

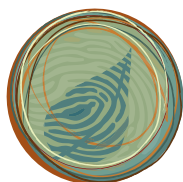


KOORT BOODJAR - MIA BOODJAR

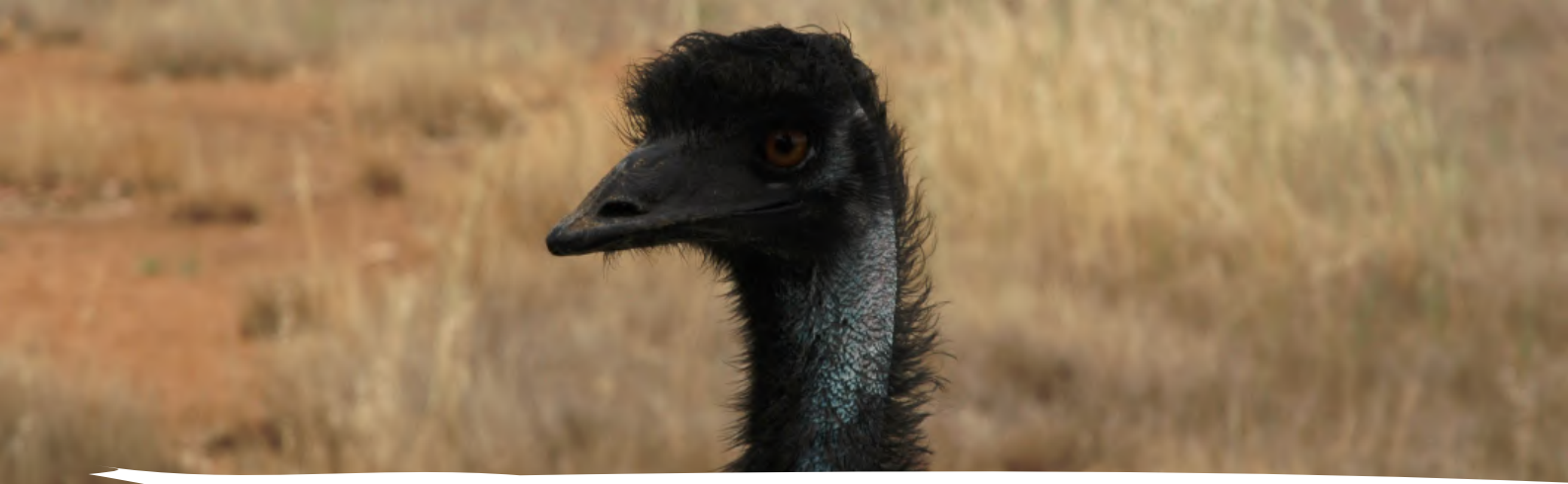
My Heartland - My Homeland



- ACTION PLAN 2021 - 2026 -



wheatbelt
natural resource
management



INTRODUCTION

This document presents an Action Plan for the Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management aspirations of the Aboriginal community.

The Noongar are the local Aboriginal people of the Avon River Basin. They have a close affinity and relationship to Boodjar (Country) and have done since the time of the dreaming.

This plan provides a guiding framework for enabling the Noongar community to continue to manage and benefit from the region's traditional natural and cultural resources – now and into the future.

It has been developed from the Ballardong Noongar Boodjar Healthy Country – Healthy People document, a landmark statement of intent released in 2006. In 2013 this was revised into five year targets for the period to 2018. This is the third iteration of this plan.

This Plan is a five-year Action Plan with a review date of 2026.

The Noongar Elders Advisory Group is the driving force behind this plan. Their role is to provide advice and guidance to Wheatbelt NRM for the development of work that increases opportunities for Aboriginal participation. This includes providing opinions and cultural guidance on all aspects of Wheatbelt NRM strategy and action.

Wheatbelt NRM is an independent, community-based organisation that provides leadership in the management of natural resources of the Avon River Basin of Western Australia.

We aim for the sustainable use and enjoyment of the unique natural resources of the Wheatbelt.

Our vision of a vibrant Wheatbelt community creating healthy environments and livelihoods is driven by our commitment to developing a legacy of community action.

We are committed to our objective of healthy soils, healthy environments, an activated community and an Aboriginal community that is connected to Country.

This Action Plan is a partnership with the Noongar Elders Advisory Group and we will continue to build these actions into our work.





OUR VISION

For all people to respect and understand Noongar culture and from there, to have a greater attachment to Boodjar (the land), and to work in partnership to create a positive, sustainable future for all.

ACTION PLAN 2021

1. Recording traditional Knowledge for NRM

Traditional Kaartdijin (knowledge) is recorded for future generations and is shared with the whole community, growing the celebration of Noongar culture.

Priorities

- Celebrate the cultural and environmental significance of important places
- Recognise the people with authority to speak for Country
- Share stories of Country and people
- Protect the rights of the Aboriginal community to own and share their culture and knowledge

Key Activities

- Written, visual and oral recording that share knowledge on managing Boodjar
- Maintain relevant information on the Wheatbelt NRM website
- Protect traditional knowledge and intellectual property
- Develop publications and resources celebrating Noongar culture

2. Use of Noongar Language

Sharing of Noongar language and stories deepens respect for Noongar culture and spirituality while creating a greater awareness of the traditional and contemporary history of the area.

Priorities

- Signage of place names in Noongar language
- Sharing of language and stories
- Use of Noongar language incorporated in documents
- Inclusion of Noongar language in classes and school curriculum
- Recognition of old Noongar families in Local Government authorities' naming of streets, roads, bridges and other infrastructure





Key Activities

- Opportunities and activities that involve the participation of the Noongar Elders
- Identification and recording of Noongar speakers
- Use of Noongar place names in Wheatbelt NRM publications
- Inclusion of Noongar words and terms in Wheatbelt NRM documents and plans
- Maintain the Noongar language dictionary
- Use of language at major events through Welcome to Country ceremonies

3. Access to Significant Sites

Appropriate access to significant sites enables Noongar people to reconnect spiritually to sites of cultural significance and delivers successful action to heal Boodjar.

Priorities

- Recognise sites of significance
- Work with land managers to identify sites and facilitate access
- Responsibility for maintenance and management of cultural sites
- Break down barriers limiting access to sites

Key Activities

- Build partnerships with Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions to provide input into the management reserves
- Support local Noongar organisations to be vested with responsibility for the maintenance and management of local cultural sites such as Town Reserves
- Support on-ground work that conserves significant sites
- Build confidence in private landholders, encouraging celebration of significant sites

4. Economic Opportunities in NRM

The creation of economic opportunities in natural resources management for Noongar people is gaining momentum. Provide opportunities for developing Aboriginal livelihoods through work on Country.

Priorities

- Projects build opportunities for Aboriginal participation into scope
- Noongar Boodjar Ranger team expands and grows with multiple locations across the region
- Support youth traineeships
- Develop partnerships for economic benefit
- Seek opportunities that provide employment opportunities for the Aboriginal community





Key Activities

- Host school-based trainees
- Support Aboriginal land managers to access environmental and economic benefits from their land
- Develop Aboriginal enterprises
- Develop opportunities for providing services maximising Aboriginal participation
- Build a work profile for the Noongar Boodjar Rangers and actively chase new work
- Develop pilot programs in other towns, develop new business opportunities

5. Meaningful Discussion

Effective management for improved environmental health depends on mutual understanding of its environmental, scientific and cultural uses as seen from a range of perspectives and based on mutual trust and respect.

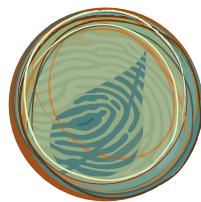
Priorities

- Support for the Wheatbelt NRM Noongar Elders Advisory Group
- Support for the Aboriginal NRM Team
- Develop the relationship between the Wheatbelt NRM Noongar Elders Advisory Group and the Wheatbelt NRM Board
- Grow partnerships with organisations committed to Aboriginal participation in NRM
- Implement the action identified in this plan

Key Activities

- Create opportunities to promote the Elders Advisory Group concept
- Develop opportunities for ongoing conversations between the Board and the Elders Advisory Group
- Ensure that the Elders Advisory Group provides direction to the work of Wheatbelt NRM
- Support organisations to deliver their aspirations for Aboriginal participation
- Peruse new opportunities that will support delivery of this Action Plan





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