



Newsletter – January 2021

Friends of Lee Point (FLP) are a Darwin community-based group campaigning to conserve the natural beauty and wildlife at Lee Point for future generations.

Welcome to our first newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. Suggestions can be emailed to: friendsofleepoint@gmail.com or ring 0431 347 679 or Facebook: friends of lee point.

The good news is that we could get an above average wet season. The last two have been poor and not good for the fishing.



Paperbark forest Dec 2020



Paperbark forest Jan 2021



Vanderlin/Lee Point Road roundabout (looking east) – morning peak hour – Sept 2020

A sign of things to come?

What will happen to traffic volumes if the proposed development to house 3000 people (population of Tennant Creek) at Lee Point goes ahead? Who pays for these upgrades?

This intersection (roundabout) has reached its capacity and been recommended for an upgrade. The likely cause of the increased traffic congestion is the new development in the nearby suburbs (such as Lyons and Muirhead). Public consultation on a possible upgrade closed 18 Dec 2020. Housing at Lee Point is unnecessary; better and more affordable options exist, eg. Northcrest (ex. Berrimah Farm).

Lee Point - Flower of the Day (this will be a regular feature)

If you have any Lee Point flower photos please send them in with plant name and date.

Bloodroots are related to Kangaroo Paws.

Flowering usually happens during the Top End wet season (Nov – March). The flowers and roots are used by Aboriginal people to make red, brown and purple dyes for baskets and bags.

Reference: Wikipedia.



Bloodroot (*Haemodorum coccineum*) – 9 Dec 2020

Lee Point trivia (answers at bottom of page)

Q1. What is the approx. land area (in sq km) of Lee Point?

- A. 3 sq km B. 5 sq km C. 10 sq km D. 20 sq km

Q2. How many bird species have been recorded at Lee Point (Kakadu has over 280)

- A. 105 B. 175 C. 245 D. 295

Planning for Lee Point (part 1) - This is the first part of a series of articles.

Lee Point needs a proper plan. FLP believe this plan should reflect the wishes and needs of the Darwin community, promote sustainable development, and cover the whole of Lee Point. The current plan for Lee Point falls well short of this. However, it's best to start at the beginning; who is responsible for planning (also called urban planning or town planning).

Under the Australian constitution, the main responsibility for planning in Australia lies with the states and territories and each has developed its own distinct planning system.

However, the Australian Government through its "Smart City Plan" is playing an increasing part in planning. The Smart Cities Plan sets out the Australian Government's vision for our cities, and our plan for maximising their potential. By now you will have probably gathered this is not a simple topic. A couple of links for more information;

- urban planning: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_planning_in_Australia
- legal framework for planning decisions in Australia;
<http://theplanningacademy.com.au/legal-framework-for-planning-decisions>

The NT Government is responsible for planning in the Territory. The next part will be on the NT Planning Act and the NT Planning Scheme. It's through this that land use plans are established in the NT.

Until next time wishing you a cool, wet season.

Answers: Q1. B Q2. C Based on Niven McCrie & Richard Noske, 2015: Birds of the Darwin Region (records in Lee Point area), and Wikipedia. Kakadu is nearly 4000 times larger.