

Roebuck Bay

The Broader View

This area, of great cultural and environmental significance in the burru (land) of Minyirr, has always supported the lives and culture of Aboriginal people and a wealth of plant and animal life. An important feeding site for migratory shorebirds, Roebuck Bay is a Wetland of International Importance.

But habitat and food sources are disappearing for birds and people, both here and overseas.

Coastal development, especially in East Asia, is destroying feeding grounds that sustain shorebirds during their migrations across the world. Roebuck Bay is currently in very good condition, but Broome's rapid growth is increasing the human pressures on the Bay and its wildlife. Recreational use of the Bay's northern beaches, where thousands of shorebirds rest between feeding sessions, disturbs birds and depletes resources like fish and crabs.

Help protect Roebuck Bay

- stay on the cliff top and move quietly while viewing birds
- enjoy the beach and fish in areas away from resting birds
- catch and keep only enough seafood for tonight's dinner
- park vehicles away from the cliffs and walk to the beach
- do not take or disturb ground or materials, eg rocks or shells; Aboriginal cultural and heritage sites abound.

Aboriginal custodians work with Kimberley Land Council (9193-6199), Shire of Broome (9191-3456), Broome Bird Observatory (9193-5600), Dept Conservation and Land Management (9192-1036), Environs Kimberley (9192-1922), WWF-Australia and others, to protect the Bay. This sign is part of a national Shorebird Conservation Project, funded by the Natural Heritage Trust and managed by WWF-Australia in partnership with Rubibi.

