely with indigenous groups and specialised consultants and engineers to ensure the highest design standards are achieved while minimising impacts on the environment.

"Great care will be taken to ensure that the proposed trail does not impact on our cherished natural wonders."

"Funding is out of our \$46 million Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund announced in today's State Budget.

"We're serious about getting this project under way – that's why we've already got boots on the ground working on our proposal."

Ms Jones said 'ground-truthing' work was tipped to begin this month with construction possible as early as 2019.

"The Wangetti Trail is potentially a game-changer for tourism in the far north," she said.

"We know the new generation of travellers are looking for unique experiences. That's why we've made this 76km trail for walkers and mountain bikers a priority in this term of government.

"We expect this project will deliver \$300 million for the local economy, create 75 jobs during construction and another 150 jobs once it's complete."

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