

Bike to Broome

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Introduction

The Bike To Broome project is planning a 5-day, around-the-clock, tandem bike ride event from Perth to Broome, to raise awareness and to oppose the building of Woodside Petroleum's proposed gas processing plant at James Price Point, 40 kilometres north of Broome. Six pairs of riders riding in shifts will attempt to reach Broome within five and a half days.

The Philosophy

The Western Australian Government and Woodside Petroleum plan to acquire an area of land and sea at James Price Point, north of Broome, to build the largest LNG processing plant in the world. The plan includes building several long jetties as well as dredging channels to allow LNG transport ships access to the Woodside gas plant.

The area of coastline between Broome and Camden Sound (north of Broome) is a seasonal calving area for humpback whales. Along with the whales, the coastline is home to unique species like the threatened Australian Snubfin dolphin, as well as dugongs and turtles, and extensive coral reefs.

The annual migration of humpback whales up the coast of Western Australia to the calving areas north of Broome has begun. The Bike To Broome project aims to raise public awareness that the gas plant, the jetties, ship traffic, and dredging is in the direct path of the whale migration as well as being too close to the whale calving areas, and therefore is a highly inappropriate place for building a \$30 billion gas processing plant.

Bike To Broome is a 5-day, around-the-clock, tandem bike ride event from Perth to Broome, coinciding with the annual north-bound whale migration. Six pairs of riders will be scheduled to ride in shifts around the clock, along the coastal road to Broome. With the appropriate media coverage, the aim of this project is to raise national and international awareness of the plan for this gas hub so that with enough opposition to it, the Australian Federal Environment Minister, Mr. Tony Burke, will reject this proposal.

With the help of the various conservation and environmental organisations, corporate sponsors and supporters, the tandem bike will leave Perth on Sunday 21 August 2011 and arrive in Broome in five and a half days.

The Event

The Bike To Broome ride will begin with a send-off event at Forrest Place, in the Perth CBD.

Traveling up the coast, the bike party will be visiting all the coastal towns en route. Where possible we will be talking with local radio stations and the media about the Bike To Broome cause.

Upon nearing Broome, with the help of supporters and the media, we hope to get as many townspeople out to meet the bike party with their bicycles and to ride together into the town centre.

We hope to be able to put on a reception event, including bands and celebrities, to draw as many people as possible, and to create a big media event.

Supporting Organisations

The project welcomes the support of:

- The Wilderness Society
- Save The Kimberley
- Environs Kimberley
- And others

Expressions of Interest for Riders and Support Team

The event requires 12 capable persons to take part in the riding. In addition, a volunteer manager is required to coordinate the event, and a small support team is needed to drive the support vehicles, prepare meals, etc.

Sponsorship

Although this event is not about fund-raising, corporate sponsorship is needed.

Sponsorship is needed for:

- A tandem bicycle, spares, tools, and riding gear
- A support bus for riders and support team
- A traffic-control vehicle to follow the bike
- Flight back to Perth

Information on the Internet

A website will shortly be built www.biketobroome.org.

In addition, information will be available via Facebook, Twitter, and the websites of supporting groups.

Contact

Organiser and primary contact is Paul Theseira:

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