

About the Artwork



Caring for sea country NT gunumitjanda-wa madla and damibila, by artist Rochelle Minberrignully Fejo-Tasker. Copyright Fisheries Division - Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

About the artwork

This artwork is a representation of the rich marine life and interconnected ecosystems of the NT coastal waters; which are cared for by NT fisheries and the local Indigenous rangers.

It is a tribute to the beauty, balance and resilience of country beneath the waves. Acknowledging the waterways that continue to nourish life and connect generations through culture, knowledge and respect for the sea; showcasing 2 of the Larrakia totems that are commonly found and caught in our waterways

Description and Larrakia words

Gunumitjanda-wa – Sea/ocean; the Larrakia people are known as Saltwater people and we believe our spirit comes from old man rock (Dariba Nungalinya), a shallow rock formation which can be seen on low tide from Casuarina beach. The Larrakia maintain cultural links to the lands around Darwin and food is still collected along these shores.

Madla – Mud crab; Below, the mud crabs rest on the sandy seabed, symbolizing abundance and the vital role they play within the mangrove and estuarine habitats. The 2 crabs shown are male & female; showing how to tell the differences between the genders; Female mud crabs bearing eggs must be released unharmed.

Damilbila – Barramundi; At the center, the Barramundi represents strength and resilience and the importance of fresh and saltwater environments that sustain both wildlife and people.

Flowing sea grass/weed sway with the ocean currents providing shelter for the smaller fish and fry.

The surrounding dot work, concentric circles and crosshatching reflect the movement of water, tidal currents. The layered blue representing the depths of the sea, while the gold seaweed represents the life and energy that flourish within these coastal waters