

OFF TRACK →

FULL EPISODE

The banteng paradox

Broadcast Fri 1 May 2020 at 7:30pm



Banteng cattle are not native to Australia. (*Getty Images: Anup Shah*)

In north western Arnhem Land, in Garig Gunak Barlu National Park, lives a 10,000 strong herd of feral banteng.

The banteng are a wild cattle, brought by the British from South East Asia to this part of the Northern Territory in the 1800s.

But despite the damage they do to the environment, banteng have been welcomed by the traditional owners of this land.

And the very survival of the species might well rely on the herd that lives in the Top End, as banteng is endangered in its home range.

Georgia Moodie takes us to Garig Gunak Barlu National Park to look into the story of this unusual invasive species.

FEATURING:

Judith Cunningham, traditional owner from the Agalda Clan.

Frederick Baird, traditional owner from the Minaga clan and Ranger at Kakadu National Park.

Solomon Cooper, senior traditional owner from the Muran clan and owner of 3 Brothers Hunting Safaris.

Heidi Mildadme Cooper, traditional owner from the Madjunbalmi clan.

Alan Withers, Senior District Ranger at Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.

Professor Corey Bradshaw, Matthew Flinders Fellow in Global Ecology at Flinders University, who spent more than 5 years studying banteng in Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.

Listen to more of Georgia's work from her trip to Arnhem Land in the History Listen documentary, [Port Essington, World's End](#).

Credits

- **Georgia Moodie, Producer**

Broadcast Fri 1 May 2020 at 7:30pm



Get the ABC listen app

Take your favourite podcasts and radio with you

