



KOONDROOK-PERRICOOTA FOREST FLOOD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

JOINT INDIGENOUS GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE – Revised March 2021

These Terms of Reference have been revised due to the restatement of the Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Land Council as a JIG member organisation and new project development.

Purpose

The purpose of the Joint Indigenous Group (JIG) is to represent the interests and aspirations of member Aboriginal organisations, communities and people regarding the management and operation of Koondrook-Perricoota Forest and other lands influenced and impacted by the forest activities.

The JIG will work collaboratively with government agencies, local groups, organisations and individuals in co-designing management practices and activities to;

1. protect and promote the integrity of our culture, heritage, traditional and practices and
2. achieve cultural and employment opportunities to benefit local Aboriginal peoples.

Scope

The JIG will provide management leadership, guidance, recommendations and endorsement on the following;

- processes for managing Cultural Heritage Sites and items both known and unknown;
- KP forest management
- KP watering event
- recruitment of JIG work crews and staff;
- Cultural Heritage Awareness training of the project teams, contractors and construction workers;
- Promotion of long term economic and employment opportunities;
- Cultural activities relating to the project;
- Opportunities to undertake sharing of information;

The JIG will work within the guidelines of the Indigenous Partnership Agreement May 2013.

The advice, guidance and recommendations provided by the JIG will represent the views of the local Aboriginal community, developed in a culturally appropriate context.

Term

The JIG was convened in April 2010 and is expected to continue indefinitely.

Membership

Membership is extended to 4 parties who are acknowledged as Traditional owners and LALC with connection to the Koondrook Perricoota Forest (KPF), and was collectively determined and agreed at the inaugural meetings in Barham and Moama on the 22nd and 23rd of March 2010. These are:

- Barapa Barapa people
- Yorta Yorta people
- Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Up to four representatives may be nominated by each member organisation, with two representatives attending meetings. These representatives are expected to have authority to speak on behalf of their organisation.

The appropriateness of the JIG membership structure was confirmed at the inaugural meeting.

Meetings of the JIG are to be facilitated by a nominee.

There is no Quorum requirement for meetings however; should any meeting have a low attendance of representatives the JIG Facilitator may exercise discretion in holding over agenda items.

In the event a representative is unable to attend a meeting he/she may provide an interim representative or proxy, to act on their behalf. Notice of an alternative representative attending shall be given to the JIG Facilitator prior to the meeting.

Communications

Management guidance and recommendations from the JIG will be relayed to the appropriate parties by the JIG Facilitator in writing within one week of receipt.

Relevant, non-JIG individual will attend meetings as requested to ensure that the JIG has access to all relevant, up to date information.

JIG representatives will ensure relevant information is passed to their respective organisations and communities.

Meetings

The JIG will meet as required.

Minutes of JIG meeting will be recorded and made available to all representatives.

Identified concerns, issues and risks together with recommended actions will be recorded, regularly reviewed and made available to all representatives.

JIG representatives will be entitled to receive payment of Sitting Fees and/or a mileage rate for attending meetings as per the Sitting Fees protocols with the exception of representatives attending as part of their paid employment.