



REBUILDING THE NT ECONOMY
2025
NORTHERN TERRITORY
SCREEN INDUSTRY
ACHIEVEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Northern Territory screen industry is experiencing **unprecedented momentum**. Once a cottage industry, **the NT screen sector is now a thriving export market, supporting a diverse network of local enterprises**. With a surge in premium productions, **the Northern Territory is building a growing reputation as a competitive and highly capable filming destination**. According to Screen Australia, the Australian Government's peak screen body, market share for the Northern Territory, Canberra and Tasmania has grown from 3% to 6% (2021-2024), which is largely attributable to the increase in large scale Territory screen productions.



Ms Karen Green
Chair of the NT Screen
Industry Advisory
Council

Screen Territory is an agile and efficient business unit within the Department of Tourism and Hospitality, committing most of its funding direct to the NT screen sector through its annual Screen Territory Funding Program.

In 2025, a slate of high-profile projects filmed in the NT are set for release, including **NCIS: Sydney Season 2** (Paramount+), **Top End Bub** (Prime Video), **Deadloch Season 2** (Prime Video), **Kangaroo** (STUDIOCANAL), and the feature documentary **Journey Home** (Madman/NITV), narrated by Hugh Jackman.

Between the period of 2018-19 to 2024-25, the Northern Territory Government's (NTG) strategic investment in screen has propelled the industry's rapid expansion. Over the past 7 years, **direct NT production spend in the NT has surged by 468%**, fuelling new business growth and solidifying the Territory's position as a key player in the Australian and international screen landscape.

The **Production Attraction Incentive Program (PAIP)**, launched in 2021, has played a pivotal role in bringing large-scale productions to the Territory, generating **significant economic impact** for local businesses and creating sustained employment opportunities for NT screen professionals. The PAIP provides crucial assistance by facilitating inbound productions and supporting and growing the local sector; vital factors in maintaining the NT's dynamic screen ecosystem.

Impact on the local business community is unquestionable. Increased production activity has seen the growth of screen specific businesses; examples include Cast Away NT and Geoff Johnson Catering, which have expanded to service the growing production demand, as well as **providing significant economic input into other NT businesses ranging from accommodation providers to construction companies**. Film and television productions continue to drive significant economic benefits for a vast range of **tourism, hospitality, and local enterprises**.

Productions such as *Deadloch Season 2* and *Territory* have not only showcased the NT's magnificent landscapes to a global audience —further enhancing the region's appeal as both

a filming location and a must-visit destination, to further **supporting a wide array of business sectors for their services beyond the filming activity.**

The **minimum return on investment (ROI)** level for screen production in the Northern Territory is **\$1:4 ROI of audited spend.** In other words, **for every dollar the NTG invests into screen production it generates a minimum of \$4 of audited direct NT spend.**

The NT's unique landscapes and compelling stories also continue to captivate global audiences. Netflix's *Territory*, filmed entirely in the NT, became a worldwide phenomenon, reaching the **#2 spot globally on Netflix** and amassing **over 112.6 million viewing hours in just 3 months.** This success highlights the strength of Territorian storytelling and its resonance on the world stage.

Screen Territory remains committed to **collaborating with key partners**, including **Tourism NT, Arts NT, the Local Jobs Fund, Activate NT, NT Major Events Company** and **NT Parks and Wildlife**, to maximise the NT Government's investment in screen. With continued momentum and strategic support, the NT screen industry is well on its way to securing its place as a **leading force in the global screen production sector.**



NT ringer Liz Cook, actor Anna Torv and director Greg McLean on *Territory*

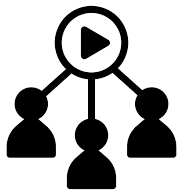
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Key achievements over the last 7 years



A record level of production activity was attained with one major feature film and 3 high-end scripted streaming series filmed in the Territory during the 2024 calendar year.



Showcasing the Northern Territory to over half a billion subscribers across 190 countries

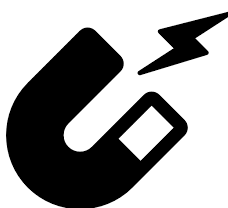
Netflix series *Territory* reached #2 globally and viewed over 112.6 million hours in just 3 months.

This is just one of several NT productions now available across multiple streaming platforms to over half a billion global subscribers.



\$49.72 million of direct NT spend injected into the Northern Territory economy which includes \$38.36 million of non-NT external investment

through screen production in the last 7 years.



The Northern Territory is establishing itself as a major Australia production destination

by attracting large scale screen productions to the Northern Territory.



\$1:4 minimum spend ratio

For each \$1 the NTG invests, it generates \$4 of audited direct spend into the Northern Territory economy.

Rebuilding the economy

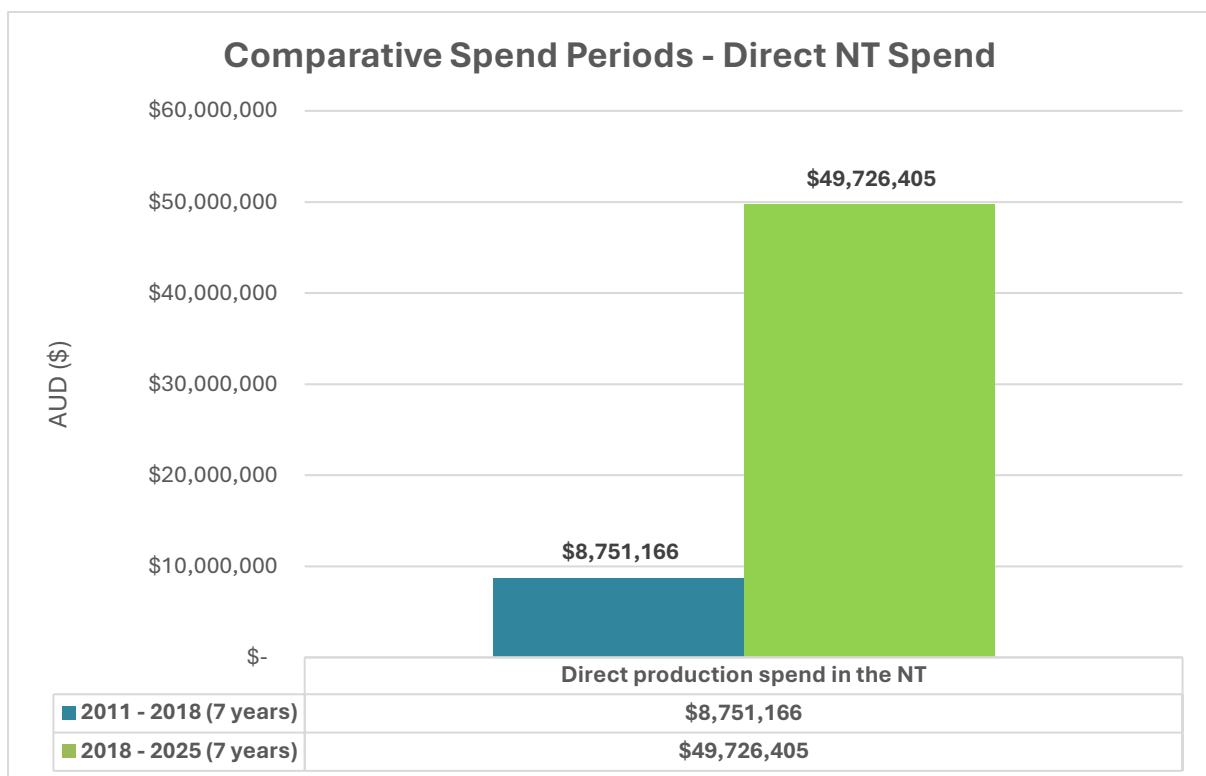
Screen production and its economic benefit

The Northern Territory screen industry has seen a significant increase in direct NT production expenditure, with a diverse slate of projects filmed across the region.

NT production expenditure means production expenditure that is incurred for employment or goods and services provided in the Northern Territory directly by Territory enterprises in relation to the goods and services described in the **contracted budget** submitted to Screen Territory.

Since 2018, **direct production spend in the NT has increased by 468%**, reflecting growing demand for the Territory’s unique landscapes, skilled workforce, and production incentives.

Between 2018-19 and 2024-25, a total of \$49.7 million direct NT spend has been invested in the NT economy through NT screen production expenditure, with contributions from an increasingly broad ecosystem through a wide range of projects.



Territory focused high-budget dramas and series: *Thou Shalt Not Steal* (\$1.67M), *Maverix* (\$3.59M), *True Colours* (\$2.85M), *Barrumbi Kids* (\$3.29M), *Wild Croc Territory* (\$1.3M), *Kangaroo* (\$4.35M) and *Wolfram* (\$2.85M) not only showcase the Northern Territory’s lifestyle and culture but have brought significant external investment and employment opportunities to the Northern Territory’s economy.

Major in-bound streaming titles: *Territory* (\$6.88M), *NCIS: Sydney Season 2* (\$2.96M), *Deadloch Season 2* (\$3.07M), *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* (\$1.63M), and Miranda Tapsell’s

Top End Bub (\$3.55M) demonstrate the Territory’s increasing appeal to global streaming giants for its unique aesthetic and value propositions.

Documentaries, factual series and First Nations storytelling: Productions including *Journey Home* (\$480K), *The First Inventors* (\$437K), *Tracy* (\$291K), *History Bites Back* (\$475K) and *Emily - I Am Kam* (\$161K) highlight not only the NT’s rich cultural heritage and its importance in factual content production but also underscore the NT’s role as a leader in Aboriginal screen content.

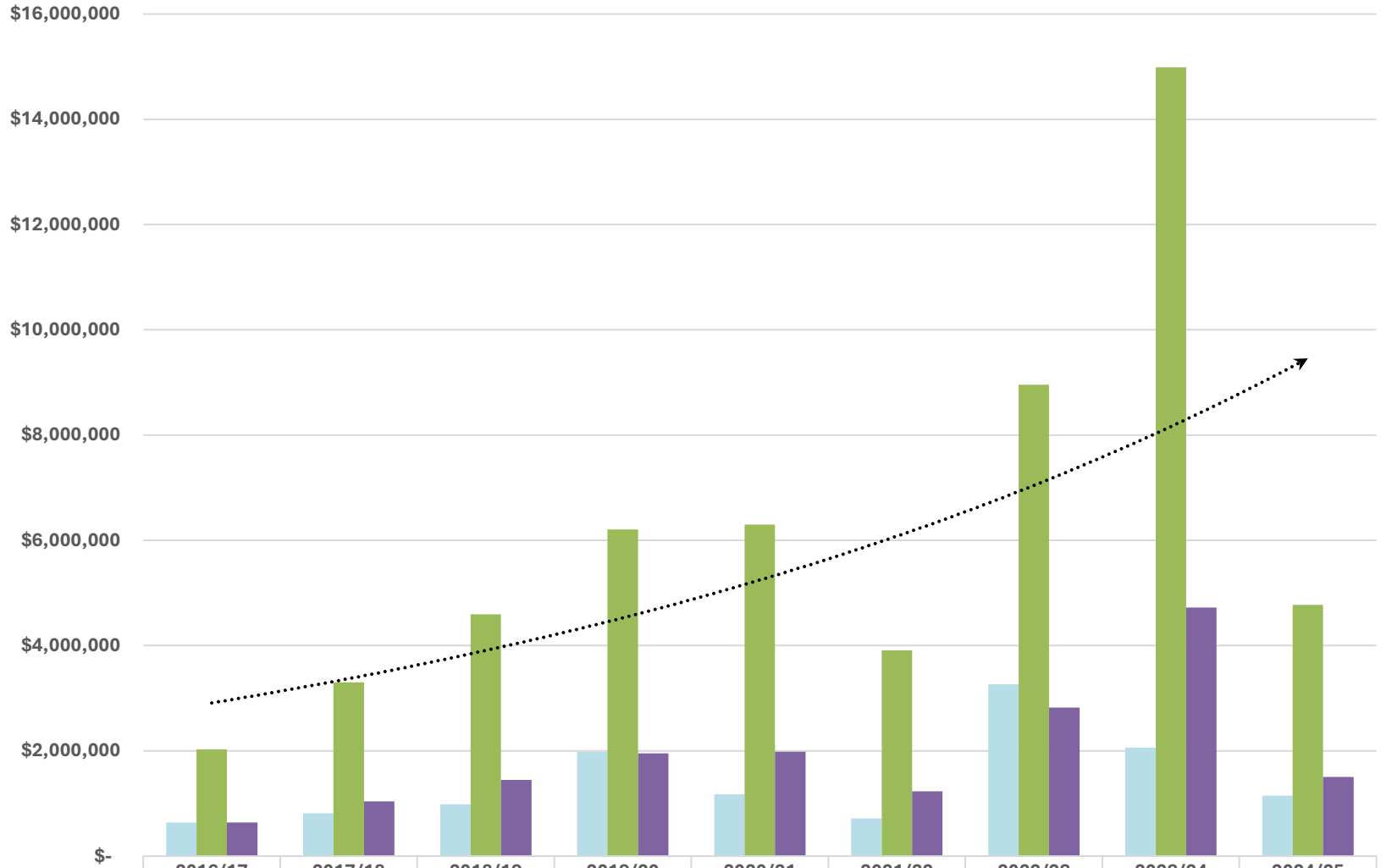
The **economic impact of screen production extends across the entire Northern Territory**, with significant investment flowing into multiple regions. Productions have taken place in diverse locations, showcasing the Territory’s stunning landscapes while delivering direct and lasting financial benefits to local and regional economies.

As such, the NT screen industry isn’t just concentrated in one location—it **delivers economic and cultural benefits to communities across the Territory**, to a wide range of businesses.



Olivia Swann and Todd Lasance filming on *NCIS: Sydney S2*

Direct NT Production Spends

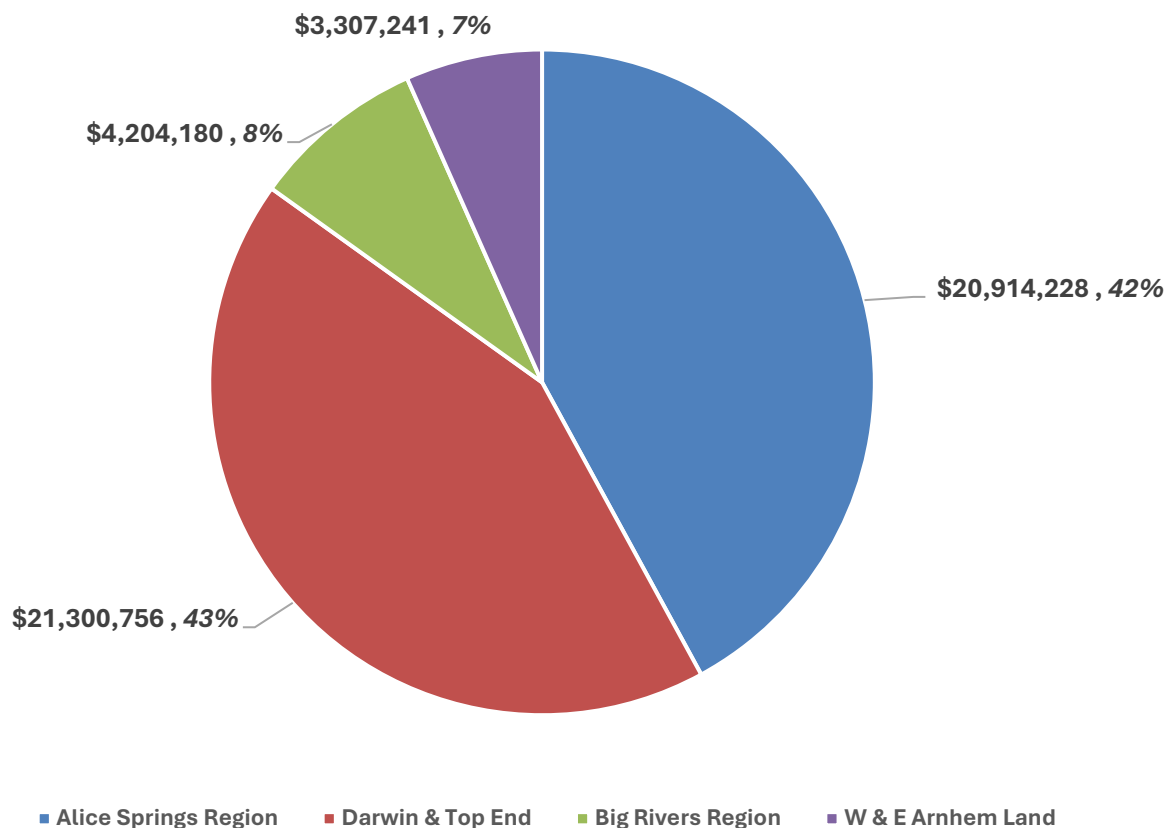


	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Screen Territory Production Finance Grants	\$639,201	\$816,000	\$984,573	\$1,977,000	\$1,176,291	\$717,500	\$3,266,456	\$2,060,000	\$1,150,000.00
Screen Production spend in the NT	\$2,028,596	\$3,299,506	\$4,592,176	\$6,205,655	\$6,299,537	\$3,909,762	\$8,956,533	\$14,986,770	\$4,775,972.00
Induced Spend	\$639,008	\$1,039,344	\$1,446,536	\$1,954,781	\$1,984,354	\$1,231,575	\$2,821,308	\$4,720,832	\$1,504,431

Regional breakdown of NT production spend

- **Darwin and Top End – \$21.3M (43%):** as the NT’s major production hub, Darwin and the Top End have attracted a substantial share of production activity, supported by established civic infrastructure, increasingly skilled NT crews, and logistical advantages.
- **Alice Springs region – \$20.9M (42%):** a significant contributor, Alice Springs and its surrounds continue to be a major drawcard for filmmakers, particularly for projects set against the iconic Central Australian landscape.
- **Big Rivers region – \$4.2M (8%):** productions in Katherine and surrounding areas have increased, reinforcing the growing recognition of this region’s storytelling potential and filming versatility.
- **West and East Arnhem Land – \$3.3M (7%):** the remote and culturally rich Arnhem Land has hosted a range of productions, particularly highlighting First Nations culture and providing employment opportunities for local communities.

\$49.7 MILLION OF DIRECT NT PRODUCTION SPEND BY REGION 2018/19 - 2024/25



Beyond direct production expenditure, screen activity in the NT drives broader economic benefits across multiple sectors. According to event consultancy company IER, the induced spend is on average 31.5% of direct NT spend. IER provides analytics services for NT Major Events Company and consults extensively for Screen Queensland in evaluating economic impacts from Queensland inbound screen productions.

As high-profile productions increase in volume, the induced economic impact—the flow-on effect of industry activity—continues to grow.

Key areas of induced economic benefit include:

- **Increased demand for NT businesses** – screen production stimulates local industries, including hospitality and accommodation, transport, construction, catering and retail, generating additional revenue and employment.
- **Tourism activity from visiting productions** – cast and crew extend their stay in the NT for personal travel, and visiting friends and family of those involved in productions contribute further to the local tourism economy by visiting tours and attractions.
- **Expansion of NT screen service businesses** – the success of the industry has led to the establishment of new businesses such as Cast Away NT and Geoff Johnson Catering, with existing businesses expanding their capacity to meet industry demand.
- **Skills and job creation** – the consistent influx of productions creates long-term employment opportunities for NT screen professionals, while also encouraging training and upskilling in related industries.



Filming on Tipperary Station for Territory

Providing employment for Territorians

The continuous pipeline of screen projects has significantly enhanced employment opportunities for Territorians, facilitating the progressive employment of crew members and extras from one project to another.

The benefits of a sustained pipeline of screen projects are evident in how it has transformed the employment landscape for Territorians interested in screen production careers by countering the need to relocate to eastern metropolitan centres.

The ability for crew members and extras to transition between projects and regions has further allowed NT crew members to cultivate valuable experience and expertise, thereby increasing their employability on future productions and increasing their earning capacity.

TERRITORY - engaged 292 Territory cast and crew and contracted over 100 Territory service providers.

MAVERIX - engaged 284 Territory cast and crew and contracted 216 Territory service providers.

KANGAROO - engaged 120 local cast and crew and contracted over 215 Territory service providers.

THE LOST FLOWERS OF ALICE HART - engaged 132 Territory cast and crew and contracted 99 Territory service providers.

TOP END BUB - engaged 310 local cast and crew and contracted over 110 Territory service providers.



Sharing the Northern Territory with the world

Northern Territory-produced and filmed content is reaching audiences across the globe, showcasing the Territory's landscapes, culture, and talent on some of the world's biggest streaming platforms. These productions are now available to over half a billion + global streaming video on demand (SVOD) subscribers, promoting Northern Territory stories, locations and culture.

A selection of recently released projects

TERRITORY (Netflix)

- A global sensation hitting #2 worldwide
- Amassed over 112.6 million viewing hours in just 3 months
- Claimed the #1 spot in nine countries, including Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, Panama, and Poland
- Reached #4 in the United States and #6 in the United Kingdom.

MAVERIX (Netflix)

- Top Ten Children’s Show in 32 countries
- 6.6 million viewing hours between January and June 2023
- Nominated for both an AACTA and a SPA Award
- Created and produced by Alice Springs based Brindle Films.

WILD CROC TERRITORY (Netflix)

- #7 globally on Netflix
- Over 13.8 million hours viewing hours on Netflix in six months.

THE LOST FLOWERS OF ALICE HART (Amazon Prime)

- The most successful Australian Amazon original production ever
- Top 3 in 42 countries and Top 5 in 78 additional countries
- Stars Sigourney Weaver and Alycia Debnam-Carey.

BLACK AS SEASON 4 (Facebook & YouTube)

- Amassed over 1 billion views across various social media platforms and YouTube
- Authentic NT stories from East Arnhem Land to audiences worldwide.

TRUE COLOURS (SBS/Sundance Channel)

- Showcased Arrernte language storytelling to over 60 million subscribers
- Written, directed and produced by Territorians with NT actor Rurriwuy Hick starring in the lead role.

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL (Stan)

- #1 on the streaming platform STAN
- Named as a “Future Classic” by The Guardian
- Won Best Episodic at the prestigious SXSW Sydney film festival
- Created by, written by and directed by Territorian creatives
- Co-produced by the producers of Bluey.



Projects releasing in 2025 – driving visitation and showcasing the Northern Territory

TOP END BUB (Amazon/ZDF Studios)

- Amazon Prime series, follow up to the commercially successful feature film Top End Wedding.
- Starring, written and executive produced by Northern Territory creative Miranda Tapsell.
- Series will be screened on Amazon in Australia and New Zealand and will be represented by ZDF to the rest of the world.

DEADLOCH SEASON 2 (Amazon)

- Season one reached the Top 10 TV spot in more than 165 countries and territories on Amazon.
- Season 2 is poised to continue this success and bringing the NT into living rooms across the world.

JOURNEY HOME (Madman / NITV)

- Feature documentary captures the Bāpurru funeral ceremony of celebrated Territorian actor David Gulpilil
- Narrated by Hugh Jackman
- Filmed on location in Arnhem Land
- Produced by Brindle Films and Savage Films NT
- Released theatrically around Australia.

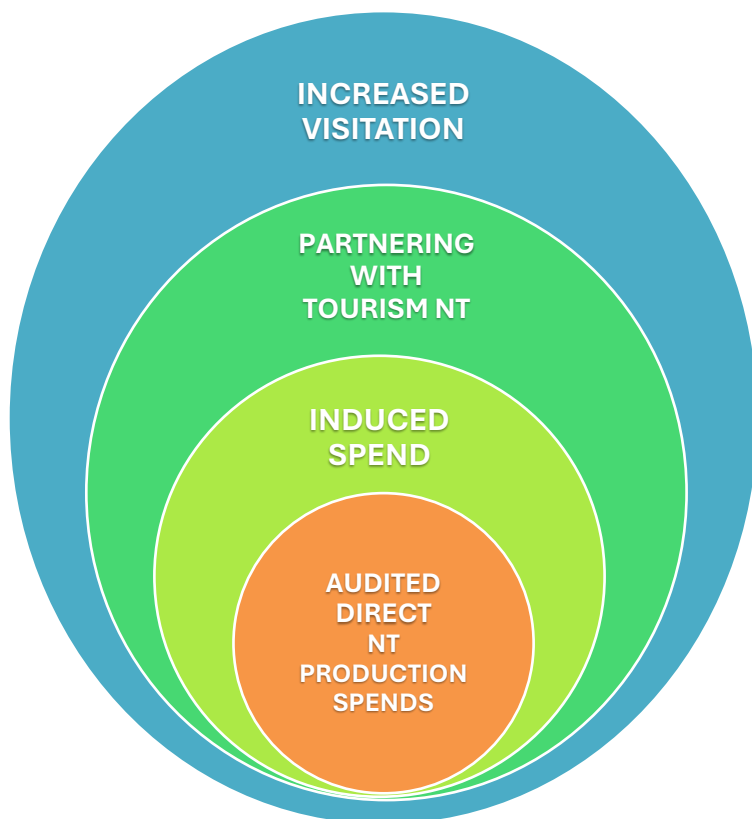
NCIS: SYDNEY SEASON 2 (Paramount+/CBS)

- NCIS: Sydney is one of the most watched local series since the launch of Paramount+ Australia.
- Premiered on CBS US as the #1 new drama in the fall of the 2023-2024 season.
- Season 1 series premiere reached over 10 million viewers on linear in the US.
- Two NT episodes released globally in April 2025.

KANGAROO (StudioCanal)

- Inspired by the life of Chris “Brolga” Barnes, founder of the Alice Springs Kangaroo Sanctuary
- A worldwide theatrical release before being licensed to broadcasters and streaming services around the world
- Co-produced by Alice Springs based production company Brindle Films
- Additional writing by Aboriginal Territorian Danielle MacLean
- Released in Germany on 4 September 2025 and released in Australia on 18 September 2025
- Stars Ryan Corr, Deborah Mailman, Ernie Dingo and Brooke Satchwell.

“Set Jetting” - driving visitation to the NT through screen projects



Screen production has the empirical capacity to be a major driver in increasing demand for tourism product. The value proposition is such that NT screen productions now form a major strategic pillar for Tourism NT’s marketing and branding activities. Screen Territory works closely with Tourism NT to amplify the impact of screen production releases into the marketplace by positioning and promoting tourism product.

Due to the success of the *White Lotus* series on Apple TV, Maui experienced a 425 per cent year-over-year increase in website visits and a 386 per cent increase in availability checks during season one alone. According to Expedia, *Ted Lasso* prompted a 160 per cent surge for searches for

Richmond, the leafy suburb of London, following its second season.

Netflix series *Territory* saw Tourism NT releasing the highly successful campaign ‘Territory – For Real’ campaign, timed to align with the Netflix release, including ad buy on Netflix’s platform, and capitalising on Netflix’s 300+ million global subscriber base to encourage “Set Jetting” opportunities to the NT.

A report by Netflix advertising metrics Kantar notes that the campaign saw a 95% uplift in awareness from their sample survey across Victoria and New South Wales, with a 16% uplift in viewing the Northern Territory as an exciting travel destination. Tourism NT’s data from McGregor Tan stated that 25% of those who had watched *Territory* said the ‘Territory for Real’ ad made them want to book a NT holiday, with the data also suggesting that viewership of *Territory* increased respondents to shift from Open (14%) to Visitors (36%), suggesting a correlation between interest in visiting the Northern Territory and watching the show.

Screen Territory is currently working with Tourism NT across a range of screen projects being launched in 2025, including Amazon series *Top End Bub* and *Deadloch Season 2*, as well as STUDIOCANAL’s feature film *Kangaroo*, to capitalise on increased awareness of the Northern Territory as a tourism destination and to drive visitation demand.

The upcoming re-release of *Crocodile Dundee* remastered in 4K ultra-high definition is also **being capitalised upon with the Screen Territory team** actively working in facilitating screening and tourism opportunities with the producers and Tourism NT. *Crocodile Dundee* is the highest grossing Australian film of all time and beloved around the world, **providing a unique value proposition for Tourism NT to capitalise upon.**

Screen production activity also facilitates **significant direct-to-consumer social media awareness** through the posting by cast and crew to millions during NT production to their followers on social media platforms such as X, Instagram and Facebook.

Supporting innovation and growth of the NT screen sector

Reel Scout: promoting NT locations, crew and facilities

[The Reel Scout database](#) highlights and streamlines access to Northern Territory screen assets and expertise for inbound (e.g. US studios) and domestic productions and provides a back of house facility for Screen Territory staff to respond directly to confidential market enquiries, promoting the capabilities, businesses and workforce of the Northern Territory.

This database platform is a best-in-field system used by screen agencies around the world to attract investment by including what their region has to offer when it comes to locations for filming and **allows Screen Territory to actively promote NT businesses direct to screen producers**, thereby minimising barriers to engagement.

This free-to-register database now holds 293 Territory listings for NT screen practitioners, businesses and support services, and 244 different location profiles, with new locales being added regularly, along with details of crew, facilities and businesses in various NT regions.

Screen Territory has also engaged with the NT Chamber of Commerce and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory to encourage local Territory businesses to register their services for potential screen productions.



SPARK Short Film initiative

The SPARK Short Film initiative is supported by Screen Territory as part of the annual program of the Darwin International Film Festival (DIFF). **The intention of the initiative is to support Northern Territory emerging filmmakers and skillsets** by providing production funding and structured mentorship with industry-leading providers to bring their short film projects to life and develop best practice skillsets. Three successful **SPARK recipients are provided with \$30,000 each in production funding to produce a ten-minute short film and are assigned an experienced screen industry story development mentor and an executive producer.**

Through negotiated partnerships, each film is also provided **with a considerable free-of-cost equipment package from Panavision**, one of the world's premier camera and lens suppliers for the film and TV industry. As part of their sponsorship Panavision also provides a technical and creative consultation prior to the principal photography for each successful film recipient. **Post-production support is provided by The Post Lounge Pty Ltd, one of Australia's leading post-production service providers, alongside access to world-class sound mixing services by Australian company Track Down Pty Ltd.**

The SPARK short films are premiered at DIFF each year, a highlight of the festival's program, and is attended by senior screen industry practitioners and decisions makers. Screen Territory has also negotiated **complimentary submission for all SPARK short films to the prestigious Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Awards (AACTA)** and submission into the renowned SxSW Sydney film festival following their DIFF release.

The initiative aims to provide an opportunity for emerging filmmakers to not only gain experience, but to also build their portfolio and connect with seasoned industry professionals through the establishment of local NT intellectual property.



NT Screen Summit

To support the profile of the rapidly growing NT screen industry, the NT Screen Summit is an annual free, two-day event hosted by Screen Territory designed to inspire, connect, and inform attendees about the ever-growing opportunities within the Territory's screen industry, as well as to highlight and explore contemporary industry trends.

The Summit is quickly establishing itself as a “must attend” event on the Australian screen industry calendar. Testament to the strong national profile of the annual Summit and the strength of NT's screen creatives is the number and calibre of screen professionals who eagerly travel to Darwin to attend or participate at the Summit.

The 2024 iteration of the NT Screen Summit saw over 135 registrations and 41 delegates partaking in panel discussions and masterclasses.

Following the 2024 NT Screen Summit, Ms Grainne Brunsdon, COO of Screen Australia, the Australian Government's peak screen industry body, commented to Screen Territory that the conference consisted of, *“Brilliantly curated conversations, excellent organisation, and such a great lineup of speakers and attendees.”*

Notable panellists at the 2024 Summit **included the CEO of Screen Australia and its senior management**, Screen Producers Australia, Beyond Productions, Easy Tiger, Ronde, Noncoincidence Media, Twiggy Forrest's Minderoo Pictures, VA Media, Totem Global, Broad Story, Panavision, Lantern Pictures, the ABC, as well as acclaimed Australian directors Rachel

Perkins, Jeremy Sims, Greg McLean and Dylan River alongside **Oscar winning cinematographer Simon Duggan ACS ASC.**

Training and upskilling a highly skilled workforce

Screen Territory continues to play a pivotal role in fostering the growth of a highly skilled workforce for the Northern Territory’s screen production sector.

Through a strategic suite of upskilling initiatives, the organisation has **significantly contributed to the professional development of local talent while positioning the Northern Territory as an increasingly attractive destination for screen production.**

These activities span a broad range of disciplines and cater to emerging and established talent alike, ensuring that the workforce is equipped to meet the professional demands of the screen industry, including facilitating a series of masterclasses and training programs designed to elevate the skills of local screen practitioners.

Screen Territory’s efforts to enhance the skillset of the local screen production workforce include a series of strategic partnerships with leading Australian institutions.

<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Description of activity</u>
PANAVISION AUSTRALIA ASSISTANT CAMERA COURSE	Provided by world-leading cinema equipment manufacturer Panavision, providing invaluable technical training to aspiring camera assistants, equipping them with the essential skills required for high-level industry roles.
MASTERCLASSES WITH THE AUSTRALIAN CINEMATOGRAPHERS’ SOCIETY	Enabling the delivery of specialised masterclasses by world-class cinematographers. These include workshops with Oscar-winning Australian cinematographer John Seal ACS ASC and Emmy-nominated Peter James ACS, both of whom offer unique insights into the art and technicalities of cinematography.
NETFLIX INDIGENOUS BOOTCAMP	Screen Territory organised and facilitated the Netflix Indigenous Bootcamp to coincide with the production of <i>Territory</i> . The bootcamp saw 16 Indigenous screen practitioners undertake a three-day training event before progressing into paid employment on production.

<p>MASTERCLASSES WITH AUSTRALIAN SCREEN PROFESSIONALS</p>	<p>These include Northern Territory writer, actor and producer Miranda Tapsell, award-winning director Jeremy Sims, who led screenwriting masterclasses alongside other industry luminaries such as Sam Mickle, Greg Haddrick and Shayne Armstrong.</p> <p>These sessions have empowered Territorian screenwriters by refining their craft and expanding their professional networks.</p>
<p>NETLIX / SCREENWORKS SET READY COURSE</p>	<p>Supported by Screen Territory and Netflix, the course provides a means of applying transferable skillsets into meaningful employment opportunities by offering a six-month paid placement for a Territorian creative.</p> <p>This not only provides vital on-the-job experience but also strengthens the connection between educational efforts and real-world industry demands.</p>
<p>SCREEN TERRITORY AND ARTS NT'S ENGAGEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRAMATIC ARTS (NIDA)</p>	<p>18 on-the-ground workshops over two years (2022-23 and 2023-24) which saw 205 enrolments.</p> <p>Delivered workshops offered disciplined-focused upskilling across a range of skillsets including Props Making, Hair and Make-up, Documentary Filmmaking, and Acting and Producing, providing tangible employment outcomes for many of the attendees on screen productions in the NT.</p>
<p>WORKSHOPS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN FILM, TELEVISION AND RADIO SCHOOL (AFTRS)</p>	<p>These workshops prove essential in providing Northern Territory practitioners with specialised, discipline-focused opportunities that are designed to refine their technical and creative skills, while also expanding their professional networks.</p>
<p>SCREEN TERRITORY SCRIPTED PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP</p>	<p>A hands-on, interactive workshop for 8 Territorians, designed to generate market-ready material for pitching. Guiding this exclusive workshop is Greg Haddrick, a multi-AACTA award winner and one of Australia's most accomplished showrunners.</p>
<p>SBS & SCREEN AUSTRALIA ROADSHOW</p>	<p>Screen Territory facilitates the delivery of the SBS and Screen Australia roadshows in the Northern Territory, allowing NT practitioners to gain valuable market intel and to conduct one-on-one meetings with senior decision makers regarding their projects and funding opportunities.</p>

Industry-leading training and its partnership with Screen Territory ensures that **emerging professionals have access to some of the best practical training available in Australia**. The focus of these programs is to prepare the next generation of leaders within the screen production industry, addressing both creative and logistical needs of major productions.



Career development funding strand

While Screen Territory stipulates a fixed number of paid attachments as a contractual condition on screen productions for accessing both production funding and any PAIP funds, we also facilitate additional paid on-the-job training placements through our Career Development funding strand to accelerate career progression.

Career development has seen several **Territorians build their experience through successful employment on NT produced projects**, having been engaged by large scale productions.

A selection of key highlights from the attachment program are:

- **Ningali Ward**, progressing from the costume department of *Deadloch Season 2* to securing employment on large scale feature film *Fing* and being named a Rising Star in trade publication, Inside Film Magazine.
- **Roy Halse**, progressing from *Deadloch Season 2* to securing employment in the grips department on US blockbuster feature film *Anaconda*.
- **Crystal Burge** and **April Schenk**, progressing from the unit department on *Top End Bub* to secure work on Ch9 series *RFDS Season 2*.
- **Jayden Moyle**, an Aboriginal camera operator who progressed from working on *Wild Croc Territory* to working on *The Moogai* and *Muster Dogs*.
- **Jesse Hammar**, progressing from the camera department of *Territory* to secure work on both *Top End Bub* and *NCIS Sydney Season 2*.

- **Hugh Mackenzie**, progressing from the hair and make-up department on *Kangaroo* to secure work on *NCIS: Sydney Season 2* and *Deadloch Season 2*.
- **Benjamin Warlangundu Ellis**, an Aboriginal photographer who progressed from working on *Territory* to securing work as a set photographer on *NCIS: Sydney Season 2* and is now being engaged by *Wolfram*.
- **Samantha Laughton**, an Aboriginal screen practitioner who has progressed from working as an attachment on *The Moogai*, progressing into an associate producer role on *Territory*, before securing a director's attachment on feature film *Kangaroo* under acclaimed Australian director Kate Woods.
- **Rebecca Parker**, progressed from working in the assistant director's department on *Territory* to securing a director's attachment on *NCIS: Sydney Season 2* under award winning Australian director Kriv Stenders.

These employment outcomes underscore the importance of a highly skilled workforce for the sustainable growth of the screen production industry, as skilled talent is a key driver in facilitating local production and to attracting large-scale productions to the Territory.



Nic Godoy from Panavision Australia during AC Workshop with NT based Rebecca Parker

Screen infrastructure and digital innovation

Launch of Games Development funding support

In recognition of the Australian Games development sector’s significant potential, Screen Territory launched the Games Development funding strand in the latter part of the 2022-23 financial year, funding the strand from its existing budget.

The Australian video game development industry generated \$339.1 million dollars for the Australian economy in the 2023-24 financial year, with 93% of this revenue generated from exports. **Since 2016, revenue from Australian games development has increased by 200%** and according to the Games Development peak body, the IGEA, **53% of Australian games studios are predicting continued income growth over the next financial year.**



About the survey: Our 2023-2024 game development survey is based on financial year data from 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2024. The survey was conducted by Screen Territory with support from the IGEA. The survey period is October 2023 and closed at the end of November 2024. Participation in the survey is voluntary with 123 studios completing the survey and providing insights into the video game industry. The participation rate was 93% of 133 studios.

www.igea.net **IGEA** interactive games & entertainment association

Screen Territory recognises the significant opportunity which exists in building on existing games development and information technology skillsets within the Northern Territory; through facilitating the generation of intellectual property in the form of digital games here in the NT and in fostering digital economy skillsets via the support of game development activities.

One Territory success story is Salty Games Pty Ltd, based in Winnellie. Their game **Pasture: Livestock Simulator** has garnered significant interest from large scale international publishing platforms as well as from key stakeholders in the NT livestock industry who have identified its potential training uses in upskilling pastoral station staff.

NT’s Salty Games recently secured \$1.5 million in seed-stage funding, led by the Paspalis Co-Investment Fund – a partnership between Paspalis and the NT Local Jobs Fund. Salty Games were further supported by Screen Territory with both Games Development funding to continue developing their game product, in addition to travel funding to **attend games markets in the United States to facilitate export sales into this lucrative market.**

To date, the Games Development funding strand is being accessed by both the established studios of the Northern Territory, as well as an increasing level of emerging games developers.

The funding also further supports NTG funding towards the establishment of a training institution and co-working lab **The Array on Smith Street Mall** – to provide practical skillsets to Northern Territory residents interested in this rapidly growing sector.



Director of Screen Territory, Jennie Hughes, on a screen industry panel.

Facilitating international productions and partnerships

The business unit of Screen Territory is actively working with international trade and diplomatic entities to secure opportunities for Northern Territory screen stories, producers and crew to work on international screen projects and to amplify the cultural significance of the Northern Territory.

Working with the Canadian Consulate

Director of Screen Territory, Ms Jennie Hughes, has been **building rapport with the Canadian Consulate in Sydney to facilitate market connections to Canadian productions**, looking at including Australian content elements. Fostering this relationship has resulted in several meetings with Canadian delegations during peak industry events SxSW Sydney, Screen Forever and the Australian International Documentary Conference.

A recent example of this manifested in Screen Territory meeting with Nikan Productions to secure additional opportunities for Territorians on their factual series ***Guardians of the Land***, which is looking at **utilising approximately 30% of their series to be set in the Northern Territory** following the work of the Warddeken Rangers in West Arnhem Land. Screen Territory is now in active discussions about increasing NT spend and NT employment on this series.

Building relationships with Southeast Asia

Screen Territory, through attending the Asia TV forum, is also **actively engaging with the Singaporean Government’s Infocomm Media Development Authority to explore co-production opportunities** with our Singaporean neighbours and towards facilitating trade partnerships between their leading post-production companies and Northern Territory IP creators.

By attending the Asia TV Forum, held each year in December, **Screen Territory also continues to build and foster relationships with other Asian markets**, including Malaysia, Indonesia, India and China to explore production opportunities and to foster awareness of the Northern Territory as a viable production location.

Positioning Northern Territory culture through soft diplomacy

Further to these activities, **Screen Territory also works with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in facilitating screenings of Northern Territory produced content** in various locations around the globe; actively positioning the Northern Territory as a key brand in Australia’s cultural soft diplomacy activities.



NT Aboriginal production crew with Director Greg McLean and actor Robert Taylor during Territory red carpet premiere in Palmerston.

Contributing to the NT lifestyle through ‘NT on Screen’ events

Central to the NT lifestyle is the integration of arts and entertainment, which nurtures a sense of belonging and fosters communal engagement. Acknowledging this, in 2022 Screen Territory launched the 'NT on Screen' initiative, to act as a significant contributor to the cultural fabric of the Territory.

NT on Screen offers exclusive screenings and red-carpet events that resonate with the local population and beyond by celebrating the art of filmmaking in Northern Territory made screen productions and acts as a platform for community engagement, social interaction, and helps foster a strong sense of cultural identity among Territorians.

Held across both Darwin at Event Cinemas Palmerston and the Deckchair Cinema, as well as Araluen Arts Precinct in Alice Springs, NT on Screen has seen several exclusive screening events for Territorians at no charge.

Events held under the NT on Screen brand include:

MAVERIX – a two-episode Vmax screening in Palmerston of the Alice Springs produced motocross children’s series *Maverix*. The screening included cast attendance and give-aways of props and costuming from the set.

TERRITORY – a Vmax red carpet screening with lead actor Robert Taylor (Longmire, The Matrix, The Newsreader), director Greg McLean (La Brea, Wolf Creek, Rogue) as well as cast and crew at an exclusive Territory screening prior to its public release on Netflix.

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL – a ‘blue carpet’ screening with Stan and Tourism NT featuring Miranda Otto (*Lord of the Rings, Talk to Me, The Clearing*), Sharee Lee-Watson (*Heartbreak High*), Will McDonald (*Heartbreak High*) and NT director and creator Dylan River and Ludo Studios (*Bluey*).

BARRUMBI KIDS – a two-episode Vmax screening with NT leads Nick Bonson and Caitlin Hordern along with other local NT actors Sophie Emberson-Bain (Miss Wilson), Frances Djulibing (Grandma Caroleena), Scott Hall (Sandy) and much-loved Australian star Justine Clarke (who plays Mrs Armstrong).

TRUE COLOURS – a six-episode cinema screening of SBS series *True Colours* with AACTA and Logie winning Yolngu actor Rarriwuy Hick in attendance.

WILD CROC TERRITORY – an exclusive red carpet screening of Netflix series *Wild Croc Territory* was held at Palmerston Event Cinemas.

OUTBACK RINGERS – a cinema screening with the cast of Outback Ringers including Liz and Willie Cook and Jesse and Kodi Hammer as well as a gift voucher give away courtesy of Delaney’s Outfitters.

Screen Territory is **currently organising future screenings of upcoming NT productions** *Kangaroo, Top End Bub, Journey Home* as well as the much-anticipated remastered re-release of *Crocodile Dundee* in ultra-high-definition (UHD).

Studio infrastructure

Screen Territory has begun to actively work with Facilitated Projects NT to scope the establishment of a studio facility in the Northern Territory.

This would allow for **large-scale production and facilitate the NT’s ability to more actively compete with other Australian states and territories** for domestic and inbound productions, further **injecting significant external revenue by the screen industry** to the **Northern Territory economy.**

Jurisdictions around the world are racing to facilitate global demand for studio space in recognition of the significant economic impact this infrastructure can bring to a region.

Western Australia recently invested in the construction of the Perth Film Studio, targeting large-scale movies, streaming and television series within the \$50 million to \$80 million budget range.

Similarly, Queensland recently finished construction of the Cairns Studios to help cater to increased demand for screen production from local, national and international producers, with a focus on regional employment opportunities and stimulating the economic growth for small-to-medium businesses who benefit from the impact of these large-scale productions.

The time for the establishment of **genuine studio infrastructure in the Northern Territory screen industry is supported by Australian and international market demand and by the substantial increase of NT screen production activity** and its consequent direct NT production spend across employment and goods and services.

NCIS Sydney S2 filming at Berry Springs, NT



Actor Sigourney Weaver in *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart*





Alice Springs based director and writer Dylan River filming his series *Thou Shalt Not Steal* for STAN.

List of vendors – economic benefit across Northern Territory business sectors

Mr Jamie Debrenni, Principal of Alice Springs business Janda Builders, noted that his company, *“..was able to source work for 16 local businesses on the Kangaroo project. Which meant all monies stayed local to spend locally.”*

Mr Hugh Fitzpatrick, Head of Corporate Partnerships, thl Australia & New Zealand, stated, *“Working with Territory to supply motorhomes for their production provided an important revenue stream in an off-peak time for tourism. We hope that this production will further encourage visitation to the region and are glad we could support that.”*

Mr Serkan Gultekin, the Sales and Marketing Manager of Club Tropical Resort, said, *“We are extremely happy to accommodate both Territory and Top End Bub cast and crew in our facility. It had a tremendous effect on our occupancy on top of the publicity which normally requires a significant marketing budget to achieve.”*

Below is a sample list of 222 NT based businesses who have been engaged by 3 screen productions (*Territory, The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart, Top End Bub*) to provide their services directly in support of production activity. The approximate expenditure across these businesses from three productions is \$8.21 million.

5B AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	ALICE SPRINGS CLEANING SERVICE	ATF SERVICES - NT
5B SOLAR DARWIN	ALICE SPRINGS CYCLING CLUB INC	AURORA KAKADU LODGE
ACCESS EQUIPMENT GROUP PTY LTD	ALICE SPRINGS EXPEDITIONS	AVIS AUSTRALIA - DARWIN AIRPORT
ACCESS HIRE – NT	ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL	BANYAN FARM TOURIST PARK
ADELAIDE RIVER INN TOURIST PARK	ALICE SPRINGS VOLUNTEER BUSHFIRE BRIGADE	BEIJA FLOR
ADVANCED AIR (NT) PTY LTD	ALLORA GARDENS NURSERY	BENCHMARK DIESEL SERVICES PTY LTD
AGGREKO – NT	ANBINIK KAKADU RESORT	BERRIMAH FAMILY PRACTICE
AIR FRONTIER PTY LTD	ANGKERLE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION INC	BIG MOWER SHOP
AKRON GROUP NT PTY LTD	ARIAT	BIMAWEAR
ALICE EQUIPMENT HIRE - WILTRAC PTY LTD	ARJAYS SALES AND SERVICES PTY LTD	BINDI MWERRE ANTHURRE ARTISTS
ALICE OFFICE EQUIPMENT PTY LTD	ARRQ PTY LTD	BLINKS FAMILY TRUST
ALICE ON TODD APARTMENTS		BLITHERINGTON-GROKE PTY LTD

BOC GAS & GEAR	DARWIN BUFFALOES FOOTBALL CLUB	FLEURIEU HOLDINGS P/L TA RUBY GS CANTEEN & BAKERY
BORDER STORE HOSTEL		
BRITZ DARWIN	DARWIN CITY HOTEL	FULL BOAR ELECTRICAL PTY LTD
BUDDHA LOGISTICS PTY LTD	DARWIN CONTAINER SERVICES	G.A.P.S KITCHEN PTY LTD
BUDGET - DARWIN AIRPORT	DARWIN FREESPIRIT RESORT	GARMR PTY LTD (PRAGIA SECURITY)
BUFFALO BILLS WESTERN STORE	DARWIN FUNERAL SERVICES PTY LTD	GARUWA CREATIVE PTY LTD
BUNJTI CLAN	DARWIN HEALTH GROUP – PHYSIO	GEOFF JOHNSON CATERING
BUNNINGS DARWIN		GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS PTY LTD
BUNNINGS PALMERSTON	DARWIN OFFICE TECHNOLOGY	GREEN OPTIONS PTY LTD
CALTEX	DARWIN RESORT	GREYHOUND FREIGHT - NT
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DARWIN	DARWIN SKI CLUB	HARDY AVIATION (NT) PTY LTD
CATHOLIC MISSIONS NT	DARWINCENTA PTY LTD	HAWK DREAMING WILDERNESS LODGE
CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL MEDIA ASSOC	DELANEY'S COUNTRY AND WESTERN STORE	HCR GROUP HOLDINGS PTY LTD
CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION	DEPT PARKS, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SECURITY - NT GOVT	HEAVYDUTY BA'S PTY LTD
CENTRAL UNIFORMS	DESERT PALMS ALICE SPRINGS	HOUSE OF DARWIN PTY LTD
CENTRALIAN RECORDS MANAGEMENT	DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS NT	HUMPTY DOO HOTEL
CENTRE BUSH BUS PTY LTD	DISCOVERY PARKS ALICE SPRINGS	IMPACT NT
CENTRE TRAILER HIRE AND PARTS	DJABULUKGU ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED	INDUSTRIAL FIRST AID, MEDICAL AND VETERINARY SUPPLY
CHARTAIR PTY LTD	DMAK ELECTRICAL	IRONSTONE LAGOON NURSERY
CHRISTIE AUDIO PRODUCTIONS	DND CARAVAN HIRE	J O JOHNSTONE BOBCAT HIRE
CITY OF DARWIN	DOMINOS PIZZA	JAMES WEATHERALL
CLUB TROPICAL RESORT DARWIN	DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ALICE SPRINGS	JAYCO DARWIN
COATES HIRE OPERATIONS PTY LIMITED	DOWN UNDER SAFARIS	JILAMARA ARTS AND CRAFTS ASSOCIATION
COFFEE MACHINE MECHANICS NT	EASTERN DESERT ART	KAKADU BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
COOINDA LODGE KAKADU	ECO CHARTERS	KAKADU CULTURAL TOURS
CORE ART AND DESIGNS	ECOTREAT SOLUTIONS NT	KENNARDS HIRE - PALMERSTON
CRAB CLAW ISLAND RESORT	ELLIS PARKER REAL ESTATE	KENNARDS HIRE - WINNELLIE
CROCODYLUS PARK	EMU RUN TOURS PTY LTD	LAUNDRY GALLERY
CROMATECHNICS PTY LTD	EPIKUR KITCHEN DARWIN	LAUNDRYPLUS
DALY RIVER BARRA RESORT	EXPRESS SIGNS	LEE & JENNY'S BUSH CAMP
	FINNISS RIVER HELICOPTERS	

LEFT OF ELEPHANT SOUND	PALMERSTON 4WD SPARES	TERRITORY REVENUE OFFICE
LITCHFIELD OUTBACK RESORT	PARADISE LANDSCAPE	TERRITORY WILDLIFE PARK
MANTIYUPWI FAMILY TRUST	PRESTIGE PAINTING NT	THE APPOINTMENT GROUP
MERCURE CROCODILE HOTEL	QUEST PALMERSTON	THE LITCHFIELD HOTEL
MERREPEN ARTS, CULTURE & LANGUAGE	RACHAEL'S DESIGNACAKE	THE TOP SADDLERY
MOOGULLY PTY LTD	RAPID CLEAN NT	THE TRADER WINNELLIE PTY LTD
MOOGULLY UNIFORMS	RM WILLIAMS DARWIN	THRIFTY
MOUSELLIS AND SONS PTY LTD	ROCKY CREEK NT PTY LTD	TIPPERARY GROUP OF STATIONS
MT BUNDY STATION	ROYAL WOLF CONTAINERS - DARWIN	TIWI CHOIR
MULGA SECURITY PTY LTD	RTK PASTORAL	TIWI COMMUNITY ACTUALS
NB AUTOMOTIVE PTY LTD	RYDGES PALMERSTON	TIWI DESIGN
NGUIU RESTAURANT	SADDLEWORLD NT	TIWI ENTERPRISES
NGUIU STORE	SAGE LANDSCAPE MATERIAL SUPPLIES	TIWI ISLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL
NIGHTCLIFF FERMENTATION CO PTY LTD	SCF GROUP PTY LTD	TIWI LAND COUNCIL
NIGHTCLIFF FOOTBALL CLUB	SCOTT SEYMOUR CARPENTRY	TIWI RESOURCES PTY LTD
NIGHTHAWK TRANSPORT	SEA SWIFT PTY LTD	TJ SIGNS
NINOX PHOTOGRAPHY	SEALINK NORTHERN TERRITORY PTY LTD	TJANPI DESERT WEAVERS
NORA & R.D PRODUCTIONS PTY LTD	SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH	TOTAL SOLUTIONS GROUP
NORSIGN NT	SHIPPING CONTAINERS DARWIN - TRADECORP	TRAFFICWERX
NOW RENOVATIONS PTY LTD	SIGNCITY NT PTY LTD	TRAVELODGE RESORT DARWIN
NT CAR RENTALS	SIXT	TRUSTY GLASS (ALICE SPRINGS) PTY LTD
NT RECYCLING SOLUTIONS PTY LTD	SOUTHERN DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB	UNDERGROWTH PTY LTD T/A CAST AWAY NT
NT WATER FILTERS	SQUEEKY-GUY	UNDOOLYA HOLDINGS PTY LTD
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS	ST JOHNS AMBULANCE NT INC	VIVA WATER PTY LTD
OFFICEWORKS STUART PARK	STUART HIGHWAY AUTOS CO PTY LTD	WAYNE'S WATER CARTAGE
OKE SIGNS	SUPAGAS - DARWIN	WIGG PLUMBING
OLIVE PINK BOTANIC GARDEN	SWEET LITTLE PEANUT	WOOLANING SCHOOL
OUTBACK HELICOPTER AIRWORK	SWEL PTY LTD	WOOLIANNA ON THE DALY
OUTBACK RODENTS & LIVEFOODS	TALICE SECURITY SERVICE PTY LTD	WOOLWORTHS
PAGE 27 CAFE	TANAMI LIVESTOCK	ZEN LUXURY RETREATS PTY LTD
PALMERSTON & RURAL PARTY HIRE	TERRITORY RENT A CAR PTY LTD TA THRIFTY	



Filming of Netflix series *Territory* at Tipperary Station