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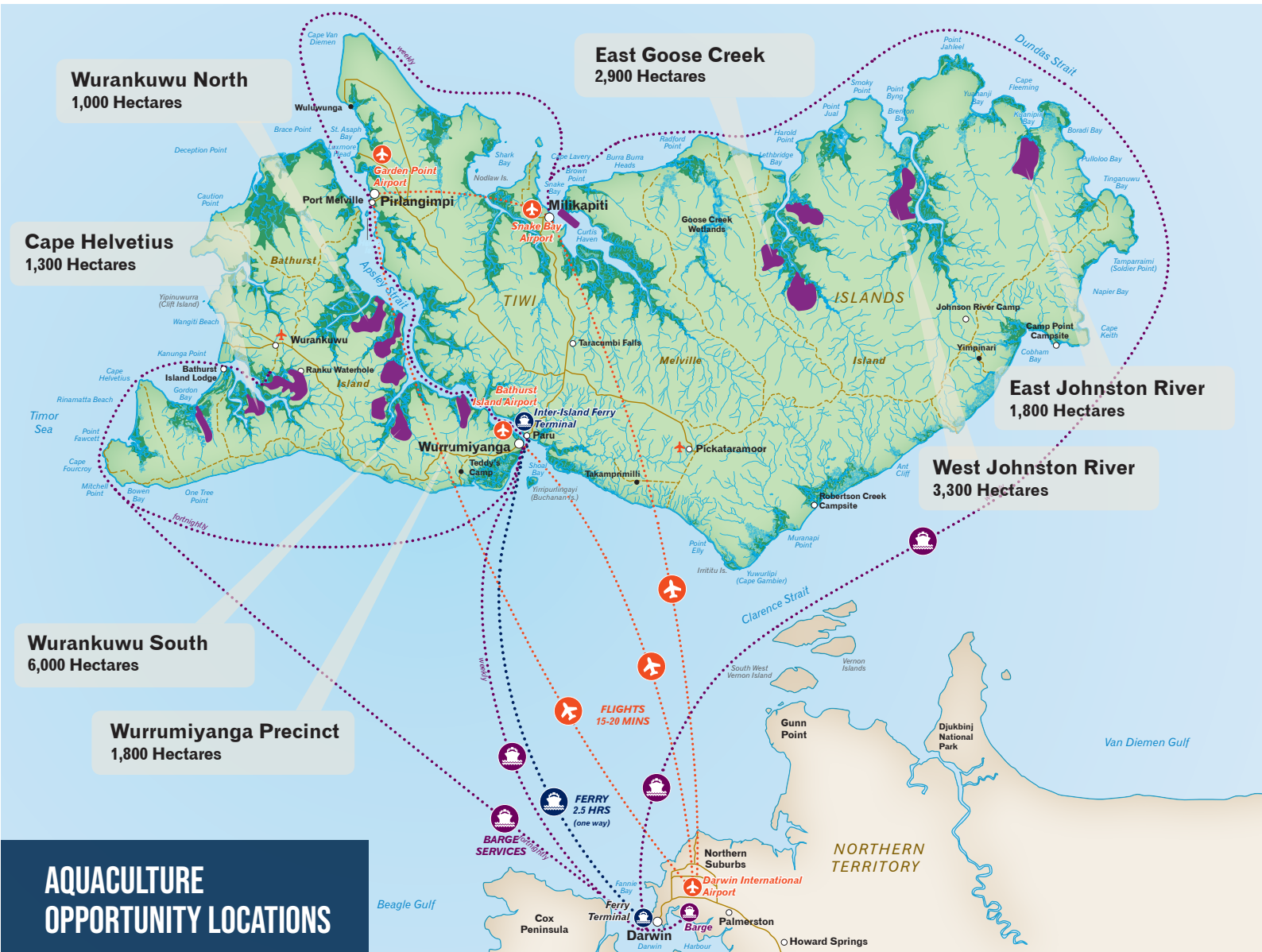
AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR SEAFOOD

	<p>Barramundi is considered an iconic fish of northern Australia. Barramundi is an Aboriginal word meaning “large scaled silver/river fish”. The Australian farmed barramundi industry started in the mid 1980s and barramundi is now farmed throughout Australia. Barramundi can be farmed in a number of ways, from indoor recirculating aquaculture (tanks) systems, to land-based pond operations and sea cages. The Tiwi Islands offers an abundance of both of these options for Barramundi farming.</p>
	<p>Mud Crabs are a highly regarded and valued food item in both Australia and Asia. Mud crab aquaculture is not currently undertaken in the Northern Territory but has been successfully carried out in a number of Asian countries. Mud Crab farming is generally based on catching juveniles from the wild and using them to stock mangrove enclosures, pens or ponds for grow out. The Darwin Aquaculture Centre has now made it feasible to supply juvenile crabs to farmers. With this development, opportunities now exist for pioneering investors to become involved in mud crab aquaculture.</p>
	<p>Sea Cucumber, also known as Trepang, is a prized delicacy throughout the Asia Pacific region. Trepang were historically harvested in the NT and traded with the Macassans dating as far back as the 1600s. The Darwin Aquaculture Centre is working with private enterprise and other organisations including Indigenous communities to find and develop suitable Trepang ranching sites in the NT.</p>
	<p>Prawns are a popular seafood and consumer demand is high. In the Northern Territory, the main species farmed is commonly known as the Black Tiger Prawn. Prawn farming started in Australia in the 1980s and currently contributes 15-20% of the total prawn production. Prawn farming is carried out in earthen ponds filled with sea water and aerated to supply oxygen and maintain the good water quality needed for optimal growth.</p>
	<p>Black Lip Rock Oysters have been historically harvested by remote Indigenous communities for food and/or trade. A number of different farming systems have been trialled and hatchery techniques for reliable production of spat are progressing. Several thousand oysters have been bred by the Darwin Aquaculture Centre and 4000 have been given to the community of Pirlangimpi on the Tiwi Islands for future growth and breeding programs.</p>
	<p>Clams can be used for export, conservation programs, eco-tourism and sustainable traditional harvesting for cultural and nutritional practices. Following an aquarium industry initiated research and development project, hatchery production of clams at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre was successful and indicated that this industry could offer a viable enterprise opportunity to Indigenous coastal communities.</p>



There are a range of aquaculture opportunities present on the Tiwi Islands.

The Tiwi people encourage development that provides the opportunity to re-engage with the land and provide opportunities for economic and social self-reliance.

Around the world aquaculture has proven to be one of the few developing industries that can provide economic and employment outcomes in rural and/remote areas.

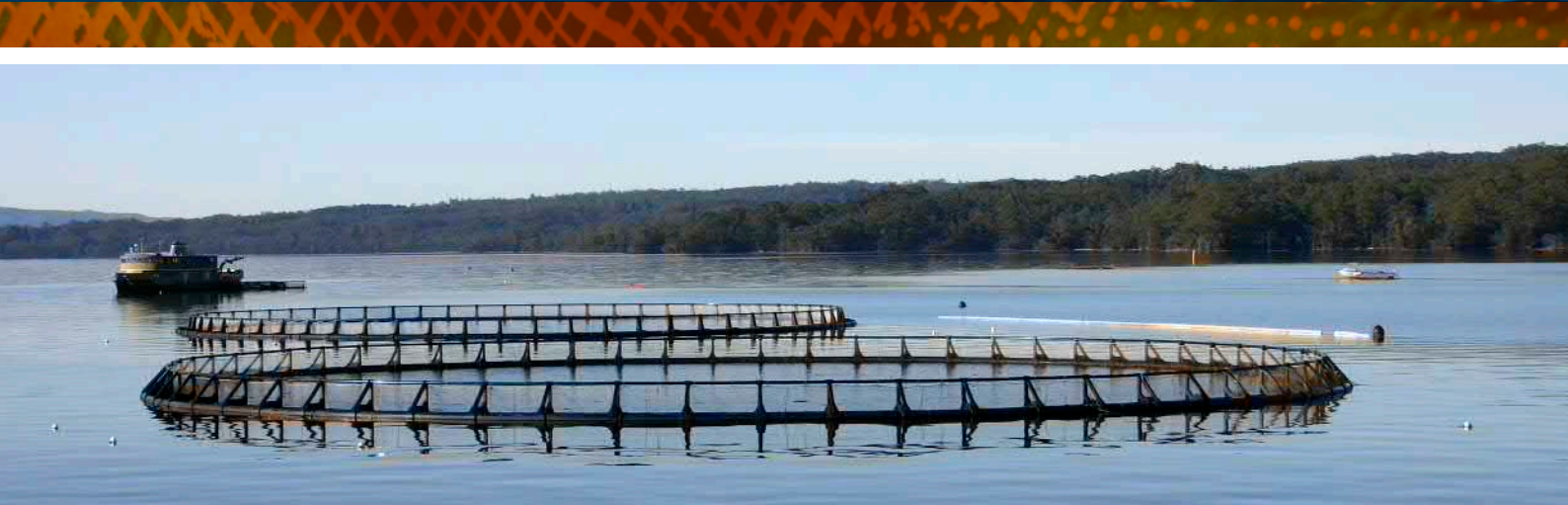
With the support of the Northern Territory Government, the Darwin Aquaculture Centre works to develop successful aquaculture enterprises, that provide employment and business opportunities for Indigenous people.

The species and farming systems targeted fit with the Aboriginal peoples' cultural and economic aspirations and capacities of the Tiwi people. Species currently under trial are trepang (sea cucumber), giant clams and tropical rock oysters.

The Tiwi environment lends itself to development of both sea cage farming and land based farming enterprises.

Advantages of the Tiwi Islands include pristine coastlines due to low level populations, pristine sources of fresh water and sea water and natural stocks of barramundi, crab and sea cucumber.

The Tiwi Islands has an established port for the import and export of product to be used in both sea cage farming and land based farming.



DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

The Tiwi Development Framework Agreement is an agreement between the Tiwi Land Council and the Land Development Corporation to facilitate leases and sustained development on the Tiwi Islands.

Under the Agreement Traditional Owners lease land for up to 99 years to the Land Development Corporation for on-leasing to investors.

TRADITIONAL OWNERS



LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



INVESTORS

The Agreement provides for 10,040 hectares of land to be leased for: Tourism and Recreation; Aquaculture; Agriculture; and Industrial development.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT

The Tiwi Islands are home to a plantation forestry industry, which exports woodchip via a deep sea port.

In addition there is a flourishing tourist industry focussed on recreational fishing and culture.

TIWI LAND COUNCIL

- Represents the Traditional Owners
- Approves all leases

LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- Northern Territory Government strategic land development agency
- Facilitates Tiwi Islands visits for investors
- Identifies and investigates sites
- Interacts with Traditional Owners
- Facilitates technical advice and government approvals
- Negotiates and finalises leases

ABOUT THE TIWI ISLANDS

- Home to 2,600 people, primarily the Tiwi Traditional Owners
- Melville, Bathurst and a number of smaller islands have an area of 7,800 km²
- Located 70 kilometres north of Darwin. Access by sea (2.5 hours) and air (15 - 20 minutes)
- Hot, tropical climate with distinct wet and dry seasons
- Largely vegetated by undisturbed woodland with abundant ground and surface water
- Popular for fishing, art centres and cultural museums
- Three main communities which provide a range of services

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE A SITE VISIT CONTACT:

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A special acknowledgement is extended to the Ngaruwanajirri (Keeping Place) Workshop and Gallery for all Tiwi textile images used as watermarks and the Tiwi Land Council for their supply of other key images and support.